

TV - Patrician Films

Philip Hickie
John Crew
Kenneth Cook



Mr Squiggle

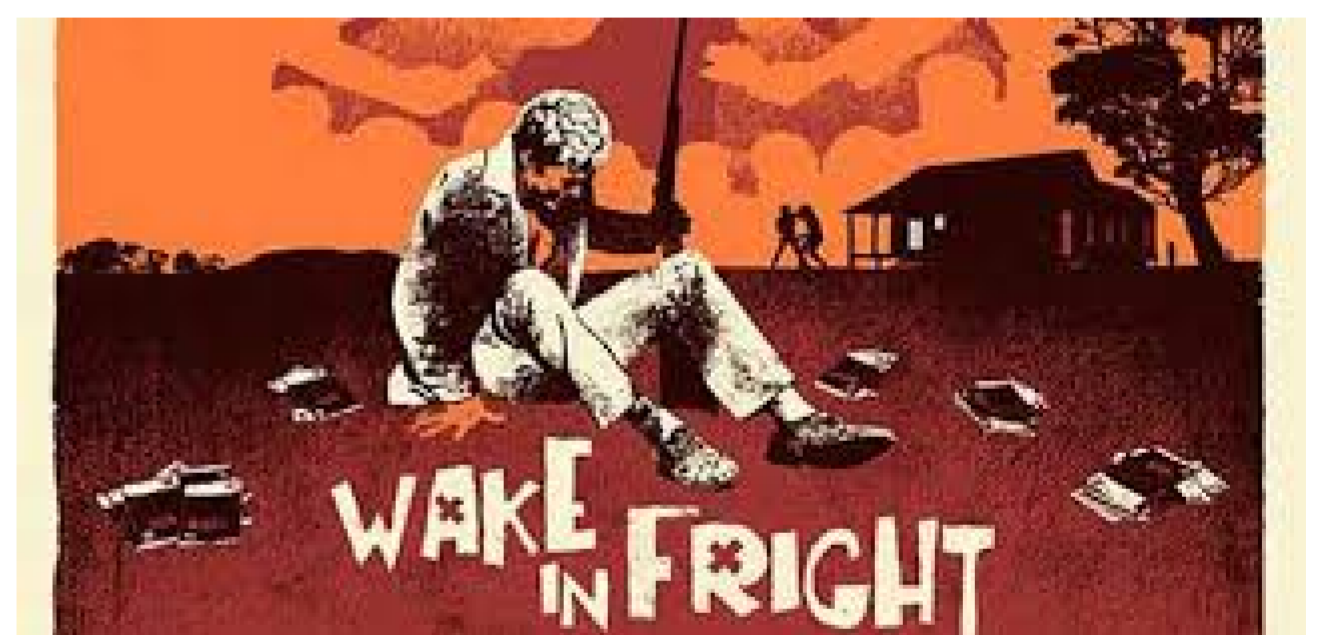
PHILIP HICKIE designed many amateur and semi-professional productions for, among others, the Independent Theatre, the Elizabethan Theatre Trust and The Genesis Theatre, where he also directed plays. His design for the Independent's production of TS Eliot's *Murder in the Cathedral* won him the Commonwealth Jubilee Stage Design Competition in 1951.

When television came to Australia in 1956, Hickie was appointed as one of the ABC's first two designers and he worked also as a director. His studio creations featured in many popular ABC programs, including 'Bill the Steamshovel' and Mr Squiggle. Phillip left the ABC to form an independent production company, Patrician Films, with his colleagues **Ken Cook** and **John Crew**. Their short films were created for ABC television to fill the 10 minute gaps in its programming due to the absence of advertisements.



JOHN CREW won the Monty Grover prize for cadet journalists and joined the ABC's Darwin office. He was later posted to ABC Television and established his family in Castlecrag. In 1963 John produced *Ten Million Strong*. The following year he joined his ABC colleagues **Philip Hickie** and **Kenneth Cook** in the enterprise Patrician Films, which made animated cartoons, nature, heritage, adventure and science programs for children, which were sold to the ABC.

Crew was back with the ABC as a senior producer for its new current Affairs program *This Day Tonight*.



KENNETH COOK was an Australian journalist, television documentary maker, and novelist best known for his works *Wake in Fright*, which is still in print five decades after its first publication and the humorous *Killer Koala Trilogy*.