### **MEDIA RELEASE**

# Anead of Us

#### **ABOUT THE BOOK**

but in fact / we are as we are / together, alone, as you can see, / with elusive memories for company, /with your wisps of hair / disappearing as gently as breath. 'After Chemo'

*Ahead of Us* is Haskell's eighth book of poetry. Dedicated to his wife Rhonda, who lost her battle with cancer after a long illness, *Ahead of Us* contains poems of love, of two people forging a partnership together and of the inevitable end of that partnership when one person dies.

It is a celebration of life and and of the fragile thread that holds us here.



Dennis Haskell is an Australian poet, critic and academic and the author of eight collections of poetry as well as the author of a number of critical studies and editor of a number of poetry anthologies. He is Emeritus Professor at the University of Western Australia.



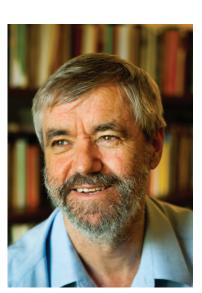
'[Haskell's poetry] demonstrates how human the art of poetry can be; how it can deal with the particulars and universals of our emotions and remind us of our commonalities'. *Geoff Page* 

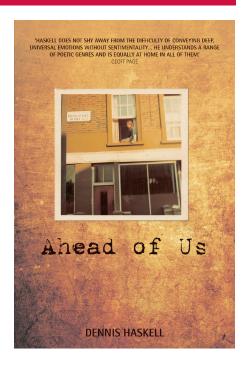
'Issues of gender and the domestic, and movement through (or against) perceived masculine and feminine spaces are beautifully and sensitively observed and managed – an uncommon thing in male Australian verse.' *John Kinsella, Southerly* 

'Rather than nurturing a single way of speaking, Haskell adopts various shapes and tones and allows each poem its own evolution ... Incidental rhymes and semi-formal sound patterns are offered with considerable subtlety and persuasion.' *Kristen Lang* 

#### **KEY POINTS**

- A book for anyone who has loved and lost.
- Dennis Haskell has been the recipient of many awards and fellowships including a Western Australian Premier's Award for Poetry in 2007.





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