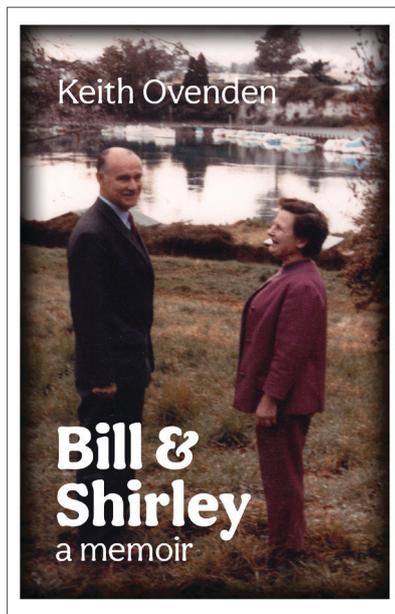


Bill & Shirley

A memoir

KEITH OVENDEN



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AN EXEMPLARY MEMOIR EXAMINING THE COMPLEX, REMARKABLE LIVES OF TWO VERY FAMOUS NEW ZEALANDERS

Bill Sutch and Shirley Smith were two of New Zealand's most significant twentieth-century figures: Sutch as an economist, influential civil servant, and inspirational proponent of innovation in the fields of social and economic development; and Smith as a glass-ceiling breaker and sole practitioner in the formerly male dominated world of the law.

This wise, urbane memoir begins with the early years of Keith Ovenden's marriage to their only child, Helen Sutch, and carries through to Sutch's trial on charges brought against him under the Official Secrets Act, all the way to Shirley's death over thirty years later.

It offers unprecedented insights into the accusations against Sutch, as well as Smith's remarkable legal practice, and behind both, some of the dramas of their domestic life. Deeply intelligent and beautifully crafted, it offers a unique and intimate study of two complex and fascinating New Zealanders.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Keith Ovenden is a biographer, former university political studies lecturer, broadcaster, satiric novelist and political commentator. He is the biographer of the New Zealand writer Dan Davin and is the chair of the board of the National Portrait Gallery in Wellington, where he also lives.

SALES POINTS

- A lively, fresh and distinctive insight into the lives of two significant New Zealanders
- Beautifully written, with candour and grace
- A significant contribution to the literature on the controversial Sutch trial
- Ovenden's proximity to Bill Sutch and Shirley Smith enable him to assess them in ways unavailable to others

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