

# southern

# write

Newsletter of the SA Writers' Centre Inc

December 2006/January 2007

---

All members are invited to ...

## Saint Lucy's Christmas Party

Thursday 14th December

6pm in the SA Writers' Centre Atrium

Christmas Theme

### Handbook Launch

Come for the launch of the revised  
SA Writers' Centre Handbook by Gillian Rubinstein (Lian Hearn)

Please bring a bottle or a plate to share.



SA Writers'  
Centre Inc

the handbook  
for south australian writers

the ultimate guide for writers ...  
getting it down  
getting it out  
getting a foot in  
getting it right  
getting it on  
and getting it together

---

### Celebration

Celebrate a year of wonderful writing and exciting achievements including:



Poets on Popeye  
The Ghantastic Writers Visit  
Three Young Authors' Nights  
The Salisbury Writers' Festival  
The ABAF Toyota Community Award  
The Poetry Unhinged Festival

---

### Silent Auction

Do your Christmas shopping at the party.  
New fiction and nonfiction books up for grabs.

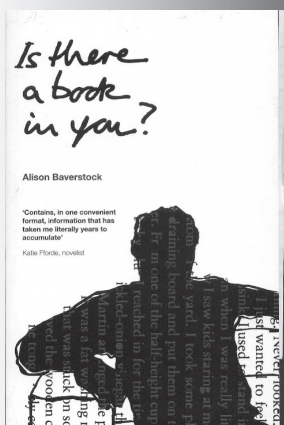
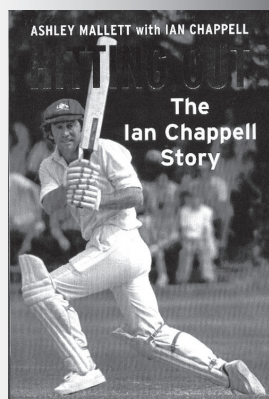
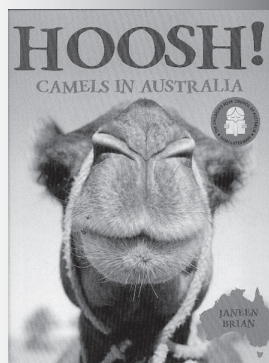


---

### Inside:

Sean Williams and his 10½ Commandments  
A tribute to Bill Phippard  
Animate Quarterly photos  
News & Views  
Denied a Voice wrap up and photos  
Opportunities and What's On  
and more ...

# Centre Information...



## Disclaimer

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

## Centre Donations

Thank you to the following who donated books, journals and magazines to our Resource Centre.

**Ashley Mallett**, *Hitting Out: The Ian Chappell Story*. Ashley Mallett with Ian Chappell; Orian, 2006.

**Wakefield Press**, *Richard Wagner's Tristan und Isolde*, with English translation and commentary by Peter Bassett, 2006.

**Allen & Unwin**, *Is There a Book In You?* Alison Baverstock, 2006.

**Beverly George**, *Empty Garden*; Tanka. Yellow Moon, 2006.

**Sonya Bates**, *Midnight Ghost*, Limelight Press, 2006.

**Piping Shrike**, *Evolution; a collection of new creative writing from students of the University of South Australia*.

**Janeen Brian**, *Hoosh! Camels in Australia*, ABC Books, 2005.

**Yellow Moon**, Issue 19, Winter 2006. A literary magazine for writers of haiku and other verse.

## SAWC Quiz Night

The SAWC made around \$1000 at the Quiz night. It was an entertaining night and congratulations must go to the winning team, The Frogs – smarty-pants, the lot of 'em.

## Newsletter Folders

Thank you to our November Newsletter Folders: Laurie Anderson, Tony and Lyn Brooks, Betty Collins, Cailean Darkwater, John and Coie Dikkenberg, Nicola Haywood, Jo-Anne Moretti, Daniel Taylor and Ann Timoney Jenkin.

## Volunteer Thanks

Thanks to all volunteers in 2006 who helped out around the Centre, and at the Quiz Night, three Young Authors' Nights and the Ghan lunch: Richard Potter, Jody-Ann Brockelbank, Nicola Heywood, Helen Mitchell, Fiona Ellis, James Ogilvy, Jasmine Aquilina, Troy Van Capelle, Laurie Anderson, Bill Marsh, Cheryl Jordan, Louise Nicholas, Anna Solding, Sue Thompson and Jules Stopp.

Also thank you to our handy people:

Matthew Staker, Greame Rickard, Richard Vabolis, Don Matulick and Robert Ramsey.

## SAWC Santa Packs

Are you looking for the ideal Christmas gift for that special writer friend? Look no further, because the Centre has put together three Christmas Packs.

### THE TRIPLE TREAT:

*2007-2008 Writers' Marketplace SA Writers' Centre Handbook*, 2006 edition SA Writers' Centre Commemorative Port for \$80.

### THE BOOK BAG:

*2007-2008 Writers' Marketplace SA Writers' Centre Handbook*, 2006 edition for \$60.

### THE SAWC HAPPY PACK:

*SA Writers' Centre Handbook*, 2006 edition, SA Writers' Centre Commemorative Port for \$36.

These can be purchased from the Centre before closing, or at the Saint Lucy's Christmas party. Please phone for postage rates.

## SAWC's Holidays

The Centre will be closed for the holidays from Monday December 18 until Monday the 22nd of January. The staff and board members wish you all a happy, productive and safe holiday period.

## Between Us

Manuscript Assessment Service

fiction • nonfiction  
academic works

Assessments by published authors  
and professional editors

**Director Meredith Whitford BA  
Ryan Davidson**

165 Belair Road, Torrens Park SA 5062

T: 08 8274 1531

F: 08 8357 2110

meredithwh@yahoo.com

www.users.bigpond.com/between

# Longlines

Peter Bishop, Creative Director of Varuna –The Writers’ House in the Blue Mountains, will be at the SA Writers’ Centre on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> to Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> March for a second round of LongLines consultations with South Australian writers. This is a partnership between State and Territory Writers’ Centres and Varuna, funded by the Macquarie Bank Foundation. In 2006, Peter Bishop travelled around Australia talking with writers –160 of them!– and discovered a startling range of talent, experience and achievement.

Through the LongLines Program, Varuna is able to offer 33 professional development places to writers living outside the metropolitan areas of Sydney, Melbourne and Brisbane. 23 of these places are residential and give writers the marvellous opportunity of working in an environment wholly dedicated to writers and writing. For those unable to travel to Varuna, there are 10 non-residential places available. Deadline for applications for the LongLines Program is APRIL 30.

Consultations are the backbone of the LongLines Program. A consultation lasts an hour and gives writers at all stages of development and experience the opportunity to discuss their projects and possibilities with an experienced professional. Many writers have made significant professional decisions as a result of a consultation.

11 South Australian writers were selected for the LongLines Program in 2006, and all who have so far visited Varuna have reported feeling astonishingly at home in this environment dedicated to writers.

Bookings for the LongLines Consultations may be made with the SA Writers’ Centre by phoning the Centre on (08) 8223 7662. Please send 20 pages of material, plus a description of where you are at as a writer, what you hope for, dream of etc to the Centre by the Wednesday before the week of the consultations.



## Macquarie Bank Foundation

## Animate Quarterly

it's a live literary journal



Compere Bel Schenk.



Chris Tamm interviewed by Stephanie Hester.



Ben Brooker reads a poem.



Sonja Dechian answers all the tough questions.

About 50 people attended the first Animate Quarterly on Thursday November 16 at La Boheme. They were entertained with poetry, crosswords and prose, as well as Horoscopes, Agony Aunt and an interview with 'culture maker' Chris Tamm. Someone was overheard saying, 'that was so much fun!'

Three more Quarterlys will be held next year.



# News and Views

## **Kids Celebrate a Love of Books**

The Books. Be in it. festival held at Unley Town Hall in October brought together children, authors and illustrators in an afternoon of fun and culture. Opened by the Hon Jennifer Rankine, Minister Assisting in Early Childhood, the occasion buzzed with conversation, entertainment and the appreciation of all things books.

Storytelling was a highlight of the day, with young ones and their parents absorbed by tales of goats, pelicans, hospitalised teddies and Vegemite! The children's book cover art competition was also a real hit, with almost 300 imaginative and colourful entries making life difficult for enthusiastic judge, Eija Murch-Lempinen.

## **Australian Readers' Challenge**

Nearly 13,000 young readers, school children and adults across Australia have completed the first national Australian Readers' Challenge, raising urgently needed funds to address the literacy crisis in remote Indigenous communities in Northern Territory.

Suzu Wilson, Chair of the 2006 Australian Readers' Challenge, announced that the Challenge would be able to purchase close to \$130,000 in books and other literacy resources with ARC funds and donations.

An initiative of the Australian Book Industry including publishers, booksellers and authors, the Australian Readers' Challenge is a collaboration between the Fred Hollows Foundation and Ian Thorpe's Fountain for Youth Trust.

"Situated north-east of Katherine, these communities are so removed from general society, that it often comes as a shock to learn that literacy levels have been measured at just seven per cent", said Suzu Wilson.

Wilson also said this statistic meant these Australian communities were worse off than any Third World country and this was the motivation that drove her to initiate a literacy-based fundraising scheme in 2004 in Queensland.

That scheme, known as the Riverbend Readers' Challenge, was so effective and feedback was so strong, that Wilson decided to take it nationally and ARC was launched in March 2006.

"Can you imagine a world without books and reading?" asks Suzu Wilson. "It's a basic democratic right that everyone living in urban communities takes for granted."

## **National Centre A Major Boost For Australian Poetry**

Australia is set to get its first national Poetry Centre thanks to the support of Australian copyright management company, Copyright Agency Limited (CAL). CAL is providing an initial sum of \$140,800 to assist the Poetry Australia Foundation in establishing the Australian Poetry Centre at historic Glenfern, East St Kilda.

"For the first time poetry will have a fully professional organisation, enabling it to take its rightful place among the major art forms," said Ron Pretty AM, Director, Poetry Australia Foundation.

"You only need to look at the popularity of poetry readings, writing courses and competitions to see just how big poetry is in Australia."

"The interest and energy in Australian poetry is there. What the Australian Poetry Centre will do is focus and coordinate that energy to further stimulate the growth of, and interest in, Australian poetry here and overseas."

The Centre will coordinate a series of programs including organising tours, workshops and promotional activities for Australian poetry, and forging links with overseas poetry organisations and other writing organisations within Australia.

The centre will also work to improve the teaching of poetry in schools and tertiary institutions and assist in the publication of Australian poetry by developing a national system of distribution.

A director will be appointed to run the centre with the assistance of a Board of Management headed by leading Australian poet Chris Wallace-Crabbe in early 2007.

Commencement date: February 2007

More information on the Australian Poetry Centre and the director's job description is available at:

[www.poetryaustraliafoundation.org.au](http://www.poetryaustraliafoundation.org.au)

## **Growth in Copyright Payments**

The Australian copyright management company, Copyright Agency Limited (CAL), has reported record payments of over

\$66m to its author, artist and publisher members – an increase of 34% on the previous financial year.

As at 30 June 2006, CAL had made over 4,800 payments to its members made possible by an unprecedented growth in revenue to a total of \$102m.

Speaking at CAL's Annual General Meeting, Chief Executive Michael Fraser said "CAL's growth in revenue, particularly from the growth in digital copying has meant a greater reward for our members." "Copyright payments for authors, artists and publishers are becoming increasingly important as the rapid rise in the digital copying and communication of creative works continues. CAL is developing more automated ways of tracking new digital copying and ensuring payment to our members."

In a strong year of growth, CAL maintained its overheads with close to 86 cents from every dollar earned last financial year made available to copyright owners. CAL surveyed copying in over 357 institutions and processed over 7.5 million copying records in 2005-06 to monitor actual photocopying and digital copying so that authors, artists and publishers are paid.

CAL Chair Brian Johns acknowledged the challenges ahead as the volume and complexity of copying records increased. CAL is expecting close to nine million copying records from customers over the 2006-07 financial year.

"The coming together of publishing, print and broadcasting media online means there are now more than ever a multitude of ways the average student, educator or employee may use a copyright work," Mr Johns said.

"This is why CAL's attention to its core business while being alive to the challenges of the Internet and digital technology is both prudent and imaginative.

"In the coming year, CAL will make a series of changes to build up our IT and workplace practices. This includes streamlining operations to improve how we process copying data from customers and distribute the payments to our members. These changes will enable CAL to reduce the time from receipt of a copying fee to copyright payment to our members."

# What's On...

## December Poetica

Presented by Mike Ladd

Saturday at 3.05pm, repeated at 9.05pm  
Thursday.

### December

- 2<sup>nd</sup> *In My Shoes* – a poetry anthology celebrating the international day of the disabled.
- 9<sup>th</sup> *The War Sonnets* – poems and prose by Barry Hill about war, terrorism and torture, and the stance of the poet.
- 16<sup>th</sup> Marianne Moore – selected poems by this influential American poet.
- 23<sup>rd</sup> *Shepherds and Brunettes* – pastoral poetry from Theocritus to Philip Hodgins.
- 30<sup>th</sup> *The Dancing Fire* – a feature on Navajo poet, Rex Lee Jim.

## AWG End of Year Celebration

The Australian Writers' Guild and the Australian Film Television and Radio School Invites you to attend the end of year party celebrating the achievements of South Australian Performance Writers' and AFTRS Alumni during 2006. Special guest speaker will be Rolf de Heer Tuesday 12 December, 6pm. SA Writers' Centre Atrium. RSVP to Gabrielle on 8232 6852 or sa@awg.com.au

## Gawler Poetry Readings

A Community Development Grant of \$1000 has been awarded to the Gawler Poets by the Gawler Council to assist with the production of a book containing the best poems read at the Gawler poetry readings in 2006/07. The book will be edited by Martin Johnson. The reading for Sunday December 10 will see Mike Ladd launch his new book *Shack Life* during the poetry lunch, commencing at noon. Bookings are essential on 85221043. Mike will be accompanied by singer/songwriter Craig Battams who has set several of Mike's poems to music. For more information, call Martin or Cathy on 8522 4268. The Old Spot Hotel is at 77 Murray Street, Gawler.

## Friendly Street

The guest reader for December 5 is Rosemary Jaench. 7pm SAWC.

## Wordfire Literary Salon

Christmas Event

Monday December 4 from 7pm  
Readings, Christmas cheer and band  
*Emergency Crank Radio*.  
Crown and Sceptre Hotel, 308 King  
William St, Adelaide

## Independent Scholars (ISAA) ...

is an Australia-wide association for people whose research interests are outside institutional or organisational links. The objective is to present work-in-progress sessions, hold seminars and generally support each other in our work. Included in annual membership is the opportunity to present your research at an annual conference and a refereed journal distributed to members.

You are most welcome to attend a meeting of the Adelaide group as a visitor. It meets bi-monthly at the SA Writers' Centre. Enquiries: virginia@virginiakenny.com phone 8344 7810  
Independent Scholars Association of Australia Inc.: SA group  
www.independentscholars.asn.au

The next meeting will be 2.30pm on Thursday December 7; it should end at approximately 4pm. The work-in-progress will be presented by Jane Nelson on 'The English Theatre Company: Marlowe in Germany.'

## An Evening of Rhyme and Reason

Sunday, December 10, 2006, 7pm  
Tea House Gallery  
Synagogue Place  
Adelaide  
Presented by  
Mark C Martin  
Bring an open mind and something to sit on.  
www.MarkCMartin.com

## The Hills Poets

The next meeting of the Hills Poets will be on Sunday 10 December at 1 pm at the Crafers Inn, Crafers. As it is the last meeting before Christmas there will be a lunch followed by the usual readings. There will be two guest readers: David Mortimer and Judy Dally. New poets are always welcome to come and join us and read their work, or if they prefer, just listen. If you

are planning to attend the lunch, please ring Jill Gower on 8339 5119 by Friday 8 December.

## Footprints 2007

A coffee table book about Adelaide & South Australia, published by tish'n enigma books will be launched by Ashley Knoote-Parke at the SA Writers' Centre on Friday 15th December, 6.30 for a 7pm start. Meet the team & the photographers who have collated a photographic exhibition of the book. All members are welcome to come for drinks & nibbles. RSVP by Monday 11th December, call 8289 0540 and speak to Ashley or leave a message.

## Emissary Book Launch

Fiona McIntosh and the team at Dymocks Adelaide invite all members of the Writers' Centre to attend the launch of her new book *Emissary*  
Dymocks Adelaide  
135 Rundle Mall  
Adelaide SA 5000  
Wednesday 6th December  
6 for 6.30.  
RSVP bruce.macky@dymade.com.au  
by 5th December.

## The Lee Marvin Readings

Mondays at Gallery de la Catessen  
9 Anster St., Adelaide  
7.30 for 8pm start Price \$5

15th Reading December 4  
LEE MARVIN TAKES THE CURE  
Ken Bolton  
Francesca da Rimini  
Simon Robb  
Cath Kenneally

16th Reading December 11  
LEE MARVIN TAKES A GIRL LIKE YOU  
Andrea Jorss  
Shannon Burns  
Linda Marie Walker  
Mike Ladd

17th Reading December 18  
LEE MARVIN TAKES A POWDER  
Bel Schenk  
Jason Sweeney  
Kerryn Goldsworthy  
Ashley Graetz

# Vale William Anthony (Bill) Phippard



Members of the Society of Editors knew Bill Phippard as half of Seaview Press (with his wife Susan Rintoul): a loyal and regular attendee at meetings, workshops and social gatherings; a member and committee member always willing to take on a task when something had to be done; a fairly quiet person who, when he spoke, always said something worth listening to; and, in general, an all-round good bloke. Bill was Treasurer of the Society for a number of years and willingly ran a workshop on indexing as recently as this time last year.

And that last occasion provides a key to some of the other facets of Bill Phippard that may have been less well-known to some. It was critical that the workshop was organised around the 2005 Adelaide Test Match and the start of the season for his

tennis group. Bill had a passionate interest in sport, played tennis regularly and rarely missed an international cricket match at Adelaide Oval.

At Bill's funeral, Adelaide friends learnt much more about the fascinating past of this quiet character in the floppy washing hat. Bill, or Tony, as he was known then, was the only student who ever managed to regularly take his dog to school at Canberra Grammar. He travelled across Australia and through South-East Asia long before it was popular or fashionable to do so. He worked as a 'journeyman accountant' before working at *The Canberra Times*, *The Australian* and newspapers in the English Midlands, before returning to *The Canberra Times*.

In a heartfelt article published in *The Canberra Times* on the day of Bill's funeral, the editor Jack Waterford wrote of his old news editor colleague as ... 'a great and too-much-unheralded ornament of this paper. ... [his] going is a reminder of the fact that a supposedly individual trade such as writing is a complex partnership in which the best parties do not get the credit they deserve'. Bill had 'judgment, sense, care and a certain derring-do, if one that lived within a framework adopted in a day when computers lacked the modern capacity for instant rearrangement, changes, the capacity to alter layouts, presentations and headlines in a matter of seconds, a great capacity

to fix up the front, the middle and the end of a story by adapting it into a yarn, and a fabulous, but also reassuring way of laughing at himself or being the object of laughter. Another former colleague spoke of Bill being the only boss for whom she had ever worked who unfailingly thanked everyone, warmly, at the end of the shift.

These were the skills that Bill brought to Adelaide when he came here with Susan, who had been librarian at *The Canberra Times*. Here they married, raised their family and set up Seaview Press. At Seaview Press, Bill and Susan shared 'doing everything', from client contact to editing, from typesetting to proofreading, from publicity to sales, and much more; the Press has given a public life to many a poet's and author's writings. Bill was a first class indexer, a Registered Member of the Australian and New Zealand Society of Indexers, regularly used by Wakefield Press, Penguin, the National Library of Australia and National Gallery for the tricky jobs.

Bill was a warm and genial host, an inventive cook, who was devoted to his daughters Jamie and Kate, and to Susan, his partner in life and business. Numbers of our members have said they find it hard to think of Susan without Bill: theirs was a great partnership.

We will miss Bill, his reliable contributions, dependability and wry wit. The Society is the better for having had him as a member.

## Denied a Voice

Dedicated in 2006 to Russian Writer, Anna Politkovskaya, who was murdered on October 7, the Adelaide PEN inaugural Day of the Imprisoned Writer on Wednesday 15 November was a great success. Human Rights & Equal Opportunities Commissioner Tom Calma raised vital issues such as censorship, freedom of speech and the importance of balancing rights for writers. In the name of freedom of speech, Peter Goldsworthy provocatively defended the right even of revisionist historian David Irving to express his views.

Poetry and music from around the globe reminded the audience – a moving feast of up to 100 souls for most of the two hour event – of the way writers everywhere have suffered for their art, their work. The poetry of Juan Garrido-Salgado and Yahia al Samawy (presented in Arabic and in translation by Eva Sallis) brought the suffering of the other writers whose work was read with passion so close, that the masked faces and blustery weather mingled with the tears in the eyes of many in the audience in testament to the power of the message.

Adelaide PEN acknowledges ABC presenter of Poetica, Mike Ladd, author Fabienne Bayet-Charlton, Minister John Hill, Poet Jude Aquilina, author Nicholas Jose for their thoughtful readings and talks, and thanks musicians, Dave Clarke, Kathy Townsend and Sam Oshodi for enlivening us all.



Pictures L-R: Federal Race Discrimination Commissioner Tom Clama, Jude Aquilina and The Empty Chair  
Photographs by Jo-Anne Moretti.



# Opportunities

## **Animate Quarterly**

Animate Quarterly is still accepting submissions of short stories, sets of poems, letters, questions for the Agony Aunt, and reviews. Prose is limited to 2,000 words and poetry to six, not necessarily themed, poems. Previously published pieces and novel excerpts are acceptable and writers are encouraged to read their pieces on the night. When a writer is unable to read, a volunteer reader will be sought.

Send to PO Box 43, Rundle Mall, Adelaide, 5000, or [animatequarterly@yahoo.com.au](mailto:animatequarterly@yahoo.com.au)

All contributors will be paid. Writers of prose will receive \$100, reviews \$60, columns \$60, poetry \$50 and letters \$50.

## **Wanted**

Ghostwriter to assist with layout plan and writing of sensitive biographical story.

Genre includes nonfiction/medical/self-help/inspiration. Have much detailed information over many years including photos. Strict confidentiality/professionalism required.

Contact Suzanne 8289 1743

## **Positive Words**

*Positive Words* creative writing magazine is seeking submissions of poetry and short stories for upcoming issues. The special theme for January 2007 is 'Try something different ...' but work on any theme is always welcome. *Positive Words* is ideal for new writers just beginning to submit their work as well as for experienced writers wanting to share their work and build résumés. Contributors receive a complimentary copy of the magazine. Please include SSAE with submissions. For a sample copy of the magazine and further information please send \$2.00 in unused postage stamps to the Editor: Sandra Lynn James, 466 Old Melbourne Road, Traralgon 3844, Victoria.

## **Blabberwocky**

The students of the English Department, Jadavpur University, Kolkata, India are in the process of producing *Blabberwocky*, an international creative publication. *Blabberwocky* aims to be the first magazine involving students all over the world in active participation with each other. They believe it will be an opportunity for English

Literature students and lovers of writing around the globe to actively interact with each other and share ideas. Since there is already an overabundance of academic journals and forums for literary criticism, *Blabberwocky* seeks to be somewhat different in tone. Although they want academic essays, they would like to focus on other creative works as well. Consequently, they invite graphic stories, creative essays, poems (nonsense and otherwise), art and other forms of expression in print. Contributions should be sent to: [sriachatterjee@gmail.com](mailto:sriachatterjee@gmail.com) and [sudipto.sanyal@gmail.com](mailto:sudipto.sanyal@gmail.com)

## **Wannabee**

Wannabee Publishing is pleased to announce that they are seeking original manuscripts for publication in 2007 and beyond. They are seeking small-sized novels, novellas, extended short stories and literary nonfiction from both established and emerging Australian writers. Manuscript submission guidelines are available from [www.wannabee.com.au](http://www.wannabee.com.au) or by mail from PO Box 59, East Melbourne 8002.

## **The 2007 Queensland Poetry Festival**

The Festival invites proposals from poets and other performers and artists interested in being part of the 11th Annual Queensland Poetry Festival. Festival Dates: 7, 8 & 9 of September 2007.

Venue: The Judith Wright Centre of Contemporary Arts, Fortitude Valley, Brisbane

Expressions of Interest:

QPF would like to hear from both individuals and groups for single performances at the festival and for other projects in association with the festival. While all projects should have a relationship to poetic language, we strongly encourage applications from non-poets wishing to explore the relationship between poetry and other art forms (e.g. performances with a music and/or multi-media focus etc...). The festival will also incorporate a discussion component and we welcome proposals for events/activities intended to address the question of the place of poetry in the contemporary world. Forms are now available for download at [www.queenslandpoetryfestival.com](http://www.queenslandpoetryfestival.com) or by

emailing the Festival Director, Graham Nunn: [geenunn@yahoo.com.au](mailto:geenunn@yahoo.com.au)

## **Insight Presents**

Australian playwrights will have the chance to have their script performed and recorded in front of a live audience and broadcast nationally through an inaugural competition. Insight Presents, an Adelaide based radio theatre company, will accept new, half-hour radio play scripts from 1 January to 30 March 2007. Two winning entries will be selected to make up the company's July season, with a cash prize also awarded to the successful playwright(s). Full details of the competition can be found on the Insight Presents website at [www.insightpresents.com](http://www.insightpresents.com)

## **Articles Sought**

Buzz Words (All the Buzz about Children's Books), a monthly e-zine for those in the children's book industry, is seeking articles of up to 1,000 words about aspects of interest to children's writers, illustrators, editors and librarians. Payment offered. Send proposals or articles to: [dibates@enterprisingwords.com](mailto:dibates@enterprisingwords.com)  
Sample back copies can be requested.

## **Etchings**

Following the successful debut of *Etchings*, Ilura Press is inviting submissions for the second issue to be released March 2007. Short fiction, essays, art, photography, poetry are all welcome and electronic submissions are accepted. Please refer to the submission guidelines on the *Etchings* website [www.ilurapress.com/Etchings.html](http://www.ilurapress.com/Etchings.html)

## **Short and Twisted**

*Short and Twisted*, an anthology of short stories and poetry with a twist at the end, is seeking submissions of stories, super short stories and poetry. Submissions close 31 Jan 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.

# Opportunities

## Arabesques Press ...

is now accepting submissions for the December issue 'War & Poetry' and the February issue 'Colors' and would be very happy to read and consider contributions for these upcoming anthologies. For more details, see our web site at: <http://www.arabesquespress.org/>

## Blue Dog: Australian Poetry ...

is looking for poems, articles and reviews. All submissions accepted are paid for. The Reviewing Competition closes on 31st March, 2007 so please send your reviews. First prize \$2,000. All reviews published \$100. Go to the website for submission details: [www.poetryaustraliafoundation.org.au](http://www.poetryaustraliafoundation.org.au)

Send submissions to:  
Poetry Australia Foundation  
School of Creative Arts, University of Melbourne, Parkville, 3010  
(with a SSAE for results or return)  
For further information contact [rpretty@unimlb.edu.au](mailto:rpretty@unimlb.edu.au)

## LEAFY SEA DRAGON FESTIVAL OPEN SHORT STORY COMPETITION

maximum words: 3,000  
prizes – first: \$1,200 plus a year's subscription to SA's magazine of new writing *Wet Ink*  
second: \$200 plus one issue of *Wet Ink*  
third: \$100 plus one issue of *Wet Ink*  
entry fee: \$5.00  
closing date 28 February 2007  
conditions on entry form available on [www.yankalilla.sa.gov.au](http://www.yankalilla.sa.gov.au)

## Alan Marshall Short Story Award

Nillumbik Shire Council invites writers from across Australia to enter this annual short story competition held in memory of the great writer and former resident of Eltham, Alan Marshall.

Entries close: 4pm Friday 23 February 2007

Prizes: \$2000 Open Section Award for stories up to 2,500 words. \$1000 Local Writers' Award for writers who live, work or study in the Shire of Nillumbik  
Are you aged between 15 and 19 years? Try

the \$400 Young Writers' Award for stories up to 1,000 words. Competition details and entry form may be obtained from: [www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au](http://www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au) email [artsinfor@nillumbik.vic.gov.au](mailto:artsinfor@nillumbik.vic.gov.au) or telephone (03) 9433 3126

## Writing your Life Story?

Bring your writing to life in practical CREATIVE WRITING WORKSHOPS in a supportive and encouraging environment.

Courses run for 8 weeks in 2 hour sessions at SA Writers' Centre.

Individual mentoring and editorial advice also available.

Contact Pat Mitchell at "Living Words Biographies"  
Ph. 83898181

## LOOKING FOR A PUBLISHER?



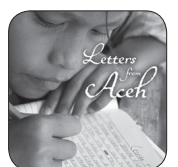
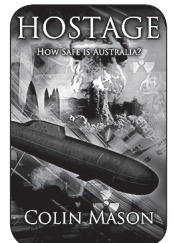
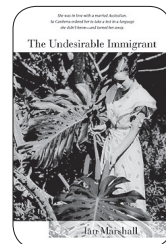
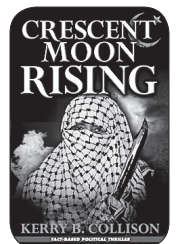
Sid Harta Publishers not only offers a full manuscript assessment service but publishes titles in the traditional sense, and also offers Partnership Publishing.

Partnership Publishing provides the distribution network, manages the project from line editing, typesetting, proofing, printing, book design, often co-funds production, provides promotional support including a personalized page for the author's work and bio. Sid Harta can arrange for author launches/talks to promote their title. The alternative, Self Publishing, places the onus for the above entirely on the author and, in consequence, most fail. **This is NOT Vanity Press. SHP only publish works that have merit.**

Contact SHP at: [author@sidharta.com.au](mailto:author@sidharta.com.au)

Phone: (03) 9561 0367 or visit our website for submission details at:

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



SID HARTA PUBLISHERS Pty Ltd: Suite 99, No 66 Kings Way, Glen Waverley, Victoria 3150.



# Congratulations...

Your contributions to the Brag Page are important as we record your successes on our database and refer to it for all kinds of requests. For example, the City of Onkaparinga wanted to know which of its residents were published writers; the CJ Dennis Festival wanted judges for its poetry and short stories competition, and when planning various festivals we refer to the list for ideas on guest presenters. So, don't be shy, send us your publishing credits.

We are, however, often short of space, so we ask you to limit your 'congrats' to work that has been published (not just accepted), and first, second and third places only in competitions.

All miscellaneous must be legitimate literary achievements – grants received, invitation performances, overseas publication etc. Please supply your information for the Brag File page in writing or by email by the 15th of the month - [admin@sawriters.on.net](mailto:admin@sawriters.on.net)

**M.L. Emmet's** poem 'At The Crematorium' and 'Sonnet CXXX: My Lover's Eyes' were published in *The Mozzie*. 'Feeding Molly' was published in *Studio 102*.

**Eileen Taylor's** short story was published in *I Remember When*, an anthology by Legacy Books, Victoria.

**Connie Tanner's** 'Books' was also featured in *I Remember When*.

**Graham Rowlands'** poems 'The Tree on the Corner', 'Renting' and 'Mike Ladd considers Graham Rowlands' health' were published in *Blast* (4), *FourW seventeen* and *Pendulum* (10) respectively.

**Zenda Vecchio's** story 'Christmas Cards' was published in *Pendulum* (10).

**Matthew Smith** had his poem 'Stray Dogs' published in *Positive Words* magazine. Two poems, 'Never out to sea' and 'A single tomorrow' were published in *Polestar Writer's Journal* edition 13.

**Owen Carmichael's** article and photos on the Rainbow Parade in Vienna were published in *DNA* in November.

Pleiku Pals Inc. of America has awarded **Aviva Sheb'a** a grant to travel within the USA & Vietnam to conduct research for her book on her experiences entertaining the troops in the Vietnam War.

**Indigo** won first prize in the Mullet Festival word competition for her poem 'J'adore'.

**Janeen Brian** had two poems published in *Countdown, The School Magazine*: 'Mooch-and-Moo' and 'Belly-line'.

**Moya Costello** and **Sue Rodwell** (visual artist) have combined text and image in the new literary journal *Etchings*.

**Jill Gloyne's** short story, 'The Boy on the Beach', was Highly Commended in the Mornington Peninsula Prize (FAW) and her article 'Of course I mean all over', about nursing at the RAH in the early 50's has been published in Volume 1 of *I Remember When*.

**Rory Barnes** and **Damien Broderick** have published a comedy of bad manners, *I Suppose a Root's Out of the Question?* (Point Blank Press, USA). 'High art it aint', says Rory. Copies can be ordered from [amazon.com](http://amazon.com) More details on Rory's website. <http://users.bigpond.net.au/rory.barnes>

**Joan Vandewerdt** had an article on Castles in North Wales published in the *Sydney Morning Herald* travel section, and articles on Broughton Castle UK and non-smoking pubs in UK published in *The West Australian* travel section.

**Angela Schoen's** poem 'Stehen geblieben' was selected for the German *Bibliothek Deutschsprachiger Gedichte Ausgew hlte Werke IX* in November.

**Margaret Griffin-Ward's** poem 'Hidden Pieces' was published in the November edition of *Positive Words*.

**Val Smith's** poem 'World in a Spin' has been published in the *Digital Spirit* Studio journal.

**Jill Gower's** poem 'Mushrooms' was published in *The Mozzie*, October 2006, and 'On Golden Pond' and 'The Tap' were published in *Positive Words* November 2006.

**Diane Cass** has had an article published in *The Legal Executive*, the Official Journal of the Institute of Legal Executives (Victoria).

**Juan Garrido-Salgado** read his poems at the November *Wordfire*, and also on *PoeticA*. His poem 'Reading Ernesto Cardenal' was translated by Irish poet Ana Maria Crowe-Serrano and Published in *Shadowtrain # 10*, a digital poetry magazine.

**rob walker** had several poems published in online poetry journals: 'how do I shop at ikea' (*Australian Reader*); 'vocabulary of the beach and wire fence' (*TEXT*, the electronic Journal of the Aust. Assoc. of Writing Programs) and 'The truth about everything' (*Cordite Poetry Review*.) He was also interviewed about his new book *micromacro* on Radio Adelaide's Writers' Radio programme.

**Going Down  
Swinging #24  
LATEST ISSUE OUT NOW!**

GO TO [WWW.GOINGDOWNSWINGING.ORG.AU](http://WWW.GOINGDOWNSWINGING.ORG.AU)  
AND **SUBSCRIBE!** OR FIND IT AT ALL GOOD BOOKSHOPS

**FEATURING A SPECIAL  
COMICS EXTRAVAGANZA!**

**80 pages of the best  
comic art by  
Australian artists  
and 128 pages  
of other great  
literary  
works.**

Illustration by  
Jo Waite



# Literary Competitions...

## 15th December 2006

The Hill of Content Bookshop 2006 Hal Porter Short Story Competition. Contemporary writers, resident in Australia, are invited to enter a short story to 2500 words, written in any style, to be eligible for the national prize in this the 13th year of competition. This year the first prize is \$1000, with two minor prizes of \$500. In addition there will be book prizes and certificates for short-listed stories. Submission guidelines are available by sending a stamped self-addressed envelope to:

Hal Porter Short Story Competition  
PO Box 1496,  
Bairnsdale, Victoria, 3875

or via

bugdust1@bigpond.net.au or  
pedrom53@bigpond.net.au

## 15th December, 2005

Bridge Foundation Literary Competition. Entries: \$5 for one, \$12 for three. Open Poetry; Open Short Story. Prisoners Poetry; Prisoners Short Story. Limit 2,500 words for stories, 30 lines for poetry. Prisoners – no entry fee, only CRN Number and prison address. Prizes: 1st – \$100, 2nd – \$50, 3rd – \$25. No entry form necessary. Include name and address with entry. SAE if results needed. Results published February 2007 on website [www.bridgefoundation.com.au](http://www.bridgefoundation.com.au)

## 31 January 2007

The Black Dog Institute 3rd annual writing competition - this year on the topic of Bipolar Disorder. The competition invites sufferers of Bipolar Disorder, family members, friends and interested professionals to tell us how to manage the elevated mood, the 'high', that is characteristic of this illness.

By people sharing these stories with others, it will help the Institute develop a grassroots Consumer Bipolar Disorder

- ☺ 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.

Survival Kit. Entries are to be in the form of a written article (of up to 1500 words) and must address the topic of 'managing the bipolar disorder highs and the getting of wisdom'.

More information: <http://www.blackdoginstitute.org.au/media/writingcomp/index.cfm>

## ☺ 31 December 2006

Positive Words Creative Writing Magazine mini challenge for December. Prize: Six months subscription to Positive Words  
Entry Fee: \$1.00 in unused postage stamps. No entry form required.

Challenge for December: Write a short story in 100 words or less, or a poem in ten lines or less using the word SUMMER at least once. Entries must be postmarked by the last day of the relevant month and the winning entry will appear in an upcoming issue. The winner will be notified within four weeks of the closing date. Send entries to: The Editor, Sandra Lynn James, 466 Old Melbourne Road, Traralgon 3844.

## ☺ 15 January 2007

The Josephine Ulrick Poetry Prize 2007. \$10,000 First Prize for a 1000 - 3000 word short story and \$10,000 First Prize for a poem up to 200 lines or a suite of poems.

Entry forms available from:  
[www.griffith.edu.au/school/art/ulrick](http://www.griffith.edu.au/school/art/ulrick) or Fiona McCurdy (07) 5552 8248 email: [f.mccurdy@griffith.edu.au](mailto:f.mccurdy@griffith.edu.au)

## ☺✉ January 31 2007

Lovers of Good Writing Short Story Competition. Presented by Fellowship of Australian Writers Q Inc.

Open theme. First Prize: \$350  
Second Prize: \$150

Two runners up Prizes: \$50  
Entry Fee: \$5 per entry or \$12 for three. Limit of three entries per author. Send entries to: Lovers of Good Writing Short Story Competition Convenor FAWQ  
PO Box 301,  
Albion DC,  
Albion Qld 4010.

## ☺ January 31 2007

Carpe Diem Publishing Open Poetry, Short Story, and Novel competition. More details at: <http://www.shaminosrealm.com.au/>

## ☺ 19 February 2007

3rd Kathleen Julia Bates Memorial Writing Competition. For an unpublished short story to 1,000 words suitable to be read by children aged 7 to 10 years. The theme is open but

the main character should be human. All entries are to have a separate title page with full contact details (no staples) and to include a stamped self-addressed envelope for results. Manuscripts will not be returned. Entry fee \$5 per poem; money order or cheque payable to Di Bates. Open to Australian residents only. There is no limit on number of stories entered. Prizes: \$250 first prize, \$150 second prize and \$50 third prize. Judge will be award-winning children's author and editor, Dianne (Di) Bates. Send entries c/- Di Bates, PO Box 2116, Woonona East NSW 2517.

## ☺✉★ 23 February 2007

Laura Literary Awards. The Flinders News Prose Awards. Open. Entry fee \$7 for a short story to 1500 words. Prize \$200. Young Adult (13 to 18). No entry fee. A short story to 1000 words. Prize \$50. Junior (up to 12 years). No entry fee. A short story to 500 words. Prize \$25. Free Choice of Subject. No entry form required but guidelines available from SAWC. Address entries to Laura Literary Awards  
Laura Folk Fair Inc  
Box 18  
Laura  
SA 5480.

## EAGLE EDITING

### Editing and manuscript assessment services

Specialising in short stories and novels in all genres

- Proofreading grammar, spelling and punctuation
- Assessing structure, continuity, plot, language, characterisation and dialogue
- Constructive feedback in a written report
- Recommendations for improvements

**Take advantage of our experience and watch your words fly!**

Contact: Margaret Arena  
Ph: (08) 8353 3490  
Mobile: 0431 686 605  
Email: [margarena@ihug.com.au](mailto:margarena@ihug.com.au)  
ABN: 97 97 42 90



# The 10½ Commandments

by Sean Williams



Lately I've been thinking a lot about the first principles of writing--"first principles" as in the assumptions or rules that underpin a mathematical theorem, say, and cannot be reduced further. What advice could I give any new writer in confidence that it would always apply? While I strongly believe that there are no rules when it comes to writing, I do think that if you peel back what works, you'll see some common attributes behind every successful writer. And by "successful", I mean whatever you define it to be. (See point three.)

The list I came up with contains ten points, plus an optional eleventh.

## 1. Read a lot.

A writer reads, the more widely the better. It may seem counter-intuitive that, if you want to write romance blockbusters, you should read Dickens, but it's true. You should, in fact, read both. Challenge your tastes, and learn from the experience. You're likely to be pleasantly surprised.

## 2. Write a lot.

Naturally.

## 3. Define your version of success and take concrete steps towards achieving it.

What is success in your eyes? Is it having a short story published, or a novel? Is it getting a grant or appearing on a bestseller list? Is it preserving a relative's story before they die? Every writer is different. Don't let anyone tell you that you're unsuccessful because their goals are different from yours.

## 4. Write what you love but be aware of the audience.

To have a successful career as a writer, you have to write the best story, poem or article you possibly can. You'll also want to write something that finds a home, whether that's on an editor's desk, behind a microphone or in the lap of someone you love.

That doesn't mean that you can't write what you love. Far from it. That's the most important thing! But there might be several different things you love to write, and which you choose is always up to you.

## 5. Be professional at all stages of your career.

Even if you don't feel like you're a professional writer, or want to be one, for that matter, it won't hurt you to act like one. This doesn't mean only making time to write. Create an office, invest in business software, buy business cards, and so on. Most importantly, show respect for your fellow writers and for your craft. Commonsense stuff, I reckon.

## 6. Listen to everyone.

Coming to an informed decision requires getting information first. At least half of everything I know about writing – which isn't even close to being exhaustive – came from listening to writers, editors, publishers, agents, sales reps and so on. The rest I learned by making mistakes.

## 7. Be visible.

Listening to people is all very good, but how do you meet them? Go to conventions, to writers' festivals, to SAWC events, to book launches and readings, to award functions, etc. As soon as you set pen to paper, you are part of the community. Don't feel shy. Face this challenge as you would any other. It's worth it.

## 8. Challenge yourself, always.

Writers need to stay fresh. If we stick to the same thing, to familiar themes and modes, we grow stale. Constantly examine your work and set yourself challenges. My writing has improved every time I've set hurdles ahead of me and forced myself to jump over them. Push yourself to do better every time and that's exactly what you'll become.

## 9. Never believe you've figured it out.

That might sound strange, considering the position of authority I'm occupying at the moment, but there really are no 100% certain handshakes or rules. Writers must be prepared to make up most of it as they go along. Everything changes and you can never let your guard down. That's part of the reason it's so exciting (and occasionally terrifying too, I'll admit).

## 10. Work hard.

Geniuses are not made by their genes, but by hard graft and good advice. We can all be successful at what we want to do if we just go ahead and do it. And do it. And do it some more.

## 11. (bonus)

The one thing this list doesn't explicitly mention is the notion of community, which I think is very important. I left it off since being visible and listening to people assumes that you're interacting with someone. However you do it, surround yourself with positive people; share problems and solutions with those in similar situations; give back to the next generation of writers who will be following on your heels. Everyone will benefit, including you.

And that's it. I reckon that if every writer considers these 10.5 points at every stage of their career – since each point applies all the time, in any order, over and over – then they'll substantially increase the likelihood of achieving the goals they've set out for themselves. And that's a good thing in anyone's book, no?

(This article is based on a discussion that can be found on Sean's Live Journal, here: <http://ladnews.livejournal.com/19989.html>.)

*New York Times*-bestselling Sean Williams writes full-time from his home in the Adelaide CBD, likes to cook curries, and DJs in his spare time. Current Chair of the SA Writers' Centre and winner of the "SA Great" literature award, his twenty-first novel, *The Devoured Earth*, was published by HarperCollins in September.



