

accomplishment. The credits should also include southern studies in line and continuum of the Milky Way, whose center passes directly overhead at Parkes.

With the 50th anniversary of the great blossoming of radio astronomy after World War II only two years away, it may safely be said that radio astronomy has come of age, taking its place alongside the other astronomies that have helped us unravel the nature of the distant universe. The large radio telescopes have a prime role to play in the future: All have been or will be resurfaced to extend their useful life. The collapsed Green Bank 300-foot telescope is being replaced by a modern instrument. Not only can they all contribute as individual telescopes, they have a unique role to play in high-angular-resolution radio astronomy through ground and space very-long-baseline interferometry.

As a historical account of a major scientific instrument and its supporting team of scientists, *Beyond Southern Skies* has been held to high standards of readability and accuracy. Peter Robertson has managed to keep the development story flowing smoothly while going into more depth on a number of closely related matters. His narrative provides interesting insight into the personalities of many of

the central characters in the story: They really were human! This book is a most worthy tribute to two of the most important figures, Taffy Bowen and John Bolton (the first director of the Parkes Observatory), both of whom have died in the last year.

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Books Received

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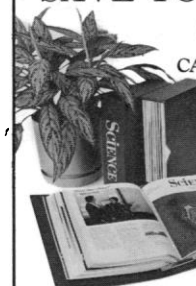
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