

March highlights

The March issue of *ABR* opens with a volley of letters following Kevin Foster's lively review of David McBride's memoirs in the previous issue. The cover feature is a major essay from pioneering gay rights scholar Dennis Altman on being gay, eighty and a secular Australian Jew at a time of great violence and tension in the Middle East. Patrick Mullins wrestles with two books on Robert Menzies, and Clinton Fernandes shows why the European Union is founded on white myth. Nathan Hollier tells the remarkable story of Indonesia's Buru novels – and Australia's crucial role in them – and we review Gail Jones's new novel. There are interviews with federal minister Andrew Leigh, historian Frank Bongiorno, and pianist-writer Anna Goldsworthy.



Dennis Altman on Israel, AIDS and mortality: On turning eighty, the author of *Homosexual* (1971) writes: 'For the first time in my life, I feel more vulnerable as a Jew than as a gay man ... For many Jews, there is real trauma in coming to terms with the reality that Israel is a brutal occupying power.'

Patrick Mullins on 'Australia's greatest prime minister': Biographer Patrick Mullins reviews two new books about Robert Menzies, that 'antipodean Frankenstein' and 'plump Edwardian laird of popular memory'.

Nathan Hollier uncovers the Buru Quartet: In a provocative essay spanning Indonesian politics and culture, publisher Nathan Hollier writes about the literary masterpiece penned in a jail cell.

Maggie Nolan reviews Gail Jones's new novel: The new Director of AustLit Maggie Nolan considers Gail Jones's eleventh novel, *One Another*, her 'most beautifully paced' work seamlessly weaving together story and theme.

Ben Gook on a big year for fascists: In his review of *Late Fascism* by Alberto Toscano, lecturer Ben Gook considers far-right thinking and what he calls fascism's 'religion of death'.

Interview requests and further information

For interview requests, please contact *ABR*.

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