



Kimberley Society

Book Note

Crocodile Coast Crash by Howard Young. Sid Harta Publishers, Glen Waverley, Vic., 2003. Paperback, 335 pages, ISBN is 1-877059-22-6, RRP \$19.95.

Kimberley Society member Howard Young has joined the likes of Kerry B Collison, Paul S Sochaczewski and Sally Graham in the stable of authors published by [Sid Harta](#). The publisher's blurb for his novel reads:

A 747 airliner is lost on the wild and trackless north coast of Australia. Rescuers are helpless in the face of a massive cyclone ravaging the area, and crocodiles begin to take their toll of survivors. Only local bushmen have the skills needed to avert a tragedy, but time is running out.

The book is the sort that makes you hope that you never find yourself in such a predicament. It draws on Howard's knowledge of the Kimberley coast and the difficulties that would affect any attempt to rescue a large group of people stranded there. It also introduces an interesting range of characters whose personalities bring the human element of the story into sharp focus.

As well as being something of a raconteur, Howard has lived in the Kimberley for 38 years. He arrived from Sydney in a double-decker Leyland bus, having travelled in convoy with three other vehicles driven by his wife Beryl and by Bill and Judy Withers. The bus was then used as a retail store that serviced Kununurra while until other stores, including the Withers & Young store, were built. That story and others are told by Bill Withers in *Frontier Dreaming*.

Cathie Clement