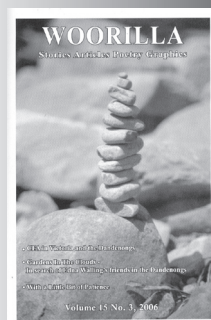
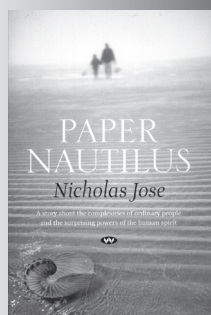
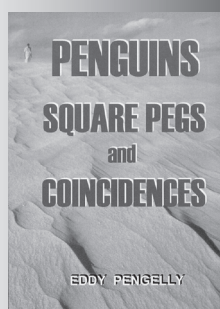
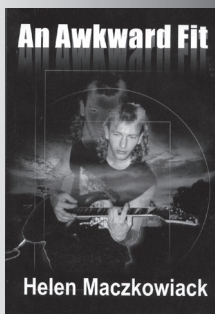




# Centre Information...



## So Very Resourceful

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

**UNSW Press, *The Little Red Riding Book***  
by Mark Tredinnick, 2006.

**Helen Maczkowiack, *An Awkward Fit*,**  
2006.

**Eddy Pengelly, *Penguins, Square Pegs,***  
*and Coincidences*, 2006.

**Wakefield Press, *Paper Nautilus*** by  
Nicholas Jose, 2006.

**Woorilla**, Volume 15 No.3, 2006.

## Newsletter Folders

Thankyou to the following people who helped fold the February issue of *Southern Write*:

John and Coie Dikkenberg, Cailean Darkwater, Jo Dey, Catherine Jones, Janos Pogany, Graeme Rickard, Gay Sanderson, Daniel Taylor, Diana Whiley, Jo-Anne Moretti and Peter Swindon.

## Extra Extra Brochure

As part of the SA Writers' Festival, the SAWC will once again be producing a list of books that have been published in the last two years. If your book has come out (or is soon to be released) between September 2005 and September 2007, please provide the following details: your name, name of book, publisher, date and a one-sentence blurb by the beginning of July 2007. Email [admin@sawriters.on.net](mailto:admin@sawriters.on.net) or post to the SA Writers' Centre, PO Box 43, Rundle Mall, 5000.

## Catherine Cleave Writers Studio

Writers are invited to apply to spend time at a studio in Port Willunga. Just a few minutes walk to the beach, the cosy bed-sit has an en-suite bathroom and all amenities, providing private space to start, finish, contemplate, celebrate or recover from writing endeavours.

Writer Kaye Cleave is making this studio available free of charge, though a small administration fee is required by the SA Writers' Centre. Anyone interested in using the studio should contact the SA Writers' Centre for further details.

## Longlines

Peter Bishop, Creative Director of Varuna, The Writers' House in the Blue Mountains, will be at the SA Writers' Centre on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> to Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> March for a second round of LongLines consultations with South Australian writers. Bookings for the LongLines Consultations may be made with the SA Writers' Centre by phoning the Centre on (08) 8223 7662. Please send 20 pages of material, plus a description of where you are at as a writer, what you hope for, dream of, etc to the Centre by the Wednesday before the week of the consultations.

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Street via Buongiorno's Caffè to  
reach the lift.



## Disclaimer

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# Poets & Platters

Wednesday 11th April 2007, 7-10pm.

Langmeil Winery

Cnr Para and Langmeil Roads, Tanunda.

\$30 per person includes supper and a glass of wine.

Limited Bookings. Premium wine available (no BYO).

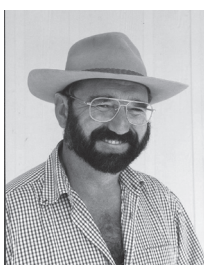
For bookings ph: 8563 2595.

Poetry written in modern form concerned with contemporary life, our place in history, combined with philosophical and experimental ideas. Humorous, satirical or just plain outspoken.



Jude Aquilina's poems have been published in Australia, the UK and the US. She has had two poetry collections published by Wakefield Press. Her poems also appear off the page, painted on the wall in the cheese shop at Angaston, hanging in Cafe Everest, Rundle St, and also on wine labels.

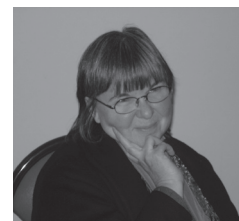
By day **rob walker** tries to inspire school children with music and drama. By night he's a closet poet. Actually he's come out of the closet. With poems in collections in Australia (including Les Murray's *Best Australian Poems, 2005*) and all over the world in anthologies and on websites, rob's work is getting a reputation for its conciseness and wry humour.



Bush poet **Bob Magor** has recently won a swag of awards, including the coveted Bronze Swagman, for written work, at Winton Queensland twice. At the recent Tamworth Country Music Festival, he won the Bush Laureate Award for book of the year for *The Exodus*. He was also short-listed for Album of the Year and Single of the Year.

Langmeil

**Louise Nicholas** is a teacher and early-morning poet. She has published four small collections of poetry and was co-editor, with rob walker, of *Friendly Street Thirty*. She and Jude Aquilina are currently completing a collection of poems about (amongst other things) women's bodily bits.



**Judy Dally** has published three collections of poetry. She has also been published in various magazines, journals and newspapers and in the last nineteen copies of the *Friendly Street Reader*. Judy is currently

setting up a literacy project with Tutti Arts, a group of young people with a disability studying art, music and drama.

DO YOU WRITE FOR THE STAGE?  
MUSICAL THEATRE? COMMUNITY THEATRE?  
CHILDREN AND YOUTH THEATRE?  
ARE YOU A DRAMATURGE?

BECOME A GUILD MEMBER NOW  
AND PAY NO JOINING FEE!

The Australian Writers' Guild is waiving the joining fee for writers working in theatre who become members between 1 January 2007 and 31 March 2007. Join now and save up to 50% on your first year's membership fees.

The Australian Writers' Guild is the peak professional body representing theatre, film, television, radio and new media writers in Australia. On behalf of its members the Guild works to improve professional standards, working conditions and remuneration; protect creative rights; promote the Australian cultural voice and improve the status of writers in Australia.

As a Guild member you will have access to a wide range of services designed to assist writers in developing their careers.

- **Script Assessment**
- **Mentorships**
- **Professional Development**
- **Script Registration**
- **Free legal and contractual advice**
- **Model contracts and information on standard rates**
- **Networking Opportunities**
- **Subscription to Storyline**
- **Regular e-news bulletins**
- **Member discounts**

Whether you are an established playwright or just starting out, a Guild membership is a great career investment.

For further information on the Australian Writers' Guild, membership and the discounts available go to [www.awg.com.au](http://www.awg.com.au) or contact our Membership Officer, Rebecca Freeman on 1300 552 228 or [admin@awg.com.au](mailto:admin@awg.com.au)



# Opportunities...

## Unborn Beauty

An Anthology of Stories and Poems. Wombat Books is calling for submissions from Australian writers for the following project. *Unborn Beauty* will be a collection of short stories, anecdotes, poems, comics and pictures depicting the joy of life within. Articles can be about anything to do with pregnancy, birth and new babies. Submissions must be received by October 30<sup>th</sup> 2007. Submission guidelines available at: [www.wombatbooks.com.au/submissionunbornbeauty.html](http://www.wombatbooks.com.au/submissionunbornbeauty.html) Or email: [unbornbeauty@wombatbooks.com.au](mailto:unbornbeauty@wombatbooks.com.au) Or send a SSAE to Wombat Books; P.O. Box 472 Inala Qld 4077 and the guidelines will be posted to you.



Government of South Australia  
Arts SA

## HEALTH PROMOTION THROUGH THE ARTS

### Sponsorships 2007-08

Health promotion through the arts promotes health and wellbeing through sponsorship of South Australia's arts and cultural organisations and community groups. Activities that aspire to excellence, in one or more artforms, with public outcomes that offer significant health promotion opportunities in South Australia are eligible for assistance.

There are three sponsorship categories:

- **General sponsorships** – arts and cultural activity
- **Community arts** – building stronger, more cohesive communities through specific projects and programs
- **Festivals** – a new program of sponsorship, which supports the arts content of small to medium metropolitan and regional festivals.

The health campaigns to be promoted in 2007-08 will be:

- Smoke-free environments (we're smoke-free)
- Mental health
- Healthy lifestyles (healthy eating and physical activity)

Applications close 5pm, Friday 30 March 2007.

### How to apply

Application forms and guidelines are available from Arts SA and can be downloaded from the Arts SA website: [www.arts.sa.gov.au](http://www.arts.sa.gov.au) under Support and Funding. To have information mailed to you contact: Leonie Seccafien, 110 Hindley Street, Adelaide, SA 5000 GPO Box 2308, Adelaide, SA 5001. Telephone: 08 8463 5404 Email: [seccafien.leonie@saugov.sa.gov.au](mailto:seccafien.leonie@saugov.sa.gov.au) **LATE APPLICATIONS ARE NOT ACCEPTED.**

ARTSSA011015

## Parenting Express

Submissions are currently invited from writers interested in sharing their well-crafted, wise and considered words about birth, raising children and all the bits in between.

*Parenting Express*, updated monthly, is a website founded in December 2006. In its first year, *Parenting Express* attracted more than 90,000 from readers around the globe. (Now The website contains creative

material from people from all walks of life, book reviews and recommended weblinks (including some for writers).

They are now looking for creative non-fiction, memoir, birth stories, poems and stories/articles. Submission guidelines and full details are included on the website [www.parentingexpress.com](http://www.parentingexpress.com)

## Going Down Swinging

Released in May/June 2007, *GDS 25* will feature the best of new spoken word from Australia and around the world in a special double-CD pack. Submissions of spoken word tracks for 25 are now open, and they've extended the deadline to April 1st, 2007.

To send your work, you need to fill in a CD submission form, which is at the website, and post your track/s on CD – they will listen to up to 3 tracks. All the details and the fine print can be found at [www.goingdownswinging.org.au](http://www.goingdownswinging.org.au). Email submissions@goingdownswinging.org.au if you've got any more questions.

## True Life Stories

Life's Inspirational Moments, a Western Australian publisher, is currently looking for true-life short stories and poems for their upcoming titles. Submissions need to relate to one specific event and be inspiring, humorous, enlightening or uplifting. Stories must be 500 – 1000 words, poems up to 30 lines. Titles planned for this year are: *Moments With Dad*, *Slimming Moments*, *Aussie Farming Moments* and *Stolen Moments II* (relating to Alzheimer's).

For more information and Writers Guidelines please visit [www.lifesinspirationalmoments.com](http://www.lifesinspirationalmoments.com).

## You Have Creativity? Get Money!

The South Australian Youth Arts Board exists to ensure that children & young people in SA are making and/or experiencing artistic stuff that is relevant and original! If you are under 27 and creating original arts and/or working creatively with young people you may be eligible for financial support to develop your idea, create new work or participate in professional development.

APPLICATIONS are now open for Project and Development grants for arts projects with and/or by young people.

APPLICATIONS CLOSE 5PM FRIDAY 30 MARCH 2007

Visit [www.sayab.org.au](http://www.sayab.org.au) Check out our guidelines and contact Industry Development staff at SAYAB (08) 361 9777 to discuss your project.

## Speed Dating

Expressions of Interest are being Sought for: SPEED DATING: WRITERS AND PRODUCERS FACE-TO-FACE. Never laid eyes on a producer in your writing life? Having difficulty meeting a writer? Looking for new ideas, new scripts or even someone to turn your idea into a script? Then come along on a 'date' with emerging writers and producers.

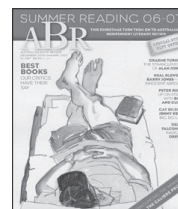
This event will be hosted by the South Australian Chapters of the Australian Writers' Guild (AWG) and the Screen Producers Association of Australia (SPAA) with the aim of fostering productive working relationships between like-minded writers and producers. During the evening emerging producers will be partnered with writers in quick succession, to share and discuss storytelling interests. Should any of these 'dates' spark mutual interest a further relationship can be pursued over drinks on the night.

Speed Dating will be held during April at the SA Writers' Centre.

Please contact Gabrielle Aujard at the AWG on 8232 6852 or [sa@awg.com.au](mailto:sa@awg.com.au) for further enquiries on any of the above.

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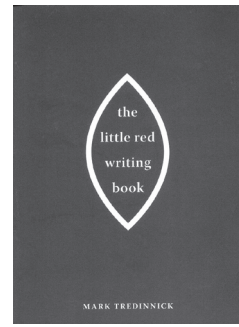
or visit [www.australianbookreview.com.au](http://www.australianbookreview.com.au)

'*ABR* is part of my essential reading.'

Justice Michael Kirby

# New to the Library

Lesley Beasley reviews *The Little Red Writing Book* by Mark Tredinnick, University of New South Wales Press.



I started this book in a hurry. I had an assignment due, dishes to wash, bills to pay and the dog was begging for a walk. OK, I thought, *The Little Red Writing Book*, Chairman Mao, the barrel of a gun, how to write in bullet points. A ready reference for my pocket. Let's see what he's got to say. But despite the title, it's not that sort of book.

Mark Tredinnick, prize-winning poet and nature writer, teacher of creative writing in both Australia and the United States, and no relation to Little Red Riding Hood, starts by inviting us into his own writing life. 'I sit down to write the book,' he begins. 'Nothing happens.' So we can be pretty sure he's going to take us through the process. The question is how.

It's an old writing adage: show don't tell; but that's not so easy in a book about writing a book. Surely, it's mostly telling. Not in this case.

'A sentence is just like a walk,' Tredinnick explains as he heads outdoors. 'A walk taken first by the writer and then the reader.' And so we start our journey with what could almost be a meditation on sentences as he follows a trail around the lake.

'Actually,' he says, once we're safely hooked, 'there was something else I did this morning' and we are onto mind mapping and how to make a plan that you plan to change.

If you're in a hurry and want the bullet points, you might prefer one of my all-time favourites, *Writing From Start to Finish*, by Kate Grenville; but if you have time to linger over a perfect sentence, to notice how Tredinnick has weighted each word against the next and created a paragraph that sings, even as he discusses the importance of rhythm, then this book is for you.

Experienced writers may not want to do every exercise, but will still find plenty to make the journey worthwhile. Apart from the pleasure of the prose, there are quotes and passages from writers good and bad, anecdotes from Tredinnick's classes, and meditations, musings and confessions from his own experience. All woven into something that feels more like a narrative than a series of lessons.

New writers may choose to take it more slowly, working their way through each carefully planned exercise. Did I say exercise? I doubt Mark Tredinnick would ever use such an authoritarian word. 'Try this,' he says instead, and within minutes you've discovered something new – how not to write like a writer trying to write, perhaps, or how to tame a sentence or face the dreaded blank page.

'Writing is just a kind of talking on paper' he says. And that's what he does, but don't be fooled. It's not a matter of 'dumbing down'. The whole book is a testament to the art and craft that make writing seem easy, from the intricacies of style down to basic grammar.

He slides the grammar in as easily as a chat-up line. Before we know it we're talking subjects and predicates and personal pronouns ... The moment has passed and guess what, it's the grammar gets the girl.

For those who like to go by the rules, you now have permission to relax. Want to start a sentence with And? Or end it with a preposition? Or split an infinitive half way through? Why not? It's syntax that counts, not pedantry, says Tredinnick. The trick is to use them well and to do that you need to know what you're dealing with.

He slides the grammar in as easily as a chat-up line. Before we know it we're talking subjects and predicates and personal pronouns. There's no time to wish ourselves elsewhere. The moment has passed and guess what, it's the grammar gets the girl. 'The most brilliant sentences,' Tredinnick says, 'no matter how long and convoluted, are strung with sturdy syntax.' How can you resist a sentence like that?

I certainly can't. Which means it's time to get back to my manuscript, to look at each and every (did I need that every?) sentence and wonder is it cluttered or clear? Is it loosely subordinate or accidentally ambiguous, or a freight train that got away without me noticing? Is it a triad or a periodic? Perhaps a little too paratactic? Have I worked a metaphor too hard or lost the rhythm? And – heaven forbid – are my verbs too passive?

All of the above, I fear. Meanwhile the bills are unpaid, the dishes unwashed and the dog ... well, maybe a walk isn't such a bad idea.

After all, wasn't there something about a sentence being like a walk? I flip back to the start. Here we go. 'Sentences live. They move and breathe. They travel, making themselves up as they go. A sentence – making it and taking it – is the walking, not just the walk.'

Perhaps I'll put the answering machine on. I might be gone a while.

You can read some of Mark Tredinnick's poetry in the Spring 2006 edition of *Island* magazine at <http://www.islandmag.com/106/index.html>.

Lesley Beasley has recently completed her Masters in Creative Writing and is still wrestling with the manuscript.

# What's On...

## February Poetica

Presented by Mike Ladd

Saturdays at 3.05pm. Repeated at 3.05pm Thursdays.

Program details:

March

3rd Patrick Kavanagh – a feature on the life and work of this great Irish poet.

10th Anne Edgeworth – Canberra-based poet Anne Edgeworth talks about and reads her work.

17th *What I Heard About Iraq* – a radio-poem based on the writings of Eliot Weinberger.

24th *Beowulf*, Part 1 – an exciting new adaptation by Felix Nobis of this ancient classic.

31st *Beowulf*, Part 2 - Beowulf's battles continue.

## The Byron Bay Writers Festival will

be held on 26 July – 29 July 2007 with workshops from 23 July at the Byron Bay Beach Resort, Byron Bay NSW. The Festival for thinkers: seven days of literary events, workshops, panel discussions, film, theatre, conversations, book launches and schools events in beautiful Byron Bay.

Email: [info@nrwc.org.au](mailto:info@nrwc.org.au)

Phone: 02 6685 5115

Web: [www.byronbaywritersfestival.com](http://www.byronbaywritersfestival.com)

## ASA ADELAIDE MEETING

Members and other interested writers are invited to attend a meeting of the Australian Society of Authors at the Feathers Hotel, 516 Glynburn Road, Burnside at 5.30pm on Monday 19 March. The ASA's Executive Director, Dr Jeremy Fisher, will discuss current issues and respond to questions, and SA members of the Committee of Management, Elizabeth Hutchins and Jared Thomas, will also be present. Please register your intention to attend by emailing the ASA office at [asa@asauthors.org](mailto:asa@asauthors.org) or phoning 02 9318 0877 by Thursday 15 March.

ASA members are then welcome to stay for a literary dinner at 7.00pm. to be attended by the Directors/CEOs of seven state & territory Writers' Centres and other invited guests. Sean Williams will be guest speaker. It is essential to book your place by contacting the SAWC on 8223 7662, also by Thursday 15 March.

## The HHIP Poetry and Literary Society

(Houghton, Hermitage, Inglewood, Paracombe) Inaugural Meeting, CWA Meeting Rooms, Blackhill Road, Houghton at 7.30pm on Thursday 15th March 2007.

All writers and poets welcome  
Enquiries to Ken on 8380 5348  
or Sharon 0403 831 170.

## The Writers' Salon

The Writers' Salon, situated in a city apartment in Rundle St, is where new and emerging writers meet to share their latest writing and poetry. The atmosphere is super friendly and conducive to performance art and the written word. The meetings are held every Thursday night at 7.30pm. If you are interested in attending, please call 0406 745 541. We look forward to hearing from you.

## Wordfire Fringe Event

Performance meets poetry and prose  
Crown and Sceptre Hotel, 308 King William St. Adelaide. Monday 12th March from 7pm. Almost free at \$2.

## The Hills Poets

The next meeting of the Hills Poets will be on Sunday 11 March at 3.30 pm at the Crafers Inn, Crafers. Please come and join us and read your work. For further information please ring Jill Gower on 8339 5119.

## Book Launch

Friendly Street Poets New Poets 12

Steve Brock's *The Night is a Dying Dog*

Margaret Fensom's *Travelling*

Murray Alfredson's *Nectar and Light*

To be launched on Friday 9th March, 6.30pm, at the SA Writers' Centre by Chloe Fox, MP, on behalf of the Minister for the Arts, Mike Rann.

All SAWC members welcome.

## INDEPENDENT SCHOLARS (ISAA)...

is an Australia-wide association for people whose research interests are outside institutional or organisational links. People in established research institutions and those who are interested but not actively engaged in research are also welcomed to the support and fellowship of our groups

in South Australia. The next meeting will be at 2.30pm on Thursday April 5 at the SA Writers' Centre; it should end at approximately 4pm. Interest in Jane Nelson's paper, 'Marlowe in Germany,' with its insights into English politics and religious thought from the closing years of the sixteenth century through the first quarter of the seventeenth, has prompted this follow-up on the topic.

Enquiries: [virginia@virginiakenny.com](mailto:virginia@virginiakenny.com)  
phone 8344 7810.

[www.independentscholars.asn.au](http://www.independentscholars.asn.au)

## Beyond the Word Writing Project

April 2007. FREE writing based workshops for Children and Adults at Port Community Arts Centre, 66 Commercial Road, Port Adelaide, based on stories of Port Adelaide, past, present & future. There are so many stories waiting to be written – what about yours? See enclosed brochure for more information or email Bev Bills on [beyondtheword@hotmail.com](mailto:beyondtheword@hotmail.com) or 8443 6102.

## The Scribbler's League ...

Meet at the WEA centre Angus Street on the first and third Friday of the month from 2pm until 4pm. Members write short stories and poetry and they are given the opportunity to read to the group who will critique their work if desired.

It is a great opportunity to share and learn. If you require more information.

Phone Vola Ryan 8356 0973.



# Half a Page with ... Meredith Harvey

**Meredith Harvey developed her interest in writing when she retired from careers first in nursing and then social work. *The Only Me* is the first book that she has had published. It is to be given to parents of the babies born in SA, (through *The Advertiser* Little Big Book Club).**

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

Initially I write by hand. I still prefer pen and paper when I'm developing an idea. I jot down ideas in notebook/s and on writing pads and then transfer to the computer.

## **Any tips for aspiring writers?**

Try, try, try again. In other words perseverance. Keep a notebook handy to write down ideas. Read widely. Join a writing group; peer support and networking are important. Have some fun and perhaps get some inspiration by attending book launches and writers festivals; and an added bonus is that most of these functions are free.

## **Do you listen to anything while you write?**

My taste in music is eclectic so it could be anything from Bach or Beethoven to Simon and Garfunkel.

## **What's your opinion of the South Australian literary scene?**

As a late starter, I'm a new kid on the block in literary circles so I am still learning about all the resources that are available to writers. I am often surprised by the number of different writing groups, writers festivals, as well as workshops, grants and mentorships that are available, so to me it seems quite vibrant, but I do hear some lamenting about the difficulty in getting work published, but it has probably always been thus.

## **What books have influenced you?**

As a secondary school student I remember reading the work of Joseph Conrad, Charles Dickens, Ernest Hemingway and Henry Handel Richardson among others. As you can see there is a diverse range of writing styles even in that small selection. Of course I was influenced by my exposure to these writers, both consciously and unconsciously. We also studied poetry: Keats, Coleridge as well as Australian poets. I remember there was a class discussion

about whether there were layers of meaning in one of Judith Wright's poems. At the teacher's suggestion, a student wrote to Ms Wright and asked her about this. I also well remember Ms Wright's response as I was quite shocked by the acerbic tone of the letter that was read to the class; she found it very annoying that people wanted to find layers of meaning in her poetry and in future if we expected a reply would we please send a stamped envelope. That certainly influenced me for some years ... to be rather wary of writers. Fortunately I have found that most writers are very generous and helpful.

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

The Booker prize because it seems that it is almost impossible to win. I have read the work of many very good writers who don't win but are short-listed. Winning The Booker is really more of a fantasy. In reality I would be delighted to win any prize and still pinch myself at being fortunate enough to have had my manuscript chosen as *The Advertiser* Little Big Book Club book for 2007, and I think I won the jackpot when Amanda Graham was chosen as the illustrator.

## LOOKING FOR A PUBLISHER?



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

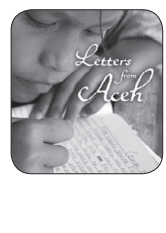
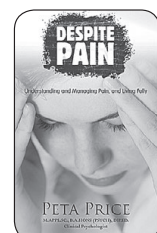
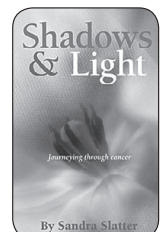
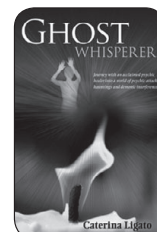
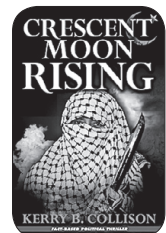
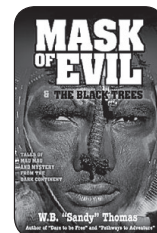
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Contact SHP at: [author@sidharta.com.au](mailto:author@sidharta.com.au)

Phone: (03) 9560 9920 or visit our website for submission details at:

<http://www.publisher-guidelines.com>

<http://www.sidharta.com.au>





Every second year, as the vintage is celebrated, the Barossa Valley comes alive with the Barossa Vintage Festival. This year, in the 60th Vintage Festival, the Barossa Arts Council is launching a series of 'Literature in the Valley' events that will add a literary note to the festivities. These events will appeal to a wide range of interests, both readers and writers, and cater to a broad community cross-section, from youth to older persons. The Vintage Festival runs from Saturday 7th April til Sunday 15th April and more details can be found at [www.barossavintagefestival.com.au](http://www.barossavintagefestival.com.au)

**Events of interest to writers include:**

**Family History & Genealogy Event**

Three informative speakers: Marie Maddocks (State Library of South Australia Collections Specialist), Andrew Peake (SA Genealogy and Heraldry Society) and Open Book Publishers 'Helpful Tips and Information on Publishing a Family History'.

Friday 13th April at 1-3pm  
Langmeil Centre, 7 Maria Street, Tanunda  
Cost \$5.00  
Bookings required  
Afternoon tea provided  
Contact Julie Bailey 8562 1107

**A presentation by Christine McCabe**  
best-selling author of *A Garden in the Hills – a Tale of Selling Up, Digging In, and Growing Things*.

Thursday 12 April 2007 at 1.30pm  
in the beautiful surrounds of Willowsporn, Willows Road, Light Pass  
Cost \$7.50 Bookings required  
Contact Timeless Books 8564 2222

**Kapunda Writers**

Samples of the work of Kapunda Writers' Group will be available for the public to read while they enjoy the excellent menu and atmosphere of the Old Mill Gallery & Café.  
7-15 April  
café opening hours  
Old Mill Gallery, Murray St. Tanunda  
Contact Old Mill Gallery & Café 8563 0222.

**Everything you wanted to know about writing and publishing in 2 hours.**

Workshop presented by Astrid Cooper, award-winning, best-selling author of fantasy, romance and 'romantica'. Astrid will present tips of the trade and unique insights into the industry, including how and where to get started. She will also

provide advice and exercises on how to create characters – the essential ingredient to any work of fiction. The workshop is suitable for all writers, whether published or just beginning.

Saturday 14 April, 2.30 – 4.30 pm  
Angaston library annexe, Washington St, Angaston  
Cost \$10 Bookings required  
Contact Margaret 8523 2859

**Comics and Graphic Novels**

A workshop on comics and graphic novels for adolescents and young adults, with Peter Moore, proprietor of Pulp Fiction Comics, Adelaide, and Glenn Lumsden, illustrator of many comic book characters for overseas publishers, (most notably *The Phantom* for Marvel Comics), and cover artist for *The Good Weekend* magazine, *The Bulletin* and *The Financial Review*.

This workshop will provide examples of the range and diversity of graphic novels and their influence on other media such as TV and movies and how they benefit 'reluctant readers'.

Attendees will also receive insights and practical tips into:

- what makes a graphic novel popular
- the various layouts and how to choose them
- how to ensure the graphics support and 'tell' the story
- how you can make a living as a cartoonist/illustrator.

There will even be an opportunity to show your skills in drawing!  
Tuesday 10 April, 7-8.30 pm  
Venue TBA  
Contact Alex 0414 758 768 Bookings required

**Young Writers Competition,**

Organized by the Barossa Writers  
Theme – Living in or near the Barossa, past, present or future.

Sections: Grades 3-5, maximum 500 words.  
Grades 6-7, maximum 750 words.

In each section; prizes of book vouchers. Entries must be received by COB 16th March 2007.

Winners will be announced and prizes awarded at a ceremony on 11th April 2007 in Lyndoch where prize-winning children's author Rosanne Hawke will speak.  
Contact Margaret 8523 2859.

## Mission To Zyrcon

A Social psychological science fiction novel by

Kon Calembakis

dealing with the themes of business, xenophobia, mythology, ecology, love and evolution.

Novel presented in screenbook/e-book format. Can be downloaded from the publisher at:

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



# Congratulations...

**Erica Jolly's** poem 'On a work of art in the foyer of the South Australian State Library' was included in the Poets' Union 2006 Anthology *Sun and Sleet*. 'Considering Sleep', dealing with Ruddock's assertion that sleep deprivation is a permissible form of 'coercion', was published in the Dec 2006/Jan 2007 edition of *Adelaide Voices*. Erica's collection of poems *Pomegranates* was positively reviewed by Margaret Bradstock in the latest *Five Bells*. An interview with an American of New York is in *Thylazine*.

**Patricia Irvine's** poems 'Summer Marvell' and 'Snake' were published in the *Independent Weekly*. Her poem 'Manholes' was commended in the Rhyming Poetry Section of the 2007 Eyre Writers Awards.

**Philomena Essex's** children's story 'The Scarecrow's Secret' has been awarded second place in the Children's Story competition with the Fellowship of Australian Writers (North-West Tasmanian branch).

Award-winning SA based playwright **Stephen House** recently received an Asialink Literature Residency to India. The residency funded by the Australian Council and Arts SA will see House live in India for 4 months where he will travel widely, perform some of his acclaimed monologues, conduct workshops and create a new work fuelled by his travel and research. He will live for a period at his host organisation 'Sanskriti Kendra,' a centre which has hosted many international artists.

**Mike Dumbleton's** latest picture book *You Must Be Joking* has been published by Working Title Press, with illustrations by Greg Holfeld.

**Lidija Simkute's** recent publications include the CD *Spaces of Silence* (with a forward by David Malouf), in English & Lithuanian; 3 poems in *Nemunas*, Nov, 2006, Lithuania; 1 poem in *Tiltas* Nov, 2006, Ukraine; 11 poems (translated by Koichi Yakushigawa) – <http://homepage2nifty.com/4-kansai/kokusaikouryuu/Lidija.htm> in English & Japanese; 3 poems (translated by Pietro

U. Dini) in an Anthology of Contemporary Lithuanian Poetry – *Mappa della poesia litua del seconda Novacento*, 2006, Italy, in Italian & Lithuanian; a translation into Lithuanian of the poem 'Spiral' (by K. Yakushigawa) in *Literature & Art*, Nov, 2006. She was the guest reader at Lithuanian Australian Festival in Geelong in December 2006, and an extensive review of Lidija's latest bilingual collection *Wind Sheen* featured in *Draugas* Nov, 2006, USA.

**Adrian Flavell** had the following poems published: 'the jetty' in *Orbit (School Magazine)* Feb 07 and 'this night', 'off henley beach' and 'magpies' in *Polestar* (13).

**Rosemary Austin** won first prize in the Copper Triangle Writing Group's 2006 Poetry Writing Competition with her poem 'Cosy Cafe'.

**Henry Ashley-Brown** has had writing published in the following: *Tally Man*, *Unruly Sun*, *Friendly Street Reader #31* and *Artstate*.

**Roxy Bent** has won the 13th Annual Harper Collins Scarlet Stiletto for the second time running with her short story 'Mrs Wilcox's Milk Saucepan'. A selection of the Scarlet Stilettoes are to be published next year.

**Dawn Colsey's** poem 'Presence' was commended in the Friendly Street Mystical Poetry competition.

**Helen Mitchell's** short story 'Whispering Shadows' won first prize in the Copper Triangle 2006 Short Story Competition.

At the 11th annual Aurealis Awards, **David Cornish** won the Gold Aurealis Award (for Young Adult fiction for *Monster Blood Tattoo Book One: Foundling*), and **Sean Williams** picked up Best Science Fiction Short Story award for 'The Seventh Letter'.

**Kami's** short story 'Nazi Girl' was published in *Metal Scratches #7* (U.S). His story 'The Ballad Of Piss Boy' was awarded a commendation in the KSP short fiction awards 2006.

**John Malone's** poems appeared in the following 'school magazine' publications: 'No Hurry' [*Countdown*], 'The Cure', 'Early Warning Signal' and 'Address to a Bee' [*Blast Off*] and 'The Cubby House Remembers' and 'Jack and the Beanstalk: The Giant's Version' [*Orbit*].

**Jill Gloyne's** poem 'Haiku for Lease' has been Highly Commended in the 'Tom Black Memorial' Poetry Section of the Eyre Writers' 2007 Awards.

The Newland Gallery in Port Adelaide has just concluded an exhibition featuring the art and poetry from inmates of Mobilong Prison. Poetry from two of **Ruth Starke's** Fiction students - **Brett Stuart Williams** (who got his Advanced Diploma in Professional Writing at TAFE) and **Ian Smith** were featured. In addition, Brett has self-published a children's book *Serious Magic* and has had good feedback and interaction with Murray Bridge Primary School. He's also now the editor of the prison newspaper.

**David McGuigan's** poems 'The Lake' and 'Uncle Clem' were published in *tamba*. 'Coat of Many Colours', 'Destiny' and 'Trepina' were also published in *Write Away*, the *I Remember When* anthology and *Polestar*, respectively. 'Damper' appeared in the *Southern Ocean Review* (NZ) and on the *Pixel Papers* website.

**Anne Bartlett's** *Knitting* has been selected as a finalist for the 2007 Audies (Audio Publishers Association (USA)) in the Inspiration/Faith Based Fiction category.

In edition 37 of the Australian War Memorial's magazine *Wartime*, **John Bradford** has an article on Lieutenant-Commander John Band, RANR(S). Band received the posthumous award of the US Navy Cross for heroism in the landing at Finschafen, New Guinea, in September 1943.

*As with last month, some brag file entries have been held over until April, due to space restrictions.*

# Literary Competitions...

☺☞ 16 March 2007  
NSW Premier's History Awards. For works first published, produced or performed between March 11 2006 and 9 March 2007. Six categories: Australian History, General History, Community and Regional History, Young People's History Prize, Audio Visual History Prize, John and Patricia Ward History Prize for Use of Archives in Writing History. Nomination forms available from SAWC or [www.arts.nsw.gov.au](http://www.arts.nsw.gov.au)

☺ 30 March  
Inverawe Outdoors Poetry Competition. The competition is for a single original nature poem not longer than 28 lines. Prize-winning poems will be read at Inverawe, Margate Tasmania, on Sunday 29 April. Entries will be judged by Louise Oxley. First prize is \$300 with two minor prizes of \$100 each. A list of winners and the judge's report will be made available to all participants. Full details and entry forms from the webpage [www.inverawe.com.au](http://www.inverawe.com.au)

30 March 2007  
Write Away Short Story Competition. First prize \$50. Entry fee of \$3.00 for one story, or \$5.00 for two stories. Stories up to 2,500 words - must accompany entry form which can be obtained by sending through SSAE to Write Away Short Story Competition, PO Box 39, West Richmond SA 5033 or via [writeawaystories@gmail.com](mailto:writeawaystories@gmail.com)

☺★☞ 31 March 2007  
Kernewek Lowender Writers' Competition 2007. Adult: Max Fatchen Short Story Award, to 2,500 words. 1st prize \$100. Max Fatchen Poetry Award to 50 lines. 1st prize \$100. \$5 entry. Children: Max Fatchen Young Writers' Award - Short Story 12-18yrs to 2,500 words, 1st prize \$50. Poetry 12-18 years to 50 lines, 1st prize \$50. Short Story under 12 years to 1000 words, 1st prize \$25. Poetry under 12 to 30 lines, 1st prize \$25. Free Entry.

- ☺ indicates a competition listed for the first time
- ★ indicates a competition with sections for young writers
- ☞ indicates the SA Writers' Centre holds the entry forms

As a service to members, the SAWC holds entry forms and guidelines. Call in and collect copies for 20c each or send one business-sized stamped self-addressed envelope, plus one loose 50c stamp for every TWO competitions requested.

★ 31 March 2007  
Voices on the Coast - a youth literature festival - is seeking writing competition entries for an unpublished manuscript by a new (previously unpublished) author. The competition is for a prose story for younger readers (ages 8-13 years) - length up to 30 000 words. Prizes: \$2000 (includes a cash prize, and a trip to the Sunshine Coast to receive the prize and the opportunity to visit the Voices on the Coast festival); \$500 second prize. Entries open to all Australian residents. Shortlisted manuscripts will be judged by a University of Queensland Press representative. Further details and Entry Form [www.immanuel.qld.edu.au/voices](http://www.immanuel.qld.edu.au/voices) Entries to be posted to: Writing Competition - Voices on the Coast PO Box 5025, Maroochydore BC QLD 4558 Enquires to [voices@immanuel.qld.edu.au](mailto:voices@immanuel.qld.edu.au) or telephone 07 5477 3437

☺★ 31 March 2007  
Woorilla Annual Poetry Prize 2007  
Judged by Judith Rodriguez  
Open Section: Prize \$1000  
Youth Section: Prize \$100  
Conditions of entry:  
· poems must be typed and on A4 paper, one poem to a sheet  
· poems 50 lines or fewer - neither published nor have won a prize  
· coversheet showing name,

address, tel no. and section entered  
· do not put name on poems  
· judge's decision will be final  
· copyright remains with author  
· publication in Woorilla may be offered to the winners  
· the right is reserved not to award a prize  
· include a SSAE for notification  
· \$5.00 (\$3.00 youth) per poem (\$20 / \$10 for 5 poems)  
· Send entries and fee to:  
Woorilla Magazine, 255 Macclesfield Rd. Macclesfield, Vic 3782

☺★☞ 12 May 2007  
Slippery When Wet Short Story Competition 2007. Entry open to all amateur writers across Australia and New Zealand Open Theme. Special prize for the best story with a road theme. Max length 2000 words. Entry Fee \$7.50. Prizes: 1st \$500 2nd \$200

3rd \$100  
<http://home.alphalink.com.au/~vanselow/>

☺ 25 May 2007  
2007 Shoalhaven Literary awards for Short Stories. Open theme, max 3000 words. First prize \$1,000. Up to 4 highly commended awards of \$200. Fee \$8.00. Entry forms from [www.arts.shoalhaven.net.au](http://www.arts.shoalhaven.net.au)

☺☞ 22 May 2007  
Grampians Writers Group Literary Awards 2007. Section 1 - Short Story up to 2500 words. Section 2 - Poem of 20 - 60 lines. Prizes - Sections 1&2 : First - \$200 - Second - \$100 plus certificate in both sections.

☺☞ 31 May 2007  
Australasian Poetry awards A. Poem up to 100 lines, open theme. B. Best Feline Poem up to 60 lines. entry fee \$5. Prizes from \$50-\$200.

☺☞ 1 June 2007  
Bush Lantern Award 2007 Written Competition for Bush Verse, max 100 lines. Entry fee \$6.00. First prize - trophy and \$200.

## EAGLE EDITING

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ABN: 97 97 42 90



# A Note from Colombo

by Ashley Mallett

My brief was simple. I had to finish my day's toil, then shower, dress in casual attire and take a leisurely stroll down the 300-odd metres to the Cinnamon Grand Hotel, just along the main thoroughfare from my digs in downtown Colombo, to meet up with an old friend. My mate was in town playing cricket for a bunch of oldies and he is the subject of my new biography. Kevin Douglas Walters needs no introduction to cricket fans. In fact, anyone who knows cricket or has ever had a beer, smoked a cigarette or laid a bet on a horse might know Doug Walters or certainly know of him. He is one of cricket's enduring characters and perhaps one of the sport's national treasures Down Under. My only problem this hot and sultry Colombo afternoon was that a Black Tiger suicide bomber activated some 10kgs of explosive in the army hospital which just happened to be situated only a Darren Lehmann drive from my hotel, the Taj Samundra. Investigators discovered that the bomber was a young pregnant woman who had penetrated security at the army camp through attending pre-natal classes there. She was, by all accounts, attractive and personable, but there was a sinister side to her life. She was a member of the dreaded Black Tigers, women from the north of Sri Lanka who are dedicated to killing and maiming in the name of the Tigers wanting a separate homeland in Sri Lanka. This day the bomber had targeted the chief of the Sri Lankan army. The woman flung herself at the commander's car, but an alert soldier kicked out at the girl and as she hit the ground her bomb was set off, but the angle of the blast enabled the commander to escape death, albeit he was badly injured.

His security men, including the alert soldier, weren't so fortunate. They were among the seven who died instantly. Suicide bombers are usually identified by their heads which are left virtually unscathed, although in the wake of the blast they no longer remain attached to their bodies. This bomber's pretty head was found at the top of a coconut tree. In the aftermath of such carnage I set out to walk the 300 metres to catch up with Doug. Outside the hotel army types in battle fatigues were everywhere. Blokes carried long poles with big, round mirrors attached so they could examine underneath cars coming in to the hotel carpark. Too bad if you are in the car behind and the one in front has a bomb. Down Galle Face Road, the main thoroughfare where the Sri Lankan president often travels and potentially the road where a suicide bomber was likely to strike, there was a commando standing about every 25 metres. Each bloke had his finger on the trigger of an AK-47. It is both frightening and comforting: frightening in that you might get caught in a cross-fire and comforting in that at least the good guys were armed and on your side. Well, you hoped so.

Walking to the Cinnamon Grand was out of the question. So I took a cab. It cost me 300 Rupees: 1 Rupee for every metre. Then the cab driver opened the passenger door and said: 'Not very far now ... but this is as far as I go.' I was on my own. I approached Doug's hotel via the back entrance and had to get over a small bridge before I reached the back gate.

On the bridge stood an ominous-looking character armed to the teeth, his finger on the trigger of his rifle.

'Passport?'

'No, my good man. I don't need a passport. I am here to visit a famous Australian cricketer of past years. His name is Doug Walters and the only passport I need to see Walters is a slab of beer and a carton of cigarettes. May I pass?'

The commando flashed a gap-toothed smile which had me thinking he was taking the piss out of Doug and let me go. So in recent months I have been coaching Sri Lankan cricketers from the Under-13 to the Test arena and sort of dodging bombs. Sri Lanka is a beautiful country and the people are so gentle, you find yourself wondering how in God's name they could be embroiled in a conflict which really is tantamount to civil war. The Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry of Sri Lanka took out a full-page advertisement in all the major newspapers. It posed the question: 'In the interest of peace, there is much war, or is it that we don't know how to make peace? On behalf of the entire business community we make an impassioned plea to both the Government of Sri Lanka and the LTTE; lay aside your differences and your arms. It is imperative that you uphold the interests of the people of all communities you represent and make peace, not war.'

There is no peace, no poetry in the destructive senselessness of war. Even in times of peace I plug for the harmonious power of words, not a war of words.

In one of Colombo's morning broadsheets, *Daily News*, the newspaper devotes one whole page to readers' poetry. On another day the paper devotes space to publish a chosen short story by a reader. I enjoyed Ivan Kiriella's 13-line poem entitled: *The Anvil*:

The sledge forges and forges  
A hot glowing iron  
Keeping on the anvil's shoulders  
The anvil is far heavier  
And stronger than the sledge;  
Yet, powerless under the powerful sledge.  
When one sledge wears out,  
Another sledge takes over  
The beating and forging the anvil  
Though the same iron does  
Not get beaten every day.  
It's the same anvil that bears  
The burden of the sledge day by day.  
© Ivan Kiriella, Sri Lanka

While we are not embroiled in civil war in this State I wonder how culturally better we might be in Adelaide if *The Advertiser* devoted space to encourage our local writers. Certainly the *Tiser* and *The Sunday Mail* could do with a decided lift in their standard. Undoubtedly Australia's best newspaper is *The Age* in Melbourne and one wonders how Adelaide might benefit if Fairfax moved in on Murdoch in this fair city.

All this talk of heat, being beaten and sledge, puts me in mind of the Ashes cricket series. I missed the Adelaide Test match battle, but I did invest in a hard hat over here ...

Ashley Mallett is working on his 25<sup>th</sup> book, *The Life and Times of Doug Walters* and is currently establishing a Spin Bowling Academy for the Sri Lankan Cricket Board in Colombo.

