

Two New Powys Society Publications for 2010

**W.J. Keith 'A Glastonbury Romance' Revisited**

Paperback, 189 pp, ISBN 978 1 874559 38 2

John Cowper Powys's *A Glastonbury Romance* is a celebration of mystery, a contemporary novel that is rooted in history, myth, and legend, "an inextricable blend of mystical and material." In his new book, W.J. Keith, Emeritus Professor of English at Toronto University, sheds light on the ancient traditions on which Powys drew to create his masterpiece: the stories of King Arthur, Joseph of Arimathea, Merlin and the Holy Grail. He clearly sets forth these traditions, and describes how Powys made imaginative use of them in a way that is "consummately artistic yet at the same time frustratingly and brilliantly devious."

**H.W. Fawkner *John Cowper Powys and the Soul***

paperback, 158 pp. ISBN 978 1 874559 39 9

H.W. Fawkner's a study of *Weymouth Sands* and *Wolf Solent* is a searching phenomenological examination of negativity in Powys's fiction. In Powys's narratives, trance-like states of consciousness are often confronted with the irruption of "bristly reality." *Weymouth Sands* is often thought of as one of the sunniest of Powys's books, but in Fawkner's hands it emerges as one of his most troubling. He is unsparing in laying bare the fierce honesty of Powys's vision, but ultimately generous in exposing the potential for renewal found in it. "The event of undergoing adversity has the advantage of confronting humans with truth." Personal, lucid and elegant, Fawkner's book will enrich the experience of any reader who has responded to these rich and challenging novels.

Price: £10 each or £18 for both books together, including inland postage. For overseas orders, please add 30 per cent.

Copies may be ordered from John Hodgson, 66 Kynaston Road, London, N16 0ED

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