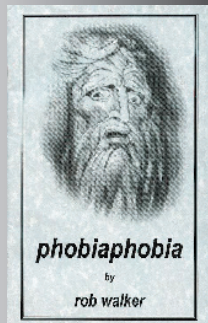


Centre Information...



So Very Resourceful

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

Pamela Moriarty, *Sharing Sweet Secrets: Gluten and Wheat Free*, 2006.

Betty Collins, *Not About Frogs*, Seaview Press, 2007.

rob walker, *phobiaphobia*, Picaro Press, 2007.

Ray Tyndale, *Sappho at Sixty*, Picaro Press, 2007.

Christine Creese, *While Away a Lazy Day: Short Stories and Poems*, 2007

Owen Carmichael, *Thirst*, Volume 2, Issue 1, 2007.

Patricia Ferguson, *The Muskawoller Shoes – Book 1: 7 short bedtime stories for busy parents and cute kids. Book 2: 7 short bedtime stories from the slippery forest; and Book 3: 7 crazy castles*, Douglas Press, 2007.

Wakefield Press, *Lifelines: Breaking Out of Locked-In Syndrome*, Peter Couche, 2007.

Judy Fander, *The Mineral Detective: The Biography of a Geologist*, 2007.

Newsletter Folders

Thanks to the following people who helped fold the August newsletter: Barbara Brockhoff, Betty Collins, Jo Dey, John and Coie Dikkenberg, Jeanne Mazure, Sharon Kernot, Hakim Oerton, Graeme Rickard, Gay Sanderson, Peter Swindon, Ann Timoney Jenkin and Ken Vincent.

Thank you for PEN Donations

Thank you to all the members who donated books to Adelaide PEN. New and second-hand books are still welcome. Why not visit the Centre and browse through the books which, for a donation, you can take home ...

PORT WILLUNGA RETREAT

For more information about staying at the Catherine Cleave Writers Studio down at Port Willunga contact us on 8223 7662. Kaye Cleave is making this studio available free of charge, though a small key fee will be required by the SAWC.

Between Us Manuscript Assessment Service

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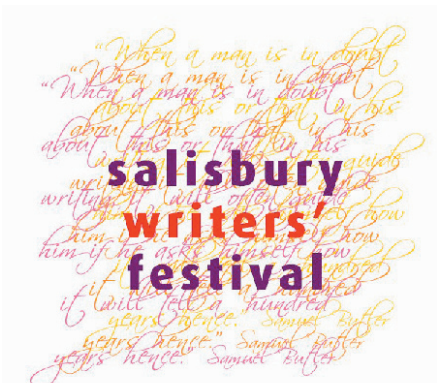
The information in this publication is presented in good faith as a service to SA Writers' Centre members. While the information is believed to be correct, the Centre takes no responsibility for its accuracy. No liability is accepted for any statements of opinion or any error or omission. Although advertising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



Wheelchair/
lift access
is available at
the 26 York
Street rear
entrance.



Alternatively, come in from Rundle Street via Buongiorno's Caffe to reach the lift.



Workshops

Contemporary Song Writing with Kylie Cowling

Kylie Cowling will explore the concept of song writing in and interactive workshop whilst providing an overview of song writing techniques relevant to a number of different styles

7pm — 9pm Tuesday 9 October.
John Harvey Gallery 12 James Street, Salisbury.

So You Want to Publish Your Family History with Graham Jaunay

Some of Australia's most important achievements are locked up in family memories and records that can be unlocked to reveal some wonderful aspects of our past. Graham will light the way for people interested in exploring and writing at this level.

7pm — 9pm Thursday 11 October.
John Harvey Gallery 12 James St, Salisbury

Writing the Winning Short Story with Moya Costello

Moya will address the challenges and joys of writing short stories.

9:30am — 12:30pm Saturday 13 October.
The Mawson Centre 2-8 Main St Mawson Lakes



Editing your Poetry and Getting it Published with Mike Ladd

Valuable tips and insights about improving your poetry and getting your work published. Mike Ladd is producer and presenter of ABC Radio National's Saturday afternoon poetry program 'Poetica.'

1.30pm — 4.30pm Sunday 14 October.
The Mawson Centre 2-8 Main St Mawson Lakes

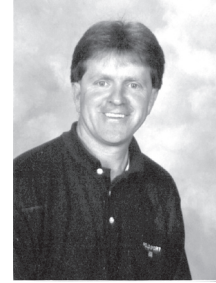


Dismantling Science Fiction with Sean Williams

Sean Williams is a bestselling author of over 60 short stories and 22 novels for adults and children. Sean will try to identify the elements and essence

of science fiction and how to harness its power to produce compelling stories.

7pm — 9pm Tuesday 16 October.
John Harvey Gallery 12 James St Salisbury



The Career Writer with Phil Cummings

Is it possible to make a career out of writing? Well some writers do like Phil Cummings

who is one of Australia's most prolific and accomplished authors.

7pm — 9pm Thursday 18 October.
John Harvey Gallery 12 James St Salisbury

All workshops: \$10
For more information about all the events at the Salisbury Writers' Festival, 2007, contact the SAWC on 8223 7662 or visit www.salisbury.sa.gov.au

Alone, Together

Congratulations to the following writers who are published in *Alone, Together*, short stories from the Wirra Wirra Short Story Awards, 2007:

David Mercer, Alexandra Weaver, Sarah Annesley, Henry Ashley-Brown, Mark Barry, Fiona Bascur, Benjamin Brooker, Judy Ferguson, Bronwyn Jenkins, Marianne Musgrove, Lesley Reed, Caroline Reid, Arnold I. Shipley, Nicholas Smart, Ben Ford Smith, Edwina Starck, Jane Turner Goldsmith, Lynn Vanzo, Amelia Walker and Janet Webber.



Emily Trott (daughter of the late Greg Trott, owner of Wirra Wirra Vineyards), with Alexandra Weaver and David Mercer.

Congratulations to **David Mercer**, winner of the Open Section for his story 'The Adventures of Loganberry Finn' and **Alexandra Weaver**, winner of the Youth Section for her story 'Alone, Together'.



Opportunities

Rumi Celebration

The Rosebud Writing Workshops (www.rosebudwritingworkshops.com) are organising a concert for Rumi to be held in November 2007 at Her Majesty's Theatre – a celebration of this great poet and philosopher's 800th birthday year.

The multicultural committee is interested in broadening input and ideas, especially to take on members from academic, arts or literary circles who may wish to contribute to the planning of the event, or even to readings or performances on the night.

Those interested can contact Rob de Kok (rob@rosebudwritingworkshops.com) or Keith Preston (keith@mrcsa.com.au) for meeting details.

Voiceworks Call For Submissions

Start sending submissions for issue #71, to the theme of 'issues' (deadline Sunday 7 October 2007). This could include fiction, poetry, nonfiction or visual art. Although they are a themed publication, remember the Voiceworks motto:

- * themed work: good
- * good work: better
- * good themed work: BEST

WORD LIMIT

3000 (800 to 2400-word pieces preferred)

RATES OF PAY

- * visual art: \$50 for one page, \$100 for two pages or more
- * poetry: \$60
- * fiction, non-fiction and columns: \$100
- * Letters: copy of the magazine.

AGE LIMIT

Voiceworks receives funding to publish the work of under 25-year-olds.

Go to www.expressmedia.org.au/voiceworks.php for further submission guidelines.

Email Ryan Paine at editor@expressmedia.org.au with any questions, pitches or brilliant ideas.

A Call For Submissions

Gay, Lesbian, Bi, and Transgendered: The Search For Spirituality. This book will be a collection of personal experiences from people in the GLBT community who have been successful in finding a spiritual connection. It will encompass all different faiths and cultures. The purpose of the anthology is to provide ideas, inspiration and encouragement. Authors will receive a share of royalties. The deadline for submission is January 31, 2008. More info at: <http://home.comcast.net/~remcg/glbtspirit.html>

Whimperbang ...

The online literary magazine of contemporary writing, is seeking submissions for upcoming issues. They encourage new, upcoming and established writers to submit their works of poetry, fiction and other literary genres. Submission requirements may be found at <http://whimperbang.atspace.com/>

The Art of Microfiction

onefifty.com.au is a website devoted to the art of microfiction. They are calling for young Australian writers, under the age of thirty, to submit their own piece of microfiction: stories under either one hundred and fifty words, or one hundred and fifty characters (including spaces and punctuation).

Submit your micro story via email to story@onefifty.com.au, via MySpace at www.myspace.com/150fiction, or your micro mini story (150 characters including spaces and punctuation) via SMS to 0403 274 203. Stories selected for an ezine will be remunerated at the flat rate of \$10 per SMS story or 10c per word for the emailed and MySpace stories. Entries for issue 3 are due by 15th October 2007. Entries for issue 4 will be due by 31st January 2008.

The Adelaide Benevolent & Strangers' Friend Society wishes to commission a history of the Society covering the period 1914 – 2001. The Society is the oldest charity in SA and a previous history from commencement to 1914 has already been

completed. Interested parties should contact Brian at the Society on 82315321.

Experienced Typist Needed ...

To put 250 page script onto a disk. Payment neg. Please call 8272 9046.

Book Launches

Adopting: Parents' Stories, published by Wakefield Press, edited by Jane Turner Goldsmith, will be launched by Sue Priest, at the SA Writers' Centre on Friday 16th November, 6 for 6.30pm. All welcome.

...

Little Wombat goes to Childcare by Kate Simpson and Greg Holfeld will be launched at SA Writers' Centre on Saturday 17th November at 10.30am. All welcome.

...

Beer Swill Romanticism
All & sundry are invited to the launch of the 1st issue of *Beer Swill Romanticism*; a digest

Where: La Boheme 36 Grote St
When: Thurs Oct 25th, 7:30 for a 8pm start
Free entry, copies of issue 1 for sale (\$2)

This event will be held in conjunction with the 1st Hard Boiled for the year. After the launch there will be an open mic section, followed by a raffle of booze/books/booby prize.

...

If you cannot wait for the next Paroxysm book (*Croak and Grist* by Shane Jesse Christmass and Hop Dac) then get yourselves and your friends to the atrium at the SA Writers' Centre on Friday 26th of October at 8pm for the launch of Paroxysm Radio Demo # 2: recorded at the 2003 Overload Poetry Festival – Melbourne v Adelaide Poetry Slam.

What's On



POETICA

Presented by Mike Ladd, Saturdays at 3.05 pm, repeated 3.05pm Thursdays. Program details for October:

October

- 6th *Rapture* – a sequence of love poems by Carol Ann Duffy.
- 13th Rolf Jacobsen – a feature on Norway's great modernist nature poet.
- 20th *The Wire* – poetry about the mandatory detention system for illegal immigrants to Australia, written from both sides of the wire.
- 27th *High Mountainous Country* – Ray Stuart's poems about his time in Papua New Guinea.

For further details please contact the producers of Poetica Mike Ladd (08) 8343 4928 Krystyna Kubiak (08) 8343 4271 or visit the website at www.abc.net.au/rn/arts/poetica/

Author Talk – Kaz Cooke

Kaz is releasing *Girl Stuff*, an inspirational guide for teenage girls – to be shared with best-friends, hidden under beds and borrowed by little sisters. *Girl Stuff* is an essential guide to the teen years for every girl and her parents.

Free event. Tuesday, 16 October, 2007 from 7pm to 8.30pm. Marion Cultural Centre Domain Theatre.

Bookings essential on 8375 6855

INDEPENDENT SCHOLARS (ISAA)

The ISAA meet bi-monthly (on the first Thursday in even months, from 2.30-4.00 pm) at the SA Writers' Centre. Enquiries: virginia@virginiakenny.com phone 8344 7810. www.independentscholars.asn.au

The next meeting will be at 2.30pm on Thursday October 4. Robert Cettl will speak on 'The evolution of the Australian film classification unit and some examples of classification.'

Greek-Australian Writers and Artists

This year the annual gathering of the Association of Greek-Australian Writers and Artists has an informative, as well as a fun purpose. With the cooperation of the SA

Writers' Centre and Mark Goldsmith of the Royal Adelaide Hospital, the guest speaker will be Jim Cakouros PhD, a distinguished researcher in the field of cancer. There will also be poetry, music and delicious Greek side dishes, sweets, tea and coffee. Members are invited to celebrate on Sunday 18 November at 3.30pm in the SA Writers' Centre Atrium. For more information, please call Georgia on 8337 8778.

Hills Poets

The next meeting of the Hills Poets will be on Sunday 14 October 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. The car park on the left-hand side of the hotel is easiest access. For information please ring Jill Gower on 8339 5119.

Des Speight Talk

Join author Des Speight as he talks about Richard Bryant, a North Country lad who became Australia's Spanish Knight. Born in England in 1911, Richard Bryant served as an ambulance driver with the international brigades in the Spanish Civil War.

Monday 29 October 2007, 10.30am to 11.30am at the Cultural Centre Library, Diagonal Road, Oaklands Park 5046. \$4.00 per person. Phone: 83756785 email marionlibrary@marion.sa.gov.au

Hugh Mackay

Imprints Booksellers and Hachette Australia invite you to meet Hugh Mackay, author of *Right and Wrong: How to decide for yourself* and *Reinventing Australia*. Hugh will be in town to talk about his new book *Advance Australia ...Where?*

Wednesday, 10 October 2007, 6 to 7.30pm at Grainger Studio, ASO Headquarters, 91 Hindley Street (behind Café Tempo).

Tickets \$10.00 Bookings essential. Please have your credit card handy when booking over the phone or via email.

Alternatively you can come into the shop to purchase tickets: Imprints Booksellers, 107 Hindley Street, Adelaide SA 5000.

Ph: 8231 4454
Email: books@imprints.com.au
Web: www.imprints.com.au

Palindrome Festival Oct 24-28

Sat Oct 27th, 9.30 at the Palindrome Festival at Glenelg, Seaview Press titles will be available for sale throughout the day, so come and support the local self published authors. Books at sale prices. Seaview Press publishes a range of genres from poetry to family history and nonfiction.

For further details contact Seaview Press; www.seaviewpress.com.au

North Eastern Writers Group.

(Formerly HHIP Poetry and Literary Society). The next meeting will be held on Thursday 15th November from 7.30pm-9.30pm at the TTG Community Hall, Memorial Drive, Tea Tree Gully. Our guest speaker this month will be Maggie Emmett from Friendly Street Poets. All welcome. Enquiries to Ken 8380 5348 or Sharon 0403 831170.

South Australian Final of the Australian Poetry Slam 07

Tuesday Oct 16th at the State Library of SA starting 7:30 pm. After ten hard-fought heats there are now twenty finalists from amongst the talented spoken wordsmiths of Adelaide. It's time to see the best of the best as poets, spoken word artists and rhymers battle it out for the \$500 first prize and most importantly for one of two spots in the first ever Australian Slam finals to be held in Sydney in November. Look also for a special appearance on the night by Peter Goldsworthy.

For the slam rules see www.australianpoetryslam07.org

or contact your slam MC, Daniel Watson, at paroxysm@paroxysmpress.com.

Fly Glass Wings 1.0

Be a part of the live audience! Be a part of the podcast! *Glass Wings*, Australia's oldest commercial online literary magazine, will be podcasting a live performance with poets, comedy sketches and musicians. Performers include poets Jude Aquilina & Louise Nicholas, singer-songwriter, Jamaica Bastiras and Light Year Award winner for best comedy actor, Steve Parker. SAWC Atrium at 2:30pm on Saturday 10 November, after the Credit Union Christmas Pageant. Bookings: muse@glasswings.com.au or 8388 1539. More details at <http://fly.glasswings.com.au>

News and Views

Indie publishers highlight the importance of going green

Melbourne independent publishers aduki independent press and Vignette Press have united to develop ethical publishing guidelines. The guidelines promote environmentally-friendly practices such as use of recycled stock and vegetable-based inks, avoiding waste, choosing energy-efficient resources, and promoting a 'no-pulping policy'.

'Publishers are in an excellent position to employ positive practices that make a real difference to the health of the environment, be it by minimising paper waste, using recycled stock, or undertaking to find a eco-friendly printer,' Emily Clark from aduki independent press said.

'Publishing is a resource-intensive operation, so it's important for the people involved to take responsibility for the impact their business has on the environment,' Lisa Dempster of Vignette Press says.

Emily Clark and Lisa Dempster believe that independent publishers will lead the charge towards changing the attitudes and practices of publishers in Australia.

'There is a belief that using recycled papers is really expensive, but that's just not the case anymore. Using recycled paper is price-competitive with using normal stock, and there are lots of quality printers that promote energy-efficient printing,' Emily Clark says.

'We want to show that if we, as small presses, can afford to adopt these policies, there's no reason why bigger companies can't,' Lisa Dempster says.

The guidelines were written in the interests of conducting fair and reputable businesses, and Emily and Lisa hope that other publishers will join them in recognising that change is needed within the industry.

The ethical publishing guidelines also deal with the importance of promoting the principles of diversity and free speech, fostering Australian talent, and supporting the local publishing industry.

Varuna Awards For Manuscript Development 2007

Each year Varuna calls for applications for the Varuna Awards for Manuscript

Development, a unique publisher partnership that offers five writers the ideal experience of working with a senior editor from HarperCollins Publishers in that well-known environment wholly dedicated to writing, Varuna –The Writers' House in the Blue Mountains.

Each year up to 300 writers respond to the call, and Creative Director Peter Bishop noted in 2006 that the overall standard of applications was very high indeed.

The program comes with no guarantee of publication, but the HarperCollins editors are certainly choosing the manuscripts with a view to publication, and recent publications resulting from the program include Pip Newling's *Knockabout Girl* and Kim Huynh's *Where the Sea Takes Us*.

Varuna is committed to providing opportunities for writers from the less populous states, the territories and from regional areas of Victoria, NSW and Queensland. The Macquarie Bank Foundation LongLines Program and the NSW LitLink Program have hugely increased the professional resources available to writers working well away from the metropolitan centres of Sydney, Brisbane and Melbourne. And so it was a great pleasure in 2006 to welcome Siew Siang Tay from South Australia and Katherine Johnson from Tasmania into the Varuna Awards for Manuscript Development Program.

This is the eighth year of the Varuna Awards for Manuscript Development, and Varuna thanks HarperCollins Publishers for such an invaluable commitment to the development and publication of high-quality new writing in Australia.

Writers of fiction (all genres) and narrative nonfiction are invited to apply for the 2007 Varuna Awards for Manuscript Development. The deadline is OCTOBER 31 and all information is available at www.varuna.com.au

Letter to the Editor

Grateful to be a reader.

My Mum spent a week in hospital paralysed, speechless and blinded by a sudden stroke. But her mind was ok. I read to her during that week in hospital. I read aloud *Emma* by Jane Austen. I found

the book in her bag, which she'd packed months ago for a possible visit to hospital.

Then Mum died.

I am very grateful to be a reader during hard times. To have occasional reprieves from grief and worry are a blessing.

Regards,

Kate Simpson

P.S. During that week, I read books by Lian Hearn, Terry Pratchett and Margaret Maron.

Dear Ed,

Unfortunately we can no longer continue to produce Staples. The editors are unable to commit further to the project; easy though it apparently seemed to accept submissions to produce a bare-bones zine, we have recently not been satisfied overall with the quality of material we've been receiving. To keep the standards high we would need to seek quality writing, not just wait for the odd gem to appear out of the blue – and none of us is currently in a position to embrace the writing community quite as lovingly as we need to. We felt that producing something more or less mediocre after months of waiting may be worse than not producing anything at all.

Having said all that, we have no regrets about the brief run we had, and thank you all for your support.

Subscribers will have the remainder of their subscriptions fees returned to them, and I will contact each individually to arrange this. People who have submitted and been left hanging for a while – we apologise, and wish you luck with the submissions elsewhere.

Kind regards,

Gavin Schultz

Staples Co-Editor
editors@st.aples.org
<http://st.aples.org>

Community Week at Varuna



by Jude Aquilina

It was a privilege to be part of the inaugural Community Week at Varuna – The Writers' House in the Blue Mountains in middle of September. Louise Nicholas and I visited last year on a Longlines Fellowship. This time, however, we didn't sit and write for the week, instead we joined three other writers from different states to run workshops, give readings, and consultations, and generally interact with the writing community in Katoomba and neighbouring towns.

Varuna's beautiful garden, which the Dark family planted early last century and still maintain, was in the first flushes of spring when we arrived, daily new blossoms appeared and the rhododendrons and camellias began to wear their purple and pink bling. The mountain air, cold and fresh, waterfalls within walking distance – a stay at Varuna is holistic, catering for mind, body and soul! Needless to say, my city-stress soon washed away, and despite my busy schedule, I wrote as much as on my first visit.

Our house-mates were: award-winning short story writer Patrick Cullen from the Newcastle area, poet and photographer, Kristen Lang from Sheffield in Tasmania, and Julie Gittus, whose gripping young-adult novel will soon be published. We all met over dinner and discussed the day's events – how the workshops went, or what we'd written. Any shyness faded as we read our work to each other, and soon knew we were on the same wavelength. Some evenings our conversations were fuelled by wine and by the lovely company of Peter Bishop and local writers. We heard poems by the well-known Katoomba poet Deb Westbury and from recently published Craig Billingham.

I stayed in the maid's room downstairs in the two-story art deco mansion, and wrote outside in Eleanor Dark's garden studio. This quaint miniature house contains a desk, fireplace, library and chair. Windows on three sides overlook towering, flowering trees. Kurrajongs tussle in the branches and packs of marauding cockatoos try to scare away my muse! Who wouldn't be inspired? There were portraits of Eleanor on the walls and I got the feeling from her firm chin, that I'd better get some writing done, or I'll be letting the side down. Her strength is again seen in photos of her rock-climbing with bare feet and a flimsy rope around her waist. We meet her son, Mick, a generous and humble man who donated Varuna to the writers of Australia in the 1990s.

On Saturday afternoon, Varuna held a Community Open Day. Posters were placed around the area, inviting people to celebrate 'writers, spring and the garden [with] afternoon tea and champagne'. Peter, Madeleine and Vera worked tirelessly,

thoughtfully arranging the garden with bookstall, tea and coffee, cakes, chairs and vases of daffodils and lilliums.

Louise and I opened the reading with some of our poetry, followed by Indigenous writer Elly Chatfield, who talked about her mentorship, which was arranged through Varuna. Elly read excerpts from her forthcoming autobiography, a poignant and moving story about being part of 'the stolen generation'; her son and a friend then played didgeridoo and clapsticks. Elly and her mentor Katherine touched the hearts of the listeners on this sunny afternoon. Patti Miller spoke next and read from her recently published work *The Memoir Book*. The passage she read was

inspiring and practical. This book, I'm sure, will assist in the creation of many future memoirs and biographies. Around seventy guests attended Varuna's Open Day, some making the trip from Sydney.

Another highlight of the visit for Louise, Julie and me, was to sit in on the 'Blue Fringe Writers' Group'. Members of this group are all recipients of a prize in a local writing competition, and have all had a mental illness. The group shared their powerful stories

and poems with thirty writers and friends. The voices in the group varied enormously, but a tone of strength and resilience endured. Peter's expertise at running the group and providing valuable comments and enthusiasm, are so obviously appreciated. Peter and his staff work tirelessly for Varuna, reading manuscripts, coordinating fellowships, master-classes, residencies, critical assessments, interviews, etc. Peter also travels to different states for Longlines consultations.

During our stay, we went bushwalking, sightseeing and shopping. Patrick had a car and kindly took us on a 'book shop crawl' – soon we all had excess baggage! The Katoomba community is interesting and arty – the shops, towns and people reflect this. Despite a wonderful dinner with Peter, savouring his smoked trout pasta, our last night at Varuna was sad. By mid-afternoon the next day someone else would be sitting in MY chair, in MY studio with Eleanor. I left the next morning, uplifted by the spirit of Varuna, and the generosity of the staff and community.

The Longlines Program, funded by the Macquarie Bank, ensures that a number of yearly places at Varuna are reserved for writers living in 'the regions', i.e., SA, NT, WA, Tasmania, and regional areas in other states.

'I stayed in the maid's room downstairs in the two-story art deco mansion, and wrote outside in Eleanor Dark's garden studio. This quaint miniature house contains a desk, fireplace, library and chair. Windows on three sides overlook towering, flowering trees. Kurrajongs tussle in the branches and packs of marauding cockatoos try to scare away my muse! Who wouldn't be inspired?'

Congratulations...

Graham Rowlands had his poems 'Dirty Talk' and 'Pentecostal' published in *Westerly* and *Page Seventeen* respectively.

Zenda Vecchio's short story 'Oak' was published in *Quadrant* in September.

A book of critical essays about **Adeeb Kamal Ad-Deen's** poetry, titled *Man of Letters* has been published in Lebanon by the Arabic Institution.

Ros Schulz had two poems published in *Social Alternatives* – 'One Magpie' and 'Encounter'.

Max Merckenschlager's poem 'Made in Australia' won the Chairman's Encouragement Award for open poetry in the Ipswich Poetry Feast Competition.

Christine Creese's book of short stories and poems, *While Away A Lazy Day*, has been published and sold out on the first run. It is going into second print and will be available in Angus & Robertson at Colonnades, Mount Barker, Burnside and Murray Bridge.

Pamela Moriarty's cookbook *Sharing Sweet Secrets Gluten & Wheat Free* and the printer, Graphic Print Group, have both been awarded a Silver Award from the The Printing Industries Association of Australia (South Australian Region).

Erica Jolly's poems 'Mirror, Day 1', 'Mirror Day 2', 'Mirror Day 3' about Howard's actions in the Northern Territory were published by *Adelaide Voices* in their August issue – 'Defend Aboriginal Rights'.

Ray Tyndale's fourth poetry collection, *Sappho at Sixty*, was published in May by Picaro Press in NSW.

A member of Seaside Writers for many years, **Audrey Weigh**, has now published thirteen books. Five of those books have been converted to Large Print and several have been translated into languages other than English: Italian, German, Danish and Romanian. One has been recorded as a Talking book.

Stephen Lawrence is co-judge of the inaugural Blake Poetry Prize, Australia's second-richest poetry competition, whose winner and commended entries will be published in *Wet Ink* magazine for which he edits poetry. He is also co-judging the John Bray Poetry Award, giving \$15,000 to the best poetry book published in Australia over the last two years as part of the Festival Awards for Literature to be announced at 2008 Writers' Week. His poems, 'The Prime Minister On Withdrawing Troops,' 'Bush On Troop Levels In Iraq,' 'Bush On Going To War In Iran,' 'Short Movie' and 'F**k Poetry' were broadcast on Radio Adelaide in July. His monologue 'The Underground Banana Club' was performed by the University of Adelaide Theatre Guild, on Open Day in August, in the Barr Smith Library Reading Room.

Dennis Wild's poem 'Pillow Talk Unexpurgated' was selected by guest editor John Tranter to be included in UQP's *The Best Australian Poetry 2007*.

Margaret Griffin-Ward's account of meeting with cane toads at Larrimah ('A Night at Larrimah, NT') was published in the September/October edition of *The Write Angle*.

Graham Catt's chapbook *The Hieronymus Bosch Shopping Mall* has just been published by Picaro Press.

Owen Carmichael's feature 'Writing for the Editor' was published in *The Write Angle* for September/October.

Kami's story 'When Icky Met Micky' was published in the Sunday Driver's Press Anthology *Blood*. Kami also read at the launch of *Blood* at the Melbourne Writers' Festival. Whilst in Melbourne he interviewed Boxer Lester Ellis and the subsequent articles will appear in upcoming issues of *Ralph* and *People* magazine. His most recent article on Thin Lizzy appeared in the Sept 17 issue of *People*.

Daniel Watson's short story 'My Brother's Keeper' was also published in the *Blood* anthology from Sunday Drivers

Press. He was invited to read the story at its capacity launch at the Melbourne Writers' Festival. *Blood* was the 5th highest seller in its launch week and 8th highest seller for the whole of the festival.

Agnes Niewenhuizen's new title *Right Book Right Time: 500 Great Reads for Teenagers* (A&U) includes books by SA authors Ian Bone, Rebecca Burton, David Cornish, Rosanne Hawke, Lian Hearn, Ruth Starke and Alan Tucker.

Annette Wickes's story, 'The Big One' was published in *Countdown* (School Magazine), September 2007.

David Mortimer's poem 'Without Notice' was published in *Five Bells* (Winter 2007), and his collection *Red in the Morning* (Bookends Books) is reviewed by Robert Bloomfield on the UniSA Poetry & Poetics Centre website.

Helen Mitchell received two awards from the C J Dennis Competition. 1. Commendation for 'A Soldier Returns' and 2. High Commendation for 'Whispering Shadows'.

Jason Fischer's story 'Undead Camels Ate Their Flesh' has been accepted into *Dreaming Again*, an upcoming anthology edited by Jack Dann.

A very short story by **Brennan O'Shea** was published in the September 2007 issue of *Skive*.

Kate Willson's manuscript *Mum's Blue Pumas* was commended in the Chapter Book Primary section of the CYA Later Alligator Writing and Illustrating Competition, part of the CYA Conference held during the Brisbane Writers' Festival.

Louise Nicholas had her poem 'Breakfast' published in UQP's *The Best Australian Poetry 2007*.

Literary Competitions...

☺☞ **2 October, 2007**
Gwen Harwood Poetry Prize, 2007. A single poem or a linked suite no longer than 100 lines. First prize of \$1500. Three minor prizes of \$150. Entry forms available from SAWC or downloadable from www.islandmag.com

☞ **28 October 2007**
The United Federation of Planets Fan Club Inc. Sci-fi or Fantasy Story Competition, max 3000 words. Email submissions in MSWord 2000 or less to holonovel@ufpofsa.org. Winners presented with a prize at the Sunday 16 December clubs shore-leave from 4pm.

☞ **31 October 2007**
Positive Words End-of-year Short Story & Poetry Competition. Entry fee \$2.50. Short stories to 500 words. Poetry to 32 lines. Original winning entries will be featured in January 2008 edition of Positive Words. First prize \$50.

☺ **31 October 2007**
Gum Leaves publishing opportunity and competition for fiction or nonfiction, any theme, from 200 to 1000 words. Details at <http://scribblegum.com/>

☞ **31 October 2007**
The QLD Premier's Drama Award. Development funding will be given to draft scripts discussing social, economic and political themes that contribute to the debate of life in Qld. Three finalists will be selected for workshops with leading industry professionals. The winner will have their play produced with the Qld Theatre Company. Entry form at www.qldtheatreco.com.au or call (07) 3010 7607.

3 November, 2007
Little Ears Article Competition. Little Ears magazine for 3-8 year olds (see www.littleears.com.au) announce a competition for an article from 300 to 600 words suitable for parents and carers on any of the following topics:

- ☺ 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.

storytelling, your favourite family story, encouraging literacy, teaching children to read, selecting picture books for young readers or encouraging reluctant readers. All entries will be eligible for publication in Little Ears (which appears nationally in newsagencies from 3 September). The winning entry will receive a year's free subscription to Little Ears. Please send your article – with a title page listing your name, word length, postal address, phone number and email address - to Di Bates, Story Editor, Little Ears, PO Box 2116, Woonona East NSW 2517 by 1 November. Manuscripts will not be returned. Results will be published in Buzz Words (www.buzzwordsmagazine.com) on 15 November.

☺ **9 November, 2007**
FAW Shoalhaven One Act Play Competition. For further information go to <http://www.fawswshoalhaven.org.au/Our%20Competitions.htm> where you can also download an entry form.

☞ **23 November 2007**
Whyalla Writers' Group Short Story & Poetry Competition. Theme: Backyards and barbecues interpreted as a metaphor, analogy, reality, fiction or poetic reference. a) Adults: max 1500 words for prose or 40 lines of poetry. First prize \$250. Entry fee \$7. b) Young Adult: max 1000 words for prose or 25 lines of poetry. First prize \$100 + voucher and publication. Entry fee \$5. Entry forms at <http://whyalla.yourguide.com.au>

30 November 2007
The 2008 Blackened Billy Verse Competition. For an entry form and information, please write to Jan Morris, PO Box 3001, West Tamworth 2340 or email janmorris@northnet.com.au. Winners are announced during the Tamworth Country Music Festival in January. The Blackened Billy trophy has been much prized by previous winners and keenly sought after and there are cash prizes also.

☺☞ **30 November 2007**
Barbara Jefferis Award 2008
The annual award, offered for the first time in 2008, celebrates "the best novel written by an Australian author that depicts women and girls in a positive way or otherwise empowers the status of women and girls in society". The Award is valued at \$35,000. Entry fee \$55. For more information, full terms and conditions, and official entry form, go to: <http://www.asauthors.org/>

☺ **15 December 2007**
Though only three years old, the ABR Poetry Prize has rapidly become one of Australia's most prestigious poetry awards - an extension of ABR's commitment to the appreciation of poetry and the creation of fine new poems.

The first three winners were Stephen Edgar, Judith Bishop and Alex Skovron. Winning poems, and several shortlisted ones, have appeared in major anthologies, a reflection of the attention that this award generates.

The guidelines and entry form will appear in the September issue of ABR and on the website: www.australianbookreview.com.au

☺ **31 December 2007**
Tom Collins Poetry Prize. Maximum 60 lines per poem. First Prize \$1000. Second Prize \$400. Four Highly Commended Prizes of \$150. In addition, four Commended entries will receive certificates only. Entry Fee \$5 per poem, maximum of three poems per author. Entry form available at Tom Collins House, or downloaded from: www.fawwa.org.au

Send entries to: Competition Secretary, Entry for TCPP, PO Box 312, Cottesloe WA 6911. Queries? Contact FAWWA on (08) 9384 4771, or email admin@fawwa.org.au. Winners announced late February 2008.



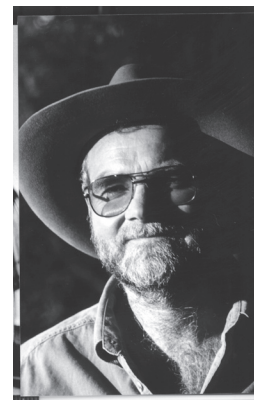
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Half a Page with Bill Marsh



Bill 'Swampy' Marsh is an award-winning writer/performer of stories, songs and plays. His first collection of short stories, *Beckom Pop. 64*, was published in 1988, his second, *Old Yanconian Daze*, in 1995 and his third, *Looking for Dad*, in 1998. Bill is currently working on his second collection of *Great Flying Doctor Stories* which will follow on from his very successful series of *Great Australian Railway Stories* (2005), *Great Australian Droving Stories* (2003), *Great Australian Shearing Stories* (2001) and *Great Flying Doctor Stories* (1999). His website is www.billswampymarsh.com

Which books should be made into a movie and who would play the lead role?

Goldie – a book that I'm currently writing about an outback drover, stockman, ringer, fighter-boxer, cattle duffer, rabbitier etc that's coming out late 2008. With Errol Flynn.

Do you write with a computer or by hand?

Both - I'm ambidextrous - I prefer 'by hand'.

Any tips for aspiring writers?

Write ... write ... write ... write and never, ever give up.

Do you listen to anything while you write?

Arvo Part – *Alina* for 6 hours a day. I'm an avid listener to Garrison Keilor's Prairie Home Companion radio show - 7pm Sunday nights Radio National – especially his Lake Woebegon monologue.

What's your opinion of the SA literary scene?

I'm a little out of it to give any definite opinion.

What are you currently reading?

Hemingway.

What books have influenced you?

Short stories of Raymond Carver and early stories of Truman Capote, very much ... Lawson & Paterson. Novels – *Lord of the Rings* and *Cider with Rose* (Laurie Lee).

What was your worst job ever?

A gigolo.

Do you have a non-writing job?

Everything I do is to do with the written word, including a part-time job marking creative writing papers from TAFE.

What started it all off?

A miracle.

If you could win any prize, which one would it be?

Doesn't matter ... just as long as I can continue to write. That's prize enough.

What's your favorite writing fuel?

The love of doing it.

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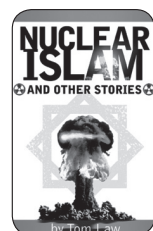
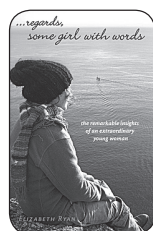
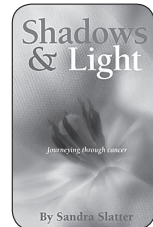
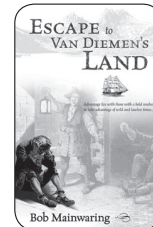
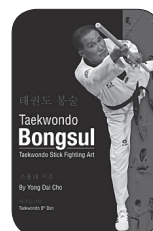
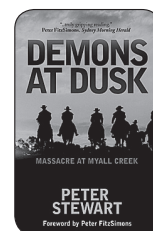
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Board's Eye View

Learning and Changing by Mag Merrilees



One of my first teachers was my older sister. As with all the great teachers, her lessons were riveting. She told me, for instance, about the queen going to the toilet in her ermine robes. I am haunted even now by the difficulty of keeping the ermine out of the way.

My sister 'did' Charles Dickens at school: *Hard Times*. She passed on to me the image of pupils as little pitchers having facts poured into them. By that time I was not such a little pitcher myself, and I understood, with Dickens and my sister, that education should be more than facts. Later, in many sleepy afternoon history classes, I learned that an invisible film prevented any facts from being poured into my own head. The teacher tried, but the facts just slipped uselessly away at the edges. As a result, in the fullness of time, I found myself sitting my final university history exam, unable to remember anything about the Turks at the gates of Vienna, except that they brought with them coffee and lilac. Or was it lavender? And was it the end of the sixteenth, or the seventeenth century? And which is which anyway?

Nevertheless, the university gave me a BA and I emerged into a world in the throes of social upheaval. It was the early 1970s, and I learned a great deal in a short space of time as we attempted, euphorically, to re-invent absolutely everything. We were not the first generation to attempt this, of course. Nor the last, I hope. But ours was a particularly full-blooded attempt.

I learned from hippy communes and political activism. I helped end the Vietnam war, and saw Gough Whitlam in and out. I taught English overseas, learning a great deal more than I taught. I moved on to the turbulence of lesbian feminism, women's households, collectives, women's land, separatism and multiple relationships (as a systematic principle, rather than an ad hoc mess, though sometimes they felt the same). It was very educational. Re-inventing absolutely everything turned out to be more difficult than we had thought.

In my 30s, after a decade of work in political and community organisations, I underwent some sort of mental spasm or catharsis (or perhaps just an overwhelming longing for orderliness) and went back to Uni to study accountancy. I returned to the straight workforce in a high-rise building with a lift that was annoyed if you stood too close to its doors, and an office door that wouldn't open unless you keyed in the right numbers. The shock was profound. I cried every night for weeks. I had rather over-estimated the pleasure of orderliness. In any case, I soon discovered that these grey fortresses are not as orderly as they appear (a fact worth remembering when one is up against them). The human capacity for creating chaos, while seeking order, is infinite, particularly where money is concerned. This is true everywhere, from the local bowls club to the hospital with thousands on the payroll.

During this period of my life I learned something invaluable. Deep within what I would once have regarded as enemy territory, I met lovely people, ordinary people doing their best to make sense of life. I made friends. And I liked some aspects of my work. Double-entry book-keeping, invented by the Venetian monk Pacioli in the

fifteenth century (or was it the sixteenth?), and still in use in twenty-first century computers, is beautiful. It is a system as satisfyingly poised as the best poem, a perpetual balance.

By this time I was doing a lot of counselling, which made sense of some of the impediments (in myself and others) to changing absolutely everything. Listening to people is the surest way to understand what makes them tick.

At present I am a university student (again), and teaching first year undergraduates, which is fun. I learn (again) at least as much as I teach. I am

hugely appreciative of what the universities provide: the space, the financial and intellectual support, the discipline, the encouragement, the commitment to language and ideas, and above all the libraries. These are precious things in a time of deep political conservatism.

But my first commitment, my political allegiance, has always been to the small local ways in which humans support and learn from each other: the community groups, special interest groups, writers' groups, book groups, self-help groups, performance groups, discussion groups; the political lobbies, the trade unions, the professional associations. As a member, I have seen that the Writers' Centre combines the best of all of these, and more.

Through the political vicissitudes of the last forty years I have never lost my belief that if things are to change, if the world is to be a better place, then it will not be the big institutions that make it happen. It will be a community process, grass-roots up. It will be groups of people linked together by intangible bonds: the common purpose, the hours and hours of voluntary work, the successes, the ructions and debates, the social get-togethers, the downs, the ups. A very human balance, worthy of Pacioli: beautiful, indestructible.

Mag Merrilees has been a member of the Writers' Centre for seven years and is the current treasurer.

Her first novel won the Driftwood Manuscript Prize in 2002 and was shortlisted for the SA Festival Award for an Unpublished Manuscript in 2004.

Her second novel was shortlisted for a Varuna manuscript award in 2007. She has had short pieces published in Meanjin, Island, ABR and various anthologies

