

'Dealing with Dawkins' by John Blanchard **Reviewed by Nigel Downing**

John Blanchard had produced yet another winner. This time he engages with the so-called “new atheism” promoted by Richard Dawkins in his books *The God Delusion* and *The Greatest Show on Earth*. He concisely but clearly outlines Dawkins’ views and arguments, and deftly demonstrates how shallow and illogical they often are, then provides God-centred alternatives that are all together superior.

Professor Edgar Andrews’ brief summary on the back of John Blanchard’s excellent booklet is an accurate overview of what lies within. And what a read it is! Blanchard’s critical thinking is certainly inspired (and we know from where!); it calmly lays to rest the shallow arguments of Dawkins that seem at first glance so convincing, but that are really emotional prose (and well written at that).

The key for me (a scientist by training) is that it shows the limits of science in “proving” that God does or does not exist, in much the same way that belief in Christ does not “prove” the natural law of gravity. When poked about in such a disarming way, that Blanchard excels in, the egotistical and somewhat malevolent balloon of “new atheism” does not so much burst, but leaks at every well reasoned prick. Eventually, however much air is blown in it cannot retain its shape.

If you want to see Christian apologetics in action and at its best, and to have your own faith renewed, read this book. It is a must.

Footnote - Nigel Downing is Marine Biologist