



The Bligh legend

After four feature films, numerous biographies and other monographs, a poem by none other than Lord Byron and two hundred years of conjecture, the story of the Bounty mutiny is as fascinating today as it ever was. One of the Bounty bicentenary activities in 1989 was the publication of *Awake, Bold Bligh*, a collection of Bligh's letters describing the mutiny, edited and with an introduction by Paul Brunton.

Presented in facsimile and transcribed, the three letters are Bligh's personal accounts of the mutiny written to his wife (Dear Betsy), to his former employer and Elizabeth's uncle, Duncan Campbell, and to Sir Joseph Banks. Written from Coupang in Timor, which the Bounty's 7 metre long launch reached after 43 days on the high seas, and from Batavia, the letters present a vivid and direct picture of the mutiny through Bligh's eyes and in his legible hand.

Brunton's introduction deals with the events of the mutiny, gives a brief biography of Bligh, traces the Bounty legend and describes the letters themselves. The work is attractively packaged, with colour and black and white illustrations of items from the Mitchell and Dixon collections. *Awake, Bold Bligh* was published in 1989 by Allen and Unwin in association with the State Library of New South Wales. It costs \$29.95. (ISBN 0 04 442123 0)

Two new indexes

Researchers requiring references to articles in Australian and New Zealand religious periodicals: your prayers have been answered, with the publication of *Australasian religion index*, an outstanding subject guide to over fifty serials. All religious traditions are covered in *ARI*, which is intended for those

'engaged in theological or religious studies at all levels, for clergy and other religious leaders, and for the general reader interested in religious issues'.

Two issues appear each year, the second being an annual cumulation. Entries for articles are arranged alphabetically by author, and there are subject and scripture indexes. References to book reviews are listed separately, and cannot be searched by reviewer. *ARI* is a joint project of the Australian and New Zealand Theological Library Association (ANZTLA) and the Centre for Information Studies at Charles Sturt University (CSU). It costs \$50 per year (\$35 for ANZTLA members). The subscriptions Manager is James Henri, Centre for Information Studies, CSU, PO Box 588, Wagga Wagga, NSW 2650. (ISSN 1033-2626)

A religion of another kind

A religion of another kind is covered by *Australian sport index*, a product of the National Sport Information Centre of the Australian Sports Commission (formerly the Information Centre of the Australian Institute of Sport). The 1988 issue runs to 63 pages, with entries for every sport imaginable, and every related issue, from anthropology to perceptual motor processes.

There are entries for journal articles, books, chapters in books, conference proceeding, government reports, theses and audio-visual materials published in Australia and indexed during 1988. Entries are not annotated, except for an indication of intended audience level.

The information in this index has also been contributed to the international SPORT database, which is available online from Dialog and BRS or on CD-ROM. The index is one of a range of services and products of the Centre, including brochures on information services for various sports, a sports videotape library (the Centre has over 3000 videotapes), a journal update service and information retrieval services.

Further information on the Centre is available from its Manager, Nerida Clarke, National Sport Information Centre, PO Box 176, Belconnen, ACT 2616. *Australian sport index 1988* itself costs \$20 (ISSN 1033-4572)

Reading 1990

The Bookprint Reading 1990 campaign is underway, with the first of a year-long series of promotional items released last month.

Bookprint Reading 1990 - a project for International Literacy Year - is a campaign which celebrates the joys and rewards of reading.

A varied calendar of activities is in progress right round the country, under the aegis of some active and creative State committees.

Each month, Bookprint Reading 1990 will follow a particular theme, to be reflected in posters and reading lists. Two posters will be issued each month - one featuring a well-known Australian and the message 'Reading Rewards', the other illustrating the month's theme. Reading lists of books recommended by experts will be published 1 month in advance in *Australian Book-seller and Publisher*, beginning with the March issue.

Each month, 50 000 reading lists, 15 000 theme posters and 15 000 personality posters will be distributed through bookshops, schools, libraries and shopping centres. Brochures will be distributed this month. Car stickers and bookmarks will be released at a later date, and libraries will have the opportunity to buy bulk quantities.

Library Material

Libraries are on distribution lists to receive drop-offs of promotion material. However, if librarians want to ensure that they receive monthly promotional material in advance, they should contact the National Book Council. A small charge will be made to cover postage and handling only - the promotional material itself is free.

The first set of promotional material will be unveiled at the national launch of Bookprint Reading 1990 on 20 February. The Prime Minister will appear on the first personality poster, and the theme poster and reading list will be based on Mystery and Conflict.

The remaining themes for the year are: March - Fact; April - Beliefs; May - Humour; June - The Earth; July - Children; August - Health and Fitness; September - People and Culture; October - The Arts; November - The Sciences; December - Books as Gifts. For further information, telephone: (03) 663 8655.