

"How can I describe to you the excellence of this young writer? He has an ear for talk; an eye for the beautiful and a sense of the comic. He writes simply and he never shows off. Yet he is as subtle as the devil."

[John Betjeman in a review of *The Goose Cathedral*.]

"The skill and intensity of the writing make peculiarly haunting this cry of complaint on behalf of bewildered Man."

[Pamela Hansford Johnson in a Daily Telegraph review of *The Image of a Drawn Sword*.]

"It has delighted me. Mr Brooke has given me two treats I love: the opportunity of reading good prose and the privilege of borrowing sometimes poet's eyes, sometimes of watching human nature through eyes certainly acute."

[Desmond MacCarthy in a review of *The Military Orchid*.]

"It could not have been written more delicately or sensitively."

[Sean O'Faolain in a review of *The Scapegoat*.]

"Jocelyn Brooke's writing is imaginatively unique. This I have found from the first. In *The Image of a Drawn Sword* he shows an advance in power seeming to pass, within the course of the story, from one dimension into another. Seldom have naturalism and fantasy been more strangely merged . . . Mr Brooke is a great writer."

[Elizabeth Bowen.]

"Mr Brooke has genuine gifts of characterisation and of catching a mood, in particular the mood of affectionate reminiscence slightly sharpened by embarrassment . . . The first half of '*Gerald Brockhurst*' . . . is a brilliant and exciting performance, one of the best I can remember on the theme of getting to know a person."

[Kingsley Amis on *Private View* in *The Spectator*.]

". . . a delightful and mellifluous style . . . a joy in this dark age of puritanism."

[Times Literary Supplement on *Private View*.]

"Jocelyn Brooke is a civilized and witty writer who seems to me, in his analytical approach to society, to have much in common with Anthony Powell."

[Eric Keown on *Conventional Weapons* in *Punch*.]

"An acutely perceptive critic with many a string to his bow and a strong historical sense . . . Art exploited as a mere pretext: that is the underlying theme of *Conventional Weapons*. I can think of no other novelist who has dealt with the subject so ruthlessly, with such skill and controlled imagination . . . Mr Brooke has ploughed his English corner of *The Waste Land* between the two world wars with a dexterity that compels our harrowed admiration."

[Harold Acton on *Conventional Weapons*, in a two-page review in *The London Magazine*.]

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# A CHECK LIST OF JOCELYN BROOKE

## HIS WRITINGS TOGETHER WITH SOME APPRECIATIONS

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### Books and Pamphlets by Jocelyn Brooke

- Six Poems. *Jocelyn Brooke, Oxford, 1928*  
Limited to 50 numbered copies, signed by the author
- Notes on the Occurrence of *Orchis Simia* Lamarck in Kent. *The Journal of Botany, November, 1938*  
One of a small number of copies offprinted
- A New British Species of *Epipactis*. By B. J. Brooke and Francis Rose. *The Journal of Botany, April, 1940*  
One of a small number of copies offprinted
- December Spring; poems. *John Lane, The Bodley Head, 1946*
- The Military Orchid. *The Bodley Head, 1948*
- The Scapegoat. *The Bodley Head, 1948*  
American edition published by *Harper & Brothers, New York, in 1949*
- A Mine of Serpents. *The Bodley Head, 1949*
- The Wonderful Summer. *John Lehmann Limited, 1949*
- The Image of a Drawn Sword. *The Bodley Head, 1950*  
American edition published by *Alfred A. Knopf, New York, in 1951*
- The Wild Orchids of Great Britain. *The Bodley Head, 1950*  
Limited to 1,140 numbered copies, of which 40 were signed by the author and specially bound in white parchment. 12 sets of sheets were sold to the *Collectors' Book Club* for issue by them in special bindings
- The Goose Cathedral. *The Bodley Head, 1950*
- Ronald Firbank. *Arthur Barker Ltd., 1951*
- The Elements of Death and other poems. *The Hand and Flower Press, Aldington, 1952*  
No. XII in the *Poems in Pamphlet* series
- The Flower in Season. *The Bodley Head, 1952*
- Elizabeth Bowen. *The British Council, 1952*  
One of the series of supplements to *British Book News*, which was later called *Writers and Their Work*
- The Passing of a Hero. *The Bodley Head, 1953*
- Private View; four portraits. *James Barrie, 1954*
- Aldous Huxley. *The British Council, 1954*  
In the *Writers and Their Work* series. A revised edition was published in 1958
- The Dog at Clambercrown. *The Bodley Head, 1955*  
American edition published by *The Vanguard Press, New York, in 1955*
- The Crisis in Bulgaria. *Chatto & Windus, 1956*
- Conventional Weapons. *Faber and Faber, 1961*  
American edition published by *The Vanguard Press, New York, in 1961, as The Name of Greene*
- Ronald Firbank and John Betjeman. *The British Council, 1962*  
In the *Writers and Their Work* series

### Books Edited by Jocelyn Brooke

- The Denton Welch Journals. Edited and with an introduction by Jocelyn Brooke. *Hamish Hamilton, 1952*
- Denton Welch: Extracts from his Published Books. Edited and with an introduction by Jocelyn Brooke. *Chapman & Hall Ltd., 1963*

### Books with Contributions by Jocelyn Brooke

- Bedales Poetry; an anthology of verse written by boys and girls at Bedales School. *Bedales, 1927*  
Contains two poems by Bernard J. [Jocelyn] Brooke
- Orpheus; a symposium of the Arts. Volume 1. Edited by John Lehmann *John Lehmann, 1948*  
Contains *The Scapegoat (from a work in progress)* by Jocelyn Brooke
- Coming to London. Edited by John Lehmann. *Phoenix House Ltd, 1957*  
Contains *Coming to London* by Jocelyn Brooke
- John Bull's Schooldays. Edited by Brian Inglis. *Hutchinson, 1961*  
Contains *Prog. Co-Ed.* by Jocelyn Brooke
- The Wind and the Rain; an Easter book for 1962. Edited by Neville Braybrooke. *Secker & Warburg, 1962*  
Contains *Surrey* by Jocelyn Brooke

### Periodicals with Contributions by Jocelyn Brooke

Jocelyn Brooke has contributed to a wide range of periodicals including *Horizon, The London Magazine, The Listener, The New Statesman, The Times* and *The Times Literary Supplement*. Two are worthy of special notice. One is *The Ray*, a magazine published by the pupils at Bedales while Brooke was at school there. It ran for eight numbers, the first being issued in 1925 and the last in 1928. Brooke was a contributing editor. No. 5 contained a parody by him, *Afterwards in the Library*, which was "suppressed" by the school authorities. The other is the double number of *Adam International Review* (Nos. 297-298) published in 1961 and devoted almost exclusively to Brooke's long critical article *Proust and Joyce; the case for the prosecution*.

### Appreciations

"Mr Jocelyn Brooke is one of the most interesting and talented of contemporary writers . . . We are left as delighted by the hundredth performance as we were at the first. It is magic—conjuring—of which we never tire: an example in short of what is called 'art' . . . As a discursive travel book it seems to me in no way inferior to Norman Douglas at his best."

[Anthony Powell in a full-page review of *The Dog at Clambercrown* in *Punch*.]

" . . . In this fourth autobiographical-fictional itinerary, the ways are more enchanted and twisty, the scent keener than ever. Here is a writer possessed by the magic—the voodoo—of childhood . . . Mr. Brooke is a pleasure to read—a highly individual pleasure."

[G. W. Stonier on *The Dog at Clambercrown* in *The New Statesman*.]