

**SOUTH AUSTRALIAN WRITERS' FESTIVAL 2007**

A rare glimpse into the mind of one of Australia's most celebrated playwrights, an entertaining & mouth-watering session of poetry & pizza and a chance for local writers to get their short story published – these are just some of the highlights of the upcoming 2007 South Australian Writers' Festival.

A celebration of literature & lifestyle, the SA Writers' Festival – which this year runs from Sunday 9 September to Sunday 16 September - is a biennial event presented by the City of Onkaparinga, in association with the SA Writers' Centre & Wirra Wirra Vineyards. It takes place at a range of scenic venues in the popular Onkaparinga region, located just south of Adelaide & at the gateway to the spectacular Fleurieu Peninsula.

Festivalgoers will have access to some of the State's most successful and experienced writers & poets across a gamut of genres – including Kirsty Brooks, Dyan Blacklock, Ashley Mallett, Sean Williams, John Harwood, Anne Bartlett and Ruth Starke.

In addition to the local contingent, this year's Anne-Marie Mykyta Lecture, honouring one of the most passionate past supporters of the SA Writers' Centre, will be delivered on Sunday 16 September by Australia's best-known & most widely performed playwright, David Williamson.

The full Program will be announced in mid-August and for regular Festival updates, visit: [www.onkaparingacity.com.au/sawf](http://www.onkaparingacity.com.au/sawf)

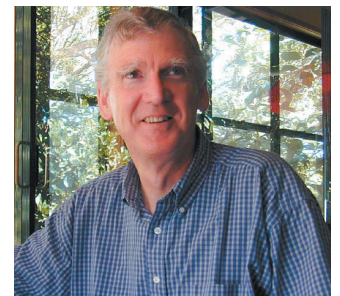
South Australian  
WRITERS'  
FESTIVAL  
2007



John Harwood



Betty Collins



David Williamson

**PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS****Wirra Wirra Day, Sunday 16 Sept @ Wirra Wirra Vineyards (11am-4.30pm) FREE**

This all-day event includes music, the Anne-Marie Mykyta Lecture by esteemed playwright David Williamson – as well as a light-hearted look at sports writing with the likes of Ashley Mallett; a topical debate with some of SA's most notable authors – Sean Williams, Max Anderson, Eva Sallis and John Harwood; & a book launch will complete the day.

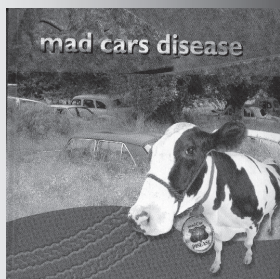
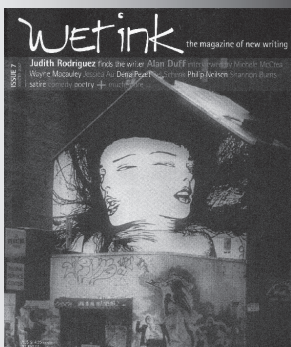
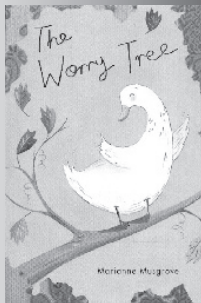
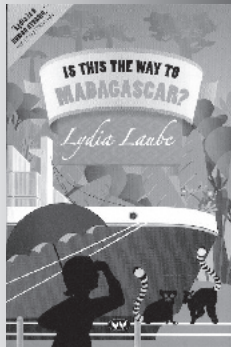
**Poets & Pizza – Friday, 14 Sept @ Coriole Vineyards (7 – 10pm; Tickets: \$30)**

A sell-out event in '05 & '06, this will be one to book early for! Tuck into a slice (or 5) of mouth-watering wood-oven gourmet pizzas while hearing from four of the state's most entertaining poets. On the bill for 2007 is political satirist - Graham Rowlands; the wickedly funny - Betty Collins; Kerryn Tredrea – a cutting-edge poet – & Nigel Dey, whose flair for delivering humorous sagas is renowned! Bookings to: Coriole Vineyard on (08) 8323 8305.

**'Combining the Ingredients' - Food Writers' Session, Saturday 15 Sept @ Willunga Farmers Market (11am) FREE**

We are what we eat – but will we eat what we read? Food writers & restaurant critics, Howard Twelftree (*The Adelaide Review*) and David Sly (*SA Life* magazine), in tandem with cookbook-writing SA chefs Cheong Liew & Salvatore Pepe, will explore the links between food knowledge, kitchen techniques and the reading market's hunger for books about food. They'll frame this discussion in the context of shopping at the Willunga Farmers Market, putting the lessons from cookbooks into action when selecting produce and preparing a meal.

# Centre Information...



## So Very Resourceful

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

**Tony Brown**, *Australian Heritage Magazine*, Winter 2007

**Adeeb Kamal Ad-Deen**, *The Tree of Letters*, Azminah, 2007

**Bill Guy**, *The Search: a story of seeking and escaping*, Peacock Publications, 2007

**Lydia Laube**, *Is This The Way To Madagascar?*, Wakefield Press, 2007

**Dominie Whyntie**, *Love and War and all that Stuff*, 2007

**Marianne Musgrove**, *The Worry Tree*, Random House, 2007

**Stephanie McCarthy and Maurice Linehan**, *Mad Cars Disease*, Maurice Linehan Design, 2007

**Lorraine Day**, *Gordon of Dingley Dell: The life of Adam Lindsay Gordon*, compiled and edited by Lorraine Day, 2003

**Max Green**, *Aberdeen*, Dorrance Publishing, 2007

**Anne Johnson**, *Bite Me: Simple Weight Strategies for Kids*, by Anne Johnson, Alison Martin and Nicole Dutschke, McAvaney Media, 2007

**Jocelyn Preece**, *Adelaide Woman: a 20th Century Story – The life and times of Barbara Shorney Heaslip*, Ghost Words, 2007

**Meanjin**, Vol 66. No.2, *Before & After, on Globalisation and Postcolonial Culture*.

**Wet Ink**, Issue 7, Winter 2007

## Port Willunga Retreat

For more information about staying at the Catherine Cleave writers' cottage 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.

## Newsletter Folders

Thanks to the following people who helped fold the July newsletter: Jo Dey, Matthew Smith, Tina Bettels, Barbara Brockhoff, Betty Collins, John and Coie Dikkenberg, Sharon Kernot, Alisha Pearson, Matthew Staker, Peter Swindon and Robert Vincent.

## Call for PEN Donations

Adelaide PEN are calling for donations of new or used books. Proceeds will assist the work of PEN in rallying for the release of imprisoned writers throughout the world. Please leave books at the SA Writers' Centre.

## Winter Warmer

Warm yourself this winter with the SAWC's 20th birthday Port for \$20 a bottle. Come and have a taste test before you buy.

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

## Disclaimer

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**Internode**

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http://www.internode.on.net

# Danger at a Safe Distance (or 'How Goths Cheered Me Up')

## Kirsty Brooks on her approach to crime fiction

Crime has always been wildly attractive to me. Nicking a pack of Burger Rings, being late returning library books, and learning to smoke (only to accept a 'jazzed' cigarette and ending up at the local beach, trying to 'return all the seaweed to the ocean') merged to create a life that saw me unemployed, at twenty three, with only my vast collection of books and a maxed-out credit card to distinguish me from the other bewildered over-educated kids in Adelaide. Or the nearest street kid.

Until one night ...

It was the most boring party I'd ever been to. Fifteen drug-addled Goths sitting around a fire staring at the visions within. And then something happened to change it all.

The mix of tequila, raspberry cordial and Savoury Shapes began to have an unexpected effect on me. While everyone else was slumped in personal torment, I got lively. And a little chatty ...

I told the pink-haired smell-bomb on my left about the day I broke into Leyland Brothers World (a theme park wedged inside a fake Uluru in New South Wales) and had my photo taken with my head stuck through dozens of celebrity cardboard cut-outs before the cops arrived. She smiled (tightly, but it was something).

Spurred on, I told the tiny shrunken child/man on my other side about the sad day I drank the bong water. He seemed unsurprised, but at least he was looking at me.

And so was the spunky guy in a dented top hat. I moved seamlessly on to the time I drove my friend to her gigs as a sex-worker before she abruptly left town owing me a thousand bucks. Now even the shaky host was watching. Someone laughed.

Drunk on popularity and not a little Stone's Ginger Wine that Edward Clammyhands thrust at me, I scrabbled around in my brain – which suddenly felt large and unnaturally shiny – for more stories.

I told them about buying drugs in a motel, only to have to climb out the window as the local drug lord kicked in the door to eliminate the competition (either that or he was just keen to buy some speed so heavily cut with Ajax I had a nosebleed for two weeks).

And soon, every single red-stained, black-rimmed eye in the room was focussed on ... Me. And then someone opened some chips. The spunk changed the music. A tall bloke looked like he might dance but he was just adjusting his hair.

And weirdness ensued - there was merriment at a Goth party. Okay, so this was mostly because I was happy to reveal myself as a gormless simpleton but somehow in the retelling they seemed less sad and directionless and more – if I was very careful – entertaining.

And, just so you know this wasn't in any way an epiphany or pivotal moment, five years later I used some of these stories in my first novel. And then, not the next month, or even the next year, Wakefield Press published it as *Lady Luck*.

And thus encouraged, I wrote another one. And it got picked up by another publisher. So I wrote another. And another.

And since then, I have been asked if there is a secret to getting published. And while I usually wave off these crazies, I have to admit that I do have a sort of secret. And not just that I pashed the spunk at the party.

Writing is not merely self-expression. It's the skill of communicating to someone else; of touching someone (not in a rude way) through your words. That night I learned to consider who I was telling stories to. I learned to think of what sort of stories I'd like to hear at a suicide-inducing party. I would want to be distracted, I'd want to learn stuff, (even if it's just 'Don't throw Leyland Brothers merchandise at the police') and with some careful editing, a half-decent story becomes more than an anecdote. It became entertainment.

And if your stories are as crap as mine, then it's another thing again. It's danger at a safe distance. And, with a nod to the Goth party, it's also not entirely unlike The Smiths' lyric – 'I can laugh about it now but at the time it was terrible'.

And terrible things intrigue people, not just because they're entertaining but because we are glad we aren't there. Crime fiction is alluring because the very nature of crime - the uncontrollable threat - is now in the reader's hands. It has been tamed.

See, here's the thing. Editors want to buy your manuscript. But this will only happen when you write something that other people want to read just as much as you want to write it.

Crime fiction deals characters a bad hand and then lets us watch while they try to make the best of things. And if the basic premise of good fiction applies (that characters prove themselves in situations of conflict, both internal and external) then crime fiction offers some amazing opportunities. And in making the most of my (more apparent in hindsight) total disregard for personal safety I found a great basis for my writing.

Reading is a form of nosiness. We're poking ourselves into other people's lives. Crime fiction is created to divert, entertain, and go somewhere we've not been before, whether that's into the mind of a killer, the house of a victim or the dressing room of the local Peek-a-boo cubicle.

And I can promise you that it's a hell of a lot more fun that doing that stuff for real.

This article was first published in the Victorian Writers' Centre newsletter in July 2007

Kirsty Brooks is the author of seven books including *The Vodka Dialogue*, (produced as an audio book and translated into Russian) *The Happiness Punch*, and *The Lady Splash*. She loves writing, animals and beer.

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Web-site: [www.kirstybrooks.com](http://www.kirstybrooks.com)

Blog: <http://kirstybrooks.blogspot.com>



# Opportunities

## **Growing up Asian in Australia**

What is it like to grow up Asian in Australia? Black Inc are looking for personal experience narratives of growing up Asian-Australian that are unique, honest and reflective for an anthology. The pieces can be in any manner, tone or style, but Black Inc are not looking for abstract or sociological treatments. They can deal with any aspect of growing up Asian-Australian so long as they are original and provide insight into the fascinating lives of Asian-Australians that defy, question or shed light on the usual stereotypes.

Submissions should be between 800 and 3000 words in length and must be received by 1st December 2007. Late entries will not be accepted. This collection will be edited by Alice Pung, author of *Unpolished Gem*, and published by Black Inc. in 2008. Please address submissions to The Editor, Black Inc., Level 5, 289 Flinders Lane, Melbourne VIC 3000. Hard copy only, but receipt will be acknowledged by email so please include an email address. Final selection of pieces will be made in early 2008. Enquiries should be addressed to [deniseo@blackincbooks.com](mailto:deniseo@blackincbooks.com)

## **Wet Ink Seeks Submissions**

*Wet Ink* is a quarterly magazine that focuses on publishing fiction, poetry and nonfiction by new and emerging writers. It is distributed throughout Australia and in more than 40 countries. As well as poetry, nonfiction and literary-style fiction, we are interested in high-quality work in all genres (eg. crime, sci-fi, romance, horror, thriller, speculative etc) and those with light-hearted themes. There are no word count restrictions – extremely short pieces are welcomed and long work will be considered. All published work receives payment. For more details, please view our submission guidelines at [www.wetink.com.au](http://www.wetink.com.au)

## **Calling Women War Babies**

“Attention: I am seeking Australian women writers born between 1939 and 1945 whose fathers fought in and returned from World War 2. I’m planning to compile a book of personal accounts by women ‘war babies’ on the effects that their father’s absence and his subsequent homecoming had on the

family, particularly on the children. I am interested in the long-term emotional and psychological effects on little girls whose fathers were virtual ‘strangers’ when they came home from the war. I also want to know how the father’s war service experiences affected his behaviour towards his family and others at a time when this problem was little recognised. I hope to examine how their fathers’ undiagnosed post-traumatic stress disorder may have affected their ability to parent their daughters adequately, and to try to understand how this in turn affected their daughter’s ability to form healthy relationships with men. This generation of men and children seems to have been neglected in both psychological and popular literature, and I’m hoping this book will help to correct that neglect.”  
Please contact [t.pitt@bigpond.net.au](mailto:t.pitt@bigpond.net.au) for further information.

## **Writers-In-Residence**

Call for Applications for 2008 Established Editor or Writer-in-Residence, and two Emerging Writers/Editors in Residence and Regional WA Writer/Editor in Residence at Katharine Susannah Prichard Writers Centre!

## **2008 Established Editor or Writer-In-Residence**

Applications for 2008 Established Writer/Editor in Residence close 5pm, Friday, 27 July 2007 (pending funding). One position.

Full-time period of four (4) weeks, or equivalent part-time. Salary: \$3500.

The Established Writer-in-Residence should have achieved major publication and have demonstrated a commitment towards furthering the status and practice of writing among his/her peers and the community in general. Experience in preparation for and conducting of workshops and seminars is desirable.

## **2008 Emerging Writer-In-Residence**

Applications for 2008 Emerging Writer in Residence must be postmarked Friday 31 August 2007 (pending funding).

Up to two positions, dependent on funding.

Full-time period of four (4) weeks, or equivalent part time. Salary: \$2250.

Emerging does not mean beginner. The Selection Committee will be looking for talented writers able to show application to the craft of writing. It is expected that selected writers will have some published material in the print, visual or broadcast media. Ideally, applicants should be working towards achieving their first major full-length publication.

## **Writers Needed**

Writers required for JamaeRaw School of the Arts, Willunga, a non-for-profit organisation dedicated to the development of upcoming actors, are looking for original scripts in theatre/short film for class projects. Although the position isn’t paid at the moment, it would be a great chance to see your workings developed into performed pieces at various events the students are involved in. For further details please contact Albert Jamae on 8556 2033/0400 834 734 / [info@jamaeraw.com](mailto:info@jamaeraw.com)

## **AGENCY magazine ...**

is a quarterly, Canadian, somewhat literary publication of fresh, original and occasionally irreverent articles, essays, fiction and poetry and art. They are seeking new writers, visual artists, photographers and other creative types to feature in the premiere issue of the magazine. Artists and writers of all skill and experience levels accepted. See: [www.agencymagazine.ca](http://www.agencymagazine.ca) for submission guidelines and details. Email [agency@agencymagazine.ca](mailto:agency@agencymagazine.ca)

## **Famous Reporter**

*Famous Reporter* publishes short stories, articles, reviews, interviews, haiku and poems. Your submission should be accompanied by a stamped addressed envelope for return correspondence; the envelope should be large enough for return correspondence. For guidelines go to <http://walleahpress.com.au/past.html> PO Box 368 North Hobart TAS 7002. All welcome to the Adelaide launch of the next issue. 6pm at Jahz Cafe (off Rundle St, behind the Exeter Hotel), Friday August 3.

### **FreeXpression**

*FreeXpression*, a monthly Australian literary magazine, is looking for poetry (max 3), short stories (1000-2000 words) and articles. Letters to the Editor and submissions for the feature page are especially welcome. Payment: complimentary copy of the magazine. Contact: The Editor PO Box 4, West Hoxton NSW 2171.

### **Griffith REVIEW**

*Griffith REVIEW* is a quarterly publication produced by Griffith University (Qld) in conjunction with ABC Books. Each issue will develop a topical theme with writing from a range of genres and perspectives, aiming to provide an engaging and provocative take on current debates and thinking. Essays will reflect on the underlying significance of events and trends, explain the details that get lost in the news and examine the unintended consequences of public policy. It aims to build a bridge between journalism, academic and literary writing, and photo essays will feature in each issue. Contributors will include well-known authors, journalists, academics, analysts and new and emerging writers and artists. Refer to [www.griffith.edu.au/griffithreview](http://www.griffith.edu.au/griffithreview) for further information, including submission guidelines, or email suggestions to [griffithreview@griffith.edu.au](mailto:griffithreview@griffith.edu.au)

### **White Chimney ...**

is a new literary magazine based in London, U.K. The first issue made its debut this year in May at The Groucho Club in Soho. They aim to promote the work of both published and unpublished poets, short story writers and artists in the U.K. and abroad. The *White Chimney* website is currently under construction but can be viewed at [www.whitechimneymagazine.com](http://www.whitechimneymagazine.com)

### **Short and Twisted 2008**

An anthology of short stories and poetry with a twist at the end is seeking submissions of stories, super short stories and poetry for its 2nd issue. Submissions for the 2008 issues will be accepted between 1 September and 30 November 2007. For submission guidelines see website [www.celapenepress.com.au](http://www.celapenepress.com.au), email [shortandtwisted@celapenepress.com.au](mailto:shortandtwisted@celapenepress.com.au) or

send SSAE to 2 Bonview Court, Knoxfield, VIC, 3180.

### **LITERATURE RESIDENCIES IN ASIA**

Applications for 2008 Asialink Arts Residencies are now open. Up to 10 residencies will be offered for writers of all genres to further professional development and bilateral engagement in Asia. Applications close; Friday 7th September, 2007.

For more information: [www.asialink.unimelb.edu.au/arts](http://www.asialink.unimelb.edu.au/arts) or 03 8344 3578

Please note that this is not to be confused with the Asialink Literature Touring Program which wound up in June.

### **Salisbury Writers' Festival and One Book, One Salisbury Program Launch**

The 2007 Salisbury Writers' Festival Program will be officially launched on Wednesday 8 August in the John Harvey Gallery, 12 James Street Salisbury from 10:30am. Find out what literary delights this year's program includes with something for all tastes. The Salisbury Writers' Festival in its third year will host some of South Australia's best known authors as readers and writers of all levels indulge in the written word.

The launch will also announce the books selected for this year's One Book, One Salisbury program, a city-wide book club initiative with the selected authors preparing to meet the community in special meet-the-author events.

For a copy of the 2007 Salisbury Writers' Festival Program come along to the launch or get yourself on the Salisbury Writers' Festival mailing list by contacting Fiona on 8406 8469 and leaving your mailing details.

### **SAYAB Scholarship Applications**

Applications are now open for the South Australian Youth Arts Board annual scholarships. For writers aged 26 and under, two scholarships are available

- The Independent Arts Foundation New Writing Scholarship - \$6,500
- Colin Thiele New Writing Scholarship - \$6,500

Winner of the 2004 Independent Arts Foundation New Writing Scholarship, Caleb Lewis said, 'Winning the Independent Arts Foundation scholarship was an incredible milestone. Not only was I able to journey to Vietnam, a country that has had a profound effect upon my vision of the world, the scholarship also provided for a laptop computer which I have written five additional plays on – all of them produced! On top of this, winning an award of such obvious esteem in the industry has fast-tracked my own career, bringing in interest and commissions from across Australia.'

The theme for this year's SAYAB Scholarships is Live your Passion. SAYAB Scholarships are administered by Carclew Youth Arts and applications close on Friday 17 August 2007.

For guidelines and applications forms visit [www.sayab.org.au](http://www.sayab.org.au).

### **Beer Swill Romanticism**

Write quality poetry and/or prose with passion, honesty, subversion, perversion, insanity, heartache, love, nastiness on the brain? Send submissions to PO Box 278, Edwardstown SA 5039. Payment is in the form of 5 copies of the magazine. All sales go to the author.

### **INVITATION**

The Hon. Ian Wilson AM, National Chairman of May Gibbs Children's Literature Trust, and the SA Support Group invite you and your friends to the launch of the Irene Gough Fellowship & Exhibition.

Thursday 9th August 2007  
at The SA Writers' Centre

6.00 pm – 7.30 pm

\$25.00 (wine and nibbles provided)  
RSVP and payment by Thursday 2nd August 2007 to: May Gibbs Children's Literature Trust: 6/59 Fullarton Road  
KENT TOWN SA 5067

Phone: 8332 5577

Email: [contact@maygibbs.org.au](mailto:contact@maygibbs.org.au)

# What's On



- Presented by Mike Ladd,  
Saturdays at 3.05 pm, repeated 3.05pm  
Thursdays. Program details for August
- 4<sup>th</sup> Litmus – a feature on the poetry of Kerry Scuffins
  - 11<sup>th</sup> Sustenance and Desire – an anthology of poems about food and love
  - 18<sup>th</sup> Heart in the Night – a feature on the life and poetry of Peter Bakowski
  - 25<sup>th</sup> Mother Glasgow – the poetry of Jackie Kay.

**The Canberra Readers and Writers Festival** ... on the theme of Icy Worlds: Cool Words will be held from 21-23 September, alongside the huge Lifeline Bookfair at Exhibition Park. Now you can meet your favourite authors, stock up on cheap books, visit the National Gallery or Museum and inhale the spring blooms at Floriade all in the same long weekend! More information at [www.actwriters.org.au/Festivals/festivals.htm](http://www.actwriters.org.au/Festivals/festivals.htm)

**INDEPENDENT SCHOLARS (ISAA)** is an Australia-wide association for people whose research interests are outside institutional or organisational links. People in established research institutions and those who are interested but not actively engaged in research are also welcomed to the support and fellowship of our groups in South Australia. The objective is to present work-in-progress sessions, hold seminars and generally to support each other in our work. Included in annual membership is the opportunity present your research at an annual conference and a refereed journal distributed to members. The group meets bi-monthly (on the first Thursday in even months, from 2.30-4.00 pm) in a seminar room at the SA Writers Centre, 187 Rundle St (above Caffè Buongiorno). All welcome.

Thursday August 2 at 2.30 pm.  
Dr David Homer will speak on 'A life with Arthur Ransome.'

Enquiries: [virginia@virginiakenny.com](mailto:virginia@virginiakenny.com)  
phone 8344 7810  
Independent Scholars Association of Australia Inc.: SA group

[www.isaa.org.au](http://www.isaa.org.au); [info@isaa.org.au](mailto:info@isaa.org.au)

## The Hills Poets

The next meeting of the Hills Poets will be on Sunday 12 August from 3.30 - 5.30 pm. We welcome Alan Laslett as guest reader this month. 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 further information please ring Jill Gower on 8339 5119.

## Gawler Poetry Reading

The next Gawler poetry reading will be held at The Prince Albert hotel from 2 p.m. Sunday August 26. Guest poet is Cathy Young. Cathy will be reading from her new work, which has been assisted by a grant from Arts SA. Those wishing to read up to three of their own poems are most welcome. Note: this is the last chance to submit work for the Gawler Poetry Reader #1, to be launched by Cath Kenneally at the Prince Albert on Sunday November 25. Enquiries regarding the readings can be made to Martin or Cathy on 8522 4268.

## POETRY SLAM

Public Library Services (State Library of South Australia) is calling all poets, hip-hop artists and other outspoken wordsmiths to polish their rhymes and lyrics for Australia's national poetry slam, with over \$10,000 in cash and prizes on offer. Across August and September a number of South Australian libraries will run slam heats. The two finalists from each heat will go on to battle it out spoken-word style in the South Australian Final. For full details see: [www.australianpoetryslam07.org](http://www.australianpoetryslam07.org)

## Friendly Street Poets Seminars

Every year Friendly St. Poets offers new poets the opportunity to be published by entering their New Poets Series Competition. To help poets prepare their manuscripts Friendly Street is offering two seminars to be conducted at the SA Writers' Centre on Saturday 21st of July & Saturday 11th August from 2pm - 4.30pm.

Three poets published in the New Poets Series will tell the story of how they got their manuscript ready for submission.

It's an opportunity to meet the poets, hear

their work from their published volume and even buy a signed copy. Afternoon tea will be provided, followed by a question and answer forum.

Seminar One : Saturday 21st of July  
Poets: Steve Brock (NP12), Tess Driver (NP8) & Cameron Fuller (NP11)

Seminar Two: Saturday 11th August  
Poets: Kate Deller-Evans, Jules Leigh Koch (NP4) & David Mortimer (NP8)

Full Cost : \$25 per person or \$20 concession  
Go to : [www.friendlystreetpoets.org.au](http://www.friendlystreetpoets.org.au)

## Flinders University Library...

in association with Australian Book review presents John Hirst on his new book *The Australians: Insiders and Outsiders on the National Character since 1770*.  
Friday 10 August at 5.30pm  
Lecture Theatre, Institute Building,  
State Library of South Australia  
cnr North Tce and Kintore Ave, Adelaide.  
Admission Free. All welcome. Enquiries 8201 5238.

## Poets required ...

to assist in the planning and organising of an International Poetry Conference. Please contact Jude at the SAWC on 8223 7662.

## 'SOME OTHER KINDS OF POEMS...'

On the back of one of his early LP recordings, Bob Dylan has written several poems - what he terms 'some other kinds of songs'. In a twist on this, Friendly Street Poets have organised a Music/Poetry evening to bring together local poets and musicians in a relaxed, informal and entertaining manner. It all happens on Saturday, August 25th in the Atrium of the SA Writers' Centre at 7pm. Cost per head is \$8, with all funds raised to go to Friendly Street.

The evening will not only include poets and musicians presenting original pieces, but will also feature a special Music/Lyrics Quiz prepared by Nigel Dey. Prizes of books and wine will be on offer, as well as nibbles provided by Friendly Street. Book for the evening on 8270 6028, or simply arrive at the door with your party.

# Half a Page with ... Don Henderson



**D**on Henderson's novel *Half the Battle* was published in 2006 and is the adolescent title for 'One Book, One Salisbury' which will take place this year. His second novel *Keepinitreal* has been accepted for publication by Omnibus/Scholastic in August of 2008.

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

It wouldn't be easy but I would like to see Virginia Woolf's *To the Lighthouse* made into a movie. I see Russel Crowe as Mr Ramsey and Nicole Kidman as Mrs Ramsey.

## Do you write with a computer or by hand?

I prefer to write initially by hand. I use exercise books and write the story on one side and jot down notes on the other side. In my latest manuscript however I have tended to use the computer more but I always try to avoid working on a computer in the evening as it is harder to sleep afterwards.

## What books have influenced you?

Charles Dickens has always been my

favourite author and *Great Expectations*, *A Tale of Two Cities* and *David Copperfield* are my favourites. I love the way he describes characters and the sense of justice in his books. E.M. Forster's *Howards End* and Albert Camus' *The Outsider* have also influenced my thinking.

## Any tips for aspiring writers?

I still consider myself to be a novice and it is possibly too early to be giving out advice but I think it is important to enjoy what you are doing. It is also useful to ignore everything else.

## What was your worst job ever?

Probably carting hay on a stinking hot day. I hate hay.

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

I won a meat tray raffle at the footy once and have got 3 numbers in Cross Lotto a couple of times now. Given this track record I would be happy to win anything.

## What's your favourite writing fuel?

Coffee.

## What's your opinion of the SA literary scene?

I haven't been involved in it for long but everyone I have encountered so far has been fantastic. People have been very generous and positive. I also believe there are some great books being written and most book sellers seem to be supportive of local authors.

## What are you currently reading?

Peter Goldsworthy's *Honk If You Are Jesus*.

## Do you have a non-writing job?

Yes - I am an English teacher with the South Australian Department of Education and Children's Services. I have taught at Seaton High School for the past fifteen years.

# LOOKING FOR A PUBLISHER?



Sid Harta Publishers not only offers a full manuscript assessment service but publishes titles in the traditional sense, and also offers Partnership Publishing.

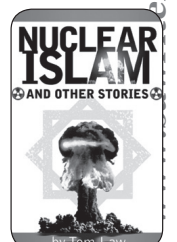
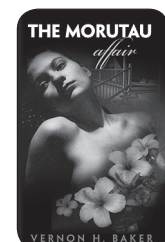
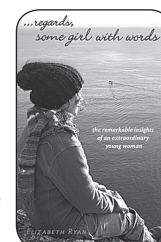
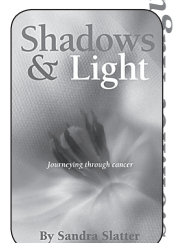
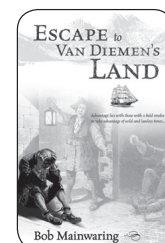
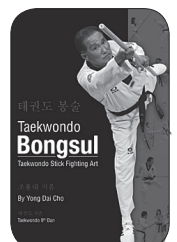
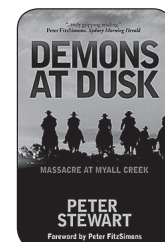
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# Congratulations...

**John Fletcher's** latest book *Sommerfeuer* has just been released in Germany by Rowohlt Taschenbuch Verlag.

**Rosanne Hawke's** *Mustara*, illustrated by **Robert Ingpen** and shortlisted for the Patricia Wrightson Prize in 2007 NSW Premier's Awards; and **Janeen Brian's** book, *Hoosh! Camels in Australia*, which won an Honour Award in the Information section of the Children's Book Council of Australia Awards in 2006, have both been featured in an exhibition at the SA museum called 'Afghan Cameleers'.

**Barbara De Franceschi** has had the poems 'Ghosts and Mushroom Mulch', 'Life's a Beach', 'Flight' and 'Inheritance' published in *Eclectica*, (an American ezine). In April, *Bhavan Australia* published 'Timeless'. In June the *Thylazine Foundation* featured 4 poems on-line in the *Australian Poets at Work Series*, 'Christmas on a Sheep Station', 'Culture in the Park', 'Blue Wren' and 'Floral Confessional', plus an interview. Also *Thylazine Poets for Peace* published 'On the Mundi Mundi Plain' and *Poems Niedergasse* a Swiss ezine, published 'Routine Procedure'.

**Jill Gower's** poem 'Coorong Sunset' was published in the June issue of *Write Away*. She also had 3 commendations for Friendly Street's Maureen Vale 'Nature' competition.

**Tony Brown's** articles 'The Pursuit of Strangeness - Francois Peron's Voyage to the South Lands' and 'The Tangled Fortunes of War - Robert Fowler and Pierre-Bernard Milius' were published in the Summer 2006 and Winter 2007 issues of *Australian Heritage*.

**Dave Diss's** letter, 'Howard's Shocktroops', about the military intervention in Northern Territory settlements, was published as 'Farewell, welfare' in *The Independent Weekly*, June 30-July 6, 2007.

The Canadian based magazine *Adbusters* (edition 70, March/April 2007) published **Margaret Cassar's** letter about the plight of the Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza.

**M. L. Emmett's** poems 'Flying with Fury' and 'Autonomic Noire' were both published in *Blue Giraffe 5* (mid year edition 2007). The poem entitled 'The Lives of Poems', was published in *The Mozzie* Vol. 15, Issue 3, April 2007. Her poems 'Sheltered Sideshow' and 'Sunset Traima' were both published in *The Mozzie* in July, and 'Predicting Death in Winnipeg' was published in *Woorilla Magazine*.

**Ross Duffy's** short story 'A Natural Remedy' was published in Issue 4 of *The Outpost* (the quarterly publication of *The Australian Crime Fiction Database*).

**Ruth Starke** Aurealis-Award winning novel, *The Twist in the Tale* has been sold to Stone Arch Books, USA.

**Jill Wherry's** poem 'The Sealed Section' won first prize in the original humorous performance section of the 2007 SA Bush Poets Championships.

**Zenda Vecchio's** short story 'Blue is for the Sky' was published in *Tamba 40*.

**Margaret Visciglio's** short story 'Lemmings' is soon to be published in the *Slippery When Wet* Box Set Edition 1.

**Elaine Barker's** poems 'For Moses' and 'Memories of Athens' were published in *Studio* no. 104, and 'If You Returned' was published in *Poetry Monash* No. 74. *The Independent Weekly* published 'About Town'.

**Jennifer Benkhauser's** poems 'Feasts of Ravens' and 'Tyranny's Children' were published in *Uncensored* (Writing Right's annual anthology).

**Graham Rowlands's** poems 'Not Another Word' and 'No More Daffodils' were published in *The Canberra Times* and *The Independent Weekly* respectively.

**Lynette Zander's** poem 'He's a Farmer' won second prize in the *Positive Words* short story and poetry competition 2007 and was printed in *Positive Words*, July. Her poems 'I'd Try Something Different' and 'A Mother' were both published in *Positive Words*, May.

## The LEE MARVIN READINGS

August Season

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

9th Reading August 7

AN EVENING WITH LI LIN CHIN

Kerryn Goldsworthy

Khail Jureidini

Cath Kenneally

Tracy Crisp

Peter Rose

11th Reading August 21

AN EVENING WITH THE LOVELY

MARVA WHITNEY

Shannon Burns

Ken Bolton

Stephanie Hester

Francesca da Rimini

Moya Costello

12th Reading August 28

AN EVENING WITH YVETTE MIMIEUX

Chris Andrews Vic

Cathoel Jorss

Nicholas Jose

Naomi Horridge

Teri Hoskin

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Story follow up after course



# Literary Competitions...

## 11 August 2007

CYA Later Alligator's writing and illustrating competition. Publication: The winning entry and short-listed finalist will be considered by a publisher of children's books, with no guarantee of publication. Author/illustrator retains copyright.

Entry Fee: \$11.00 (\$1.00 GST included) for each entry.

Categories: Picture Book preschool, Picture Book primary, Chapter Book primary, Young Adults, Graphic Novel, Illustration. For more information & entry form see:

[www.cyaconference.com](http://www.cyaconference.com)

## ★ 15 August 2007

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](http://www.expressmedia.org.au)

## ★ 15 August 2007

Kids Write Competition Poetry writing competition for young writers. Three sections: under 9 years, 9 to 12 years and 13 to 18 years. First prize is a selection of books to the value of \$100. Certificates for each section's winners and runners-up. No entry fee; submit entries by email. For more details go to [www.kidswritemagazine.com](http://www.kidswritemagazine.com)

## ☺ 24 August 2007

2007 Walkley Award for Best Non-Fiction Book. The award is sponsored by Copyright Agency Limited (CAL) and is open to Australian journalists or writers whose work was published in the year from September 1, 2006 to August 31, 2007.

- ☺ 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.

Entrants must be Australian citizens or permanent residents of Australia. Subject matter can range from true crime and biographies through to political analysis, business writing, war reporting, investigative journalism and foreign correspondence. This year entries can be a joint collaboration of up to five people, and titles can be an edited collection by no more than five authors. For entry details and to download an entry form, with special terms and conditions, visit the Walkleys online at [www.walkleys.com](http://www.walkleys.com) or contact Louisa Graham at the Walkleys on (02) 9333 0945.

## ★ 31 August 2007

Gawler Short Story Competition. The Town of Gawler, the Gawler Public Library and the Friends of Gawler Library invite entries in a short story competition. **FREE ENTRY**  
Theme: Community  
First Prize  
Adult: \$200  
Youth: \$150  
Junior: \$100  
For entry forms and submission details visit the Town of Gawler website: [www.gawler.sa.gov.au](http://www.gawler.sa.gov.au) or email: [library@gawler.sa.gov.au](mailto:library@gawler.sa.gov.au) or phone the library on 8522 9213.

## ☺☞ 30 August 2007

The Peter Cowan Writers' Centre Ena Taylor Awards. Short Story: up to 2000 words  
Poem: up to 50 lines  
Theme: Historical Fiction  
Entry Fee: \$5.00 each entry or 3 entries for \$12.00  
Prizes(both sections) 1st: \$100  
Runner up: \$50 - Highly

Commended and Commended certificates.

## ☞ 31 August 2007

The Iremonger Award for Writing on Public Issues. A non-fiction book that will contribute to public debate on a contemporary Australian political, social or cultural issue. Prize: \$10,000 and publication by Allen & Unwin.

## ☺☞ 31 August 2007

Baroondara Literary Awards 2007. Open Short Story. Length: between 2000-3000 words. Entry fee \$7.50. 1st prize \$1500, 2nd \$500, 3rd \$250.

## ☺☞ 31 August 2007

14th Annual Scarlet Stiletto Awards 2007 Women's Crime & Mystery Short Story Competition. **FIRST PRIZE: \$750 & THE COVETED SCARLET STILLETTO TROPHY.** Story length: 5000 words max. Entry: \$10. Further information: SISTERS IN CRIME, GPO BOX 5319, MELBOURNE 3001  
**VISIT THE WEBSITE - WWW.VICNET.NET.AU/~SINCOZ/RING CARMEL SHUTE: (03) 9537 2781 (A/H); 0412 569 356**

## ☺☞ 1 September 2007

NSW Writers' Centre Genre Fiction Award for an unpublished genre fiction manuscript. Winner published by New Holland Publishers. Short-listed entries considered for publication. Entry fee \$40 and \$25 conc. Entrants must be a member of the NSW Writers' Centre.

## ☺ 7 September 2007

The Literature competition

section of the Bundaberg Arts Festival consists of Poetry: Traditional Rhyming Verse, \$300 prize. Free Poetry, \$300 prize. Short Story 3,000 words max, \$400 prize. \$5 Entry. For full details and entry form contact Merle Beran on 07 4153 5417 or email [meab@bigpond.com](mailto:meab@bigpond.com)

## ☺☞ 21 September 2007

EJ Brady Short Story Competition. Major prize \$1000 for word limit 2500. \$500 for word limit 700. Entry fee \$10.

## ☺☞ 21 September 2007

Rolf Boldrewood Literary Awards. a) Prose to 3000 words. Australian theme. b) Poetry in any form or style to a max of 80 lines on Australian theme. entry fee \$10.

## ☞ 30 September 2007

The Best of Times Short Story Competition First prize \$300, second prize \$100. For humorous short stories up to 3000 words. Stories that have won a prize or certificate in previous Best of Times competitions are ineligible. \$6 entry fee. Cheques/money orders are payable to Chris Broadribb. No entry form required. Include a cover sheet with your name and address, title and word count. Send entries to Chris Broadribb, PO Box 116, Burwood NSW 1805 or email to [cabbook-4@yahoo.com.au](mailto:cabbook-4@yahoo.com.au) Competition website: [www.geocities.com/spiky\\_one/comp4.html](http://www.geocities.com/spiky_one/comp4.html)

## ☺☞ 28 September 2007

The Examiner Port Stephens Literature Awards 2007 \$1300 in prize money. Adults: Short stories up to 2500 words on any theme. 1st \$450, 2nd \$250 and 3rd \$100, plus \$100 Tanilba House Award. Four \$50 most highly commended prizes. Children: - Short stories up to 500 words on any theme. 1st prize of \$60, and 2nd prize of \$40. Two sections: Authors 6 - 12 years and Authors 13 - 16 years. Conditions from SAWC.

# News and Views

Dear Editor,

I enjoyed Anne Bartlett's honest article on putting the play back into writing; although I felt for the loss of her bone story.

However, I feel I must make a correction regarding the origins of the 15 minute writing exercise she mentions. This is not a new or recent idea, but comes from the book *Becoming a Writer* by American author Dorothea Brande. In her book, Brande suggests refreshingly practical everyday ways to turn ourselves into writers. Rather than talking about plot, structure or character she talks about tapping into our unconscious, and this writing exercise as one way of achieving that. All this in a book that was first published in 1934! Not only that, but it has not been out of print any year since then! No wonder then that the idea still has currency and seems so modern. But I feel we writers, of all people, should give credit where it is due.

The latest edition of *Becoming a Writer* is available from Amazon.com. It deserves a look.

**Best,  
Chris Tugwell**

## Reply:

Thanks, Chris – always good to have further resources, and I look forward to reading Brande. No, this is certainly not a new or original idea, and I said only that Gillie Bolton suggests this practice, as do plenty of other writers. But it's interesting to hear of its origins and certainly let's give honour where honour is due! Thanks for the help in doing so.

**Anne Bartlett**

## ASA Congratulates Prime Minister on Tax Free Grant

The Australian Society of Authors (ASA) congratulates the Prime Minister, John Howard, on his recent announcement that the Prime Minister's Prize for Australian History, worth \$100,000, will be tax exempt. When announcing the winners of the award on 20 June 2007, he stated, 'The Government will amend the income tax law to make this grant tax exempt. Legislation giving effect to the amendments will be introduced as soon as practicable.'


The ASA, the peak body representing Australia's literary creators, applauds the vision and foresight of the Prime Minister

in recognising that grants to creators are limited by their tax implications, and calls upon the Government (and indeed the Opposition) to implement such tax exemption for all grants and awards for artists and creators as soon as practicable.

## Book Industry Lends Support For Indigenous Communities In Literacy Crisis

For the past three years, members of the Australian Book Industry have actively worked towards addressing the crisis in literacy in remote Indigenous communities in the Northern Territory. The Indigenous Literacy Day, a major new campaign supported by over 200 booksellers and publishers, authors and professional associations, aims to raise over \$100,000 on Wednesday September 5 2007.

'We would like to encourage all Australians to actively support this project by making a donation or buying a book on September 5. Booksellers and publishers have pledged a percentage of their sales for Indigenous Literacy Day' said David Gaunt, Chair of the Indigenous Literacy Day. More info at [www.worldwithoutbooks.org](http://www.worldwithoutbooks.org)



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## 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!**

# Board's Eye View

by Bronwen Webb

Books were my escape when, as a young child, I spent more than a year recovering from poliomyelitis. Enid Blyton's wonderful stories of elves, flying chairs and trees with branches leading to magic kingdoms took me away from painful physiotherapy and long days lying in bed. More importantly, reading helped me through the grief of losing a baby brother to the same terrible disease.

When I was finally allowed to return to school I loved writing essays. While most of my friends reluctantly endured the English lessons of primary school in the 1950's, labouring over 'What I did in my school holidays', these lessons were heaven for me. I was lost in my imagination, pouring forth pages which usually came back to me with an 'A' written in red pen on the top right-hand corner of the front page.

During my secondary education, career counsellors advised that journalism might be the career for me, but what did I do with that suggestion? I took up nursing. Once again, books were an important escape after long hours of shift work at the Royal Adelaide Hospital. I loved the work, but if I had a day of confronting experiences my adrenalin levels made it impossible to sleep. On those nights, reading took me to a calmer, kinder reality.

Books, or writing, paid a big role in helping my patients, too, enabling a virtual escape from the hustle, bustle, noise and pain of their hospital ward. The male orthopaedic ward, for example, where young men recuperating from road accidents spent weeks in traction, was often a place of journal writing, but no nurse would dare listen for too long to the bawdy entries penned by torch light under the white sheets.

Over the next thirty years, before my career changed to tertiary education administration, the therapeutic value of reading, writing and oral story telling was demonstrated to me again and again, from children's wards to intensive care units. The mother reading a story to a sick child in a ward of the Adelaide Children's Hospital (as it was then) in 1965 was no different to the wife reading a book out loud to her unconscious husband in the intensive care unit of Ashford Hospital in 1995. It was therapeutic, even if it wasn't always the patient receiving the therapy.

The link between writing and health is now an area of research, and one person who has conducted research in this area is Gillie Bolton (thank you, Anne Bartlett, for referring me to Gillie's website), whose study, *Therapeutic Writing: a qualitative study of its value to people with malignant disease cared for in palliative health care settings*, conducted while she was a senior research fellow in Medicine and the Arts at Kings College, London University, is available at the following web site: <http://www.gilliebolton.com/writing/writing-and-health.html>.



Writing's power in connecting people to their past, their family, and their community, and its ability to take someone on an inner journey of healing self-discovery, or to remove one from self during times of distress and pain, is often not considered in a world where writing has mostly commercial or lifestyle connotations. Funding of writing comes predominantly from arts organisations, but funding opportunities supporting health and aged care also abound and should be considered by writers and writers' groups and centres.

Imagine, for example, the value of a Writer in Residence in an aged care home, helping older people to write down their life experiences. Such a project could help the home's residents reflect on the positive impact they have had during their lives, raise their self-esteem and aid in keeping minds active.

I hope that, over time, writers, health care practitioners, health funding agencies and writers' centres will increasingly be involved in projects using writing as therapy. I'm currently exploring the possibilities for the SA Writers' Centre to collaborate with an aged care provider in Adelaide. The possibilities are endless and exciting.

*Bronwen Webb has been a member of SAWC for two years and writes short stories. She has recently completed a fantasy novel for children.*

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