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*Women Housing Women: The First 25 Years of the Women's Housing Association Inc.* Women's Housing Association, 2006.

Reviewed by Gillian Dooley in *The Adelaide Review* 5 May 2006, p. 16.

For twenty-five years the Women's Housing Association has been providing affordable medium-term housing for women escaping from abusive relationships. They now own 300 properties in South Australia where women can live for three or four years while they rebuild their lives. This little book is a celebration of their achievements.

It is a modest publication but much care has been taken with its production and design. It combines creative works by some of the beneficiaries of the scheme with extracts from oral history recordings of various members of the Association and a linking narrative explaining the facts and the kinds of things one always wants to know, like how it works in practice and how it's all financed. The art works, poems and stories are simple and sadly predictable, though all bravely look to a more hopeful future.

The existence of the Association is the legacy of the life's work of Dawn McMahon (1923-2002). Admiration for her energy and commitment is evinced on every page. But many others are involved, women and men. It is a remarkable case of what can be done with practical co-operation between groups as disparate as radical feminists and the Salvation Army, given the will.