

## John Naish Archive

John Naish (1923-1963), born Wales, served in the British Army during the Second World War and came to Australia in 1950. He worked as a cane-cutter, labourer, miner, barman, clerk and fruit-picker, spent some time in Fiji and returned to Australia in 1958. He published two novels, *The Cruel Field* (1962), which deals with the life on the canefields; *That Men Should Fear* (1963), a study of an affluent Australian farming family and its struggle with an incurable inherited disease; and an autobiography, *The Clean Breast* (1961). His plays include *The Claw* in Australian One-Act Plays Book II, ed. Greg Branson (1962), *Deuteronomy* in the Derwent Series of *Australian One-Act Plays*, 2nd series (1961) ‘The First Mrs Peters’, ‘The Maoris’, ‘The Paul Davis Affair’ and ‘The Strange Black Creatures’.

Source: The Oxford Companion to Australian Literature, Oxford University Press, Melbourne, 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition, 1994

### **Archive Location: 85R**

#### **Detailed Listing:**

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| Series 1 | Manuscripts  |
| JN/1/1   | <i>Oliver in Aden</i> A Play for Voices<br>Cover page; 1 x page list of Voices; typewritten script of 35 pages   |
| JN/1/2   | <i>The Lease of Life</i> John Naish<br>Cover page; typewritten script of 35 pages  |
| JN/1/3   | <i>Peace Polony</i> John Naish<br>Cover page; 1 x introductory page listing characters; typewritten script of 35 pages   |
| JN/1/4   | <i>Mark, The Syrup and the Ashes.</i> A Play about a hothead, based on the author’s sketch “Cutters at White Road”<br>Cover page; 1 x introductory page listing characters; 1 x page listing scenes; 1 x page listing music; 1x unnumbered page containing a summary of Act One; typewritten script of 118 pages |

- JN/1/5      *The Strange Black Creatures* by John Naish  
Cover page; 1 x page listing characters; 1 x page listing scenes and music; 1x  
unnumbered page containing a summary of Act One; typewritten script of 103  
pages; 2 x pages containing Glossary of Terms
- JN/1/6      *Picture Night* John Naish  
1 x introductory page; typewritten script of 32 pages
- JN/1/7      *The Factory* by T.C.A. Eno  
1 x introductory page; typewritten script of 21 pages
- JN/1/8      *That Men Should Fear* John Naish  
1 x blank page; cover page; 1 x page listing characters and scenes; typewritten  
script of 93 pages; 1 x blank end page
- JN/1/9      *The Maoris* by John Naish  
Typewritten script of 12 pages
- JN/1/10     *The First Mrs Peters* A Play in One Act by John Naish  
Typewritten script of 15 pages