

Got All the Answers?

Want to have a fantastic, competitive, fun and challenging time? Want to help the SA Writers' Centre raise funds? Do you have five friends who would like to join you? Then hesitate no more! Come along to the **SA Writers' Centre Quiz Night** at the Nexus Multicultural Arts Centre, corner of North Terrace and Morphett Street on **Friday 26 June**, 6.30pm for a 7pm start.

Your knowledge of writerly trivia and general interest will be tested on the night. We will also have a 'Silent Auction' including head-spinning writing memorabilia, bottles of port and mountains of books. All you need to do now is to book a table: \$10 per person at tables of six. We have an Early Bird Price of \$50 per table for bookings made before Friday 5 June. Book your table today to avoid disappointment! Please come with pockets full of change as there will be plenty of 50c games.

Every table that organises a 'Themed Basket' to be auctioned off on the night will be in the running for a prize. Take pride in your basket! Themes could be anything from Writing (including notebooks, pens,



paper, office trinkets) to Indulgence (chocolates, CD/book vouchers, wine, nuts) or simply books/wine/chocolates. Whatever floats your boat in a mixed basket. The basket or box that attracts the highest bid in the silent auction wins.

Five Quiz Questions to get you started:

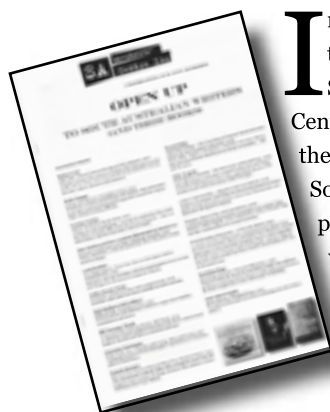
1. What was the first physical address of the SA Writers' Centre?
2. Who won the Nobel Prize for Literature in 2003?
3. Who is running the 'Writing From the Inside Out' workshop this month? [clue: see page 4]
4. Who was the first premier of South Australia?
5. What is the collective noun for apes?

The first table to hand in five correct answers on the Quiz Night wins a special prize.

For more suggestions for basket/box themes, please ask anyone in the organising committee (Jude Aquilina, Amy Matthews, Anna Solding and Sean Williams) but, most important of all, book now!

Call Jude at the SA Writers' Centre on 8223 7662 to claim your table(s).

Calling Published Writers



In September this year the SA Writers' Centre will 'Spread the Word' about South Australian publications with a feature brochure of member books (pictured). This will be used as a promotional tool in a variety

of different ways: for the SA Writers' Festival (running from 4 September to 13 September, 2009); for the benefit of public libraries and bookshops; and for the general advertising and marketing of South Australian authors.

So, we are once again calling for information regarding any books by SA writers published between **September 2007** and **September 2009**. For those who have sent their information through already, thank you. For those who haven't,

hurry up! We need the following details:

- name of the book
- date of publication
- genre
- a one sentence description
- a book cover image (if available)
- information on how readers

can obtain a copy of the book (web link to publisher, phone number etc.) The deadline for inclusion is **Tuesday 30 June** so please email to: comms@sawc.org.au or post to 'Spread The Word', SA Writers' Centre, PO Box 43, Rundle Mall Adelaide SA 5000.

Centre Information

Contributions

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

- **Kym Davey**, *Rules of Engagement* (CD of radio play), Lisdoon Drama Productions, 2009.
- **Heather Ey**, *Help Please!*, Seaview Press, 2009.
- **Barbara Howard**, *Cottage Seasons*, Peacock Publications, 2006.
- **Adeeb Kamal Ad-Deen**, *Fatherhood*, Seaview Press, 2009.
- **Lorraine McLoughlin**, *Barbara Robertson: An Australian Artist's Life*, 2009.
- **Stephanie McCarthy**, *Erogeny*, Maurice Linehan Design, 2009.
- **Kimberley Mann**, *Awake During Anaesthetic*, Australian Poetry Centre, 2009.
- **Mary Marko**, *Doing It With Love!*, Vivid Publishing, 2008.
- **Ken Vincent**, *No Shoes and the Day Was Freezing*, Ginninderra Press, 2009.
- **Sean Williams**: *The Scarecrow*, Angus & Robertson, 2009; *The Dust Devils*, Angus & Robertson, 2008; *Astropolis*, Orbit, 2008; *The Hanging Mountains*, Prometheus Books, 2009; *The Crooked Letter*, HarperCollins, 2004; Sean Williams and Shane Dix, *Echoes of Earth*, Ace Books, 2002.
- **Wakefield Press** for Teri Louise Kelly, *Last Bed on Earth*, Wakefield Press, 2009.
- **Writers' Resource Centre** for Suzanne Male and Anthony Santoro, *Get Your Book Off The Ground: What You Need to Know to Write and Publish Your Book*, The Writers' Resource Centre, 2009.

SA Writers' Centre Life Members

- Max Fatchen
- Gillian Rubinstein/Lian Hearn

Our Thanks

Thanks to Lyn Brooks, Jade Carrick, Jo Dey, John and Coie Dikkenberg, Barbara Fraser, Catherine Jones, David C. O'Donnell, Gay Sanderson, Anne-Marie Smith, Peggy Spry, Ken Vincent and Malcolm Walker for their assistance in mailing the May 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 Caffe Brunelli, proceed towards the toilets and take the door to your left to reach the lift.



Thanks to SAWC sponsor:



Copy deadline:

15 June 2009 (for July issue)

Email to: comms@sawc.org.au

Post to: PO Box 43
Rundle Mall
Adelaide 5000.



What's On



Poetica June Program

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

- 6 June Larkin's Animals: a powerful bestiary by Philip Larkin.
- 13 June Chris Abani: a meeting with Nigerian poet, playwright and novelist, Chris Abani.
- 20 June Refugee Poets: a multilingual program featuring six refugee poets now living in Australia.
- 27 June Circus Apprentice: the poetry of Katherine Gallagher.

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

Fri 5 June: NEW Inc Open Mic Poetry Evening

North Eastern Writers Inc (NEW Inc) will run an open mic poetry evening at the Tea Tree Gully Community Hall, from 7-10.30pm. Guest reader is Patricia Irvine. BYO food. Bar facilities available in the neighbouring RSL. Cost is \$5 a head. RSVP to Margaret@northeasternwriters.com

Sat 6 June: Friendly Street 'Political Poetry' Seminar

Presented by Erica Jolly and Graham Rowlands. From 2-4pm at the SA Writers' Centre. Cost \$30 full price/\$25 concession, includes afternoon tea.

Sat 13 June: Script Structure and Character Development Workshop

From 9am-5pm at the Media Resource Centre. Cost is \$50 for members of the MRC or \$75 for non-members. Details at www.mrc.org.au

Sun 14 June: SAWT Workshop

The workshop of a new play will take place from 2-5pm at Holden Street Theatre, Hindmarsh (next to Hindmarsh Stadium). Plenty of offstreet parking. Admission is free and all welcome.

Sun 14 June: Hills Poets

The next meeting of the Hills Poets will be at 3.30 pm at the Bridgewater Inn, Mt Barker Road, Bridgewater. Guest readers are Amelia Walker and Graham Catt. For information please ring Jill Gower on 8339 5119.

Wed 17 June: SAWT GM

The meeting will commence with ten-minute readings of first-draft scripts followed by the reading of a new script. From 7pm at the SA Writers' Centre.

Fri 19 June: May Gibbs Children's Literature Trust Event

Anne Morgan will speak about her work at an event hosted by MGCLT Support Committee at the Feathers Hotel from 12-2pm. Email contact@maygibbs.org.au for more details. RSVP essential.

Sat 20 June: Jambo Africa Awards Ceremony

The Migrant Resource Centre and the SA Writers' Centre invite members and friends to this event, celebrating writing by African people living in SA. Meet the winners of this inaugural poetry and short story competition, along with judges Sheela Langeberg and Chika Anyanwu. Refreshments provided. From 12pm at the SA Writers' Centre:

Sat 20 June: 'Imagism and Poetry Today' Friendly Street Seminar

Presented by Jules Leigh Koch and Rory Harris. From 2-4pm at the SA Writers' Centre. Cost \$30 full price/\$25 concession, includes afternoon tea.

Sun 21 June: 'Sunday with SAWT'

Features a script-in-hand performance of *Double Blind* by Ross Barrett. 1pm at Holden Street Theatre, Hindmarsh. Admission is \$10 (pay at door) and includes soup, buttered roll, guest speaker and the performance. Go to www.sawt.org.au

Wed 24 June: Peter FitzSimons

Peter FitzSimons, journalist and author of *Charles Kingsford Smith and Those Magnificent Men* will speak from 7.30-8.30pm at the Domain Theatre of the Marion Cultural Centre. Free event. Book

by phoning the Marion Cultural Centre Box Office on 8375 6855.

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

Feedback

Dear Rachel Hennessy,
I was interested in your article on Entering Competitions (*Southern Write* April 2009). I no longer enter competitions, because I receive no feedback and it does nothing to help me improve my writing skills. As far as I can see people holding these competitions are doing it purely for monetary gain. If the competitions did give feedback, I would be happy to pay a little extra for this service but as it is I see it as a pointless exercise. Maybe SA Writers' Centre can do something to improve this situation?
Elaine (SAWC member)

Dear Elaine,
The idea of feedback is a good one and some competitions do include the option of receiving judges' feedback. However, this takes a great deal of time and resources and is the main reason why most competitions don't offer it, particularly if they know they are going to receive a great number of entries. I agree that some writing competitions are doing it 'purely for monetary gain'. However, I think there are still some that do it to find fresh writing and to give unpublished writers a go. I hope I didn't sound as if I was dismissing all competitions because I do believe that some are genuine. My only concern is those competitions that ask for large entry fees and don't seem to be giving much back to the writers, but I think we are probably on the same page there.
Best,
Rachel Hennessy
Editor, *Southern Write*

Google Settlement

Rachel Hennessy recently attended the Google Book Search Settlement seminar, run by the ASA and CAL. She presents her findings.

Thanks to the Opt-Out deadline for the Google Book Search Copyright Settlement being extended to **4 September 2009**, the seminar held on the issue, run by the Copyright Agency Limited (CAL) and the Australian Society of Authors (ASA) at the State Library on Tuesday 5 May, became even more pertinent. The Extended Opt-Out Deadline is the new date by which class members must decide whether to remain in the Settlement and receive the benefits, object to the Settlement or opt out of the Settlement.

Jeremy Fischer, Executive Director of the ASA, presented the various options available to authors. While it seems to be a complex issue, Jeremy emphasised that published writers should make a decision. That is, doing nothing is probably the worst option.

So, does the Google Book Search Copyright Settlement affect you? If you have had anything published — even

in small publications — you may be affected by Google Books copyright issues. For example, as SAWC Member Anne Bartlett pointed out, the SA Writers' Festival anthology *Party Walls* is included in Google Book Search.

However, some books may have been digitised through the Publisher Partnership program, meaning your publisher has given permission for the digitisation of the material. This means the book may not fall under the Google Book Search Settlement. The ASA's line is that each author should make an informed decision regarding their decision to opt in or out of the settlement.

At the seminar, Jeremy proposed the following steps for writers (this is also available as a power-point presentation downloadable from the ASA's website, www.asauthors.org):

1) Go to <http://books.google.com.au> and search for your works by author name (including work that may have appeared in a collection or anthology).

2) Determine how the work was digitised. There should be information provided as to when the work was digitised e.g. 'Digitised 5 July 2002, University of Michigan':

(i) If there is a link to your publisher on the site, it is more than likely that the book has been included in Google Book Search through the Publisher Partnership program (where Google has made arrangements with various publishers for the inclusion of their works).

(ii) If there is no link to your publisher, and there is reference to an American university, it is likely the work was digitised through the University Library Project.

3) If you believe the work has been digitised via (i) contact your publisher to discuss their position on the Google Book Search settlement. Remember, Google Book

Search is a useful marketing tool and the object of being included can be to increase the physical sales of

the books. The dispute has arisen over the term 'reasonable use'. That is, if a sizeable proportion of your book is available online, then this may deter people from buying it. However, also remember that anyone can walk into a bookstore and view 100% of your work anytime. In fact, the inclusion of out-of-print books may be a positive in the end for the ongoing sales of that work.

4) If you think the work was part of the University Library project (ii) — that is, a deal that Google did with twenty US libraries to digitize their entire collections — then you should go to www.googlebooksettlement.com and go through the steps of opting in or out of the settlement. Remember, you can claim the money — \$US60 for a book or \$US15 for an insert — and still opt out of the settlement.

As Jeremy emphasised, all this advice is still subject to individual circumstances and, before making any decision, it is best to talk to your publisher or agent or legal representative.

does the Google Book Search Copyright Settlement affect you?

Writing an Outstanding Book Proposal

with Lolo Houbein



**Saturday
13 June,
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 also be examined.

Writing from the Inside Out

with Carol Lefevre

Saturday 13 June, 10am-1pm



Place and time in fiction determine atmosphere and mood. Landscape can work so hard

for a writer that it might almost be classed as a character in its own right. Workshop participants are asked to bring along a small number of images of places which have been important to you in the past, or which in some way resonate. Using these images as a starting point, you will work on creating a number of short pieces of writing which you may later develop into stories or longer fiction.

Workshops: \$55 for SAWC members or \$77 for non-members

Bookings: 08 8223 7662, sawriters@sawc.org.au or www.sawc.org.au

Poetry: How's Your Form?

with Jill Jones



Photo: Annette Wills

**Saturday
13 June,
2pm-5pm**

This workshop will encourage you to experiment with form in your poems.

Form is not just metre and rhyme, it is the way linguistic and visual elements such as line, space, rhythm and syntax work in the poem. We will particularly look at the line and the way it works on the page, but also consider other elements of form. We will do some writing exercises and will read and discuss the work of several poets as examples. Bring a poem of your own you are not happy with and would like to improve its structure.

How to Structure a Fantasy Novel

with David Conyers



**Saturday
13 June,
2pm-5pm**

The popularity of fantasy novels continues to grow and publishers are always in

search of the next great epic trilogy. During this hands-on interactive workshop participants will develop an outline for a fantasy novel. Discussion points include creating characters and how they grow through the narrative, popular fantasy themes, how to develop tension and conflict, how to propel the story, the importance of dialogue and action and using cultural references.

Workshops: \$55 for SAWC members or \$77 for non-members

Bookings: 08 8223 7662, sawriters@sawc.org.au or www.sawc.org.au

Publishers On Tap

Varuna, The Writers' House, has announced two new major programs presented in partnership with Australian publishers: Publisher-Supported Professional Development Residencies and Varuna Publisher Fellowships.

Varuna's Professional Development Residencies have established a successful profile over the last four years. In this program, five writers are resident at Varuna for a week, and Creative Director Peter Bishop works with them to establish secure lines for the future development of the work. Two very recently published books — *The Gene Thieves* by Maria Quinn (HarperCollins) and *The Weight of Silence* by Catherine Therese (Hachette) — were substantially developed through Professional Development Residencies.

Varuna has now announced that the Professional Development Residency Program will be supported by publishers. Scribe, Allen & Unwin, Random House and Pan MacMillan will present the first Publisher-Supported Professional Development Residencies at Varuna from August to November this year.

As always, this program is non-selective, and Peter Bishop will be the resident tutor. A publisher from the publishing house will discuss the publishing industry with the resident writers and the writers will give a prepared reading. The publisher will have one-on-one consultations with each of the writers. This is a major new meeting place for writers and publishers.

So, too, are the Varuna Publisher Fellowships, 21 one-week residencies, with applications selected by publishers. Various areas will now be covered by these partnerships:

Allen & Unwin - Literary Fiction
Pan MacMillan - Commercial Fiction
Scribe - Young Adult Fiction
Griffith Review - Essays
Random House - Nonfiction
Text - Different Voices
TBA - Poetry and Short Fiction

This program enables Australian publishers to express an interest in a project at a far earlier stage than is normally possible. For writers, it's a great opportunity to

come to the attention of a publisher at a far earlier stage than is normally possible. All the writer needs to provide is a pitch, telling what it is about your project that compelled you to write it and will compel the reader to read it, up to 20 pages from the beginning of the project and some brief information about yourself as a writer. What publishers are looking for is exciting voices working with vital and vigorously imagined material. You may have written nothing more than 20 pages — or you may be heading strongly towards the finish. By selecting your work, the publisher is saying: 'This is a project I'd like to have a look at when it's finished'. There's no commitment to publish — just an agreement that when the project is finished the publisher who selected you will be the first to have a look at it.

Applications for Publisher-Supported Professional Development Residencies are open now. The deadline for applications for the Varuna Publisher Fellowships is **31 August, 2009**. All information is at www.varuna.com.au

Parallel Importation Update

The Productivity Commission has received an extension of the final reporting date for the Restrictions on the Parallel Importation of Books study. This is to allow the Commissioners to give more detailed consideration to the 550 submissions received — more than half of them in the second round. The final report will be presented to government by 30 June 2009. Keep an eye on developments at the website 'Australians For Australian Books': www.ausbooks.com.au/



Board's Eye View



Bronwen Webb, Chair of the SA Writers' Centre, gives her AGM report on the challenges of the past year and flags issues to be faced in the future.

Also, following on from concerns raised by members about some aspects of Writers' Week's engagement with South Australian writers, the Chair and Director met with the new Chair of Writers' Week, John Coetzee. He gave us a very good hearing and took our issues to his Committee. A response from the Committee has attempted to address some of our issues, while others remain. SA writers will address these issues in their own way; however, it is important that the Board remains engaged in constructive discussion with John Coetzee and his Committee in the hope that, over time, there will be improved relations between the local writing community and Writers' Week.

During the past year, the Board has worked to further embed strong governance principles in its operations. It has reviewed the Constitution of the SAWC, benchmarking against constitutions of similar organisations and thoroughly debating each change. At the AGM, Board member Ken Vincent outlined the reasoning behind each change.

The SAWC is constantly looking to improve and expand its services

The Board has noted the changes to the South Australian Occupational Health, Safety and Welfare Act which have increased the penalties and powers of the Act. As an employer, the SAWC must of course comply with the Act. The Board has developed an occupational health, safety, welfare and injury management policy for the SAWC and staff now have procedures in place to monitor hazards and deal with them.

The SAWC is constantly looking to improve and expand its services and the appointment of a Writer-in-Residence was a great initiative in 2008. Malcolm Walker's appointment to this position is already having a positive impact at the Centre. Thank you to Malcolm for his substantial contribution to the SAWC.

Last year Barbara Wiesner, our energetic and dedicated Director, reached a milestone of 20 years with the SAWC. The Board presented Barbara with a trophy and gifts to mark the occasion. This seemed very little under the circumstances, but nothing we could give would ever thank Barbara enough for her service to the SAWC and the writers of South Australia. She has continued to demonstrate her skill, patience and determination throughout this difficult year.

SAWC staff Jude Aquilina, Lesley Beasley, Rachel Hennessy and Silvia Muscardin have continued to provide excellent support to members and the Board. We also couldn't manage without our volunteers: Doreen Spurdens (youth projects), David Mercer (research), Ann-Marie Smith (Assistant Librarian), James Ogilvy (proofreader), Mag Merrilees and Helen Mitchell (office support). Our sincere thanks go to each of them.

I would also like to thank the members of the Board for their steadfast commitment to the interests of the SAWC and their great assistance and advice during the year. Sean Williams, Deputy Chair, has decided not to re-nominate for 2009/2010 because of other commitments. Sean has served as Chair or Deputy Chair for several years and has been a tower of strength and support during that time. His commitment to the SAWC during what has been an increasingly successful and busy period of his career is greatly appreciated. Also retiring are Anna Solding, Heather Taylor-Johnson and Ashley Mallett. Bruce Lindsay and David Conyers were seconded to the Board for their specific skills and have subsequently retired from the Board. Continuing on for the next year are Mag Merrilees, Helen Mitchell, Ken Vincent and myself.

Thank you Barbara, Sean, Anna, Heather, Ashley, Bruce, David, Mag, Helen and Ken for your great contribution to the Board over the past year. It has been a pleasure working with you.

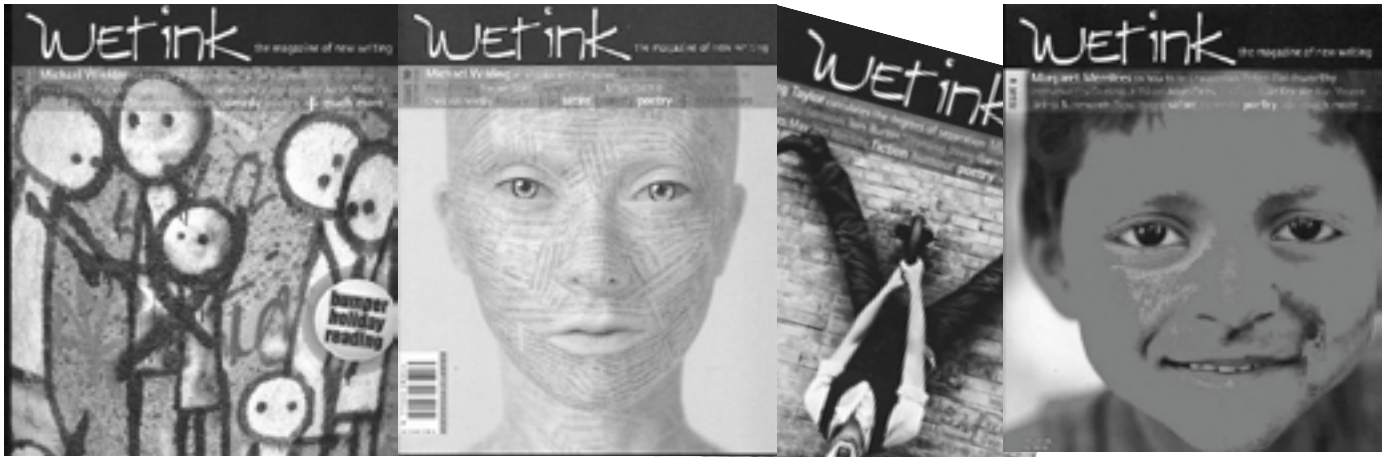
The year 2008 was a challenging one, with a worrying issue for the Board to deal with. During 2007, the University of Wollongong conducted a research study, commissioned by the Australia Council for the Arts (ACA), to investigate Australia's literature infrastructure. Following the release of the research report¹ in July 2008, the Literature Board recommended that ACA Key Organisation funding be available only to literature organisations that can prove they are nationally focused. All state Writers' Centres are currently receiving Key Organisation funding on a three-yearly cycle. Key Organisation funding forms 20% of the SAWC's annual funding.

Along with all Writers' Centres across Australia, the SAWC Director and Board lobbied various Arts Ministers, and responded to the ACA, objecting against the decision to 'nationalise' the criteria to be a Key Organisation. However, the ACA have now moved to national Key Organisations across all arts forms and none has been successful in lobbying against this move. If the SAWC loses its Key Organisation status in the future, which is likely unless a national focus can be proved, it has the option to submit requests for ACA funding through Program Grants or Community Partnerships.

¹ W Ommundsen and M Jacklin, *Mapping Literature Infrastructure in Australia: A Report to the Literature Board of the Australia Council for the Arts*, University of Wollongong, 2008.

Market Spotlight: *Wet Ink*

Wet Ink is a magazine for new writing, with many of the editors based here in Adelaide. However, it has kept its focus national. Here Co-Managing Editor, **Phillip Edmonds**, explains the magazine's origins and its ongoing ambitions.



The first issue of *Wet Ink* (the magazine of new writing) was published in December 2005 and since then we have published fourteen editions, all of which we are very proud of. It really started at a meeting in the English Department of Adelaide University in late 2004, as a result of a growing conviction I had that publishing opportunities for new writers in Australia were limited, and from the meeting it was clear that we had the foundation of a strong organisation and ideas as to where we wanted to go.

The design firm Sinc Creative came on board, alongside the considerable talents of my co-managing editor Dominique Wilson, to name only a few people in what has continued to be a disciplined team. We didn't want to be like magazines such as *Heat* and *Meanjin* that were trying to be 'books', with limited circulation and an over reliance on subsidies. Our model became a magazine that looked accessible and attractive, that largely published creative writing, with writer interviews and short reviews,

some poetry and no impenetrable 'academic' articles. It could be a magazine that garnered income from advertising, retail sales, subscriptions and grants. A magazine that wasn't marginalised in university structures and funding imperatives.

Currently, we publish approximately thirty-four stories a year, more than any other magazine of its type in Australia and we are, I believe, slowly becoming noticed as a desired destination for writers and readers. It has been quite a journey, because you

Our model became a magazine that looked accessible and attractive

can always dream of the way things could be, but the question is how to make it happen. Fortunately, our first distributor, Bookwise, was able to give us some national coverage and, currently, Selectair, are placing the magazine in bookshops, art galleries and newsagents, which has been very important, because for us to survive we always knew that Adelaide was too small to sustain the magazine and could only ever be our commercial and artistic base. We also sell copies overseas.

Editorially, we are proud to publish writers from across Australia and overseas, and that South Australian writers have been published in the face of such competition. We have always been ambitious and, speaking for myself, I have sometimes

found that stressful, as I know that we are on occasions working around existing cliques and literary alliances. Even so, it has been good for us to focus on reaching readers, gathering subscribers and always thinking of ways we can promote *Wet Ink*, because, as I suggested at the start, the magazine was born out of perceived necessity and a desire to be proactive — a rejection of powerlessness and paternalism.

But, before you think that we are patting ourselves on the back too much, it needs to be said we still need your support and encouragement. Our website address is: wetink.com.au

Vital statistics of *Wet Ink*

Published: 4 times a year

Accepts: short fiction, creative nonfiction, poetry, memoir, essays, opinion pieces

Submission Guidelines: no more than three submissions, only hard copies, include cover letter (available as a download from website), name on the cover letter but not on the work, include date and word count, text to be double-spaced in Times New Roman font and 12 point

Payment: Poetry \$70, Prose under 1500 words \$70, above 1500 words \$120

Enquiries to: editor@wetink.com.au

Available: the SA Writers' Centre Library has all back issues of *Wet Ink*



O p p o r t u n i t i e s

Max Harris Poetry Award

Entries are invited for the Max Harris Poetry Award 2009, offering a prize of \$3000 for the winning poem. 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 2009. The entry fee is \$10 for one poem and an extra \$5 per poem for up to two additional poems. The closing date for entries is 15 July 2009. Please visit www.poetryandpoeticscentre.com

Blake Poetry Prize

The NSW Writers' Centre and the Blake Society will award a prize of \$5000 to the poem or suite of poems of up to 200 lines that best explores the religious and spiritual in poetry. The Blake Poetry Prize is non-sectarian but does expect poems entered will have a recognisable religious or spiritual integrity. Entry forms at nswwc@nswwriterscentre.org.au, info@blakeprize.com.au or on (02) 9555 9757. Entry fee is \$20 per poem. Closing date is 12 June 2009.

Byron Bay Writers Festival Poetry Prize

This is an opportunity to read your poetry as part of the Poetry Evening at the Byron Bay Writers Festival alongside some of Australia's most respected poets. The judges will select three finalists from the entries to read at the Poetry Evening on Friday 7 August and winners will be revealed on the night. Deadline is Wednesday 1 July at 4pm. For entry form and rules go to www.nrwc.org.au

Cricket Poetry Award 2009

Poets are invited to submit a poem celebrating an aspect of life in and around the game and sport of cricket. The Cricket Poetry Award will be run in conjunction with the Cricket Art Prize, and the winner will be announced at the inaugural Cricket Art Prize opening event at the Members Pavilion of the SCG on Thursday 8 Oct 2009. The judges are Adam Gibson and Jessica Halloran. For further information go to website <http://www.publisherscup.org.au/cricket-poetry-award> or contact Derek Zilich, derekz@publisherscup.org.au

National Play Festival 2010

Applications are now invited from any Australian playwright with a new, unproduced work ready for performance. You may be working independently or in a creative team with a director or dramaturg, and nominations from Australian theatre companies are also welcome. Applications must be physically received at PlayWriting Australia by 5pm on Friday 31 July 2009. The festival runs in Brisbane in February, 2010. Download full application details from the PlayWriting Australia website: www.pwa.org.au

GC O'Donnell Essay Prize

The prize is awarded to the author of an unpublished essay displaying original thinking on a topic of the author's choice regarding copyright and the protection of the interests of authors. The winning entry is likely to exhibit original ideas on issues of practical importance in copyright or on copyright theory. The competition is open to any interested persons, including authors, lawyers and students. The prize of AUD\$3,500 will be awarded at the 2009 Copyright Law and Practice Symposium in Sydney on 15 October 2009. Submissions are due by 30 September 2009. Go to: www.copyright.org.au/publications/essayprize

2009 'The Nib': CAL Waverley Library Award for Literature

Recognising excellence in research, the Award's major sponsor, Copyright Agency Limited's Cultural Fund, provides a winner's prize of \$20,000 + trophy and all shortlisted authors receive the Alex Buzo Shortlist Prize. All genres of writing including fiction and nonfiction, published between 1 July 2008 and 30 June 2009, are eligible. The closing date for nominations is 10 July 2009. For further information go to www.waverley.nsw.gov.au/library/award

Ghostwriter Required

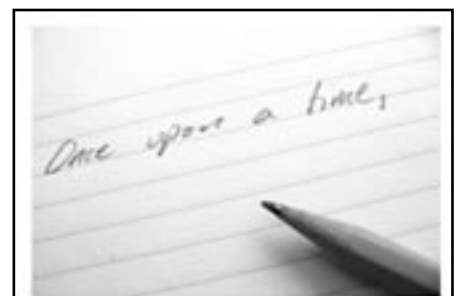
Payment offered for a ghostwriter. Please phone Nick on 8823 2076 or email nvdbos@netyp.com.au

SEED Writers Retreats

In September 2009, you could be one of four writers attending the inaugural SEED Writers Retreat. This is an opportunity to work closely with professional writers, publishers and agents, each of whom will read your work and offer you personal feedback, as well as sharing their insights into writing and publishing. The retreat includes: daily workshops with Margo Lanagan and Nike Bourke, detailed feedback, time to write, meeting with an agent, meeting with a publisher, meals and accommodation. More Information is available at: <http://www.olvarwood.com.au/Olvar/SEED.html> or email vac@marion.sa.gov.au

Voiceworks Magazine Submissions

Voiceworks is a national, quarterly magazine that features exciting new writing by Australian young writers. It is a unique opportunity for those under 25 to publish their short stories, poetry, articles, comics, illustrations, drawings and photos. Voiceworks #78 (Spring 09) is now calling for submissions. Theme is 'Fluid'. Nonfiction pitches due Sunday 5 July. Submission deadline is Sunday 26 July. For more info and submission guidelines go to <http://www.expressmedia.org.au/voiceworks.php>



Writers on the Rise

A new writers group is now meeting each Monday (except public holidays) at the Wandalea Day Centre in the grounds of Mt Barker Hospital, Wellington Rd Mt Barker.

If you write, or are interested in learning how to write effectively, come and join us. All genres welcome. We aim to provide a balanced mix of writing exercises and 'critical friendship'. The exercises are to stimulate the writing hand, tempt the muse or whatever it takes to move from concept to putting words on the page. Critical friendship is there to support you as a writer while providing constructive critique.

We are disability friendly, discrimination free and a group member of the South Australian Writers' Centre.

7.30-10.00 pm Monday Gold coin donation preferred

Contact: Hakin Oerton 8398 5028 or hakin@oerton.net

Opportunities

Annual Short Fiction Competition

The Adelaide Review, in association with the Creative Writing Program of the University of Adelaide, have announced their first Short Fiction Competition. The competition features a judging panel consisting of Australian author Brian Castro, Nobel Laureate JM Coetzee and Jamaican poet and short story writer Olive Senior. The overall winner will receive a dozen of Australia's best wines from *The Adelaide Review's Hot 100 Wines*, as well as having their work published in *The Adelaide Review*. Submissions are open until Friday 10 July, 2009. Entry forms, along with full terms and conditions are available at www.adelaidereview.com.au

Iremonger Award

Do you have a great idea for a book? One that will contribute to a public debate on a contemporary Australian politics, social or cultural issue? Entries are now open for the Iremonger Award, sponsored by Allen & Unwin and now in its fifth year. The award is for a nonfiction book idea addressing a political, social or cultural issue. The winning entry will receive a cash prize of \$10 000, guaranteed publication, royalties on book sales and editorial support to develop the proposal into a finished manuscript. Entries close 1 September 2009. Visit www.allenandunwin.com/iremonger to download an entry form and see the conditions of entry. Contact: Sophia Barnes, Publishing Assistant, 02 8425 0104 or email: SophiaB@allenandunwin.com

Call for Submissions: The Best Australian Stories 2009

Submissions are now open for *The Best Australian Stories 2009*, edited by Delia Falconer, to be published by Black Inc. in November. Please 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.

Letter Writing Service

A free and neutral service called newspaperletters.com. Members use the platform to send letters to the editors of serious publications. The service sends these letters by email verbatim. The emails appear to come from the member who receives a copy too. The main advantage of this platform is that all letters (even those that don't appear in print) are placed on a user's home page automatically and hence published on the internet. The platform is then a single point of reference for a user's letters. For more details go to www.newspaperletters.com

Ilura Press Manuscript Submissions

Manuscript submissions will be closing on 30 June this year, so if you're putting the finishing touches on that third draft get cracking and send it to them. Go to www.ilurapress.com

Free Resource for Writers

Richard Harland, multi-award-winning Australian fantasy author, has just completed a 145 page website of tips for fantasy, speculative fiction and genre writers. It's as big as a small book and is free. The tips range across all levels from basic to advanced. Go to www.writingtips.com.au

Kensington & Norwood Historical Society Looking for Stories for Publication

The K & N Historical Society intends to publish a book containing a walking trail map and information about the plaques the Society has installed. They also plan to include a selection of stories. 'Old or young, tell us about life in this area from past to present'. Forms available at the SA Writers' Centre or call Margaret Herron on 8332 3535.

The Write Angle

No submissions to 'The Write Angle' until further notice please, as the editor is unwell.

The Text Prize for Young Adult and Children's Writing

Judged by a panel of editors from Text publishing, the winning unpublished manuscript for young adults or younger readers will receive a publishing contract and a \$10,000 advance against royalties. Submissions close 31 July 2009. Go to www.textpublishing.com.au for details and conditions.

Asialink Arts Residences 2010

The closing date for all 2010 Residency applications is Friday 4 September, 2009. Application information at www.asialink.unimelb.edu.au/our_work/arts

Paragraph Planet

Paragraph Planet is a website that invites 75-word submissions from writers. It has just launched a sequel section to run alongside the daily paragraph. If you feel inspired by that day's paragraph, simply submit your own 75-word sequel. Go to www.paragraphplanet.com

The end of financial year is looming ... June 30 2009.

Do you have funds that need a good home?
Did you know the SA Writers' Centre is a tax deductible organisation?



Make a tax deductible donation or bequest today. Because if the SAWC isn't here to encourage, support and nurture writers, who will be?

David Adès' collection *Mapping the World* recently achieved a Commended placing in the Fellowship of Australian Writers Anne Elder Award (for best first poetry collection by an Australian poet) presented at the 2008 National Literary Awards Presentation Ceremony in Melbourne on 1 May 2009. His poem 'On a Moonless Night at Grange' appeared in *Small City Tales of Strangeness and Beauty* (Wakefield Press, 2009). His poems 'At Ten Weeks', 'Panic', 'Pin Drop' and 'What Lies Beneath' were published in *Mindscape*, selected poems from the Adelaide 2008 Poetry and Poetics Symposium. Other poems published include 'After Cooking with Garlic' in *The Independent Weekly* (30 May - 5 June 2008), 'Fire' in *Social Alternatives* (vol. 27, no. 1, 2008), and 'Portrait' in *Blue Dog* (vol. 7, no. 13, July 2008). Three previously published poems 'Fire', 'At Santiago Airport' and 'Winning the Lottery' were included in *Catch Fire, Friendly Street Poets 33*.

Murray Alfredson's essays, 'Alliteration I & II' have been put up in the articles section of the Poets' Ink web site. His poem 'The pipes in minor key ...' was published in *Touch: the Journal of Healing*, iss. 1, May 2009.

Owen Carmichael's travel feature, 'Baden, Town of Roses' was published in *AA Directions Online*.

Ross Duffy's story 'It's a Cruel World' has been Commended in the recent Best of Times Short Story Competition.

Shirley Dunn's poems 'Create' and 'Afternoon Light' were published in the April issue of *Positive Words*.

Joan Fenney's poem 'Miss Mitchell's Comet' was published in *The Independent Weekly* in April.

Jill Gloyne's poem 'Dried Figs' was Highly Commended in the Laura Literary Awards.

Alys Jackson won first prize in the Humorous Verse (with Australian theme) category of the Grenfell Henry Lawson Festival Competition for her poem 'Phineas McGonagall' and was placed second in the Open category with 'My Rabbits'.

Max Merckenschlager's 'Mulling over Mafeking' won the Grenfell Henry Lawson Festival Competition Open Traditional Verse category and the statuette for best poem in all classes.

Helen Mitchell's short story 'My Childhood Home' was Highly Commended in the Max Fatchen Short Story Competition.

David Mortimer's poems 'Crucible' and 'No Wonder' were published in *Catch Fire: Friendly Street Poets 33* (edited by Aidan Coleman and Juliet Paine), Wakefield Press, 2009.

Ray Neilson's young adult adventure novel *Eyes of the Jaguar* is to be published by Future Track of WA by the beginning of 2010.

Renato Provenzano's article 'A Lighter Touch' (about Japanese acupuncture) was published in Issue 120 of *WellBeing* magazine.

Graham Rowlands's poem 'The Big Toe' was published in *Ripples* magazine and his poems 'Learning A Lot' and 'Men & Women of the Jury' were published in *The Mozzie*.

Ros Schulz's poems 'Still Life' and 'That Day on Tangkuban' were published in *Poetrix* last year. She has two poems accepted for publication in *Studio*: 'Newborn' and 'Adventure Playground'. 'End of a River' is to appear in *The Independent Weekly*.

Carolyn Stirling Croshaw was awarded the Coriole Vineyard Award for highest achievement in Writing Poetry from the Adelaide Institute of TAFE Advanced Diploma of Professional Writing. She also won Friendly Street's Nova Prize for best new poet in the *Friendly Street Reader 33*.

Daniel G. Taylor won second prize in the Black Dog Institute's annual writing competition for his essay, 'The Way to Wellness in the Workplace'.

Sean Williams's recently published novels include *The Scarecrow* (Angus & Robertson) and *The Grand Conjunction* (Orbit). He has had the following short stories published: 'The Haunted Earth' in bushfire charity e-zine *Hope*; 'A Longing for the Dark' as a podcast from *Terra Incognita* and 'Signs of Death', reprinted in *Australian Dark Fantasy & Horror, volume three*.

Congrats to a Young Gun



SAWC Member **Kelly Vincent** has been named joint winner of

the State Theatre Company of South Australia's Young Guns 10 Playwrights' Competition. STCSA supports young playwrights through this competition, which is in its tenth year.

Kelly, 20, wrote *Gravity*, a play which revolves around two characters sharing their feelings of insufficiency, fear and loneliness. Kelly says that she was inspired to write the play by observing the complexities in the way people perceive themselves and each other. The winning scripts were judged by a team of theatre professionals. Each winner receives prize money plus a week's dramaturgy on their work.

Kelly has been working with Malcolm Walker, our Writer-in-Residence for people with disabilities, over the last year. The SAWC is delighted to hear of her success with her writing for theatre.

June 12: Eureka Street/Reader's Feast Award for Social Justice/Human Rights Writing ●

The award of \$5000 is open to any Australian writer aged 30 or over as of 1 January 2009. Electronic submissions only. Details at <http://www.eurekastreet.com.au/article.aspx?aeid=12542>

June 12: The Eureka Street's Margaret Dooley Award for Young Writers ★●

The award of \$1500 is open to any writer under the age of 30, as of 1 January 2009. Second place in the award is awarded \$350, and third \$150. Full details at <http://www.eurekastreet.com.au/article.aspx?aeid=12542>

June 12: U3A Sunshine Coast Writing Competition ☞

Open to members of any U3A and people who are retired or semi-retired and thus eligible to join U3A. Categories: Short Story (1000-1500 words); Rhyming Poetry (20 to 40 lines); Free Verse (Up to 40 lines); Challenge; Make Me Laugh (Prose 1000 to 1500 words.) Prizes: 1st \$150, 2nd \$75, 3rd \$25 in each category. Single entry is \$7.50. Two or more \$5 per entry.

June 12: Gold Coast Writers' Association Adults Writing Competition ☺●

'Magic' is the theme. Categories are Short Story; Writing for Children; and Poetry. 1st Prize \$400, 2nd prize \$200 and 3rd prize \$100. Entries must be received at the GCWA PO Box by last mail 12 June 2009. Fee is \$10 per entry; maximum five (5) entries per person. For competition rules and entry form see www.goldcoastwriters.org.au. For information call 0431 443 385.

June 26: Jean Ringland Memorial Open Poetry Competition ☞●

Poets are invited to write up to 50 lines on the theme: 'Coming Home'. Prize to be awarded at The Poetry Soiree, Byron Bay on Aug 2. Judge is Shirley Walker. 1st prize \$500 and 2nd prize \$250. Prize winners will be published in *Dangerously Poetic's* Anthology. Entry fee is \$5 for one poem or \$10 for three, cheques made out to *Dangerously Poetic, Inc.* Go to www.dangerouslypoetic.com

June 30: Australian Unity Bryan Kelleher Literary Award ☞●

For bush poetry. 1st prize \$1000. No entry fee. Details at www.australianunity.com.au/literaryaward or call 03 8682 6778.

July 15: Lochee Andison Youth Literary Award Biennial Writing Competition ★☞

Open to all SA Middle and High School students. 1st prize \$100 plus a plaque held by school for 2 years. Subject: 'Transport'. Can be fact or fiction up to 2000 words. Send entries to The Secretary, Society of Women Writers SA, 72 Ormond Ave, Clearview, SA.

July 24: CJ Dennis Literary Awards ☞

The categories are: 1. 'The Universe - Yours to Discover' - short story; 2. 'The Universe - Yours to Discover' - poetry; 3. Short story - open; and 4. Poetry - open. Length of submissions is limited to 50 lines for poetry and 2500 words for stories. Entry fee is \$5 per piece of work. 1st prize in each category is \$200 to the winners. Prize winners will be publicly announced on 6 Sep, 2009 at the Auburn Institute, Clare Valley, SA.

July 31: ABR Reviewing Competition ☺●

Reviews should be 800 words. The book being reviewed must have been published since January 2007. 1st prize \$1000 and publication of the review in *Australian Book Review* and at least two future commissions. 2nd prize \$250 plus publication. 3rd prize is the Shorter Oxford English Dictionary. For further information, e-mail: abradmin@vicnet.net.au; telephone (03) 9429 6700 or visit the *ABR* website: www.australianbookreview.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*. Published contributors also receive a copy of the anthology. Entry fees: \$5 for one story, \$8 for two stories (maximum). For guidelines and entry form, please e-mail: vae@bhtafe.edu.au or send SAE to: Box Hill Institute, Centre for VAE, Private Bag 2014, Box Hill, VIC, 3128

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

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

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: First National Republican Short Story Competition ☺●

On 6 November 2009 it will be ten years since the republican referendum was lost. To commemorate this event the Australian Republican Movement is calling for speculative fiction short stories between 2000 and 4000 words that portray an Australian republican future in a positive light. Stories must be original and unpublished. First prize is \$611.99. Go to <http://republicanfiction.blogspot.com> or email qld@republic.org.au. Entry fee is \$11.99 (Cheques or postal order payable to Australian Republican Movement). Send entries to Australian Republican Movement, PO Box 87, Geebung Q 4034

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

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.

