

reel reviews

★★ 1/2 **Crocodile Dundee**
Plaza

G'day, mate. Me name's Crocodile Dundee and I'd like to grab your ear for a bit. See, this movie's just opened up in America an' it's all about me so I figured I should have a hand in selling it.

Why would anyone want to make a movie about me? Well, I'm a bit of a legend Down Under. I was fishing in the outback when a crocodile attacked me an' bit off 'alf me leg. I managed to get away and it took me two weeks to crawl back to the nearest town. Since I got that far, I figured, "Why not?" and crawled right past the doctor's to the nearest pub.

It's a good story and, believe me, it gets better with every telling. Anyway, enough fuss is made over it that a beautiful reporter

from New York comes down to talk with me. And, can you imagine, we fall for each other? That's right. There probably wouldn't be a movie if we hadn't fallen for each other.

Of course, it's the old "fish out of water" story. In Australia, she's the fish and I take her into the wilderness and convince her that I'm some sort of Tarzan. When her back's turned, I glance at me mate's watch. When she turns around, I look at the sun and say, "It's 2:21 p.m.," an' she can't believe it.

She turns around and drags me back to New York, where I'm supposed to be the fish out of water, but I don't have too much trouble. Yeah, there's a bit about her old boyfriend and how he wants to marry her, but it's more fun to watch me deal with the

usual assortment of pimps, prostitutes and oddballs.

You understand it's all in good fun, don't you? The bloke that plays me in the movie is Paul Hogan and he has a nice, self-deprecating air about him. He also 'appens to be the most popular TV star in Australia, so that might give you an idea of what type of movie this is.

Crocodile Dundee is very safe, very middle-brow and very casual. You can just put your mind on hold for an hour an' a half and laugh a little.

Mind you, it may not sound like much, but it just happens to be the biggest-grossing movie of all time in Australia, even more than *E.T.* Not bad, eh? Well, I know *Crocodile Dundee* is no big shakes but, what the 'ell, roight?

by Michael Giltz