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Bowyang's address is:

BOWYANG, P.O.Box 289, Goodwood, South Australia, 5034

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Editorial

Bowyang: Work on Changing Australia will deal with every aspect of our past and our future.

Bowyang strives to express the development of Australian society in clear, factual and coherent ways. Work on changing Australia is not the property of some narrow circle whose writing is little more than tangles of jargon. On the contrary, this work can only move ahead if it has the active support of the greatest possible number of writers and researchers, teachers and students.

Changing Australia depends upon a working knowledge of our reality and direction. In our view, Australia has been changed through the constant conflict between subservience and independence. Since 1770, Australia's development has been marked by a battle between subservience to "superpowers" - England, the U.S.A., and now the intrusion of the Soviet Union - and the assertion of independence by Aboriginals, businesses and farmers, and the working class. This contradiction has shown up in writings about Australia as a split between those who have sucked up to our foreign rulers and others who have demanded selfreliance. *Bowyang* stands in the latter camp.

Broad statements are not enough. *Bowyang* exists in order to help us to understand our country in all its complexity and detail. General truths, without particular and detailed work, soon turn into misleading dogma.

Is there the work ready to keep this new type of publication going? Are there enough people to sustain a new journal; not merely by buying it, but also by their writings? We believe that there are; that there is an abundance of work that cries out for publication; and that there are a large number of people who believe with us that such writing and research must serve a better purpose than to be the subject of passive worship. We rely on our readers to help us, and therefore we are confident that *Bowyang* will succeed.

EDITORIAL BOARD:

P.Cochrane, D.Cottle, M.Dunn, H.McQueen, K.Tsokhas

* Bowyang: a piece of hide or string tied around the trousers beneath the knee. Used by rural labourers at work around Australia. An Australian symbol of work.

