Illawarra Unity: Editorial 2005

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Abstract
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Editorial

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The portrayal of working class struggle in film and television has been on occasion highly significant. One thinks immediately of the films of Ken Loach and, in particular, his television series Days of Hope. There was also the wonderful When the Boat Comes In, which Bob Fox brings back to life with his rendition of the show’s title song “Dance to My Daddy”. Even some North American films have dabbled with class struggle—Warren Beatty’s Reds, John Sayles’ Matewan and, more recently, Harlan County War. And one of the first films of the Australian film revival in the 1960s was Sunday Too Far Away which dealt with the lives and loves of shearers. Nonetheless, industrial or working issues have rarely been explored thoroughly in Australian films. In this issue, Michael Organ examines a little known film from 1912, Strike.
Unity is also pleased to publish Michael’s tribute to the late Bill Whiley that he read to the House of Representatives last year.

The new editorial collective of Unity would like to acknowledge the important contributions made by the founding editor Ray Markey. Val Dolan’s tribute to Ray begins this issue. Finally, Unity is grateful to the Faculty of Arts at the University of Wollongong for pledging on-going support.

Anthony Ashbolt