That Untravelled World

Ian Reid

Set in iconic locales around early-twentieth century Western Australia, *That Untravelled World* is a bittersweet novel about a young man’s search for meaning in a rapidly changing world amidst economic recession.

When young Harry Hopewell arrives in Perth in 1912 to work on the construction of a new wireless station, he is full of boundless energy about the miraculous new world of possibilities opened up by radio transmission.

His growing friendship with Nellie Weston, the baker’s daughter, buoys him as he dreams of a bright future – until Nellie and her family disappear without a trace.

Unable to track her down, Harry becomes increasingly disconnected from his youthful aspirations; eventually an accident and the Depression bring him to a halt.

Chance encounters from the past finally bring some resolution to his life, as Australia emerges from its most difficult economic recession and he finds new friendships and meaning.

2012 is the centenary of the first radio transmitter in Western Australia, Wireless Hill in Perth. This novel spotlights rarely told early twentieth century history, e.g. building Wireless Hill, the tent slums of the Depression, and the Perth Zoo’s early days.

**ABOUT THE AUTHOR**

*Ian Reid* is the author of *The End of Longing*, an acclaimed debut novel published by UWA Publishing in 2011. Reid is a widely published author of literary and historical non-fiction whose writings have been translated into several languages. His poetry has earned him the Antipodes prize in the USA. Originally from New Zealand he now lives in Perth, where he is a Winthrop Professor at The University of Western Australia and Emeritus Professor at Curtin University.