

Acknowledgements

These are just some of the acknowledgements that Ann Howard received for her excellence in writing.

‘This is to indicate that I can think of no better person to be the recipient of a writing studies scholarship than Ann Howard, whose work I have had occasion to read and evaluate.

Ann has had considerable success with two books already published and is bound to succeed in her new endeavour if she can be assured of the right environment. Please give her every assistance.’

Margaret Whitlam, December 1991

‘Ann has written a book which gives tribute to the many women who served in the Australian Army during World War II. I have no doubt she has the ability and potential for other and more ambitious literary work in the future...’

Rudy Krausmann, Editor *Aspect* 1992

‘I’ll be happy to accept your poem for the *Courier Mail*.’

Bruce Dawe, Poetry Editor, 1993

‘This is a very fine story.’

Rosemary Sorensen, *Australian Book Review* September 1994

‘We were very pleased to be able to use your poem in *Narcissus*.’

Lucy Tylman, Editor, 1995

You have a powerful and very individual style, keep writing,

Andrea Sherwood, Reader, *Australian Short Stories*, 1996

Ann Howard and Ben Loomes collaborated in a musical setting of some of her poems for a lunchtime concert at the University of Sydney, praised by Peter Sculthorpe and Winsome Evans in 1999. Ben wrote, as a composer, with a text like this, it seems that the music is almost written entirely before the composer begins. Poetry like this lays out the rhythmic structure, the rise and fall and almost seems to spell out the chords and harmonies as well.

‘I think you write wonderfully... your strength definitely lies in the fairy tale style adopted in *A Blaze of Glory* and *A Tide of Events*. These two stories are fantastic and it would be exciting if you could develop a collection of this quality... we encourage you to develop either of these into a novel, particularly

A Blaze of Glory which we see as a wonderful novel along the lines of A Big Life by Susan Johnson or The Magician's Assistant by Ann Pratchett.'

Lucy Williams, Almost Managing Company, Melbourne, 1999

'Undoubt undoubtedly you write well... your work reminds me of a very successful writer, Di Morrissey... your best writing reminds me of Delia Falconer (The Service of Clouds) at her best.'

Kate Llewellyn Sydney University 2000

'Where shall we go From Here?' I found the account of our wonderful Australian ex-service women extremely moving and realise there is no way that their contribution and sacrifice can ever be adequately appreciated. Your book is therefore an invaluable record which provides some insight into their experience. It is particularly poignant in both the verbatim accounts of the women, as well as the insightful comments provided by yourself.'

Marie R Bashir, Governor August 2000

Responses to *After Barnardo*:

Premier Carr asked to have this book taken to Farrah Place for one of his 'bedtime 6'.

'...an interesting and important publication'

The NSW Parliamentary Library Accessions Officer, Mrs E Sinclair.

'Congratulations on a fine historical achievement. This book will make a valuable addition to the history of modern migration'.

The Hon. John Aqualina, Minister for Education and Training

'After Barnardo is the most valuable and touching record.'

Marie R Bashir, Governor August 2000

'A Tide of Events ... there is a relish, a confidence in the flow and energy of the language, which is irresistible.'

Gary Hayes, Editor

'Ann has a real way with words - I was laughing and crying.'

Kat Anderson, Psychologist 2001