

**L**ive Magazine **Animate Quarterly 3** was held on Thursday June 21 at swanky La Boheme in the city. Ben Brooker read a piece about the birth of the Zine; there was poetry by rob walker and Rachael Mead, Gary George read a short story titled 'Wind'; Heather Taylor Johnson read a chapter from her latest manuscript; Bernice Coen read a piece about the 2006 state election; Mike Ladd read about his refugee neighbours; Judella Starwoman managed to scare and offend with the latest horoscopes and Agony Aunt Sonja Dechian enlightened the audience with answers to some interesting questions such as 'why do my headphones have a left and a right ear piece? To round off the night Stephanie Hester interviewed Matt Rubinstein about unreadable manuscripts and MC Bel Schenk made all readers spin the fear wheel to show the audience how scared they were.



Heather Taylor Johnson



Gary George



Matt Rubinstein and Stephanie Hester

## Seminar Spots Still Available ...

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

Come and meet industry professionals and writers of nonfiction in this day-long seminar. Discover the protocol for approaching and dealing with publishers. Learn how to attract their attention and get your work published.

This seminar will include a chance to talk to the presenters in small group sessions.

**Agent:** Mary Cunnane from the Mary Cunnane Agency.

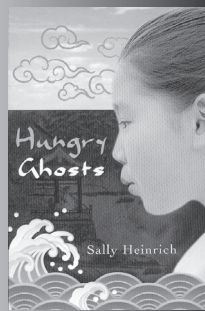
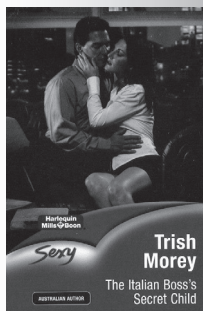
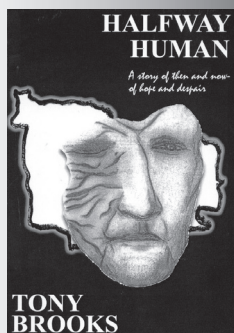
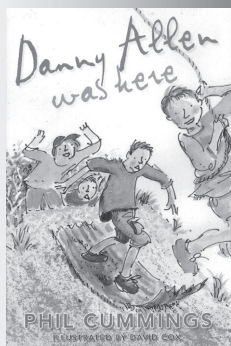
**Publishers:** Michael Bollen from Wakefield Press and Tim Whiting from Random House.

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

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

**Bookings on 8223 7662 or [sawriters@sawriters.on.net](mailto:sawriters@sawriters.on.net)**

# 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.

## So Very Resourceful

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

**Adrian Rogers**, *The Gates of Sunset*, Mountain Mist Productions, 2007 and *The Secret Chronicle of Oisín*, Double Dragon Publishing, 2006.

**Trish Morey** donated the following Harelquin Mills and Boon titles: *The Italian Boss's Secret Child*, *The Mancini Marriage Bargain*, *The Italian's Virgin Bride*, *The Greek's Virgin*, *A Virgin for the Taking*, *For Revenge ... or Pleasure?*, *The Greek Boss's Demand*, and *Stolen by the Sheikh*.

**UWA Press**, *The Mystery of the Cleaning Lady*, by Sue Woolfe, 2007.

**Jenny Opie**, *Gathering Driftwood*, Lulu Press, 2007.

**Ewart Shaw**, *Sound Man – Bill Flanagan: The early years of the BBC and the first years of Over Sixties Radio*, by Lavinia Flanagan with Ewart Shaw.

**Wakefield Press**, *Dodging the Bull: Stories by Paul Mitchell*, 2007.

**Ruth Starke**, *Catland*, Running Press Kids, 2005.

**Tabor College**, *Tales from the Upper Room, Stories and Poetry from Tabor Adelaide's 2006 Creative Writing Programme*, Pantaenus Press, 2006

**Sally Heinrich**, *Hungry Ghosts*, Lothian, 2007.

**Phil Cummings**, *Danny Allen Was Here*, Pan Macmillan, 2007; and *Baby Baby*, (illustrated by Greg Holfeld), Omnibus and the Little Big Book Club.

**Writing Write**, *Uncensored*, The Writing Write Group Anthology 2007.

**Anthony Bran**, *Ravens of Ravensgate*, 2007.

**Petra White**, *The Incoming Tide*, John Leonard Press, 2007.

**Free Xpression**, *Winning Ways: The winning entries in the Free Xpression 2007 Literary Competition*, and the *Free Xpression Poetry Yearbook*, 2002.

## 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 June newsletter:

Laurie Anderson, Tony Brooks, Betty Collins, John and Coie Dikkenberg, Jeanie Klopper, Alisha Pearson, Gay Sanderson, Harold Shulton, Matthew Staker, Ken Vincent, Lindy Warrell, Jo Dey, Joanne Moretti and Alice Sladdin.

## Book Crossing - AGM follow-up

The books, *Little One*, by Emily Sutherland, *The Valley of Butterflies*, by Georgia Xenophou and *On a Moon Spiced Night*, by Jude Aquilina, presented at the AGM were released into the wild. *Little One* and *The Valley of Butterflies* were released on Wednesday 23 May, and *On a Moon Spiced Night* on Wednesday 30 May.

To know where they were released and to read Silvia Muscardin's review of the books log on to <http://www.bookcrossing.com> (copy and paste this web address in the 'address' box in your web software if the link does not seem to work when you click on it) , click on 'books' on the left-hand side of the screen, then on 'search books'. Enter the title (exact words) and the author's name (first name followed by the last name, no need to capitalise) and click on 'search'.

## 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.

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



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



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STRAIGHT • FORWARD  
<http://www.internode.on.net>



# Opportunities

## Call for submissions

*Swings and Roundabouts* (provisional title) is an anthology of poems on parenting. Due for release in 2008, this anthology is open to submissions from published and unpublished New Zealand and Australian poets.

The anthology aims to focus on as many aspects of raising children as possible: the joys, the frustrations, the comedy, the challenges, the merry-go-sorry of tantrums and love. Authors are welcome to submit published or unpublished work, although new work will gain preference. Poems may be up to 100 lines long, and must be printed in size 12 font on one side of A4 paper. The author's name and contact details must be clearly provided on each page. If the poem has been previously published, these details must also be provided. Submissions should be addressed to Emma Neale, Selecting Editor, *Swings and Roundabouts* c/- Random House, Private Bag 102950, North Shore Mail Centre, 18 Poland Road, Glenfield, Auckland 1310

The deadline for submissions is 30 November 2007.

## the Arabesques Review

Celebrating UNESCO's Rumi's 800th Anniversary year, *the Arabesques Review* is now accepting submissions for two special issues on themes: Peace & Humanity (Submissions Deadline: August 15, 2007), and Rumi in Love – a special issue dedicated to love in poetry and English literature. (Submissions Deadline: September 30, 2007).  
<http://www.arabesquespress.org/journal/>

## Second Life Artists Residency

Application closing date: 27 July 2007  
The Australia Council for the Arts is offering up to \$20,000 for a collaborative artist residency in the virtual world of Second Life. The aim of the residency is to offer Australian artists and writers the opportunity to creatively and critically explore new interactive, virtual platforms.

The residency allows for a collaborative team of up to three people (including a writer, musician/sound artist and digital visual media practitioner) to develop interdisciplinary artwork in Second Life.

Applications will be accepted from teams who fulfill all the residency requirements, including having the necessary artform

experience. Artists or writers who have professional experience in more than one of the required artform areas can include this as part of their submission.

Client meetings can be arranged in Second Life through IM\_s to Ricardo Paravane (Ricardo Peach), or by contacting the Inter-Arts Office on (02) 9215 9110 or toll-free: 1800 226 912

For further information visit: <http://www.ozco.gov.au/rez>

## Colloquy

The new issue of *Colloquy* is now online at <http://www.arts.monash.edu/publications/colloquy/>

*Colloquy* is presently seeking unsolicited submissions for Issue 15, a general issue to be published in May 2008. The deadline for Issue 15 is December 15, 2007. They are also seeking submissions for Issue 16, a special issue devoted to Walter Benjamin's 'Critique of Violence,' to be published in November 2008 and edited by Michael FitzGerald. The submission deadline for Issue 16 is March 15, 2008.

## Voiceworks

*Voiceworks* magazine is seeking submissions for issue #70, THIRD PARTY (deadline Sunday 8 July 2007). This could include fiction, poetry, nonfiction, comics, photography, portraiture, digital art / graphic design, illustrations. 3000 word limit (800–2400-word pieces preferred)  
Rates of Pay: Visual art: \$50 for one page, \$100 for two pages or more; poetry: \$60; fiction, nonfiction and columns: \$100.

*Voiceworks* receives funding to publish the work of under 25-year-olds. Go to [www.expressmedia.org.au/voiceworks.php](http://www.expressmedia.org.au/voiceworks.php) for further submission guidelines. Email Ryan Paine at [editor@expressmedia.org.au](mailto:editor@expressmedia.org.au) with any questions, pitches or brilliant ideas.

## Beer Swill Romanticism: a digest

Write quality poetry &/or prose with passion, honesty, subversion, perversion, insanity, heartache, love, nastiness on the brain? If you do, send your words to us at Beer Swill Romanticism  
PO Box 278  
Edwardstown SA 5039

## Free Xpression ...

seeks submissions of short stories (up to 2,500 words – 1,000 preferred) or poems (up to three) to The Editor, PO Box 4, West Hoxton, NSW, 2171.

## Blast

Submissions of poems, critical writing (short stories included) are sought for *Blast* #6, deadline 31 August 2007.

Subscriptions to *Blast* cost \$20 per year for two issues, postage included; cheques payable to *Blast Magazine*; receipts issued.

Submissions and subscriptions to Ann Nugent, *Blast*, PO Box 134, Campbell, ACT, 2612. [anugent@annsverandah.com](mailto:anugent@annsverandah.com)  
More information <http://annsverandah.com/blast/>

## pendulum

Now in its eleventh year, *pendulum* is again looking for your work. *pendulum* is seeking the best in poetry, nonfiction, and short fiction. Be a part of a successful national literary anthology.

Short Fiction/Nonfiction: Maximum 3000 words with maximum 2 pieces per contributor.

Poetry: Maximum 50 Lines with maximum 3 poems per contributor.

Submission deadline is 16th July, 2007

Email:

[pendulum@nims.chisholm.vic.edu.au](mailto:pendulum@nims.chisholm.vic.edu.au)

Hardcopies to: *pendulum*, Professional Writing and Editing Program, Berwick Campus, Chisholm Institute, PO Box 684, Dandenong 3175.

## Positive Words

*Positive Words* magazine is seeking submissions of poetry, short stories & articles for future issues. The special theme for August is 'history' and for September it will be 'Embarrassing Moments' but work on any theme is always welcome. Please include SSAE. Sample copies of the magazine are available by sending \$2.00 in unused stamps to The Editor: Sandra Lynn James, 466 Old Melbourne Road, Traralgon 3844, Victoria.

## Little Ears Children's Magazine

Aimed at 3 to 6 year olds, *Little Ears* magazine is a tool for preschools as well as a reading resource for parents. It brings approximately a dozen stories, written by Australian writers to families

and preschools every two months. Go to [www.littleears.com.au](http://www.littleears.com.au) and read a sneak preview of the printed magazine that will be available in September this year.

### **Insight Presents**

If statistics can be believed, at least one in ten people are anything but straight, so the 'insight presents' radio theatre company in Adelaide, is seeking a queer radio play to record as part of the 2008 Feast Festival.

Feast is the State's annual lesbian and gay cultural festival, usually held over several weeks in November. Further details of the festival can be found on the Feast website at [www.feast.org.au](http://www.feast.org.au).

As part of their commitment to providing entertainment of all genre, 'insight presents' is seeking a half-hour radio play with gay, lesbian, bisexual or transgender (GLBT) themes that would be suitable for a general audience.

The company is currently in the process of selecting plays for their 2008 season, where they intend to participate in the Feast Festival. The successful submission will be paired with a pre-selected gay romantic comedy, with both plays recorded before an audience for national radio broadcast, using live sound effects and music.

Further details about 'insight presents' radio theatre company can be found at [www.insightpresents.com](http://www.insightpresents.com), with all queries and submission to Artistic Director Rod Lewis on 0402 027 891 (international +61 402 027 891) or [rod@insightpresents.com](mailto:rod@insightpresents.com).

### **ASA Medal nominations now open**

Nominations are now open for the ASA Medal 2007. The Medal was inaugurated at the ASA's 40th anniversary in 2003 and is awarded biennially to recognise the achievements of authors (including illustrators) who have made a significant contribution to the Australian community or Australian public life. Deadline: July 31. Full details on how to nominate are available on the ASA website: [www.asauthors.org](http://www.asauthors.org)

### **Aduki Independent Press ...**

is collecting submissions for a publication dedicated to essays. The essays will be printed in a small book format and be

available for retail sale. The concept is to present a range of views and voices as expressions of people's own experience, interpretation and knowledge. The publication will consist of four essays of 5000 words each. The theme for the collection is: altruism

Submissions should be strictly non-fiction, short stories will not be considered. It can be critical thinking, journalistic, argumentative, personal narrative, creative nonfiction, opinion, satire ... use your imagination!

Essays don't necessarily need to be a discussion about the features of altruism, rather, you can relate the notion to any topic or concept. For example, you may choose to explore altruism with regard to our current political or environmental climate, the existence of altruism within your own personal relationships or whether or not non-human species are altruistic.

Four essays will be chosen for publication and the authors will receive payment of AUD\$200 each and two copies of the book.

For your chance to be published send your 5000 word essay to: [essays@aduki.net.au](mailto:essays@aduki.net.au)

OR

Essay Submissions  
aduki independent press  
PO Box 3152  
Doncaster East VIC 3109

Submissions close: Friday 3 August 2007  
at 5pm  
<http://www.aduki.net.au/>

### **The 2007 Boroondara Literary Awards**

With a prize pool of over \$3,000 for the Open Short Story Award and generous prizes for the Young Writers sections get your stories started now. All winning stories and poems are published in an anthology, with selected entries also appearing in the Progress Leader. Entries close Friday 31 August 2007, with winners announced in December. Entry forms can be downloaded from the link below or call Leisure and Cultural services on 9278 4770 or e-mail [bla@boroondara.vic.gov.au](mailto:bla@boroondara.vic.gov.au)

to receive a brochure.

[http://www.boroondara.vic.gov.au/leisure/culture\\_arts/literary\\_program/literary\\_ awards](http://www.boroondara.vic.gov.au/leisure/culture_arts/literary_program/literary_awards)

### **2008 Festival Awards for Literature**

- Premier's award
- John Bray award for poetry
- Award for children's literature
- National award for non-fiction
- Award for fiction
- Award for innovation in writing

The following are specifically for SA writers:

- Award for an unpublished manuscript to be published by Wakefield Press
- Barbara Hanrahan fellowship
- Carclew fellowship
- Jill Blewett playwright's award

Closing: 5pm, Wednesday 31 October 2007

For direct information go straight to the Support and Funding section of Arts SA's website <http://www.arts.sa.gov.au/site/page.cfm?u=4>

### **ABC Radio Short Story Project**

If you're a regional writer and you're eager to be discovered, the opportunity you've been waiting for could be the ABC Radio Short Story Project. The project is open to Australian residents who live outside the metropolitan areas of major capital cities (though writers from Hobart and Darwin are eligible to enter). Stories must be original, previously unpublished and less than 800 words in length. They should be imaginative but need not necessarily be fiction. We're looking for a great yarn that will engage the reader and translate well to radio. Ten winning stories will be produced for radio and broadcast on Radio National and ABC Local Radio stations around Australia. The winning writers will each receive \$700. A further ten runners-up will have their stories published on the ABC website and will receive \$50 ABC Shop gift vouchers. Please check the website after the opening date for further details of entry: [abc.net.au/shortstories](http://abc.net.au/shortstories)  
Closing date: 17 August 2007.

# What's On

## July Poetica

Presented by Mike Ladd

Saturdays at 3.05pm. Repeated at 3.05pm

Thursdays. ABC Radio National.

Program details:

7th *Soft Watches* – an anthology of poems about the relationship of poetry and painting.

14th Venezuela's World Poetry Festival – highlights from the festival recorded in Caracas.

21st Ingrid de Kok – selected works by this exciting South African poet.

29th John Clarke – even more of the *Even More Complete Book of Australian Verse* presented by poetry expert, John Clarke.

## Books. Be in it. AGM

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

## Adelaide Festival of Ideas

The Festival's 2007 theme – which way to the future? – taps into the big issues of the moment: how to meet our future energy and water needs; living in a world where China and India are global super-powers; and balancing security and freedom in an age of terror and uncertainty. Between 5-8 July almost 60 sessions will be held at various venues along North Terrace, Adelaide. More info at the Festival of Ideas web site: [www.adelaidefestivalofideas.com.au](http://www.adelaidefestivalofideas.com.au)

## Gawler Poetry Readings

The Sunday July 29 guest for Gawler's monthly poetry reading is local resident

Helen Lindstrom. All members of the poetry community are welcome to come along and read up to three poems. Poems must be of a reasonable length and not contain pornographic or deliberately offensive material. The readings take place at the Prince Albert Hotel, 109 Murray Street, from 2pm. Any enquiries can be made to Martin or Cathy on 08 8522 4268.

## You are invited to a . . . Pony Party!

For the launch of *The Pony Game* by Robyn Opie. Celebrate with pony rides, face painters, crafts and fun. Book to be launched by Mayor, Mr Harold Anderson, AM, JP. Bookings essential for children aged 4 years and over. (Adults welcome with no booking required.)

For more information or to make a booking please contact the Library Call Centre on 8408 1333.

Friday 20 July 2007 at the Findon Community Centre, 222 Findon Road, Findon from 2.00pm - 4.00pm.

Free

## The Hills Poets

The next meeting of the Hills Poets will be on Sunday 8 July from 3.30 - 5.30 pm. We welcome Miriel Lenore 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.

## Write Around the Murray Arrives

Writers, readers, illustrators, storytellers and everyone – are invited to participate in the first Write around the Murray story festival.

The festival celebrates the opening of Albury's unique Library Museum providing a range of workshops and events to engage writers and the wider community.

The festival will be held from Friday 27 July to Sunday 5 August 2007 with a series of workshops, presentations, writing in contemporary mediums including SMS and LED, Dreamtime stories, and a local writers' expo. A special festival dinner will feature Albury-born author, Charles Waterstreet and Everest survivor, Lincoln Hall will tell his amazing story to close the festival.

Write around the Murray has its own

dynamic website and you can register online for all workshops. To see the full details of our program visit [www.writearoundthemurray.org.au](http://www.writearoundthemurray.org.au)

## BOOK LAUNCHES

### Halfway Human

On Monday July 9th John Hill, Assisting Minister for the Arts, will launch Tony Brooks' latest novel, *Halfway Human*. This is a work of fiction in the form of a historical adventure romance that takes a very different look at Australia's bloodstained convict past. Light refreshments served. 6pm at the SAWC.

### The Worry Tree

Ruth Starke will launch Marianne Musgrove's children's book for 7-10 year olds, *The Worry Tree* (Random House Australia) on Sunday 8 July at 3pm, at Unley Library, 181 Unley Rd, Unley.

There will be:

- children's activities
- a reading
- book signing
- delicious food and drink.

RSVP by Thursday 5 July for catering purposes.

email:

[marianne@mariannemusgrove.com.au](mailto:marianne@mariannemusgrove.com.au)

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# Half a Page with ... Marianne Musgrove

**Marianne Musgrove** is a South Australian children's book writer. Her first novel, *The Worry Tree*, has just been published by Random House Australia, to much whooping and excitement (from the author, at least). It's a funny book about a worrywart who discovers a painting of an old tree beneath the wallpaper in her bedroom. It's a Worry Tree on which she can hang her worries at night.

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

If *The Worry Tree* were made into a film, my dream cast would include Rachel Griffiths as the psychologist mother who makes her children name their feelings, Shaun Micallef as the off-beat scientist father, and Monica Maughan as the nana who's completely over craft class and is ready to blow a gasket if anyone tries to get her to make another self-portrait out of dried macaroni.

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

When I'm feeling Jane Austenian, I write with my fountain pen, but generally, I go

straight to the computer.

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

Alive and kicking. If it weren't for the SAWC and the mentoring I've received from a local children's book author, I would never have got a publishing contract.

## What are you currently reading?

*The Arrival* by Shaun Tan.

## What books have influenced you?

Robin Klein's *Penny Pollard* books, Beverly Cleary's *Ramona* books and pretty much everything by John Marsden.

## Any tips for aspiring writers?

I know of one writer who gives her readers a feedback form in which she asks very specific questions. It means you get more honest, useful feedback.

## What was your worst job ever?

I spent a season picking tomatoes in a glasshouse in Holland. The green dust from the tomato stems got trapped in the scratches on my arms and turned my skin bright green.

## Do you have a non-writing job?

My background is in social work and social policy writing/advocacy.

## What started it all off?

I wrote my first book at the age of eleven – a romantic thriller featuring my unfortunate classmates.

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

In Year Ten, I won an award for the least changed hairstyle. That's pretty hard to top.

## What's your favourite writing fuel?

I keep a notebook of interesting quotes from books and poems I've liked. When I need inspiration, I pick it up and immerse myself in other writers' similes and metaphors, which seems to do the trick – that and a Terry's chocolate orange.



## 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.

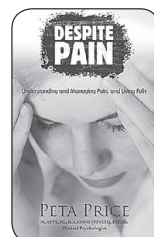
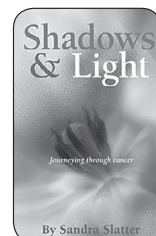
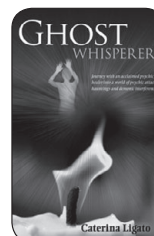
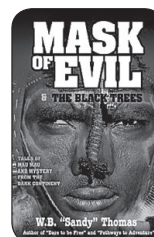
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<http://www.publisher-guidelines.com> and  
<http://www.sidharta.com.au>

*Sid Harta*



# Congratulations...

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

**Cailean Darkwater's** story 'Forsaken' was shortlisted for the RedBubble 'Unleashed' Short Story Prize.

**Erica Jolly's** poem 'An ABC of a decade of Howard's Way' was published on the back page of the April/May edition of *Adelaide Voices*.

**Kami's** poem 'the pointman' was published in *Blue Giraffe* #5.

**Katrina Woodward's** story 'Pain of Forgiveness' was published in *Positive Words* May 2007 issue.

**John Griffin** has won the Open Section of the 2007 Alan Marshall Short Story Award with his short story 'The Satisfying Summer of Burton Yglesias'. The story is available for reading at the sponsors' website [www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au](http://www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au)

**Tim Gaze's** essay 'subatomic' exploration in the literary arts has been translated by Turkish poet Suzan Sari and published at the poetikhars/"parapoetics website: <http://www.poetikhars.com/node/1125>.

**The Pony Game** by Robyn Opie was released as part of Lothian Books' Giggles series in May 2007.

The following Seaside Writers have been successful in the literary world:

**John Trewartha** and **Keith Vinall** have both had a story accepted for the Legacy Anthology *I remember when...* **John Horwood** was invited to write an article for the sesquicentenary of Wandearah North School. He submitted short stories and photographs from his days in a one teacher school.

**John Malone's** poems 'In Which The Dog Loses His Cool', 'The Secret' and 'Woman In An Orange Bathing Suit Staring At The Sea' appear in the following editions of the School Magazine: *Countdown*, *Orbit* and *Touchdown*.

**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.

**Stephen Hall** received a Highly Commended certificate in the Bridge Foundation Writing Competition.

**Alice Shore's** poem 'The Prosperous Nation' was published in *Voice*, no 22.

**Anne-marie Taplin's** gift/parenting book *Being Mummy* was listed in the SA best-sellers list as published in *The Advertiser*, for three weeks, peaking at number three late in May 2007.

**Dave Diss's** letter 'On the nose' condemning Bush's continuing support for Paul Wolfowitz's leadership of the World Bank, despite the scandalous circumstances, was published in *The Fiji Times* on the 18th May, 2007. His letter approving Colin Powell's recommendation that Guantanamo Bay should be immediately closed down was published in *The Sydney Morning Herald* of June 13 2007.

**Stephen Lawrence's** poems 'Lose A Breath, Gain a Breath' And 'Science Haiku' appeared in *The Independent Weekly*, No.137, 26 May - 1 June 2007. His article, 'Treated Unfairly Because Of Your Race?' was published in *Refugee: Official Newsletter of the Australian Refugee Association*, Winter 2007.

**Jill Wherry's** poem 'An Older Woman's Lament' was published in *Prime Ryhme Time*, Coastal Writers, WA.

**Gwenda Jeffrey's** 'Once Long Ago' has been accepted for the next *I Remember When* anthology (Legacy Books).

**Roger Wagstaff** won the humorous Item Section of the Kingaroy Eisteddfod for the second consecutive year.

**rob walker's** next collection *phobiaphobia – poems of fear and anxiety*

('not relaxed and comfortable, John') has been accepted for publication by Picaro Press and will be released later in the year. 'His Making a preposition' and 'Camellia in the bush' appeared in *The Adelaide Review* and *Famous Reporter* respectively. rob also performed work at wordfire and Lee Marvin - An Evening with Ethel Merman.

**David Cookson's** short story 'Fret and Bottleneck' was commended and published in the March edition of *Skive*. His story 'Stickybeak' was published in *Harbinger*, Issue 2.

**Dane Nielsen's** poem 'Not Quite Right' was published in *FreeXpression*, June 2007.

**Jane Turner Goldsmith** has been selected for the Varuna Longlines program. She is the SA Fellowship winner for 2007 and will spend two weeks at Varuna.

**Cameron Fuller** has been accepted for the Poetry Masterclass, and **Heather Tylor Johnson** received a non-residential mentorship.

Congratulations to the Animate Quarterly 3 readers: **rob walker, Mike Ladd, Rachel Mead, Bernice Coen, Gary George, Heather Taylor Johnson and Ben Brooker.**

**Eileen Taylor's** short story 'The Fabulous Fifties' has been accepted for the next *I Remember When ...* anthology.

Correction: Last month *Southern Write* incorrectly credited Margaret Crohn as the author of 'The Things we Love' (*I Remember When*, Vol 2). The author of the story is actually **Margaret Cotton**.

**Tell us about your success!** Email the details of your writing related publication/performance/award to [admin@sawriters.on.net](mailto:admin@sawriters.on.net) or post to PO Box 43, Rundle Mall, Adelaide, 5000 and we'll pop it on this page.



# Literary Competitions...

## ☞ **6 July 2007**

Geraldine Pascall Prize. The \$15,000 prize is given annually to a critic whose work has contributed significantly to public appreciation, enjoyment and understanding of the area or areas of the arts in which he or she is involved. Critics working in all forms of the arts, including areas such as architecture, food and wine, visual and performing arts and literature are encouraged to enter. The critic will be named Pascall Critic of the Year at a function on 25th September in Sydney (venue and time to follow). For further information please visit [www.aussing.com.au](http://www.aussing.com.au) - press button marked 'Pascall Prize'.

## ☞ ★ **15 July 2007**

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

## **27 July 2007**

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

## ☺☞ **27 July 2007**

FAW Sutherland Shire Literary Award 2007. Short Story to 3,000 words. Open Theme. 1st prize: \$150, 2nd Prize: \$100. Poetry to 50 lines. Open Theme, Traditional or Contemporary. 1st prize: \$150, 2nd: \$100. \$5 for each entry or 5 entries for \$20).

- ☺ 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.

## ☺☞ **31 July 2007**

Friendly Street Poets Humorous and Satirical Poetry Competition. Prize \$200 and publication in Friendly Street Reader 32. Entry fee \$5 or \$12 for 3.

## ☺☞ **31 July 2007**

Salisbury Writing Competition 2007. People of all ages are invited to enter the Salisbury Writers' Festival Writing Competition. Whether it is poetry or short stories you write get out your pens and paper, start tapping on those keys and go! Prizes will be awarded for different age categories and genres. You must be a resident of South Australia to enter and work must be previously unpublished. First Prize: \$250. Second Prize: \$125. Third Prize: \$75

## ☺☞ **1 August 2007**

Friendly Street Poets Political Poetry Competition. Prize \$200 and publication in Friendly Street Reader 32. Entry fee \$5 or \$12 for 3.

## **1 August 2007**

Max Harris Poetry Award 2007. Administered by the Poetry and Poetics Centre at the University of South Australia, this national award offers a prize of \$3,000. The winning entry and two unpaid commended entries will receive University of South Australia Max Harris Poetry Award Certificates, which will be presented at an award ceremony in October 2007. The best entries will be published in the Max Harris

Poetry Award poetry collection to be released in 2008. The entry fee is \$10 for one poem and an extra \$5 per poem for up to two additional poems. [www.poetryandpoeticscentre.com](http://www.poetryandpoeticscentre.com) for entry forms and the conditions of entry.

## **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.express-media.org.au](http://www.express-media.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)

## ★☺ **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.

# News and Views

## Poems in Print

Let's celebrate the range of SA publications now featuring poetry either regularly or intermittently.

*The Independent Weekly* just marked a year of its 'Poet's Corner' space on page 2 by having a two-page spread instead. *The Adelaide Review* is publishing poetry again. *Artstate* has a regular Friendly Street page. And *The Advertiser* in its Review section one Saturday in February this year featured 8 poems by 8 poets.

Occasionally we see reviews of poetry collections or articles about poets in the above-mentioned publications and others. Sometimes there are just a few words in quotation marks or with telltale white space around them.

The power of a poem to show the world differently is recognised by editors and readers. It is perceived 'brave' to publish poetry, and it can be brave in any number of ways. Let's encourage those prepared to do it, and others to follow.

David Mortimer

## Young Authors' Night

On Wednesday 20th of June, 170 primary school children from across the state gathered at St Peter's College for Young Authors' Night. With parents and teachers attending, a crowd of around 400 people braved the cold and enjoyed this celebration of young writers and of the art of writing. The Centre has been running this event for many years but this time we had a record attendance. The students ranged from years 5 to 7 and were able to meet published children's authors, with whom they shared their writing. The authors provided positive feedback and each child received a certificate. Some students travelled from the Yorke Peninsula and from the south-east. Also, students from country schools attended workshops at the Centre on the following day. There will be two more Young Authors' Nights this year, one in the south of Adelaide in September and one in the north in October. The Centre is committed to assisting and developing

young writers through events such as this, and now has two volunteer Youth Project Officers. Any young writers interested in receiving information about opportunities and events should contact the Centre.

Thanks to Sean Williams, Jeri Kroll, Ruth Starke, Louise Pike, Alan Tucker, Janine Brian, Phil Cummings for donating books for the raffle and Jane Jolly, Ian Bone and Christine Harris for donating their fees back to the Centre. Thanks also to Doreen Spurdens, Bill Marsh, Jasmine Aquilina and Eleanor Bone for helping out on the night.



Janeen Brian signs autographs



## Norfolk Island Spring Book Festival

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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!**

# Playing – with Chekhov’s Gun

by Anne Bartlett

Anton Chekhov said ‘One must not put a loaded rifle on the stage if no one is thinking of firing it.’ Wikipedia now lists ‘Chekhov’s gun’ as an official literary technique – i.e. the placing of an element early in a story which later becomes significant. But how and when does the writer place the gun in the story? What occurs first to the writer? The loaded gun, or the firing?

As school children we were taught that stories must have a beginning, a middle and an end. The introduction must be clear, the middle section be properly paragraphed (each with a proper introductory sentence) and the conclusion must neatly summarise whatever goes before. Implicit in this process is the presumption that one begins at the beginning and finishes at the end. All very orderly. All very burdensome.

One of the most freeing writing lessons I learned was from Tom Shapcott: the creation of plots is not necessarily a linear process. This now seems patently obvious. Why had I ever assumed otherwise? Perhaps it was because previous school subjects – maths, chemistry, physics – demanded clear linear argument. And before that, in primary school, there was that writing child, bored but obedient, trying to follow the rules for compositions.

Plots, said Tom, can begin anywhere.

What a relief! One might even be allowed to play.

Ha! An image. A bone. The writing starts as fragmentary pieces, disjointed and disconnected, mere sketches. The bone is long and thin. Ah, a human bone. An ulna. Whose ulna is it? As I write about it, exploring the bone and its layers of meaning, the story gains momentum. It becomes a sacred bone, a stolen bone, and eventually a bone of contention. Research leads to sand-hills, to anatomy books, to the South Australian Museum and to a box under a bed. Historical and current events transpose into fiction. As the exploratory writing expands, characters and settings appear. At last there are enough fragments to form a kind of plot, though there are plenty of gaps to fill in. The bone, the initial image, has become the backbone of the story. Eventually, when most of the writing is done, a writer/reader suggests that at the end it may become a broken bone. Yes. Yes.

The great thing about the fragmentary approach is that it’s playing. It doesn’t have to be too serious. Let’s write about this and see how it goes. Let’s take this character out for the day, let’s go to the zoo and see what happens. This kind of ordinary exercise – this mucking around

– can end up as part of the main action, or trigger other things. Sometimes there are surprises. Recently one of my characters, unanticipated, began to tell whopping lies. This deception, the laying of truth and lie, may well become a core issue in the work – but this was only discovered through the act of writing.

It’s starting that’s important. The only way to start is to start. It doesn’t matter where or how. An image or an event that has hovered for a while is a good place to begin. We may have to do a fair bit of writing to get to the writing that matters. This initial writing – writing that Eva Sallis calls ‘scaffolding’ – enables us to reach the core material. It’s often the first writing, and during later editing is likely to be stripped away. But let us not despise scaffolding. It is necessary for reach.

Gillie Bolton, senior research fellow in Medicine and the Arts at King’s College London University, and a teacher of reflective work practice, suggests that as a gift to ourselves we write rapidly and without thinking for fifteen minutes a day. For us, this means writing about writing. How is your current work going? Or your relationship with publishers? Write about that. Fifteen minutes gives us a chance to get below the superficial busyness of our minds into deeper territory, where clarification and discovery are possible. On her web page Bolton quotes French philosopher and literary theorist Jean-François Lyotard; ‘We write before knowing what to say and how to say it, and in order to find out, if possible.’


The bone story? I played with it for eighteen months and it became a novel. But it had a major problem which seemed impossible to resolve. And then at Writers’ Week there was Nick Jose, whom I was yet to meet, talking about his new novel, a bone story. A sacred stolen bone. Chekhov’s gun went off and shot me in the heart.

But it’s OK. I was only playing.

*Anne Bartlett is working on a new novel set in South Australia, and is an Honorary Visiting Research Fellow at the University of Adelaide.*



**‘The great thing about the fragmentary approach is that it’s playing. It doesn’t have to be too serious... Let’s take this character out for the day, let’s go to the zoo and see what happens.’**



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## Southern Write Newsletter July 2007

COPY DEADLINE  
August 2007:  
15 July 2007

### SA Writers' Centre Inc: Providing resources, support & encouragement for SA Writers Fostering the development of writing culture in South Australia

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The SA Writers' Centre is assisted by the Australian Government through the  
Australia Council, its arts funding and advisory body.

#### Opening Hours:

9.30am–5pm Monday–Friday  
Wheelchair/lift access is available at  
26 York Street – rear entrance  
Stairs at 187 Rundle Street, Adelaide, 5000