

South Australian Media Awards

South Australian journalism icon and SA Writers' Centre life member **Max Fatchen** was inducted into the South Australian Media Awards Hall of Fame for his commitment to the craft and for inspiring so many that followed him. Much-loved and respected *Advertiser* columnist Max Fatchen joined Kevin Crease and former inductees Des Colquhoun, John Doherty and Mike Atchison on the Hall of Fame honour board.



Congratulations also to **Sharon Mascall** who won three awards on the night – a Silver Award for Best Radio Broadcaster and two Bronze Awards for Best Freelance Contribution for 'Bushfire Coverage' and Best Radio Feature, Documentary or Broadcast Special for 'Wildfire'.



The Art of Real Stories – July 7th , 10am till 4pm.

Come and meet industry professionals and writers of nonfiction in this day long seminar. Discover the protocol for approaching and dealing with publishers. Learn how to attract their attention and get your work published. This seminar will include a chance to talk to the presenters in small group sessions.

Agent: Mary Cunnane from the Mary Cunnane Agency.

Publishers: Michael Bollen from Wakefield Press and Tim Whiting from Random House.

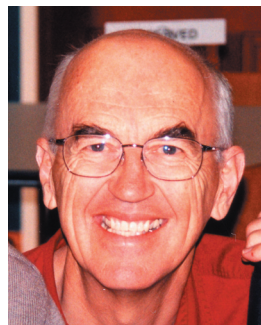
Writer: Don Loffler, author of *She's a Beauty! The story of the first Holdens*.

**Cost: \$60 for SAWC Members
\$80 for non-members**

Bookings on 8223 7662 or sawriters@sawriters.on.net

Don Loffler has written three books on the early Holdens. The first one was published in 1998 and is called *She's a Beauty! The story of the first Holdens*. It gives the history of the original Holden model, popularly known as the 'FX', and its famous successor, the FJ. This book was re-published in November 2006 in a completely new enlarged edition, incorporating much of Don's latest research. In 2000 came his second book, *Still Holden Together*, which is a sequel devoted entirely to the 'FX' model. The third book came in 2002. It is called *The FJ Holden* and as its name suggests, it is devoted entirely to the iconic FJ model.

Michael Bollen is publisher at Wakefield Press, an independent firm based in Adelaide. He has worked in publishing for 20 years. Wakefield is an eclectic publisher, mainly of nonfiction, but in recent times has released two or three novels each year.



Don Loffler

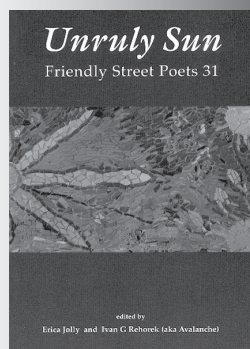
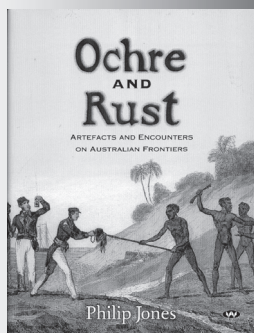
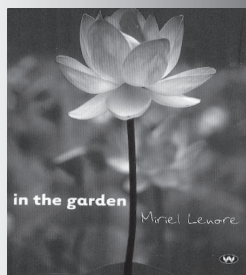
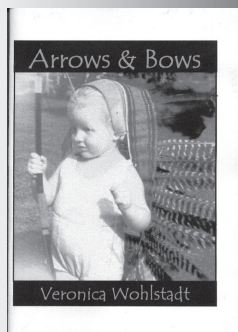


Michael Bollen

Tim Whiting was born and brought up in the UK. After completing history degrees at the Universities of Bristol and Cambridge, he began his career in publishing in 1998, working for the Orion Publishing Group in London. Subsequently he moved to Little, Brown as Commissioning Editor for nonfiction books, rising to Editorial Director. He moved to Australia in March 2006 to take up the role of Publisher for nonfiction books at Random House Australia, and is now one of two Senior Publishers.

Mary Cunnane, Director of the Mary Cunnane Literary Agency, has held senior positions in the publishing industry in the United States of America and in Australia. From 1976 to 1996 she worked for W. W. Norton & Company in New York. She was member of the board of The Feminist Press of the City University of New York in 1994-96. After moving to Australia, in 1998-99 she was nonfiction publisher at Transworld/Random House.

Centre Information...



So Very Resourceful

Many thanks to writers, groups and publishers who donated books to our Resource Library this month.

June Stephenson & Elizabeth

Mansutti, *Picking Up Sunshine*, Howden Printing, 2007.

Wakefield Press, *Ochre and Rust* by Philip Jones, 2007; *And the Clock Struck Thirteen*, Kaurna Elder Uncle Lewis Yerloburka O'Brien, as told to Mary-Anne Gale, 2007.

Friendly Street poets 31, *Unruly Sun*, (Edited by Erica Jolly and Ivan G Rehorek), Wakefield Press, 2007.

Veronica Wohlstadt, *Arrows & Bows*, 2007.

Miriel Lenore, *In The Garden*, Wakefield Press, 2007.

Friendly Street Poets, *New Poets 12*, poems by Stephen Brock, Margaret Fensom and Murray Alfredson. Wakefield Press, 2007.

Sarah Rutherford, *Dead Wrong, Shaggy Dog Tails*, 2007.

David Parkinson, *"50" Not out*, a collection of poems, 2007.

J.G. Pavils, *Anzac Day: The Undying Debt*, Lythrum Press, 2007.

Betty Collins, *Friendly Street Poetry Reader, Index of Poets 1975-2007*, 2007.

Brandon Roberts, *Three Agendas and One Slim Hope*, 2007.

Association of South Australia Chinese Writers, *Southland* No. 4. 11 and No. 5. 12, 2006.

Taipei Chinese Centre, *The Chinese Pen*, 2007.

Margaret GriffinWard, *The Penguin Best Australian Short Stories*, edited by Mary Lord, Penguin Books, 1991.

Flinders University Writers' Club, *SAMIZDAT*: Flinders University Writers' Club Journal issue 3 volume 1.

Meredith Harvey, *The Only Me*, The Advertiser Little Big Book Club, Omnibus Books, 2007.

Newsletter Folders

Thanks to the following people who helped fold the May newsletter:

Barbara Brockhoff, Lyn Brooks, John and Coie Dikkenberg, Nicola Haywood, Jeanie Klopper, Alisha Pearson, Graeme Rickard,

Jo Vabolis, Lindy Warrell, Diana Whiley, Jo Dey, Cailean Darkwater, Peter Swindon and Matt Staker.

Poetry and Poetic Symposium

The Poetry & Poetic Centre of SA together with Friendly Street Poets presented the Poetry and Poetic Symposium on the 27th and 28th April. The Symposium was held at the SA Writers' Centre.

The Symposium comprised a meeting of academics and poets to discuss poetry and to share writings on this subject. The Friday launch involved poetry read by Mike Ladd and Jude Aquilina. Drew Dawson Dean of Research at the university of South Australia also gave a presentation on the Max Harris's poetry Prize. The Prize of \$3000.00 will be awarded by the Poetics Centre to the best poem selected from entries submitted to the Centre. The closing date for the competition is the 1st of August 2007. Entry forms can be down loaded at <http://poetryandpoeticscentre.com>.

The next day featured a programme including discussions by Dr. Peter Goldsworthy on the Biological Structure of Poetry. Dr. Adrian Guthrie on Time/Text in connection with poetry as well as a presentation of Wrappers from South Africa and postcards from Australia by Dr. Vicki Crowley.

Robert Bloomfield discussed the use of internet translators in experimenting with the writing of poetry. Later this discussion was followed by Dr. Ioana Petrescu discussing the topic "For whom do poets write?"

The academic presentations were supported by poetry readings by Patricia Irvine, Gaetano Aiello, Dr. Graham Rowlands, Stephen Lawrence, Robert Bloomfield, Bridget Ransome and Erica Jolly.

The programme was a product of developing association between University SA and Friendly Street. It is hoped that a symposium can be held each year to provide a forum where academics and poets from the greater community can, through Friendly Street, share the richness of the poetry community in South Australia.



Disclaimer

The information in this publication is presented in good faith as a service to SA Writers' Centre members. While the information is believed to be correct, the Centre takes no responsibility for its accuracy. No liability is accepted for any statements of opinion or any error or omission. Although advertising material is accepted for this newsletter, such acceptance does not imply endorsement by the Centre.

SAWC Workshops

The Novel – Middles with Stephen Orr

Explore some of the techniques used to breathe life into a novel. This workshop looks at the importance of well sketched, believable, flawed characters. Stephen asks why you, the author, has given them life and asked them to play out your fantasies

Thursday June 7, 7-10pm

The Business of Publishing with Dyan Blacklock

This workshop will cover manuscript presentation, publishing expectations, the contract, your unrealistic expectations, the editor, the launch, your royalty advance, promotion and finally – no, you can't sell your own books. Dyan will tell you why.

Saturday June 30, 10 am–1pm

Crime Writing with Kirsty Brooks

Explore your murderous dark side with a workshop aimed at helping you to develop a story idea and work on style, voice and character. Look at the current publishing climate and what makes a good crime novel, analyse the factors of a fantastic first paragraph to writing the sort of ending that will make your reader wanted to grab your next book. Any participants who want direct feedback on their work can send a first chapter to the SAWC three weeks prior to the workshop.

Saturday June 30, 10 am–1pm

The Dreaded Synopsis with Christine Harris

Writing a book is one thing. Making it sound irresistible is another. How do you write a synopsis that is persuasive and

enticing to the publisher? And how can a synopsis be personally helpful in writing and editing a book?

Saturday June 30, 1.30–4.30pm

Writing Motherhood with Heather Taylor Johnson

How does one express the love felt for a child without sounding sentimental? How does one move beyond the feel-good words to describe her mothering experience in a moving yet credible way? By focusing on everyday issues unrelated to parenting and tying them into the mothering experience, this workshop aims to give women an outlet for their emotions.

Saturday June 30, 1.30–4.30pm

Coming on July 14:

A Lonely Profit Guide: the dirty business of becoming a paid **travel writer** with **Max Anderson**, and **Dark Speculative Fiction** with **David Conyers**. More info in the next issue.



Heather Taylor Johnson has a PhD in Creative Writing and is a poetry editor of *Wet Ink*, a book reviewer for *Cordite Poetry Review* and a member of PEN International.

Heather is widely published in Australian journals and anthologies in both poetry and fiction and occasionally is published overseas. She is active in the spoken word scene in Adelaide and, as a sideline, tutors in Media at the University of Adelaide.



Dyan Blacklock is an award-winning author who has written ten books for children. In 2003 she was awarded a Centenary of Federation

Medal for services to Australia through literature. Dyan's work as a publisher at Omnibus Books brings her into contact with Australia's finest writers and illustrators, and has been a critical factor in her passionate interest in the importance of supporting our creative community. She is a member of the Australian Children's Publishing Committee.



Christine Harris has written 45 books, plus plays, articles, short stories and poetry. Her work includes historical novels, short stories, picture books, plays, poetry, speculative fiction and horror and she is the 2006 Carclew Fellow. *Jamil's Shadow* was shortlisted for Children's Book Council Book of the Year 2002. *Foreign Devil* won an Aurealis Award 2000. Many of her other books are CBC Notables, and she has been shortlisted for several children's choice awards and Psychologists for Peace Literature Awards.

Her latest books include *Cool Bananas* and the popular *Spy Girl* series, for which she received an Australia Council Literature Board grant. The first three books in the US edition (*Undercover Girl*) were shortlisted for 'Quick Picks for Young Adults' Award by YALSA, part of the American Library Association.



Stephen Orr's first novel, *Attempts to Draw Jesus*, was the runner-up in the 2000 Vogel/

Australian award and was subsequently published by Allen and Unwin. His second, *Hill of Grace*, was short-listed for the Adelaide Festival's Unpublished Manuscript award in 2004 and later published by Wakefield Press. He is a regular contributor to *New Matilda*, an independent website of news, opinion and analysis – www.newmatilda.com/. He is currently working on a novel about the disappearance of the Beaumont children in 1966.



Kirsty Brooks is the author of seven books including *The Vodka Dialogue*, *The Happiness Punch*, and *The Lady Splash*. She has a

Journalism Degree, an Advanced Diploma in Professional Writing, was awarded the Barbara Hanrahan Fellowship and is currently writing two novels. She is also the director of Driftwood Manuscripts and a peer assessor for ArtsSA.

Opportunities

The Australian Centre Awards are now open for applications.

The Asher Award: \$10,000 award for work by Australian women writers, that carries an anti-war message or theme, . The DJ (Dinny) O'Hearn Fellowship: \$5,000 award for emerging writers in the areas of fiction, poetry or drama. The 2008 Blazey Fellowship: \$15,000 award, offered nationally, to further a work in progress in the nonfiction fields of autobiography, biography or life writing. The 2007 Kate Challis RAKA Award: \$25,000 Drama award for indigenous playwrights. All entries for the above awards close on Monday 2 July 2007. For entry forms and more information: <http://www.australian.unimelb.edu.au/public/prizes.html> or email: awards-austcentre@unimelb.edu.au

Popular fiction/comic magazine

Writers and illustrators are sought for the first edition of a magazine of popular fiction short stories of up to 5000 words covering a wide range of genres: spy thriller, detective mystery, retro science fiction, western, Australian outback gothic, historical adventure, etc. – the list is endless, and the genre boundaries may be fluid. The general idea is that each story will be illustrated with line drawings, as per the old fiction mags of the long-ago past, and that the first edition would also contain one or two comic strip stories of between 8 and 12 pages. More details are at www.rmsed.com.au.

Eclecticism

New Australian e-zine, *Eclecticism* (www.eclecticzine.com). As the name suggests, it aims to draw a diverse range of creative minds, styles and genres. The first issue will be released late July 2007. Each issue will have themed and open sections, and we are currently seeking contributions from writers of prose and poetry, illustrators/artists, and beat-musicians. *Eclecticism* is free – a non-profit e-zine that hopes to showcase current writers, expose emerging writers and artists and provide an avenue for those with one or two stories within them. It will be available to download (PDF format) from the website.

The John Marsden Prize for Young Australian Writers 2007

Entries are now open for The John Marsden Prize for Young Australian Writers, a national competition for young writers under 25, presented by Express Media. Best-selling author John Marsden, Express Media's patron, will judge the best poem and the best short story/first chapter of the novel entered into the competition in two age categories: under 18 years of age and 18 to 24 years of age, and award \$4,500 in prize money. The winning entries will also be published in the December 2007 issue of *Voiceworks* magazine.

Entry forms with guidelines can be downloaded at www.expressmedia.org.au. For more information contact Rohini Sharma at artisticdirector@expressmedia.org.au, or on 03 9663 4155. Entries close on Wednesday 15th August 2007.

Call for Short Film Scripts

The Screen Department of Adelaide Centre for the Arts is seeking short dramatic scripts for production in September. These short contemporary dramas or comedies will be produced by Screen students completing their 2nd year diploma. Creative Criteria – scripts of up to 14 minutes duration. They must be concise, visual and engaging, with characters who articulate their goals through their actions rather than just dialogue, with strong plots via a clear set-up, escalation, turning points, climax, and resolution. For full details visit http://www.myspace.com/acarts_film_and_tv

or send submissions by post or email to: Colin Reck, Lecturer, Screen Dept, Adelaide Centre for the Arts, PO Box 1872, Adelaide SA 5001, colin.reck@tafasasouth.org
Closing date: Sunday 24th June, 2007

Kids Write

Starting in July 2007, this is a new monthly online magazine for young writers and illustrators (18 years and younger) which provides:

- up-to-date information about writing competitions
- writing markets
- writing festivals
- writing and illustrating hints
- monthly writing competitions

- interviews with adult authors and illustrators who provide tips on writing and publishing
- interviews with prize-winning young writers
- book reviews

Kids Write is compiled by Children's Author and Editor Dianne (Di) Bates who you can read about on her website www.enterprisingwords.com
For a sample copy, please contact dibates@enterprisingwords.com.

Beer Swill Romanticism

Send your nasty/tasty/sweet/harsh/ugly/honest poems (5) and short stories. Despite the content, the quality of the submissions need to be up to standard. Payment is in the form of 5 copies of the zine for the author to get proactive and sell (\$2)/give away at readings/friends/enemies. Send your heart in words to
PO Box 278 Edwardstown SA 5039

Typist Required ...

to type 100 page manuscript of a member's life story – fee negotiable. For more info contact Viviana on 8322 1740. Southern area.

The CJ Dennis Literary Awards

Previously unpublished poems (to 50 lines) and short stories (to 2,500 words) on the theme of 'Life Savers'. A total of \$800 prize money (First prize in each category is \$200). Entries close Friday July 24th 2007. Entry forms from the SAWC.

WANT TO BE PUBLISHED?

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Congratulations...

April saw 20 Advanced Diploma of Arts (Professional Writing) students and one Diploma student graduate. At the event, six Adelaide Centre for the Arts Professional Writing Graduate Industry Prizes 2007 were awarded:

1. SA Writers' Centre Award (for highest overall achievement in Professional Writing) – **Jo Vabolis**
2. Media Resource Centre Award (for highest achievement in writing for film and television) – **Sue Fleming**
3. Omnibus Books Award (for highest achievement in writing for children) – **Jo Vabolis**
4. Imprints Booksellers Award (for highest achievement in writing fiction) – **Robert Horne**
5. Imprints Booksellers Award (for highest achievement in writing nonfiction) – **Madeleine Huxtable**
6. Coriole Vineyards Award (for highest achievement in writing poetry) – **Jude Aquilina**.

Graham Rowland's poem 'In Actual Fact' was published in *Famous Reporter* 35.

Anne-Marie Taplin's parenting/gift book *Being Mummy* was published late in April by Wakefield Press.

Lean Hearn's (Gillian Rubinstein) book *Across the Nightingale Floor* recently hit the Angus and Robertson top 100 list, and *Heron* was number 1 in France in March.

Margaret Griffin-Ward's piece of reflective writing 'Down by the Sea' was published in the May/June edition of *The Madonna Magazine* (a Jesuit publication) and a short poem 'The Demise of the Adverb' was published in the April edition of *Positive Words*. Her short story 'Still in Service' won first prize in the Write Away 2007 Short Story Competition.

John Sunseri and David Conyers' 'espionage sci-fi action horror novel' *The Spiraling Worm* will be released in June this year in the United States.

John Fletcher's *Jenseits der roten Berge* was just released by German publishers

Rowohlt Tagenbusch Verlag.

The shortlists for the 2007 NSW Premier's Literary Awards were announced on 24 April. The complete listing can be found at www.arts.nsw.gov.au. Rosanne Hawke's **Mustara** is shortlisted for the Patricia Wrightson Prize.

John Scholz's short story, 'The Poetry of Time' recently won second prize in the Leafy Sea Dragon Festival (Yankalilla) writing competition.

Kami's short story 'Tommy Two-tone' came in equal third place in the recent Write Away short story competition. 'The Tedium Boy' suite (five poems on the life of a super hero) was published in *BP #30*.

Max Merckenschlager's award winning poem 'Men Of Skins' has been selected by the Board of The Multicultural Writers Association of Australia Inc. for inclusion in its forthcoming national anthology *Culture is* [Australian Experiences Across Cultures].

Dave Diss's letter (18/4/07) on press treatment of the Virginian Campus Massacre was published in *The Canberra Times* (20/4/07); *The Scotsman* (London), *The Independent* (21/4/07); and *The Guardian Weekly*.

Bernice Cohen's two pieces 'The most beautiful verb in the world' and 'Gertie' were published in the inaugural Fringe Writers Festival 2007 anthology *WORD*.

Debra Vincombe's book *White Bread: A Slice of the 1950s and 1960s* was published by Seaview Press.

Following the launch of her first poetry collection, *Whispers in the Sand*, in March 2007, **Valerie Williams** has since had a poem from that collection, titled 'Fading Memory', published in *The Independent Weekly*. Her piece 'Unpredictable' was published in the inaugural Fringe *WORD* anthology.

Margaret Crohn's story 'The things we love' has been accepted by Legacy Books

for their second volume of 'I remember when...'

Patricia Irvine's poem 'Manholes' appeared in *The Adelaide Review* on 13 April 2007. Her poem 'Snake' was republished in *The Advertiser's Review* section on 24 February 2007. She was among the featured poets in Samela Harris's article 'Well Versed'.

rob walker's travel memoir 'Land of the Thunder Dragon' was published on *The Australian Reader* website. A review of *Nights in the Asylum* by Carol Lefevre was published on the Compulsive Reader website: <http://www.compulsivereader.com/>

Adrian Flavell had the following poems published: 'anchovies' in *The Write Angle* (8), 'a tidal romance' in *Write Away* (April 2007) and 'coastal combat', 'marital makeover' and 'on leaving' in *Freexpression* (May 2007).

David Mortimer's poems 'Pergolesi's Stabat Mater 1736', 'Reflection' and 'Flak Jacket' were published in *Unruly Sun* (Friendly Street Poets 31).

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What's On

June Poetica

Presented by Mike Ladd

Saturdays at 3.05pm. Repeated at 3.05pm
Thursdays. ABC Radio National.

Program details:

- 2nd *Archy and Mehitabel* Part 1 –
Don Marquis's famous collection
of comic poems featuring Archy
the cockroach-poet and Mehitabel
the alley-cat queen. Starring Max
Gillies as Archy and Julie Forsyth
as Mehitabel
- 9th *Archy and Mehitabel* Part
2– Archy and Mehitabel's poetic
adventures continue.
- 16th Myths – a selection of poems
by young Australian writers
inspired by classical myths.
- 23rd Allegiance to the Kind– a meeting
with American poet, Sam Hamill.
- 30th 75th Anniversary of ABC Radio – a
look at our poetry programs down
the years.

Meet the Writers Festival

Attention English Coordinators/year 7
Coordinator/Teacher Librarians.
SAETA (South Australian English Teachers'
Association) is pleased to announce that
its highly successful and popular 'Meet the
Writers Festival' will be held on June 28
2007 at the convention centre. Booking
forms available from the SAWC.

INDEPENDENT SCHOLARS (ISAA)

ISAA is an Australia-wide association
for people whose research interests are
outside institutional or organisational links.
SAWC members are most welcome to
attend meetings of the Adelaide group as a
visitor. They meet bi-monthly (on the first
Thursday in even months, from 2.30-4.00
pm) in the seminar room at the SA Writers'
Centre.

Enquiries: virginia@virginiakenny.com
phone 8344 7810
Independent Scholars Association of
Australia Inc.: SA group
www.isaa.org.au; info@isaa.org.au

Books. Be in it. AGM

The BBII AGM will be held at the SAWC on
Tuesday 24th July 2007 at 7.30pm.

The Lee Marvin Readings

June Programme

Tuesdays at Gallery de la Catessen
9 Anster St, Adelaide (off Waymouth at the
King William end, near FAD nightclub)
7.30 for 8 PM start
Price \$5

5th Reading June 5

LEE MARVIN – AN EVENING WITH
TUESDAY WELD

Joshua Nash

Aidan Coleman

Naomi Horridge

Kurt Brereton

Peter Goldsworthy

6th Reading June 12

LEE MARVIN – AN EVENING WITH
ETHEL MERMAN

Cath Kenneally

Petra White

Rob Walker

Rachel Hennessy

Ken Bolton

7th Reading June 19

LEE MARVIN – AN EVENING WITH
CATHY DENEUVE

Anna Barrie

Jeri Kroll

Patrick Niehus

Simon Robb

Ashley Graetz

8th Reading June 26

LEE MARVIN – AN EVENING WITH
THELMA RITTER

Ken Bolton

Joshua Nash

Mike Ladd

Heather Taylor Johnson

Bel Schenk

Gawler Poets Birthday Celebration

The Gawler Poets are inviting all members
of the poetry community to help blow the
candles out to celebrate the reading's 12th
birthday, on Sunday June 24 at 2pm. The
celebrations will include a guest appearance
by Bryan Cullen, Gawler's master of
traditional folk music, as well as an 'open
mike' for those wishing to read up to three
of their own poems. The readings take place
at the Prince Albert Hotel, 109 Murray
Street, Gawler.

Enquiries to Martin or Cathy on 8522 4268.

Australian Writers' Guild

Introduction to Screenwriting with Chris
Tugwell. Got a great idea for a film, but
do not know where to start? Introduction
to Screenwriting with award-winning
screenwriter Chris Tugwell may be what you
are looking for.

Areas covered in this course include:

- stages of development of a script
including a synopsis, outline and treatment
- writing dialogue
- script layout
- developing believable characters
- story structure
- making the drama work
- screen language and style

Following this course, attendees should
be able to apply this basic knowledge to a
current project, and be able to produce a
professional looking and sounding script.

A letter of attendance at this weekend
course is presented upon completion.

The AWG will provide a screenplay to be
read before the workshops and course work
will be set between the weekends.

Date & Time

Sunday 17th June & Saturday 23rd June 10
am till 5pm each day.

Cost:

AWG members: \$125 incl. GST

Non-members: \$250 incl. GST

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Glenn Hayden from Urban Myth

Urban Myth Theatre of Youth has a rich history spanning 24 years. Professional artists work in exchange with a youth membership aged between 5-26 to create cutting edge theatre performances, artistic activity and workshops. Production highlights in the companys' more recent history include *The Time of Ashes*, *Puberty Blues*, *In My Life I Died Once or Twice*, *Downtown*, *Grunt*, *When the Penny Drops*, *The Crucible* and *Motion Sickness*. In August 2004, Glenn Hayden took up the position of Artistic Director with Urban Myth Theatre of Youth. Since joining the company he has directed *My Sister Violet* at the SPACE Theatre and the outdoor production of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* to name a few.

Glenn will talk about Youth Theatre in Adelaide and all theatre writers are welcome to attend.

Date : Wednesday, 13 June, 2007
 Time: 6.30pm - 8 pm
 Cost: Gold Coin Donation

Both events at the the SA Writers' Centre (2nd Floor, 187 Rundle Street)with bookings or enquiries to 8232 6852 email: sa@awg.com.au.

The SAWC welcomes Miriam Katsambis to the role of Office Manager. Gabrielle Aujard has left the Guild to become a teacher. Good luck Gabrielle.

The Hills Poets

The next meeting of the Hills Poets will be on Sunday 10 June from 3.30 - 5.30 pm. PLEASE NOTE NEW VENUE: BRIDGEWATER INN, MT BARKER RD, BRIDGEWATER. The meeting will be in the dining room in the cellar of the hotel. For further information please ring Jill Gower on 8339 5119.

Scribbling for Sanity

People who are living with mental health issues and would like to try writing are welcome to attend this writing group. It's free. Thursdays at 2pm at the Panangga Activity Centre, Elgin Street, Christies Beach. Contact Maria on 0407 354 784, or Prue or Yvonne on 8382 5588.

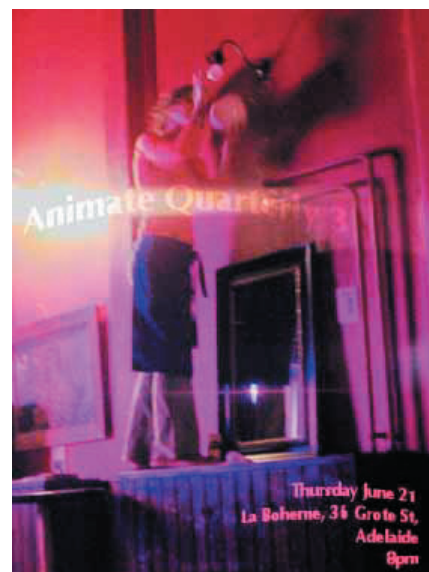
The HHIP Poetry and Literary Society

(Houghton, Hermitage, Inglewood, Paracombe) will meet at the CWA Meeting Rooms, Blackhill Road, Houghton at 7.30pm on Thursday June 21, 2007. All writers and poets welcome. Enquiries to Ken on 8380 5348 or Sharon 0403 831 170.

Animate Quarterly

it's a live literary journal

Animate Quarterly is still accepting submissions for the future 'issues'. Animate 3 will be held on Thursday June 21 at La Boheme, 36 Grote Street, Adelaide. Go to www.myspace.com/animatequarterly for all the details.



LOOKING FOR A PUBLISHER?



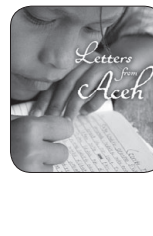
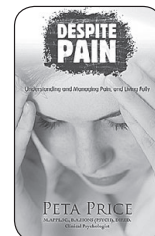
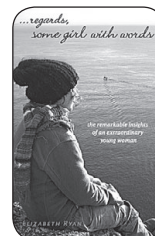
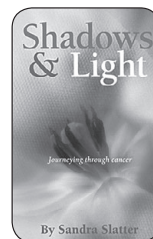
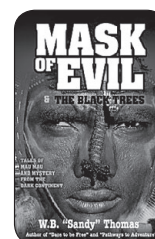
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<http://www.publisher-guidelines.com> and
<http://www.sidharta.com.au>



www.sawriters.on.net June 2007

News and Views

Young Authors' Night

Kids get things in their heads. Like the story of the boy who wanted to make a movie about the Fire of London. He took his dad's camera, lit up the washing on the Hills Hoist, spun it around and started filming. Other times it's about building Go Karts in the shed or improvising your own recipes, pulling mum's hair-dryer apart to see how it works or scratching your name on the side of a car. The good thing about being a kid is that anything's possible. And although it's the job of parents, teachers and others to minimise the risk and damage, it's also our job to lead and encourage.

And this is what I saw at one Young Authors' Night at Tyndale College: seventy primary school-aged children who had written their own stories, edited them and brought them along to read in front of other aspiring young writers and a selection of children's authors. There was a mix of every subject and style imaginable – fantasies of scoring the winning goal for the Socceros, Tolkien inspired fantasy worlds and the inevitable pony stories. There was marriage, birth, death and everything in between (including the boy whose mum looked surprised when he described how his hero used his mum's bras as a slingshot).

Parents listened with barely concealed pride as kids read stories they'd dreamt up in their bedrooms. The pattern was predictable: the kids would sit in a group holding their pieces, trembling, red-faced, dreading the moment they had to reveal their inner thoughts to the world for the first time. Then the moment would come and they'd stand, reading slowly, quietly, stumbling over their words, until they emerged, a few minutes later, to a round of applause and smiles and back pats, feeling every bit the J.K.Rowling. They weren't even my kids but I felt proud of them. It was the same feeling I had when I judged the 2003 Young Writers' Award: that one day I'd be buying books by some of these kids and telling them I remembered their first public reading (as they thought, Who are you, Grandpa?)

I'm convinced that it's these early experiences that light the flame, that feed the dreams and make kids want to be their best. I can put my career as a writer down to my Year 11 English teacher. The lesson is: be careful what you say – kids listen.

And this goes for more than writing: science fairs, spelling bees, Scouts, sporting clubs, anything but sitting at home in front of the dreaded telly or X Box. Kids have a hunger to do, to make, to learn.

The children's authors were particularly inspiring. I watched Rosanne Hawke and David Cornish (who used to draw for Burgo's Catchphrase!) listen to their group, praising characterisation, storyline, plot twists and thinly disguised autobiography. I think the whole experience was just as valuable for them, helping them remember why they'd started writing in the first place.

One of my favourite pieces was by Anne Macnamara, a Grade 5 who imagined the life of a Stringybark tree: 'The Stringybark tree felt cold and alone as the wind swept by his trunk. Each year on his birthday he felt as if he was leaping up without leaving the ground ...'

In a few short years the Young Authors' Nights have become a staple of the SA writing landscape. They give kids from all over the state something to look forward to, a reason to write, a potential audience and recognition that story telling isn't some strange habit akin to torturing small animals. Yes, these kids are discovering (as so many of us did) that sitting in some quiet room tapping away is the highest celebration of life. A trip to Mars? Can do. A Dark Ages murder mystery? Why not? So, why not come along and be inspired by the real thing – junior Joyces, emerging Eliots and forthcoming Faulkners. It's enough to melt a stony heart.

Stephen Orr

This article first appeared in *The Messenger* Newspapers. The SAWC is again running three Young Authors' Nights – in June, September and October. Please contact the SAWC for details.

Three-Day Novel Weekend

Another long weekend is coming up. What are you going to do? Travel interstate? Have a BBQ with friends and family? Work in the garden? Write a novel? Yes, another long weekend. Time to write another novel. Naturally! It's three whole days. Plenty of time.

Not all writing follows Oscar Wilde's spending all morning to put a comma in a sentence, and then all afternoon to take it out again. Authors like Georges Simeon and John Creasey had long careers of writing their novels in a week. Isaac Asimov could

write 90 words a minute.

The Canadians unleashed the first 3 Day Novel competitions upon an unsuspecting world back in the 1970's. The Fringe Festivals of 1988 and 1990 ran their own version. During the last two years the Salisbury Writers' Festival has been holding its own Three Day Novel Race.

A writer or a team of two writers must write a novel in the three days over the Queen's Birthday long weekend. Starting at 8 pm on Friday night and finishing on Monday night at 8 pm. All the words must be written in that time. No limits on subject matter (other than ordinary standards of good taste in book publishing) or word length.

Jason Fischer won the 2005 Three-Day Novel Race with *Tremble*. Here are his words about the experience, and its aftermath.

'The Three-Day Novel Race was quite an experience. There was delirium, lack of sleep, and a driving sense of urgency that no other writing contest can offer. At times when I've had weeks ahead of me and a distant deadline somewhere on the horizon, I still haven't managed to match either the word count or the quality that I created in one long weekend. I found my writing became brutally honest, and there simply wasn't time to do anything but reach into my head and pull the words out. This is great for eliminating clichés and lazy writing (although they still crop up, this is essentially first draft).

'My emotions throughout the contest ranged from feeling like a literary genius to extreme self-doubt. Then finally relief when I typed the words "The End". I had consumed buckets of coffee, listened to every CD I owned, slept in short snatches and rocked up to work on Tuesday looking like hell. Totally worth it!

'The recognition I got from winning the 2005 Three Day Novel Race has helped me on to bigger and better things. I got to work with Shane Dix on the final draft of my 3-day book as part of a mentorship, and then the story was published as an e-book which was pretty cool.'

Feel the need for speed? The 2007 Salisbury Writers' Festival Three-Day Novel Race beckons.

Jeff Harris

Literary Competitions...

☺☞ **29 June 2007**

Newcastle Poetry Prize. All open theme. Main Prize, poetry: \$11,000. New Media: \$2000. Local Poets award: \$500. \$20 per entry. www.hwcentre.com

30 June 2007

Geebung Writers Short Story Award for murder stories between 2000 and 5000 words. 1st prize \$350, 2nd prize \$150. There will also be certificates of commendation. Entry fee \$5. Entries must be postmarked no later than 30th June 2007. Please send for conditions of entry and entry form to Geebung Writers, P.O.Box 122, Geebung, QLD. or phone 07 3265-4577.

☺ **30 June 2007**

Winter Surprise short story competition. Find a white object, something cold, an animal and a stranger and write a short story of up to 500 words about them. Post your story and an entry fee of \$2 worth of unused stamps to Chris Broadribb, PO Box 116, Burwood NSW 1805. Include an SSAE if you want your story returned afterwards. You can enter as many times as you like. The best entry will be displayed on the website and win a mystery prize. www.geocities.com/spiky_one/winter.html

☞ **30 June 2007**

The Bruce Dawe National Poetry Prize is open to all Australian citizens or permanent residents of Australia. The Prize will be awarded to an original, unpublished poem not exceeding 50 lines. There are no generic or thematic constraints. Award of \$1,500.

☞ **30 June 2007**

Avoca Press Short Story Competition for Seniors. Submissions are invited for short stories, either fiction or nonfiction up to 10,000 words in length. Authors must be 50 years or over on 1 January 2007 and the aim is to encourage the act of writing, so please submit new

- ☺ indicates a competition listed for the first time
- ★ indicates a competition with sections for young writers
- ☞ indicates the SA Writers' Centre holds the entry forms

As a service to members, the SAWC holds entry forms and guidelines. Call in and collect copies for 20c each or send one business-sized stamped self-addressed envelope, plus one loose 50c stamp for every TWO competitions requested.

works. Also, please ask your friends to do so. Every entry to the competition will be reviewed and each entrant will receive a short critical evaluation of their work by an experienced author.

A minimum of twenty winners will be chosen and a book will be commercially published, containing all winning entries. All royalties from the book shall be shared equally among its authors.

\$10 entry fee with maximum of three entries per author. For further information and entry forms, contact: www.avocapress.com.au, Email: competitions@avocapress.com.au, Write: Avoca Press, PO Box 6790, BAULKHAM HILLS BC, NSW 2153. Phone 0425 330 303.

☺ **30 June 2007**

Positive Words Creative Writing magazine holds a mini challenge every month. Prize: Six months subscription to Positive Words. Entry Fee: \$1.00 in unused postage stamps. No entry form required. Challenge for June: Write a short story in 100 words or less, or a poem in ten lines or less using the word CAT/S at least once. Entries must be postmarked by the last day of the relevant month and the winning entry will appear in an upcoming issue. Send entries to: The Editor, Sandra Lynn James, 466 Old Melbourne Road, Traralgon 3844.

☺ **30 June 2007**

Gum Blossoms Poems, free or rhymed, including prose poems, any theme, from 10 to 50 lines. First prize \$100 and publication on Scribbligum - <http://scribbligum.com/> Second prize \$50 and publication as above. Entries or enquiries should be submitted by email to scribbligum@gmail.com Entry fee \$5 each item or \$25 for five.

☺☞ **6 July 2007**

Geraldine Pascall Prize. The \$15,000 prize is given annually to a critic whose work has contributed significantly to public appreciation, enjoyment and understanding of the area or areas of the arts in which he or she is involved. Critics working in all forms of the arts, including areas such as architecture, food and wine, visual and performing arts and literature are encouraged to enter. The critic will be

named Pascall Critic of the Year at a function on 25th September in Sydney (venue and time to follow). For further information please visit www.aussing.com.au - press button marked 'Pascall Prize'.

☺☞★ **15 July 2007**

The Lochee Andison Youth Literary Award. Open to all SA middle and secondary school students up to 18. Prizes of \$100 and \$50 will be awarded. Subject: Nature. 2000 max. word length. Entry forms available from the SAWC.

☺ **27 July 2007**

Yarram Community Learning Centre - 5th Annual Writing Competition. Short stories, 1500-3000 words. Poetry, (Rhyming or free verse), 8-48 lines. Both open themes. Short stories 1st prize \$200, 2nd prize \$100. Poetry 1st prize \$100, second prize \$50. Entry fees, \$5 per short story, \$3 per poem. Certificates awarded to Highly Commended and Commended. Entry forms available to download in full on www.yclc.com.au or send SSAE to YCLC, P.O. Box 212, Yarram, Vic. 3971

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Chair's Report

by Sean Williams

2006 was a banner year for SAWC, thanks in a very large measure to the hard work of the staff and volunteers who, alongside the Board, tirelessly pursue the Centre's mission: to foster South Australian writing by raising the profile of local authors and opportunities for writers through a program of professional development, support and community association. This mission statement forms an integral part of the Centre's business plan, which has come under close scrutiny by the Board in the last twelve months. This process is a perennial one, and an essential part of ensuring that we are meeting the needs of members and funding bodies alike. It provides a map for the Centre to follow, and like all maps needs constant updating.

Part of that process includes getting to know our membership better – especially as our numbers grow steadily into record figures. Important insights were gained from a survey conducted in September, and my thanks go to everyone who took the time to fill in the forms and return them to us. The results contained some surprises, and the Board has thought long and hard about the best ways to match needs with services. We are always open to suggestions, so don't ever be shy about coming forward with ideas. This is your Writers' Centre, and we want to make it to work for you.

Other issues the Board has considered include widening the Board's expertise, increasing the Board's involvement in such issues as fund-raising and publicity, and raising our national profile. There is always room for improvement, but our success in these areas has been considerable to date.

The Centre hosted several events that drew a large crowd, including November's Literary Quiz Night and the recent OzWrite dinner, attended by 70+ people from all corners of the writing community – including the directors of every Writers' Centre in the country, Jeremy Fisher from the Australian Society of Authors, and Peter Bishop of Varuna. Young Authors' Night, operating at

three venues across the city, drew large crowds. All these occurred alongside our usual round of workshops, seminars and lectures, plus revising the Handbook for SA Writers with the expertise of three students from Uni SA.

Through partnerships with organisations such as the Salisbury and Onkaparinga City Councils, SAWC has achieved an extremely high level of exposure for our members, and its work has been recognised locally and nationally. The Salisbury Writers' Festival was honoured with a 'Large Event of the Year' award, while SAWC shared an Australian Business Arts Foundation award with the Onkaparinga City Council for our work on the SA Writers' Festival.

New partnerships create new opportunities. The Centre was delighted to explore the possibilities of a new, central writers' festival – WORD – with partners The Big Book Club and the Adelaide Fringe. We are hopeful this initiative will continue in 2008, creating still more opportunities for local writers working in all areas of the industry. We welcome Channel 7 as a media partner in promoting the SA Writers' Festival. The Longlines Partnership with Varuna and the Ghantastic Writers Train with the NT Writers' Centre were also overwhelming successes. Exploring such avenues is an important function of the Board, and one we take very seriously.

Securing triennial funding is another significant achievement for the Centre, ensuring funding for such a diverse program of events. The Telstra Community Development Fund remained critical to the success of Young Authors' Night. The Board is pursuing a number of other possibilities in order to maintain or even increase our current level of activities. Keep an eye on the newsletter for future developments.



Norfolk Island Spring Book Festival

30 September to 07 October 2007

Featuring ...

Judy Nunn
From stage actor and international television star, to blockbuster, best-selling author, Judy Nunn's career has been meteoric

Manny Noakes
Leader of the research team that developed the Total Wellbeing Diet. Author of No 1 selling book "The CSIRO Total Wellbeing Diet" book

Graham Reid
award winning New Zealand journalist and freelance travel writer. "Postcards From Elsewhere"

Susan Duncan
"Salvation Creek"

Michael Morel
"Confidence for Life Manual"

and more!

A boutique Book Festival that is intimate & friendly
Meet and dine with our celebrity authors
Don't miss out, book early!!

Stimulating program including fun social activities:
Presenter sessions, Island tours, Welcome and Farewell dinners, fantastic Entertainment and much, much, more!

from
\$1166
p/person ex Brisbane

from
\$1226
p/person ex Sydney

Book Festival Package \$295 is additional to above holiday package prices. Ask about our special bonus if buying 7 night package and Book Festival package together through The Travel Centre
Please note prices may vary and are subject to change.

Norfolk Island Spring Book Festival
Freephone 1800 1400 66
PO Box 172, Norfolk Island 2899, South Pacific
Freephone 1800 1400 66 Fax 0011 6723 23205
travel@travelcentre.nf www.travelcentre.nf

Alternatively, you can read the Centre's website, which will be undergoing an extensive upgrade in the near future.

Lastly, we are very grateful to local author Kay Cleave to be able to add the Catherine Cleave Writers' Studio at Port Willunga to the services the Centre offers. Available to writers free of charge, with only a small key fee for the SAWC, the studio provides a welcome retreat from the distractions of everyday life, and a space in which new work can be realised.

2006 was a fine year for local writers, for the Centre that represents them, and for South Australian literature. Colin Thiele may no longer be with us, but the spirit in which he wrote, and with which he encouraged others, is still very much alive.

Director's Report

by Barbara Wiesner

As Sean Williams said in his Report from the Chair, 2006 was a 'banner year' for the SA Writers' Centre. We've been guaranteed funding for the next three years from both arts SA and the Australia Council. Gillian Rubinstein (Lian Hearn) made another generous donation of \$5,000 and Kay Cleave made available to members the Catherine Cleave Writers' Studio at Port Willunga. And to top it all off, the SA Writers' Centre and the City of Onkaparinga won the Australian Business Arts Foundation Toyota Community Award 2006 for engaging the community through literature, and the Salisbury Writers' Festival won the 'Large Event of the Year' at Salisbury Council's 2007 Australia Day Ceremony.

A tremendous team effort generated such success. The Board of Management spent many hours devising a business plan with a vision for the Centre's future, and also took care to involve themselves in day-to-day activities. Amongst many other duties, they welcomed guest writers from the Ghanstastic Writers' Train and transferred them to the Town Hall, helped prepare supper for the Young Authors' Night, devised and ran a successful Quiz Night, helped plan Animate Quarterly, instigated a membership drive by distributing 'showbags' to tertiary writing students, wrote nomination forms, spoke to writing groups, actively sought partnerships with other agencies and scrutinised contractual arrangements with our funding bodies. They are to be commended and congratulated for their achievements, many of which will bear fruit in upcoming years.

None of these activities would have succeeded without our versatile staff whose duty statements seem to change on a regular basis, depending on current priorities. Poet Bel Schenk moved effortlessly into the newsletter editor's chair while also juggling the design of our promotional material and running three Young Authors' Nights and Animate Quarterly. Jude Aquilina, also a poet, smoothly manages the comings and goings of dozens of groups, organises volunteers and takes care of the Centre's everyday activities, at the same time being the friendly voice at the end of the phone. We're also extremely fortunate to have additional support from talented writers and administrators, Lesley Beasley and Cheryl Jordan and, of course, librarians Silvia Muscardin and Jo-Anne Moretti who tenderly care for our precious book donations.

Graeme Rickard, David Mercer, and James Ogilvy have continued their marathon involvement with the Centre. Without

them we wouldn't have such an attractive and well-maintained venue, a comprehensive database, and accurately proofed and well-edited documents. Recently we welcomed the added support of Robert Ramsey who's helped with general maintenance; Doreen Spurdens and Alisha Pearson who are working towards involving more young people in our activities; Fiona Ellis and Georgia Gowing, who both offered to be our publicist; Meredith Harvey, who sorted years of press clippings; and Matthew Staker who is helping with administration. Richard Potter, Nicola Haywood, Jody-Ann Brockelbank, Helen Mitchell and Jude Aquilina helped with a successful Quiz Night. Avyi Patitsas, Anna Solding, Alisha Pearson and Kylie Ciampa also read hundreds of submissions to ensure an entertaining Animate Quarterly event. Their contributions have been invaluable to the efficient running of the Centre and its growing reputation.

Another factor in our success has been the support from our sponsors and partners. We've developed strong partnerships with the Cities of Onkaparinga and Salisbury through regional writing festivals, which have succeeded in raising the profile of writers and writing throughout the community and have benefited our members by providing high-standard activities at subsidised costs. Sincere thanks also go to our long-term sponsors: Langmeil Winery has supplied its delectable wines for all of our functions and Internode has continued to grant us free internet and email access. St Peter's College, Cardijn College, and Tyndale Christian School have also become an integral part of our support network. Their wonderful facilities and staff have contributed to the growing success of the Young Authors' Nights.

Finally, an enormous thank you must go to the many writers who have created such a vibrant and active environment. Many have generously given of their time, and others have made donations of both cash and books for the library. It's also heartening to see that 46 groups are included in the Centre's current membership of 1257, which means that approximately 2,500 writers across the state are part of the writing scene. Literary journal, *Wet Ink*, professional groups like the Australian Writers' Guild and the Society of Editors, and Australia's longest-running poetry group, Friendly Street Poets, are all happy to call the Centre their 'home.' I feel indeed privileged to be the Director of such an exciting community.



