

southern

write

Newsletter of the SA Writers' Centre Inc

July 2009

Anthology Launch

The SA Writers' Centre is very proud to announce the launch of the first anthology to come out of the Writer-in-Residence for People with Disabilities program, funded by the Richard Llewellyn Disability Trust.

Gateways, to be launched at 2pm on **Thursday 23 July** at the SA Writers' Centre, features writing from sixteen of the writers who have worked with Writer-in-Residence, Malcolm Walker, since the program began late in 2008. It has been edited by Malcolm and Rachel Hennessy.

Richard Maurovic, author of *The Meat Game*, said: 'People living with disabilities are often forced to face up to philosophical truths most people can avoid until they're old. Every day is full of possibility for misunderstanding, embarrassment,

disappointment or rage. Engaging with the world opens up the realisation of one's limitations. As a result, writers living with a disability have a head start to literary greatness, if only they get past all the practical disadvantages. For these and other reasons, it is wonderful the incredibly productive life of Richard Llewellyn is to be memorialised by giving voice to South Australian writers with disability.'

Published by Seaview Press and West Press printers, *Gateways* will be launched by **Ali Carle** (pictured) from Triple M radio's breakfast show. Ali, an ambassador for several charities, is passionate about the welfare of people with disabilities, having grown up with an intellectually disabled brother.



To RSVP to the launch of *Gateways* please call Jude on 8223 7662.

Awards Ahoy! Entries Open

Entries for the 2010 Adelaide Festival Awards for Literature are now open. Every two years the awards and fellowships are announced during Adelaide Writers' Week and there really is something for every kind of writer. So, nominate or enter the following categories:

Premier's award: this award is given by the judging panel to the best overall published work (applicants cannot self-nominate in this category).

Children's literature award: for a published children's book, fiction or nonfiction. The book must have a substantial literary content.

Fiction award: for a published novel or collection of short stories.

Innovation award: for a published book which departs from the conventional

use of genre by borrowing elements from a number of genres such as fiction, nonfiction, biography, autobiography, poetry or cultural criticism.

Nonfiction award: for a published work of nonfiction demonstrating outstanding literary style.

Awards and fellowships for South Australian writers:

Jill Blewett playwright's award: supports the creative development of a play by a South Australian emerging writer with the assistance of the State Theatre Company of South Australia.

Unpublished manuscript award: includes a cash prize along with publication of the winning manuscript by Wakefield Press. Book-length manuscripts of nonfiction, fiction and poetry are eligible.

John Bray poetry award: for a published collection of poetry.

Barbara Hanrahan fellowship: open to writers working in the areas of fiction, poetry, drama, scriptwriting, autobiography, essays, major histories, literary criticism or other expository or analytical prose.

Carclew fellowship: open to writers for young people working in the genres of fiction, drama, poetry or screenwriting.

Nominations close 5pm on **Friday 30 October 2009**. Guidelines and application forms can be downloaded from the Arts SA website at www.arts.sa.gov.au. For further information contact Sandra Naulty at naulty.sandra@dpc.sa.gov.au or phone 08 8463 5455. And good luck!

Centre Information

Contributions

Thanks to the following people and organisations who donated books to the Centre:

• **Patrick Allington**, *Figurehead*, Black Inc., 2009.

• **Elia Vasilie Apostol**, *Eros: Poems written in May*, 2009.

• **Jude Aquilina** for Jim Puckridge, *Singing the Sea*, 2009.

• **Prithvindra Chakravarti**, *Man Moon Earth*, Ginninderra Press, 2009.

• **Lyll Chittleborough**, *Dissent: An Australia in Allegory*, Seaview Press, 2009.

• **Ray Clift**, *The Journey of Hamlin Baylis Wells*, Ginninderra Press, 2009.

• **Frank Gemignani**, *Patterns of Living 2401-2500*, 2009.

• **Henley Scribblers**, *Thinking Outside the Square*, 2009.

• **Kensington and Norwood Writers Group**, *Writers on Parade*, vol.2, no.1, Autumn 2009.

• **Carol Lefevre**, *Nights in the Asylum*, Picador, 2007 and *If You Were Mine*, Vintage, 2008.

• **Eris MacDonald**, *Australian Poetry Markets and Competitions*, 5th Edition, 2008; *Australian Short Fiction Competitions*, 6th Edition, 2008; *Australian Short Fiction Markets*, 8th Edition, 2008.

• **Meanjin Quarterly**, vol.68, no.2, Winter, 2009.

• **Marianne Musgrove**, *Don't Breathe a Word*, Random House Australia, 2009.

• **Overland**, iss. 195, 2009.

• **Graham Rowlands**, *Collected Poems*, Lythrum Press, 2009.

• **John R Sabine**, *Around the World in Eighty Ways*, Ginninderra Press, 2009.

• **Sonya Spreen Bates**, *Marsh Island*, illustrated by Kasia Charko, Orca Book Publishers, 2009.

• **Ruth Starke**, *Thorpey*, illustrated by Katie Jardine, Omnibus Scholastic, 2009.

• **Wet Ink**, iss. 15, June, 2009.

SA Writers' Centre Life Members

• Max Fatchen

• Gillian Rubinstein/Lian Hearn

Our Thanks

Thanks to Jade Carrick, Jennie Anne Cumming, Jo Dey, Coie and John Dikkenberg, Catherine Jones, John Malone, Gay Sanderson, Joel Shayer, Alice Sladdin, Peggy Spry, Daniel Taylor, Ken Vincent and Kate Wise for their assistance in mailing the June newsletter to all our members.

Disclaimer

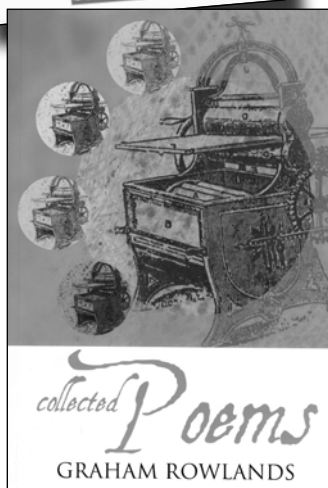
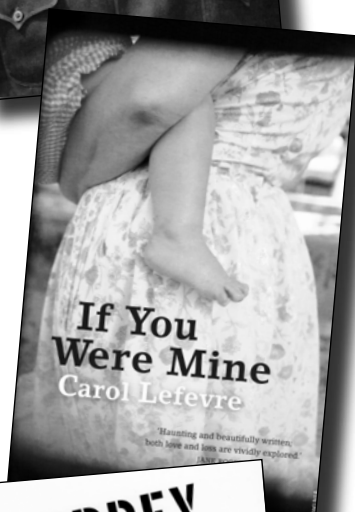
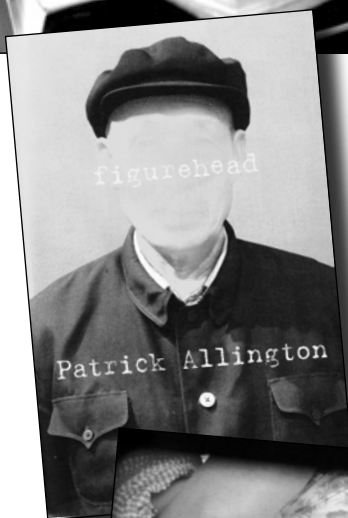
The information in this publication is presented in good faith as a service to SA Writers' Centre members. While the information is believed to be correct, the Centre takes no responsibility for its accuracy. No liability is accepted for any statements of opinion or any error or omission. Advertising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

Wheelchair/Lift Access to SAWC

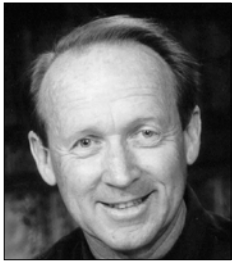
Wheelchair access to the SA Writers' Centre is available at the 26 York Street rear entrance. Alternatively, come in from Rundle Street via Caffè Brunelli, proceed towards the toilets and take the door to your left to reach the lift.



Thanks to SAWC sponsor:



Upcoming Workshops



Writing and Publishing Memoirs

with David Harris
Saturday 18 July, 10am-5pm
(1 hour lunchbreak)

Do you have a story that simply won't go away and leave you alone? This workshop is for anybody who wants to learn more about how to write a memoir as a page-turner and get it published. It doesn't matter if you're just beginning, or in the muddly middle, or have finished a draft. As long as you have the determination to make your book the best it can be, then you'll have an inspiring, entertaining and challenging day. Biographies, autobiographies, family, local and corporate histories are all welcome.

Be warned: after the workshop, you may find yourself madly rewriting, interrupted by outbursts of rage and cravings for chocolate, brandy or ... whatever.

The workshop is based on the most FAQs writers ask about memoirs, such as: Where do I begin? How do I turn a list of dusty facts into a story? How do I bring characters alive? What if I unearth a scandal? What if I've got too little evidence or so much that I get lost in the middle of the forest? How creative can I be in mixing 'fact' and 'fiction'? How can I improve my writing of other times and places so that they become real and fascinating for the readers? How can I make my book appeal to the readers I have in mind? What's the best way to publish my book and how do I go about it?

David Harris has a number of books published in the area of memoir, biography and corporate history. His latest series, *Time Raiders* (ABC Books) are memoirs of famous archeologists written as adventure books for younger readers. He is hard at work on his next series, *Secret Lives*, which imaginatively recreate the lost childhoods of famous people from the past. David also offers a ten-assignment course for the writing of memoirs. The assignments are individually designed for each writer and are to be done at the writer's pace. The cost is \$495 and details are on the Writing Courses page of his website: david@davidharris.com.au

All Day Workshop:
\$85 for SAWC members or \$100 for non-members
Please note: fee does not include lunch
Bookings: 08 8223 7662, sawriters@sawc.org.au or www.sawc.org.au

Copy deadline for *Southern Write*

5pm, 15 July 2009 (for August issue)

Email material to: comms@sawc.org.au

Post to: 'Attention Editor', PO Box 43,

Rundle Mall Adelaide 5000

Repeated due to demand:



Writing an Outstanding Book Proposal

with Lolo Houbein
Saturday 18 July, 10am-1pm

You have finished a book manuscript, surpassing your own expectations of your abilities, but to convince a literary agent or publisher's editor that it is worth their consideration you must creep through the eye of a needle. You want your work read and to be told it is publishable. We will discuss this David vs Goliath situation, what to offer, how to present your book as fitting into the literature already out there or as a unique work. Psychological aspects, tone, expectations, availability and re-starts will be examined. Places are limited due to the creation of a waiting list from the June workshop so book early to avoid disappointment again.

Lolo Houbein has written articles, short stories, a multicultural writers' bibliography and six books. Her novel *Walk A Barefoot Road* won the ABC/Bicentennial Award and became an 18-part radio bookreading. *Wrong Face in the Mirror* was awarded the Dirk Hartog Award for Migration Literature and translated into Dutch. *Lily Makes A Living* was Commended for the Jim Hamilton Award. Her most recent books are *Tibetan Transit* (travel/history) and *One Magic Square, Grow Your Own Food on One Square Metre* (Wakefield Press). She has no literary agent.

Workshops: \$55 for SAWC members or \$77 for non-members
Bookings: 08 8223 7662, sawriters@sawc.org.au or www.sawc.org.au

Handbook for SA Writers

Everything you've ever wanted to know about writing - from the synopsis to the role of agent and publisher

\$25 or \$20 for members of SAWC

www.sawriters.on.net

(08) 8223 7662 sawriters@sawriters.on.net

A Lively AGM

Barbara Wiesner, SAWC Director, reports on the June Annual General Meeting.

The 25th Annual General Meeting of the SA Writers' Centre was the most well attended for a long while. Over 60 members came along, with about 30 turning up early for pizza and wine. It was wonderful to see a combination of long-term and recently signed-up members, and the seminar room was soon full-to-bursting with people.

The AGM commenced with reports from the Chair, Bronwen Webb, who, as detailed in the June edition of *Southern Write*, highlighted two concerns that have occupied the Board over the last year: the shift in the Australia Council's Key Organisation funding criteria towards a proposed 'national' model and the relationship between the local writing community and Adelaide Writers' Week. Treasurer Mag Merrilees then reported on the financial situation, which remains healthy, although dependent on grant funding. I delivered my Director's report, emphasising the positive support

that the SAWC receives from its members and so many local and national organisations. Following this, Board member, Ken Vincent, led the meetings through the numerous changes to the SAWC Constitution which, it turned out, many members were keen to express their opinions on. After a lively debate, one amendment was tabled. The rest of the Constitutional changes went through unchallenged.

Next, the five members nominating for the Board delivered short speeches highlighting their areas of interest and expertise. The vote was taken and four new members were elected onto the Board: Nan Halliday, Louise Nicholas, Amy Matthews and Ray Tyndale. We all look forward to their contributions.

Finally, a motion of confidence in the SA Writers' Centre and its staff was tabled. It was carried unanimously and those present gave a generous round of applause.

Tribute to Allan Jones

From Jennie Cumming for The Marion Library Writers' Group.

Allan Jones, a cheerful and enthusiastic member of the Marion Library Writers' Group, died of a heart attack on the 8 May 2009 at the age of 70 while travelling home from a Rostrum Club meeting.

Allan spent 45 years teaching in Papua New Guinea until retiring as principal of Cameron Secondary School at Alotau in December 1999. Several of Allan's ex-students from PNG travelled to Adelaide for his funeral and all spoke warmly of him as being a consistently fair and supportive teacher and a person dedicated to serving the community.

When Allan returned to his home city of Adelaide with his beloved dog, Goofy, he was able to join two writing groups, a book club, and Rostrum, as well as doing volunteer work at a nursing home, maintaining social contact with Adelaide's PNG community and writing scripts for a London-based charity that provides

interactive DVD lessons for developing societies. With all of that he still managed to attend Crows and Sturt football matches and had a keen interest in all sports. His short stories covered topics as diverse as wrestling, tennis, horse racing, genetic engineering and flawed teleportation machines.

'Inspirational', 'endearing', 'generous' and 'a true gentleman' are some of the words that members of the Marion Library Writers' Group used in tributes to Allan. His quirky sense of humour and stories of scams, pranks and tricksters are sadly missed.

Vale Allan.



SA Writers' Centre Inc

Annual Report 2008/2009



Copies of the Annual Report are now available on our website: www.sawc.org.au

Dymocks and Parallel Importation

There has been much press surrounding the lifting of import restrictions on books, including petitions by the Coalition for Cheaper books, headed by Dymocks. This does not state that Dymocks is a franchise and that the views are of the franchisor, and not necessarily those of the franchisees.

As a franchisee I am concerned about local authors, publishers and content and believe that removal of these restrictions will change the buying patterns of consumers to the detriment of Australian authors and publishers. Cheaper is not always better. We need to pay more for many things, for example to protect the rights of workers, the environment and many others. As a consumer I am prepared to pay more to continue to see Australian voices and stories represented in our stores.

I will continue to support Australian writers and publishers, as I have done in the past, and hope to continue to be involved in local events such as the Young Writers' Nights and the Salisbury Writers' Festival.

Annie Steven
Franchisee, Dymocks Northpark

Manuscript Development

The 2009 QWC/Hachette Australia Manuscript Development Program for Fiction Writers is now open. Last year, SAWC member Phillipa Fioretti participated in this program and was offered a two-book publishing contract by Hachette Australia.

This program has been created for emerging Australian authors of fiction who are either unpublished or have no more than one significant work commercially published. Up to 10 emerging fiction writers will work with publishers from Hachette Australia to develop high-quality fiction manuscripts. The program runs for five days. In that time, participants will consult the publishers, work on their manuscripts and hear about the publishing industry from professionals such as literary agents, booksellers and established authors. The program runs at a retreat location in south-east Queensland in November 2009.

Participants will need to arrange for their own travel to and from Brisbane and pay \$250 towards food and board.

Applicants must send three copies of the first 50 pages of their manuscript, plus three copies of a one-page synopsis. The program is looking for strong commercial fiction, including contemporary women's fiction, crime and speculative fiction. Manuscripts for children or young adult readers are ineligible.

Each application will be considered by a panel of experienced readers from within the publishing industry who will

recommend a shortlist. From the shortlist, up to 10 manuscripts will be selected in consultation with the Hachette Australia publishers. Successful applicants must be ready to send their completed manuscripts within 72 hours of being notified of selection for the program.

There is a \$50 application fee per submission. The deadline for submission is last post 24 July 2009. The manuscript development retreat will run in south-east Queensland from 20-25 November 2009. Go to www.qwc.asn.au/ to download the application forms or call 07 3839 1243.

\$38,000 FOR YOUNG ARTISTS TO SPREAD THEIR WINGS

Applications are now open for young artists aged 26 and under to apply for the 2010 South Australian Youth Arts Board (SAYAB) Scholarships. There are four available: two in creative writing and one each for performing arts and visual arts.

The SAYAB scholarships are especially for emerging artists who have discovered their professional wings and now seek support to spread them. Applications close 1 August 2009. Artists should visit www.sayab.org.au to complete a simple five-step application.

Past Winners include:

•2009 - Gemma Sneddon, Independent Art Foundation Creative Writing Scholarship; to undertake six months writing to build professional writing practice and work with mentor Sean Riley.

•2009 - Claire Richards, Colin Thiele Creative Writing Scholarship; to undertake a course of professional development focusing on writing picture books for children and to work with mentor Penny Matthews.

For further information please contact the South Australian Youth Arts Board (SAYAB) on 08 8361 9777 or visit www.sayab.org.au

The Henley Scribblers

Angie Roberston, President of Henley Scribblers, gives an update on the group's activities as they launch their seventh anthology, *Thinking Outside the Square*.



Anne Bartlett launching the Henley Scribblers anthology

The Henley Scribblers seventh anthology of stories and poems was launched by Anne Bartlett on Sunday 24 May at the SA Writers' Centre.

This book is something of a celebration for the Scribblers as it is twenty years since we had our first meeting at the Over 50s at Henley. The group has persevered over the years and published a great many stories and poems in our anthologies, many of which have been the work of first-timers. Every issue has provided a new challenge and there is always promise of further growth.

The Scribblers are an independent writing group and function without grants. As the name suggests, we are scribblers and have a diverse and engaging mix of tales in our latest publication. We are constantly on the lookout for new writers and would welcome any enquiries.

The Scribblers are diverse in both age and culture and if you would like to know more about us please direct your inquiries to our Secretary, Lettie Banfield, on 8356 7812. She will be happy to talk to you.

Writing on the Wild Side:

Astrid Cooper, award-winning author, takes us through the history, and current state, of an increasingly popular genre.



The seductive stroke of a feather across naked flesh, velvet fur rubbing against a cheek, the silken strands of raven hair running through trembling fingers

... just an average day for some.

Vampires, shapeshifters, zombies, demons ... where the heroines kick butt and the heroes need saving! Where the sensuality sizzles and the spine tingles, where fangs pierce and screams rent the night air ... Welcome to the world of DUF.

Bookshop shelves are groaning under the weight of all things paranormal, with DUF (dark urban fantasy – with or without romance) regularly hitting the *New York Times* best-seller list and Hollywood is jumping on board to delight theatre-going audiences with all things that go bump in the night. DUF is known by many names, depending on who you speak to in the industry. In the romance market, it's better known as 'paranormal'. Putting a label on any genre of fiction is difficult and it's rare to find consensus among readers and writers, so within this article, DUF and paranormal will be interchangeable and it is hoped this causes no confusion. There is, of course, a vast difference between DF (dark fantasy), DUF, DUF with romantic elements and paranormal romance.

Just a few short years ago, my romantic DUF was rejected by a New York agent and a publisher because 'no one wants to read about vampires'. How times have changed! What is the appeal of the paranormal? For the reader, or writer, human nature is at its most interesting when the protagonist is mad, bad and dangerous to know. To quote from *Star Wars*: 'never underestimate the dark side ...'

Dark fantasy (whether urban or not) is nothing new. The gothic novels of the 18th and 19th centuries were the precursors to

the modern incarnation. These days, the protagonist may be human, alien, a shapeshifter (the wolf, cat, or dragon is common), a netherworld creature or the ever-popular vampire (which made its debut in fiction with the publication of Polidori's *The Vampyre* in 1819). Currently, the hero/heroine is a policeman or a PI whose ironic temperament and language owes more to the 1930s detective, Philip Marlowe (and all things noir) than the 'gothic' hero.

paranormal romance writers have been trying to redeem the vampire hero ever since Mina Harker stated (of Dracula): 'his is the saddest soul of all ...'

DUF underwent a fundamental change when some romance writers 'discovered' it. Move over Marlowe: Anita Blake, vampire hunter, has arrived! The feisty, kick-butt heroine impaled monsters while battling her attraction to Mr. TDH* hero, who might just be a vampire or werewolf. The new interpretation derived from such TV shows as: *Buffy – The Vampire Slayer*, *Charmed*, *Angel*, *The X-Files* and the cult movie *The Lost Boys*. Vampires are not universally popular, but paranormal romance writers have been trying to redeem the vampire hero ever since Mina Harker stated (of Dracula): 'his is the saddest soul of all ...'

The HEA of romance novels has the hero saved or the heroine 'turned' to be with her immortal lover. (The HEA, or 'happily ever after' ending is one that defines a romance, setting it apart from other genres, although some publishers no longer insist on the HEA). The combination of the paranormal (dark fantasy) and romance is still pushing the boundaries: writers such as Laurell K Hamilton, Christine Feehan, Sherrilyn Kenyon and Australia's Keri Arthur, regularly feature on best-selling lists. Stephenie Meyer's *Twilight* series caters for the YA penchant for all things dark,

*For the uninitiated this stands for Tall, Dark, Handsome ...



and now zombies are stalking the literary world with latest releases *The Forest of Hands and Teeth* by Carrie Ryan and Seth Graham-Smith's *Pride and Prejudice and Zombies*.

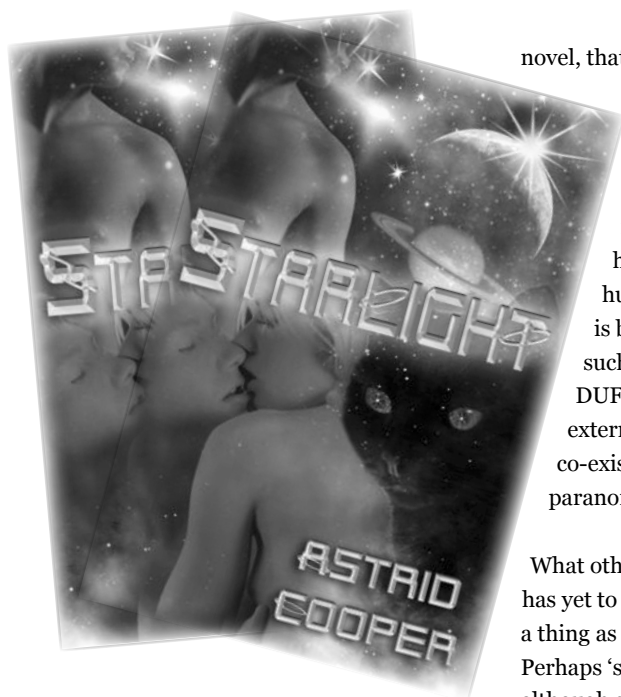
Who publishes DUF/romance?

It would be better to ask: who does NOT? Before the arrival of digital publishers, the traditional print publishers produced a few paranormal, futuristic and fantasy romances. It was, to a great extent, the booming sales of DUF in e-books that brought all things paranormal to the attention of the mainstream.

Who writes it?

Just about every author I know is writing something 'paranormal'. I've always written the romantic DF and its appeal, for me, is the level of characterisation I can develop while exploring the meaning of being 'human', as seen from the perspective of the non-human protagonist – whether that character is a vampire, a shapeshifter, an alien – the commentary on humanity's foibles is irresistible.

Dark Urban Fantasy



On the flip side of the coin (literally), some authors have unashamedly revealed that they write the paranormal because they make money. By combining it with hot sex, it sells, no matter who the publisher is. I know some e-book authors who are earning US\$10,000+ a year from their paranormal/romance/erotica.

How to write it?

DUF (with or without the romance) can be broken down into two categories: where the otherworldly exist in secret within the human world (for example, Feehan's Carpathian series) or where they exist in full knowledge of humans (for example, Arthur's Reilly Jensen series or Hamilton's Anita Blake series). The latter has become the DUF 'standard', where government agencies have been established to monitor the behaviour of paranormal events or creatures and where the cop/PI is either a paranormal creature or hunts the rogue undead. In all instances, however, setting plays a pivotal role. Anne Rice made vampires and New Orleans synonymous and for a time most authors used New Orleans as their city of choice. Whatever the locale, the setting is brooding, sometimes Gotham City-ish or sometimes a different 'take' on an established setting (such as Portland in Devon Monk's *Magic to the Bone*). Indeed, such is the importance of place in the DUF

novel, that it has been called the 'third character'. Tension, as in any work of fiction, is an important factor and it is not necessarily only derived from the uneasy relationship between hero and heroine (particularly if one is human and the other not, or if one is battling his/her hybrid nature: such are common to romance). In DUF the suspense also derives from externals, for example, the uneasy co-existence between humans and the paranormal within the same society.

What other settings are available? Space has yet to be fully explored. Is there such a thing as DSF (dark space fantasy)? Perhaps 'space opera' might be a candidate, although some SF purists may disagree. Never one to be shy about going boldly, my latest book, *Starlight*, is sensual space opera — think *Casanova* meets *Star Trek* — where the characters are both human and alien, where there are shapeshifters and even the cameo appearance of a vampire. The book has proven popular among readers who wanted that 'something different'.

To invigorate the genre, some authors and publishers have pushed the boundaries of sex towards the taboo

Returning to earth, within DUF there is also an even darker market. What is known to some as the 'kill junkie', where graphic violence and death is combined with eroticism. Here the author must not only produce explicit death details, but research into the tools of the trade (guns, knives, etc.) is crucial. This sub-genre is not for the faint-hearted.

Has DUF had its day?

Years ago, the genre was fresh and exciting but from the recent spate of titles nothing really new has emerged. There is a sameness of characterisation and plot, whereas years ago it was fresh and alive with the undead. To invigorate the genre, some authors and publishers have pushed the boundaries of sex towards the taboo —

to such a degree that a couple of digital publishers in the USA have been legally investigated for the subject matter of their books. One was closed down.

What's in store for DUF?

My crystal ball is dark. DUF will remain a fiction genre whose popularity will wax and wane but as with all genre fiction the secret ingredients have to be characterisation, plot and damn good writing that pushes the boundaries and challenges and inspires the reader.

Want to know more?

Google wikipedia and 'darkurbanfantasy'. An excellent article is located at <http://juno-books.com/blog/?p=410>

Astrid Cooper is an award-winning author whose DF romance hit the best-seller list twice at Adelaide Dymocks. Her most recent sale is a romantic DF for the *Masques* anthology published by Canberra Speculative Fiction Guild. Her novel, *Starlight*, was voted no. 1 erotic romance at fictionwise.com. Both books are available in selected bookshops, or contact the author. Her website is www.astridcooper.com

In Kapunda on 13 September 2009 she will be running a day called 'Creating Words and Images: Writing and Publishing in the 21st Century'. Rosanne Hawke, Brendan Carson, Sandra Uray-Kennett and Myriam Bsutama will share their experience during panel discussions, individual workshops and more. For information email asti8@bigpond.com

Graphic 'Follow Me' by Martine Jardin: www.martinejardin.com



W h a t ' s O n



ABC
Radio National

Poetica July Program

Poetica is presented by Mike Ladd on Saturday at 3.05pm and repeated 3.05pm on Thursdays.

- 4 July Charles Wright: selected works by the American poet.
- 11 July Michael Longley, Northern Irish poet.
- 18 July Poets of P.N.G, Part 1: Apisai Enos, Nora Vagi Brash and Russell Soaba.
- 25 July Poets of P.N.G. Part 2: Matabuna Tahun, Steven Winduo, Melissa Aigulo and Raymond Lugabai.

For further details visit the website at www.abc.net.au/rn/arts/poetica/

Thurs 2 July: Meet the Author

From 7.30pm at Mostly Books, Belair, meet James Smith, author of *Bubbles*, *Bottles and Colonial Bastards: A History of Sparkling Wine in Australia*. \$10 per ticket and bookings are essential. Phone 8373 5190 or email: mostlybooks@internode.on.net

Thurs 2 July-Sat 4 July: Theatre Performances

Amelia Walker's haiku sequence 'Airport' from her recently launched poetry collection, *Just Your Everyday Apocalypse* has been adapted for the stage by Kym Berg and young actors from Urban Myth Theatre of Youth. It will be performed as part of 'Out Of The Boot' with three other plays by local young writers: *X* by Sarah Dunn, *The Trees* by Alysha Hermann and *Perfidy* by Gemma Sneddon. Performances at Holden Street Theatres, Hindmarsh. \$15 full/\$10 concession. Book at [Venuetix 8225 8888](http://Venuetix.com.au).

Wed 8 July: 'Just Enough Dangerous' Poetry Tour

Rhys Rogers from Queensland is performing from 6-9pm at Higher Ground, 9 Light Square, City. The gig also features local poets Jenny Toune, Nicola Allison, Avalanche, Charles Crompton, Amy Bodossian, Matthew Smith, Aleish Heikkinen and Amelia Walker. For more information email rhys.rogers@gmail.com or mealzisl0st@yahoo.com or join the new Adelaide Poetry Gig Guide on Facebook.

Thurs 9 July-Sun 12 July: 6th Adelaide Festival of Ideas

Held at venues along North Terrace in Adelaide. Go to: www.adelaidefestivalofideas.com.au for a full program.

Sun 12 July: Hills Poets

The next meeting of the Hills Poets will be at 3.30pm at the Bridgewater Inn, Mt Barker Road, Bridgewater. Guest readers are Martin Johnson and Cathy Young. Ring Jill Gower on 8339 5119.

Sun 12 July: 'Sunday with SAWT'

Features a script-in-hand performance of *A Mum's Day* by Jean Mann plus two monologues, *Tom* by Tony Moore and *Two's Company ...* by Meg Roberts. Guest speaker is Martin Christmas. Admission is \$10 (pay at door) and includes soup, buttered roll, guest speaker and the performance. Starting at 1pm at Holden Street Theatre, Hindmarsh (next to Hindmarsh Stadium).

Wed 15 July: SA Writers' Theatre General Meeting

The meeting will commence with ten-minute readings of first-draft scripts followed by the reading of a new script, *Night of the Four-sided Circle (Part 2)* by Gordon Davies. From 7pm at the SA Writers' Centre. Go to www.sawt.org.au

Thurs 16 July: NEW Inc

The next meeting will be held from 7.30-9.30pm at the Tea Tree Gully Memorial Hall. Guest speaker this month will be Bob Kearney, author of *Crossfire*, *Flashback* and *Silent Voices*. Enquiries to Ken 8380 5348 or Sharon 0403 831170.

Thurs 23 July: Author's Den at the Burnside Library

From 10.30am meet local authors Dean Lahn (*Beat heat eat*), Don Loffler (*Me and My Holden*) and Ranjit Ratnaika (*Saradasi: the Prophecy*). Each author will talk about what they like to read and what made them write their books. All books for sale after the session. Morning tea available. Cost is \$3 per person.

Sun 26 July: Poetry Group

All poets are welcome to join the Mostly Books Poetry Group, held on every fourth Sunday from 2-4pm at the Mitcham Square Shopping Centre. Enquiries 8373 5190 or email: mostlybooks@internode.on.net

Tues 28 July: Andy Griffith

Andy Griffith will be releasing *Just MacBeth* from 6.30-7.30pm. Free event at Domain Theatre, Marion Cultural Centre Library. Bookings essential at the Marion Cultural Centre Box Office on 8375 6855. For more information visit the website: www.marion.sa.gov.au.

Wed 29 July: Book Launch

Figurehead by Patrick Allington will be launched by J.M. Coetzee from 6.30pm at the SA Writers' Centre. All welcome.

Sun 2 Aug: SA Writers' Theatre Sunday Workshop

The workshop of a new play, *Obsession*, by Paula Carter, will take place from 2-5pm at Holden Street Theatre, Hindmarsh. Admission is free. Go to www.sawt.org.au

Mon 3 Aug: Tony Park

Tony Park is the author of *Silent Predator*, *Far Horizon*, *Zambezi*, *African Sky*, *Safari* and will be releasing his latest book, *Ivory*, at the Marion Cultural Centre's Domain Theatre from 7.30-8.30pm. Free event. Bookings at the box office on 8375 6855.

Thurs 6 Aug: Meet the Author

From 7.30pm at Mostly Books, Belair, meet Janine Evans, author of *2 Veil or Not 2 Veil*, back by popular demand! \$10 per ticket and bookings are essential. Phone 8373 5190 or email: mostlybooks@internode.on.net

Sat 8 Aug: Friendly Street 'Writing Bush Poetry and Performance' Seminar

Presented by Anne Rogers and Jill Wherry. From 2-4 pm at the SA Writers' Centre. Cost is \$30 full price/\$25 concession. Includes afternoon tea. Bookings through poetry@friendlystreetpoets.org.au

Opportunities

Call for Submissions: The Best Australian Stories 2009

Send one story — recent work only, published or unpublished — to the address below. Previously published work must have been published after 1 August 2008. Send to: Delia Falconer, c/- Black Inc., Level 5, 289 Flinders Lane, Melbourne, VIC 3000. The deadline for submissions is 1 August 2009. Due to the number of submissions received, stories cannot be returned and the editor is unable to comment on individual stories.

John Marsden Prize for Young Australian Writers

For poetry and short story winners under 18 years old, \$500 is awarded each. For 18-24 year olds, the first place short story will gain \$2500 and poetry \$1000. All first place winners will be printed in the December issue of *Voiceworks*. Entry is free for all applicants under 18. And for 18-24 year olds, the \$10 entry fee includes free Express Media Membership plus an exclusive monthly newsletter on events, grants and competitions. Entries close 5pm Friday 28 August 2009. For more information, including the entry form, please visit www.expressmedia.org.au

Closing Date Reminders:

2009 'The Nib': CAL Waverley

Library Award for Literature

Deadline: 10 July 2009. Go to www.waverley.nsw.gov.au/library/award

Adelaide Review Short Fiction Comp.

Deadline: 10 July 2009. Entry forms available at www.adelaidereview.com.au

Max Harris Poetry Award

Deadline: 15 July 2009. Please visit www.poetryandpoeticscentre.com

National Play Festival 2010

Deadline: 31 July 2009. PlayWriting Australia website: www.pwa.org.au

The Text Prize for Young Adult and Children's Writing

Deadline: 31 July 2009. Go to www.textpublishing.com.au

Gwen Harwood Poetry Prize

Run each year by *Island* magazine, the closing date for entries is Tuesday 1 September 2009. For a single poem or suite of linked poems not longer than 80 lines. First Prize is \$1500 plus three minor prizes of \$150 each. Judges are Sarah Day and Tim Thorne. Official entry form required. Entry forms downloadable from: <http://www.islandmag.com> or send SSAE to Island, PO Box 210, Sandy Bay, Tas, 7006. Enquiries to Gina Mercer, Editor, *Island* magazine: ph (03) 6226 2325 or island.magazine@utas.edu.au

Books wanted for the Vitals Book, Zine and Crafty Affair

The Vitals Book, Zine and Crafty Affair will take place on Sunday, 19 July at Waterside Theatre, 11 Nile St, Port Adelaide from 10am-4pm. And Vitals needs your books! Donations of books, videos, DVDs, magazines and CDs can be made at the Waterside Theatre doors on Saturday 4 July from 11am-3pm. Alternatively, books can be dropped off anytime 10am-5pm Monday to Friday. Call the Vitalstatistix office on 8447 6211 to obtain further information.

Write-a-Book-in-a-Day

Write-a-Book-in-a-Day is a writing challenge that raises funds for Children's Hospitals Australia (CHA), the Princess Margaret Hospital Foundation (PMHF) and the Katharine Susannah Prichard Writers Centre (KSPWC). The challenge is to plan, write, edit, illustrate, bind and submit a children's book in 12 hours. The nationwide competition runs from 1 April to 31 August, coinciding with the 2009 Children's Book Week (August 22-28). A copy of every WABIAD book will go to participating children's hospital in your state. Those wanting to enter can find rules, guidelines, entry forms and previous Write-a-Book-in-a-Day submissions at www.kspf.iinet.net.au/bookinaday

Positive Words

Positive Words Magazine is seeking submissions of poetry and prose. Send submissions and SSAE for response to the Editor, Sandra James, PO Box 798, Heathcote 3523, Victoria. For further information please email positivewordsmagazine@live.com.au but please note submissions are only accepted in hard copy.

Open Your Mind!

SA WRITERS' CENTRE
Government of South Australia
25 March

As part of Mental Health Week a Poetry Competition is jointly run by the SA Writers' Centre and the Mental Health Coalition. This competition is open to the general public and has seven categories.

<p>Poets are requested to write a 4-12 line poem about an aspect of Mental Health and enter under one of the following categories.</p> <p>Masters: Individuals who are 65+.</p> <p>Youth: - 12 to 18 - 19 to 25</p> <p>Rural: Applicants from country areas.</p> <p>Indigenous: - Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander.</p> <p>Carers: A person caring for someone with a mental health issue or illness.</p> <p>General: Individual who lives in the local metropolitan area.</p>	<p>The winners will be announced at the Mental Health Words Evening on Thursday the 8th of October, 2009 at 6pm at the SA Writers' Centre. The event will be hosted by Mark Aiston and the winning poems will be read on the night. Poems will be displayed on 7 hand painted canvases which will be circulated through various community organizations in 2010. A \$50 prize will be awarded to each Winning Entry.</p> <p>CLOSING DATE: 4th September, 2009.</p>
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Please contact the SA Writers' Centre or go to the MHCSA's web site to download the application form. All entries are to be sent into the SA Writers' Centre via Post or by Hand Delivery. www.mhcsa.org.au - www.sawc.org.au

Contact Details: SA Writers' Centre Level 2, 187 Rundle Street or PO Box 43, Rundle Mall, Adelaide SA 5000
Jude Aquilina T (08) 8223 7662 F (08) 8232 3994 E sawriters@sawc.org.au W www.sawc.org.au

Murray Alfredson has had three poems published in *Thirty-first bird review*: 'Ch'an music I', 'Ending the rains' and 'Sophia'.

Janeen Brian's poem 'Fish' appeared in the school magazine *Countdown*, while 'A Dad Time' was in *Touchdown*. Also, the Sydney Writers' Centre has recently released a podcast about her work as a children's writer, available to download at <http://sydneywriterscentre.com.au/podcast/janeenbrian.htm>. Janeen completed her May Gibbs Children's Literature Trust Creative Time Fellowship in Brisbane where she finished a first draft of an historical novel *Mined-Out* (working title).

David Cookson had three 75 word stories, 'Nemesis' and 2 untitled, posted on Paragraph Planet's website during May. His poem, 'Country Saturday' appeared in the *Friendly Street Reader* for 2009.

Kym Davey's radio play *Rules of Engagement* was broadcast on Radio Adelaide and on 5EBI FM on Saturday 18 April. The play will be re-broadcast by Radio Adelaide on a date to be advised later this year. The play is available at www.sodyaudio.com

Adrian Flavell has had the following poems published: 'end of an era' in *Social Alternatives* (vol. 27), 'left alone' in *The Canberra Times* and 'caution' and 'the artist' in *Southern Ocean Review* (NZ, no. 50).

Barbara Fraser's story 'The Big Barramundi' was published in vol. 5 June 2009 of *Countdown*, *The School Magazine*.

Jill Gower has recently had poems published in *Studio*, *The Mozzie*, *The Independent Weekly* and *Valley Micropress* (NZ).

Marianne Musgrove's third children's novel, *Don't Breathe a Word* (Random House Australia) has been released. Her second novel, *Lucy the Good*, has been shortlisted for the Speech Pathology Australia 2009 Children's Book of the Year Award (Younger Primary category).

Graham Rowlands's poems 'Jennie Churchill' and 'Father's Footsteps' were published in *Famous Reporter* and *The Independent Weekly* respectively.

John Sabine's *Around the World in Eighty Ways* (Ginninderra Press, 2009) was launched by Dr Ian Chessell, SA Chief Scientist at Burnside Library in June.

Anne-Marie Smith won second prize in the Australian Prison Foundation Award, for her story 'Library will open soon'. Her poem on Refugees was accepted by June's *Skive Magazine*. The anthology she edited, *Culture is... Australian Stories across Cultures*, has just been published by Wakefield Press and was recently reviewed by Michael Jacklin in the *ABR* June issue in an article entitled 'Not Here, Not There'.

David Mortimer's poems 'Haiku', 'Contingency', 'Simile' and 'Poetry' were published in *The Independent Weekly* of 26 September 2008.

Ruth Starke's novel *Noodle Pie* (Omnibus) has been shortlisted by Speech Pathology Australia in the Best Book for Language Development in the category Upper Primary. The aim of the awards is to recognise the clinical relationship between language and literacy. Winners will be announced in Canberra in October.

Daniel G. Taylor published his audiobook *How to Master Bipolar Disorder for Life* (<http://stores.lulu.com/danielgtaylor>). He is making 20 copies available to *Southern Write* readers. Email at daniel@danielgtaylor.com.

Amelia Walker had two poems published in *Poetrix*, *The Surfer* and 'Disclaimer'.

Julian Zytznik had an article about the Chaser's 'Make a Realistic Wish' skit published in the *Crikey.com.au* newsletter.

Haiga Art Exhibition and Artprize

The City of Salisbury, in partnership with the SA Writers' Centre, hosts the Salisbury Writers' Festival each year and this year they have included a Haiga art exhibition with artprizes.

What is Haiga?

Haiga is the combination of haiku and visual art. For this competition, haiga will be defined as a haiku/senryu poem (not tanka) in conjunction with a 2-dimensional work.

What are the prizes?

- First Prize: \$500
- Second Prize: \$250
- Third Prize: \$150

Exhibited works will be displayed in the John Harvey Gallery from 20 August-1 September 2009 and again presented at the Matsuri on Mobara Festival at Mawson Lakes on 25 October 2009. The prizes will be announced and awarded at the opening of the Salisbury Writers' Festival on 20 August 2009.

How do I enter?

For entry forms and other enquiries contact Steve Davidson on 8406 8469 or email sdavidson@salisbury.sa.gov.au

What is the closing date?

Delivery by 4pm, Monday 10 August 2009 via email only.



Answers to Quiz Questions from June *Southern Write* (for those who did not get to the Quiz night):

1. What was the first physical address of the SA Writers' Centre? **265-267 Rundle Street, Adelaide**
2. Who won the Nobel Prize for Literature in 2003? **JM Coetzee**
3. Who ran the 'Writing From the Inside Out' workshop? **Carol Lefevre**
4. Who was the first premier of South Australia? **Frederick William Holder**
5. What is the collective noun for apes? **A shrewdness of apes**

July 24: Wirra Wirra Vineyards' Short Story Award for South Australian Writers

☺★☞●
Open section and Youth Category (15-25 years). First prize for both categories is \$1000 and an engraved perpetual trophy. Entrants must be SA residents; only one story per entrant up to a maximum of 5000 words. The top 10 winning entries will be published in an anthology by Seaview Press and Salmat, and launched at the SA Writers' Festival, 2009. Entry form essential. Post story to 'The Wirra Wirra Vineyards Short Story Award', SA Writers' Centre, PO Box 43 Rundle Mall SA 5000.

July 31: Ipswich Poetry Feast International Competition ☺★●

Free entry for children, \$5 entry fee for adults. Cash prizes in all categories. No word limits, no theme limits. All details, entry conditions and entry forms are on the website <http://www.ipswichpoetryfeast.com.au/index.htm>

July 31: National Jazz Writing Competition ☺●

In its fifth year, the National Jazz Writing Competition seeks entries of essays between 1000 and 3000 words. Must be about, inspired by or responding to jazz or improvised music. 1st prize is \$750. 1st, 2nd and 3rd prize winners will be published in *extempore* in November. 2nd and 3rd prize winners will receive prizes of CD packs and book vouchers. For more details and submission guidelines, see <http://njwc.extempore.com.au>

Aug 3: 2009 Avant Press Short Story Competition

Avant Press, in association with Box Hill Institute, invites entries of unpublished short stories up to 2000 words. Theme: 'The Edge'. 1st prize \$250, 2nd prize \$150, 3rd prize \$75. Winners and up to three commended stories will be published in the 2009 *Avant*

Anthology. Entry fees: \$5 for one story, \$8 for two stories (maximum). For guidelines and entry form, please email: vae@bhtafe.edu.au or send SSAE to: Box Hill Institute, Centre for VAE, Private Bag 2014, Box Hill, VIC, 3128

Aug 14: 2009 St. Martins Playwriting Competition ★☞●

Open to all Australian playwrights aged 13-30 years. Submission guidelines and entry forms at www.stmartinsyouth.com.au

Aug 14: Minlaton Show Literary Awards ☺★☞●

Two categories: Yorke Peninsula Short Story Awards and Jeff Cook Poetry Awards. Short stories: 1. Open - story between 1500-2000 words, entry fee \$5, prize \$150; 2. Young Writers (13-18 years) - story up to 1000 words, entry fee \$2, prize \$50 and 3. Junior (under 13 years, Yorke Peninsula Residents only) - story up to 500 words, entry free, prize \$20. Poetry: 4. Open - poem up to 60 lines, entry fee \$5, prize \$150; 5. Young Writers (13-18 years) - poem up to 50 lines, entry fee \$2, prize \$50 and 6. Junior (under 13 years, Yorke Peninsula Residents only) - poem up to 30 lines, entry free, prize \$20. Entry form required. Enquiries to Susanne Richards on 8852 4550 or go to <http://au.geocities.com/ypwritersgroup>

Aug 28: Boroondara Literary Awards Open Short Story ☺☞●

For a short story between 1500-3000 words. 1st prize \$1500, 2nd prize \$500, 3rd prize \$250 plus four highly commended \$50 each and best entry by a Boroondara resident \$500. Entry fee: \$8.40. Entry form required. Contact Leisure and Cultural Services on 03 9278 4770 or visit www.boroondara.vic.gov.au. TTY service call 03 9278 4848.

Aug 30: Sentences Annual Literary Competition ☺

The Bridge Foundation is an agency based in Sale, Victoria, supporting prisoners with education, advocacy and support on release. Entries are invited in the following sections: Open Short story - limit 2500 words; Open Poetry- limit 30 lines. 1st prize \$100, 2nd prize \$75 and 3rd prize \$50. Entry fee \$5 for one or \$12 for three. No entry form required. Name and address on separate sheet. SSAE for results to be posted. Results on website www.bridgefoundation.com.au. Entries to: The Bridge Foundation, PO Box 9279, Sale, Vic. 3850.

Aug 31: The Mona Brand Award Short Story Competition ●

Maximum 2,000 words, open theme, \$5 entry fee, no entry form required. 1st prize \$200, 2nd prize \$100, 3rd prize \$50. All competition entry details on <http://alexander.bigpondhosting.com/monabrand.htm>. Enquiries to Helen Luidens on 02 4363 2627 or luidens@terrigal.net.au

Aug 31: Scribblers Inc Literary Competition 2009 ☞●

Competition for prose and poetry. Prose up to a maximum of 2000 words, poetry up to maximum 40 lines. Limit of up to 5 entries per person. 1st prize \$350, 2nd prize \$150, 3rd prize \$100. Entry forms available at www.scribblers.wa.org

Sep 11: EJ Brady Short Story Competition ☺☞●

For major short story, maximum of 2500 words: \$1500 winner and \$200 runner-up. For very short story, maximum 700 words: \$500 winner and Tom Donovan Encouragement Award \$100. Entry fee of \$10. Entry form required. Contact Mallacoota Arts Council on 03 51 580 890 or www.artsmallacoota.org

Sep 25: Whyalla Writers' Group Short Story and Poetry Competition for Adults and Young Adults ☺★☞●

Theme is 'Rogues & Rascals'. Short story (Adult), maximum 1500 words and Poetry (Adult) maximum 40 lines. Entry fee is \$7. 1st prize \$250, 2nd prize \$100, 3rd prize \$50. Short story (Young Adult 12-18 years), maximum 1000 words and Poetry (Young Adult 12-18 years) maximum 25 lines. Entry fee is \$5. 1st prize \$100 + \$50 book voucher, 2nd prize \$50 + \$25 book voucher, 3rd prize \$25 + \$15 book voucher. Entry form required. Contact Fai Chivell on 8645 7126 or go to www.whyalla.rotaryaust.org

Sep 30: Eastern Writers Group Biggest Little Short Story Competition ☺☞●

Open theme to 500 words. Prizes: 1st \$200, 2nd \$100, 3rd \$50. Entry fee \$5. Entry forms and rules available from Eastern Writers Group website: <http://www.wordsatwork.com.au>, by emailing easternwritersgroup@hotmail.com or phoning 03 9434 3491.

Please note: competitions are listed in order of closing date

Key

- ☺ competition listed for the first time
- ★ competition with sections for young writers
- ☞ SA Writers' Centre holds the entry forms
- the entry form is available on the Internet

Entry Forms

☞ Call in and collect copies of entry forms for 20c each or send one business-sized stamped self-addressed envelope, plus one loose 50c stamp for every TWO competitions.

