

**The Novel: from creation to publication.**

Publishers, award-winning writers and one of Australia's most successful agents will provide advice for new and established writers.

Jenny Darling, Agent from Darling and Associates

Meredith Curnow, Associate Publisher, Vintage, Knopf, Random House

Michael Bollen, Publisher, Wakefield Press

Eva Sallis, writer

John Harwood, writer

See bios on page 3.

Participants will have a chance to talk to the agent and the publishers in small groups.

**Seminar cost:**

\$60 for SA Writers' Centre Members.

\$80 for non-members.

Bookings Essential. Ph: 8223 7662 or email: sawriters@sawriters.on.net

Saturday September 9, 10am to 4pm



Eva Sallis



John Harwood



Michael Bollen



Meredith Curnow

**The GHANTASTIC Writers' Muster**

You're invited to join celebrations planned for the arrival of 'The Ghantastic Writers' Train' on September 15. Meet, greet and lunch with six writers who will have travelled from Darwin to Adelaide on the Ghan, performing, speaking and delivering workshops in towns along the way:

- poet, Samuel Wagan Watson (NSW Premier's Award 2005 Book of the Year)
- scriptwriter, Andrew Bovell (*Lantana*, *Strictly Ballroom*)
- fiction and nonfiction writer, Leonie Norrington
- playwright, John Romeril
- novelist, Philip McLaren (*Sweet Water*, *Stolen Land*)
- singer-songwriter, Leah Flanagan



Enjoy this writers' muster and buffet lunch at the Centre, providing an opportunity to hear about their journey and to mingle with fellow writers.

Cost: \$15 includes buffet lunch complete with lovely Langmeil Wines. Bookings essential on 8223 7662.

*Langmeil*



Leah Flanagan



Andrew Bovell



John Romeril



Philip McLaren

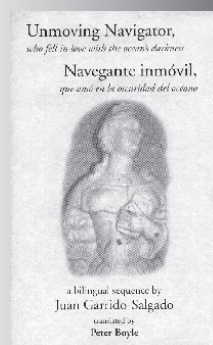
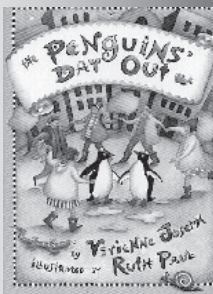
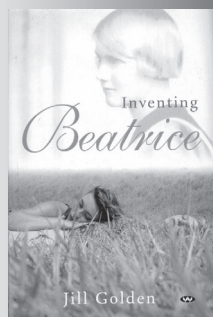
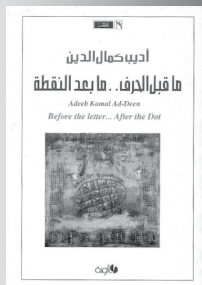


Leonie Norrington



Samuel Wagan Watson

# Centre Information...



## Centre Donations

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

**Wakefield Press** donated *Inventing Beatrice* by Jill Golden, 2006; and *Not Part of the Public* by Judith Raftery, 2006.

**Jaun Garrido-Salgado**, *Unmoving Navigator who fell in love with the ocean's darkness*, translated by Peter Boyle, Picaro Press, 2006.

**Leo Damant**, *One Plain, One Pearl*, Vallen Publishers, 2006.

**Kylie Ciampa**, *Living with Dyslexia*, Ginninderra Press, 2006.

**Adeeb Kamal Ad-Deen**, *Before the Letter ... After the Dot*, Azminah, 2006.

**Vivienne Joseph** donated her following titles, all published by Mallison Rendel: *The Penguins' Day Out* (1997); *Raindancer* (1998); *I Know About Babies* (2005); *The A.O.K Project* (1999); *Worlds Apart* (1996); *The Thin Line* (2002).

**Jonathon Crouch**, *Pretty Little Moments*, 2006.

**Eris MacDonald**, *Australian Short Fiction Markets; Australian Short Fiction Competitions; Australian Poetry Markets and Competitions; Australian Competitions and Markets for Young Writers*, all 2006, compiled and edited by Eris McDonald.

And a big thanks to **Rose Wight** from Adelaide Writers' Week and **Kerryn Goldsworthy** for both donating a huge number of books to the Centre.

## Newsletter Folders

Thanks to all who helped fold the last newsletter: Barbara Brockhoff, Jo Dey, Margie Hann-Syme, John and Coie Dikkenberg, Nicola Haywood, Fiona McCallum, Gay Sanderson, Lindy Warrell, Jo-Anne Moretti and Matt Staker.

## Did you know ...

that on August 16, no less than three media organisations contacted our office for contact details to arrange interviews with local writers? So, always remember to keep us informed of your latest successes.

## Catherine Cleave Memorial Project

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.

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

## Acting Up

Jo Moretti is Acting Librarian from mid-August until the end of September while Silvia Muscardin is overseas.

## Life Stories Workshop

By popular demand, Life Stories with Pat Mitchell will be repeated on Saturday September 23 from 10am to 1pm. It is a practical creative writing workshop for biographers and autobiographers. Topics covered include: freeing up your writing and shooing away the censor, tricks to trigger your memory, and how to use dialogue.

## Between Us

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## Disclaimer

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# September Workshops

## The Business of Writing with David Harris.



Practical everyday matters from submissions, dealing with publishers, agents and grants committees, contracts, editing and promotions. The emphasis will be on the ways we keep going and developing as writers, as well as on business matters such as budgets and tax.

David Harris is a writer and historian. His books include fiction for adults and young readers, history, travel, biography, business and cultural relations, texts for secondary and tertiary students and cultural studies.

Saturday Sept. 23, 10am-1pm.

**Workshop costs:**  
**\$44 for SA Writers' Centre members.**  
**\$66 for non-members.**

**Bookings of 8223 7662 or by email**  
**sawriters@sawriters.on.net**

## The Essence of Haiku with Martina Taeker



Many people incorrectly believe that haiku in English are simple 3 line poems of 5-7-5 syllables. Haiku are short but, with subjects ranging from the reflective and spiritual to humorous and sarcastic social commentary, their small size belies the power and depth haiku are capable of conveying to readers. This workshop will cover traditional and contemporary haiku forms, guiding you through techniques that will have you writing haiku in no time. It will also introduce you to the related forms of haibun, haiga and renga. Come along for an afternoon of writing and enjoying the essence of haiku.

Martina Taeker is a published poet and short story writer whose works have been published in several countries including Japan, the UK, the USA and Australia. She has been teaching writing and creativity courses for over ten years and is the SA Representative of HaikuOz, the Australian Haiku Society.

Saturday Sept. 23, 1.30-4.30pm.

## The Real World with Kathie Stove



In the information age, a big wide world of nonfiction and technical writing awaits the writer who would like a steadier and more reliable income than the almost completed novel, and occasional short stories might be bringing in. This 3-hour workshop focuses on freelance writing for those who pay for a specified written product: government, corporations, organisations and individuals. It will cover what's available and from whom, working with clients and the skills needed (they are definitely not all writing skills) and the necessities such as contracts and money. Participants will complete exercises and discuss scenarios to help them work out if this is the road for them to take and how to drive onto it.

Kathie Stove is an experienced freelance writer and editor of 15 years standing who specialises in environment, science and engineering matters. She writes internal newsletters, executive summaries, freelance articles, training modules – in fact just about anything someone will pay her to do (within her sometimes stretched ethical code).

Saturday Sept. 23, 1.30-4.30pm.

## Bios for The Novel: from creation to publication

**Eva Sallis's** novels and short stories have won several major awards (1997 The Australian/Vogel Literary Award, 1999 Nita May Dobbie Literary Award, Queensland Premier's short story award 2004). Her latest novel *The Marsh Birds* won the Asher Literary Award and was shortlisted for *The Age* Book of the Year, the Commonwealth Writers' Prize, the National Fiction Award and the NSW Literary Award. Eva Sallis is a visiting Research Fellow in English at the University of Adelaide.

**Michael Bollen** is publisher at Wakefield Press, an independent firm based in Adelaide. He has worked in publishing for 20 years. Wakefield is an eclectic publisher, mainly of non-fiction, but in recent times has released two or three novels each year.

**John Harwood's** novel *The Ghost Writer* was published by Jonathan Cape in 2004 and has since been translated into German, Spanish, Russian and Indonesian. It has won the International Horror Guild's First Novel Award for Outstanding Achievement in Horror and Dark Fantasy, and the 'Children of the Night' Award for Best Gothic Novel of 2004, from the Dracula Society of Great Britain. He is currently completing *The Séance*, a suspense novel set in Victorian England.

**Jenny Darling** started her career in publishing working in some of Melbourne's best independent bookshops. In 1990 she was employed as assistant to Caroline Lurie at Australian Literary Management and

in 1993 became manager of the Melbourne office of that agency. Jenny has a particular interest in literary fiction. She is a founding member of the Australian Literary Agents' Association. Authors represented by Jenny Darling & Associates include Kirsty Brooks, Garry Disher, Mem Fox, Lian Hearn, Susan Maushart, Dorothy Porter, Peter Rose and Tim Winton.

**Meredith Curnow** has worked in the book industry for fifteen years. She started her career in books at the Australian Publishers' Association, worked for a stint at the State Library of NSW before moving on to direct the Sydney Writers' Festival for five years. Meredith is now Associate Publisher at Random House Australia working across the Vintage, Knopf and Random House imprints where she publishes fiction, general non fiction, some business books and a couple of sports titles.



# Opportunities

## **Crime Down Under**

www.crimedownunder.com is seeking submissions of short crime stories of not more than 10,000 words for a proposed on-line magazine style website. The website, called 'The Australian Crime Fiction Database', lists Australian authors, their books and a growing number of reviews. More details about submissions can be found at [www.crimedownunder.com/submissions.html](http://www.crimedownunder.com/submissions.html)

## **Varuna Awards For Manuscript Development 2006**

The Varuna Awards for Manuscript Development is a partnership between HarperCollins Publishers and Varuna. Each year HarperCollins editors select 5 manuscripts for editorial development with a view to publication, and each year editors and writers spend a wonderful 10 days working together at Varuna –The Writers' House in the Blue Mountains of NSW.

HarperCollins is looking for well-developed manuscripts. If you've only got 60 pages then you're not yet ready for editorial attention, but the program also offers the opportunity for 6 writers to attend the Awards Masterclass, a one-week residential with Varuna's Creative Director, Peter Bishop. Peter is looking for promising manuscripts, and loves exploring the possibilities of manuscripts when they are in their early stages.

And the program promises all writers a (necessarily brief, but useful) personal comment on their work and its possible development by Peter Bishop, and offers the opportunity of a 50-minute phone consultation –an invaluable way for a writer to get to grips with what it is they really want to do in the manuscript! Application cost is \$55, and the consultation cost is \$77. This year you may book your consultation when you send in your application –the best way of ensuring you don't miss out! Consultations take place throughout January, and the residential programs take place April-May.

All information: [www.varuna.com.au](http://www.varuna.com.au) –click on 'What We Offer to Writers' and you'll find the Varuna Awards.

## **The Biggest Short Play Festival**

Call for scripts. Short & Sweet Ten-Minute Play Festival. Entries close September 15, 2006. Writers everywhere are invited to submit scripts for the Short & Sweet Play Festival to be held at the Newtown Theatre and the Seymour Centre, Sydney Australia from January 15 to March 2, 2007.

Your play must run 10 minutes or less and not have previously been performed in Short & Sweet Sydney to be considered for selection. There is no restriction on cast size, theme or style – writers are welcome to unleash their creativity on a story of their choosing. Submit scripts or seek further information about Short & Sweet at [www.shortandsweet.org](http://www.shortandsweet.org)

## **IP Picks 2007**

Now in its sixth year, the IP Picks 2007 national writing competition seeks entries of unpublished manuscripts in the following categories: Best Fiction; Best Creative Nonfiction; Best Poetry; and Best First Book. The winners are guaranteed royalty publication by one of IP's three imprints. In 2006, eight authors of the winning and commended entries accepted royalty contracts. Entries open on 1 October, and the closing date is 1 December. For further information, entry form and conditions, as well as details on past winners, please check out: <[http://www.ipoz.biz/ip/ip\\_picks.htm](http://www.ipoz.biz/ip/ip_picks.htm)>

## **Etchings**

Short stories, essays, poems, photography, art – Ilura Press would like to see your work. Submissions for issue 2 close 31st October. Visit [www.ilurapress.com/Etchings.html](http://www.ilurapress.com/Etchings.html) for further details.

## **The Young Poet in Residence ...**

program is back with a vengeance! After a brief tropical hiatus, *Vibewire* is once again calling for submissions to its Young Poet in Residence Program, which offers you the opportunity to have your work read by one of Australia's pre-eminent poets and featured online for one month as the next Poet in Residence. All you have to do is send a selection of three of your best unpublished poems (as one document) to [create@vibewire.net](mailto:create@vibewire.net), along with a brief biographical note (100 words maximum).

Please attach all submissions as Word documents (.doc) or Rich Text Format (.rtf) documents, and put "Poet in Residence Submission" in your email subject line. There is no closing date, as all submissions roll over from month to month.

A little bit about the program: it's been running since 2002, and over that period they've featured some of Australia's best emerging poets, including Ivy Alvarez, Mandy Beaumont, Emily Bitto, Derek Motion, Nick Powell and Johanna Featherstone. They've also received the generous support of Australia's literary community; previous volunteer judges have included John Kinsella, Peter Minter, David Prater, Lucy Dougan, Anthony Lawrence, MTC Cronin, Bronwyn Lea, Alison Eastley and Ron Pretty. Past *Vibewire* Poets in Residence have been featured on the ABC radio station Triple J, in various print media, and at national literary festivals. They feature approximately ten poets each year, with ten guest judges (one for each month). During their residency, the poets produce a total of six poems, which are published online, in a critically engaging forum where poets can receive and give feedback.

Please address any correspondence, questions or submissions to *Vibewire's* Poetry Editor, S. J. Holland-Batt, at [create@vibewire.net](mailto:create@vibewire.net)

## **Famous Reporter**

*Famous Reporter* publishes short stories, articles, reviews, interviews, haiku and poems. Your submission should be accompanied by a stamped addressed envelope for return correspondence; the envelope should be large enough for return correspondence. For guidelines go to [www.tassie.net.au/~ahugo/fr/guide.html](http://www.tassie.net.au/~ahugo/fr/guide.html) PO Box 368, North Hobart, TAS 7002

## **FreeXpression**

*FreeXpression* a monthly Australian literary magazine is looking for poetry (max 3), short stories (1000-2000 words) and articles. Letters to the Editor and submissions for the feature page are especially welcome. Payment: complimentary copy of the magazine. Contact: The Editor PO Box 4, West Hoxton NSW 2171.

# News and Views

## ASA Opposes Banning Books

The Australian Society of Authors has written to Attorney-General Phillip Ruddock to oppose any moves to ban books. The ASA is very concerned by any move to "ban books" under the guise of "counselling, urging, providing instruction or praising terrorism" and hence determined as seditious. Under current law it is a crime to publish "seditious words", and the provisions within that law enable federal and state jurisdictions to take action if warranted. It is the view of the ASA that its members currently operate responsibly within this restriction and will continue to do so, even when critical of any government in power at the time.

The ASA does not believe that further tightening of the Classification Review Board guidelines will deliver the outcomes the Attorney-General seeks. Rather, they believe that, for those who write serious nonfiction and fiction that contributes to national debate and cultural consciousness, the tightened provisions will have the effect of limiting their ability to publish and earn an income from publication of works that express political opinion. This matter is of extreme concern to ASA members. As a matter of principle the ASA upholds the right of citizens of this country to have open access to a wide range of views in an environment where open debate and frank appraisal of diverging opinions is considered to be fundamental.

Authors are responsible members of the Australian community. In an recent survey of 100 living "significant Australian public intellectuals" conducted by the *Sydney Morning Herald*, over 20% were members of the ASA. Authors are clearly capable of exercising judgement on material that is seditious or could be considered harmful to Australia's sovereignty.

The further restrictions that the Attorney-General is proposing are of very serious concern to Australian authors. The ASA would therefore welcome the opportunity to discuss the fundamental importance of open debate of the political, social and cultural issues that underpin the responsible and professional writing activities undertaken by the members of the ASA and which are under serious threat from the changes that are being proposed.

Dear Ed,

I'd like to expand our ideas of who we consider to be "writers", & what activities we consider to be "writing". There's a visual dimension to writing, as well as the verbal dimension which we usually bang on about.

A Chinese saying goes: "a piece of calligraphy is a map of the mind of the person who wrote it". Chinese calligraphy is closely related to the art of poetry. In times past, a great poet was expected to have skill at calligraphy & painting as well. Wouldn't writing your own poem in your own style of calligraphy be the height of the art of writing?

Visual Poetry & its precursor Concrete Poetry communicate some of their meaning through a poem's visual arrangement. Much work has been done in this area by South American poets & in particular by Brazilians. You'll find many websites with information about concrete poetry & visual poetry.

The Lettristes were a French avant-garde group who invented hypergraphics, translated as hypergraphics: compositions using letters, numbers, any other symbols & images. They produced hypergraphic poems, novels & paintings. There's been an explosion of new websites devoted to Lettrisme in the past year.

The most radical development in the visual direction is asemic writing. When we see something which appears to be writing, but can't find words in it, we could call it asemic writing. We can still "read" asemic writing, in a broader sense. It's possible to read emotions & perhaps pictographic meaning, using intuition or imagination. I write & publish a great deal of asemic writing. It's a rapidly expanding area, as a search of the www will demonstrate.

More another time,  
Tim Gaze

Dear Ed,

"I think that I shall never see/  
A poem lovely as a tree" wrote Joyce Kilmer, controversially, and sang John McCormack, persuasively. As a poet I might take issue with this, but see no reason to go cutting down the opposition.

Quite the reverse. I would like to see urban forest, or an arboretum, planted close by, in Cheltenham Park, which is still covered by an open space proclamation, but which proclamation the state government is currently considering revoking.

David Mortimer

## Double Clickable Websites

### ABC Book Reviews

Every week you can hear reviews on latest novels, authors and books generally across Australia on local radio stations. You can find some of those reviews on this website: <http://www.abc.net.au/backyard/reviews/book.htm>

### Fiction Factor

The Online Magazine For Fiction Writers  
<http://www.fictionfactor.com>

### The Man Who Never Sleeps

During the month of September, Levin A. Diatschenko's first novel, *The Man Who Never Sleeps* (a blend of metaphysics, mystery and science fiction) will be released in a serialised form on [www.undergrowth.org](http://www.undergrowth.org). Featuring new illustrations by the author throughout, readers will be able to subscribe to a special email list to receive updates when new chapters are uploaded weekly at <<http://www.undergrowth.org/neverleep>>

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# Half a Page with... Juan Garrido-Salgado

**Juan Garrido-Salgado was born in Chile and was a political prisoner under the Pinochet regime but now lives in Adelaide. He has published three books in Australia and one in Chile under the name Samuel Lafferte. His latest book is *Unmoving Navigator who fell in love with the ocean's darkness*, translated by Peter Boyle, Picaro Press, 2006.**

## What are you reading?

Humberto Eco, an Italian writer. He wrote essays about literature and techniques. I'm also reading a lot of Latin American poetry in English and also *Nickleby* by Dickens. It's moving and very funny.

## What are you writing?

At the moment, nothing much as I'm finding it very hard to find a theme to write about. I like to write on themes but sometimes it's very hard to find inspiration.

## Does this mean you are suffering from writers' block?

Yes. That's why I am reading a lot – to find inspiration from other writers. I get sick of writing about politics and war.

## You get sick of it?

Yes. I want to see the other sides of topics. I would like to see if I can write about the other side of refugees. At the moment, I am very passionate about Lebanon and Israel but I am not yet ready to write about it.

## What is your favourite subject to write about?

Human beings and their struggle, friends, gardening, flowers, vegetables.....

## Where do you write?

I write in cafés with a pen and paper. I never write at a computer so I don't have a set area.

## Does paper lend to more creativity for you?

Yes. It's freedom to feel more inspired in my thinking. A computer, for me, is a practical tool for revision.

## Which poets have influenced you?

Pablo Neruda, Roque Dalton from el

Salvador, Federico García Lorca and Sergei Esenin, a Russian poet. And Gabriela Mistral. She is from Chile and won the Nobel Prize for literature in 1945. She's very dense and writes about relationships and death. Also, Ernesto Cardenal, a Poet/Priest from Nicaragua and Fernando Pessoa from Portugal.

## What are your writing habits?

I change habits. I used to love writing after midnight with a glass of wine or a tea or Maté (a herb from Chile – pronounced 'Mah-Tay'). It's very healthy. Old people drink it a lot. Now I prefer to write in the morning, especially on the weekends when I'm more free.

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

The Premier's National Award in Chile. You have to be very important and write very influential poems. I don't care too much about prizes, but I might change my mind. I guess they give you a way to keep going.

## LOOKING FOR A PUBLISHER?



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

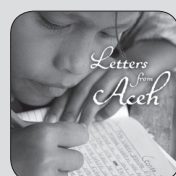
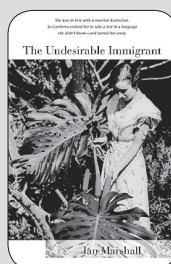
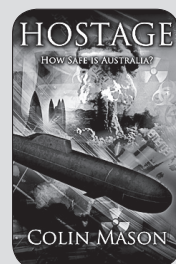
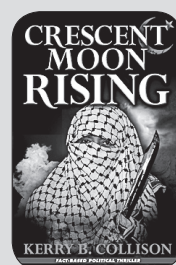
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<http://www.sidharta.com.au>



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# What's On...

## September PoeticA

Presented by Mike Ladd

Saturday at 3.05pm, repeated at 9.05pm

Thursday. National Poetry Week becomes

National Poetry month on PoeticA!

2<sup>nd</sup> Round the Nation Part 1 – new poetry releases from A.C.T, QLD, TAS, W.A and N.T

9<sup>th</sup> Round the Nation Part 2 – new poetry releases from N.S.W, S.A and VIC. (The S.A poets are Aidan Coleman, Cath Kenneally, David Mortimer and Ken Bolton.

16<sup>th</sup> Poetileptic – a feature on the work of Australian poet, Mal McKimmie.

23<sup>rd</sup> *Goossens* – Tom Shapcott's suite of poems about the famous conductor.

30<sup>th</sup> Taronga Poems – a feature on Australia's very young poets from the age of 9 to 18.

## Wordfire

This new Literary Salon will hold its next event on Monday 4th September, 7pm at the Crown and Sceptre Hotel. For more information visit: <http://www.wordfire.onestop.net/>

## Wednesdays at One

The Friends of the Sate Library

'Wednesdays at One' series of talks, held on the first Wednesday of each month at the Institute Building (cnr North Tce and Kintore Ave), from 1pm-2pm, features Head of Creative Writing at Adelaide University, Prof Nicholas Jose, on September 6.

## Poets at the Pub

Gawler's Poets at the Pub poetry readings are on the way back. Held on the last Sunday of the month. There will be guest poets, newcomers, open mike for all, plus live music. Enquiries to Martin or Cathy on 8522 4268.

## The Australian Publishers Association Present ...

A workshop titled 'Grammar and Basic Editing for Non-editors' will now be a 2 day course run in Adelaide on 20th and 21st September. Any questions and to register interest (to make sure course goes ahead) please contact Dee Read at the APA on [dee.read@publishers.asn.au](mailto:dee.read@publishers.asn.au).

## National Poetry Week Activities

There are many events that have been organised as part of the Fifth Australian Poetry Festival ...

### Friendly Street Poets present ...

#### Poetry Reading in Rundle Mall

Next to the brass pigs . Sunday September 10. Readings start at 2pm.

### Poetry Slam

S.A. Writer's Centre Atrium.

2nd floor 286 Rundle Street Adelaide

Tuesday September 12 2006.

Three knockout rounds/three minutes each/no props/no music. Judges chosen from the audience, so everybody has the chance to be an expert. Sign up 7.00 for 7.30 kick off. Cash prizes for best performances! Refreshments provided.

### Friendly Street Poets ...

meet 7pm on the first Tuesday of each month (Excluding January) at the SA Writers' Centre 2nd floor 286 Rundle Street Adelaide. The guest readers for September are Ray Liversidge and Katerina Arnaoutopoulos.

### The Hills Poets

The next meeting of the Hills Poets will be on Sunday 10 September at 3.30 pm. They meet at the Crafrers Inn, Crafrers and welcome new readers. As part of 'National Poetry Week', the Hills poets are pleased to welcome two guest readers: Rob Walker and Yahia al-Samawy.

### BOOKS. BE IN IT.

the SA Children's Writers and Illustrators Festival. Come celebrate the wealth of talent we have right here in South Australia.

When? Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> October 2006, 1.30-4.00pm

Where? Unley Civic Centre  
181 Unley Road, Unley

What? An afternoon of mingling with some of SA's best authors and illustrators. Listen to stories, watch illustrators at work, browse at the bookshop, check out kids' artwork, visit the facepainter, soak up the entertainment.

Bring your kids! Bring your grandkids!

### The Imaginary Gentleman

Holdfast Books and the Glenelg Jetty Hotel present a night of intrigue, laughter, culinary and literary delights!

Wednesday September 13, 7 pm

The Glenelg Jetty Hotel

28 Jetty Road

Glenelg.

Helen Halstead, will speak about her new novel *The Imaginary Gentleman*.

Try some food, while listening to recipes from *Kafka's Soup*, a zany cookbook by Mark Crick, written in the voices of famous writers.

Tickets: (including 3-course dinner) \$35.

Bookings: Call Jan on 82940347 or Email to [askjan@holdfastbooks.com.au](mailto:askjan@holdfastbooks.com.au)

### You Can Mention The War

Calling all war enthusiasts: the University of South Australia invites you to its very first Writings of War Symposium. This two-day event features UniSA's newly formed Cultures of Conflict Research Concentration as they present their enlightening discoveries.

The symposium begins Friday, September 15th (5.30pm) with a wine and cheese evening, featuring a presentation on "Pilgrimages to War Sites" by Associate Professor Bruce Scates from the University of New South Wales. The program continues from 9.00am on Saturday the 16th with a variety of speakers, including Dr. Paul Skrebels (exploring publications about the Anzacs) and Dr Nigel Starck (on lives heroic and eccentric in military obituaries), plus poetry readings by Dr. Ioana Petrescu.

The symposium will be held at the UniSA Magill Campus, St. Bernard's Road Magill. Parking and admission are free.

We welcome all members of the public, and invite you to join in our discussions.

For registration and further information, contact Caitlin Fry (8391-1818) or Dr Nigel Starck (0416-113178). Email: [caitlin.fry@postgrads.unisa.edu.au](mailto:caitlin.fry@postgrads.unisa.edu.au)

### Calling All Spec Fiction Writers

Please register your interest in joining a new writers' group by emailing [asti8@bigpond.com](mailto:asti8@bigpond.com)

# What's On...

## The Poetry Picture Show

The Poetry Picture Show features ten Australian poets (emerging and established) writing a poem about film and moving images. To accompany the poems, The Red Room will create ten moving images, an online poetry guide to film in the form of a blog, plus audio versions of the poems, broadcast as pod-casts and via community radio.

The blog has begun and you can add your comments and follow the filming. Then, on October 6th the poems, and images will premiere at the live event, which features the picture show poets.

Following the live event all images will be broadcast online.

Visit [http://www.redroomorganisation.org/current-projects\\_poetrypictureshow.php](http://www.redroomorganisation.org/current-projects_poetrypictureshow.php) for picture show details & [http://www.redroomorganisation.org/current-projects\\_poetrypictureshow.php](http://www.redroomorganisation.org/current-projects_poetrypictureshow.php) to blog your comments, and add to the poetry film guide.

## Book Launch

all writers and their friends are invited to  
the official  
launch  
of  
*micromacro*

a collection of poems by

rob walker

at the SA Writers' Centre atrium

2<sup>nd</sup> Floor,

187 Rundle Street

ADELAIDE

6pm Saturday September 30, 2006.

This collection won the 2006 City of Onkaparinga Poetry Unhinged Single Poet Collection Competition

*micromacro* will be launched by poet and ABC poeticA presenter  
Mike Ladd

Copies of the book will be available for sale for the special launch price of \$18.

Admission is free.

Refreshments provided.

*micromacro* is published by Seaview Press.

# Animate Quarterly

it's a live literary journal

*Animate Quarterly* replaces a printed literary journal with a live one. Four issues in twelve months will include feature interviews, poetry, short stories, nonfiction, open letters, an advice column, horoscopes and reviews. So, instead of sitting down to read the latest issue, you'll be able to see, hear and smell the journal, all while sitting next to other writerly types with a drink in your hand. *Animate Quarterly* will be held at La Boheme, Grote Street, Adelaide (opposite Coles), in November.

The quarterly is now inviting submissions of short stories, sets of poems, letters, questions for our Agony Aunt and reviews. Please limit prose to 2000 words and no more than six poems (they don't have to be themed). Previously published pieces are acceptable as are excerpts from novels. The writer of each piece will be encouraged (but does not have to) read his or her own piece on the night. When a writer is unable to read, a volunteer reader will be sought. Please state if you are under 30 in your cover letter.

All contributors will be paid:

Poems and letters \$50

Prose \$100

Reviews and Columns \$60

Send submissions to  
[animatequarterly@yahoo.com.au](mailto:animatequarterly@yahoo.com.au)

or Animate Quarterly  
c/o The SA Writers' Centre  
PO Box 43  
Adelaide  
SA 5000

Stay tuned for more details of *Animate Quarterly* #1.

## The Surface Is Coming

The Surface is a virtual festival for arts, new media, entertainment and alternative culture, aimed at over-25s. The Surface was born to create an online community, to support "older youth", and to promote the creation of new initiatives and events in the arts, culture and new media sectors. It aims to provide opportunities to showcase work, develop projects and competitions, and aims to be a launch pad for a series of new festivals. The Surface hopes to address the difficulties some artists face when they hit 25 and are no longer eligible for many youth focussed competitions, festivals, projects and online galleries. The Surface is dedicated to showcasing artists who still consider themselves young or whose artistic practice is in its 'emerging' stages, but who are over 25. To get involved, submit your work, or to simply find out more email [info@thesurface.net](mailto:info@thesurface.net)

## National Young Writers Festival

28 September - 2 October

NYWF is looking for ideas for events – performances, forums, workshops, debates - from young writers for the 2006 festival in October in Newcastle, NSW. Submissions are officially closed, but it's still worth contacting the festival to see if events are looking for readers or participants ... For further information on movements with the NYWF and TINA visit <http://www.thisisnotart.org/>

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# Congratulations...

**Adeeb Kamal Ad-Deen's** latest poetry collection *Before the letter ... After the Dot* has been published this year by Azminsh in Jordan. His poem 'Boredom' ('Aburrimiento') has been translated into Spanish and published in Buenos Aires in the first anthology of Iraqi poetry in Spanish.

**Graham Rowlands'** poems 'The Quality of Men' and 'With' were published in *Island* (105) and *Small Packages* (9) respectively.

**Martin R Johnson** was a guest of Sydney radio 2UE where he spoke about life in the 1950s and read his poem, 'The Clothes-prop Man' from the book of the same name. His latest round of poetry publications include *Quadrant*, *The Canberra Times* and the Gawler newspaper, *The Bunyip*.

**Zenda Vecchio's** story 'Phone Call' was published in the June edition of *Polestar*.

**M.L. Emmett's** poems 'The River at Henley', 'Fifty Seven Winters', 'The Liver Sonnet' and 'Summer Garden' have all been published in *The Mozzie* Vol 14. Her poem 'Summer in London' was read at a ceremony at Bonython Hall, entitled 'Remembering London' by politicians, local media and South Australian writers. The event also included music by the Aurora Strings and flautist Alan Aungles. A CD is available from Radio Adelaide.

**Matt Freeman** has been writing for the new season of Comedy Inc. <http://www.comedyinc.com.au/crew.html>

**David Conyers** has had two Lovecraftian horror stories released this month in two anthologies published in the United States. The first is 'Outside, Looking In' in *Hardboiled Cthulhu* published by Elder Signs Press, the second 'Regrowth' in *Arkham Tales* published by Chaosium Inc.

**Brenda Anderson** was awarded first place in the Sunshine Coast Writers' group short story competition for 'Raspberries from Mars'. **Irene Butte** was awarded second prize in the poetry section for 'Wasting.' Irene had the following printed in Yellow Moon # 19: 'The Party' (haibun), 'Me' (epigram), 'The Enterprising Duck' (humorous poetry).

**Fiona McIntosh, Mem Fox & Peter Brune** have had their books included in the 2006 Books Alive scheme.

**Astrid Cooper's** latest book, *For Eternity* was published in July by Extasy Books. She has signed a contract for *Master Of The Night*, another paranormal short story with a US print magazine to be released in December, 2006.

**Margaret Dingle's** poem 'Metro' was published in edition 2 of *Staples* and performed at the launch at Jah's Café on 27 July.

**John Malone's** poems 'Much Like', 'Home', 'Lightning' and 'Gilbert' appear in *Poetry Unlocked* (FarrBooks); while his poems 'Without A Trace' and 'Mid-Winter Morning' appear in Countdown and Orbit respectively (The School Magazine).

**Alma Iris Ramirez's** story 'My Grandmother's Bones' was published on <http://www.Tsha.utexas.edu/mytexas/>

**Ray Liversidge's** verse novel *The Barrier Range* has just been published by Melbourne publisher Flat Chat Press.

**Norma Cato's** poem 'Escape' was published in the July issue of *Positive Words*.

**The Association of SA Chinese Writers** has reached another milestone.

This time it is in Huangpu, Guangzhou where the international Chinese poets met.

1. A world first's International Poetry Forest has been established at Dragonhead Mount, Huangpu.
2. One piece of **Alexander Chang's** poems is carved onto a cement tablet, with his signature.
3. A tree was planted beside the tablet in honour of the poet.
4. His left hand print was taken and a poets' wall will be built for selected contemporary international poets' hand prints to mark their work for the world peace.

**Jill Gower** had 2 poems: 'Birdsong' and 'Predator' published in the August edition of *Positive Words*.

**Moya Costello** had a piece on the short story in 'Forum' in the 'Review' section of *The Weekend Australian*.

**Indigo's** poems 'Retroactive' and 'Eucalyptus' were published in the July edition of *Positive Words*.


**rob walker's** poems 'the pulse' and 'Public Education Week, 2006' appeared in the July Australian *Education Union Journal*. 'A beginner's guide to postmodernism' appeared on the *Blue Pepper* website.

**Jeri Kroll** was a runner-up in the 2006 Josephine Ulrick \$10,000 prize for a sequence of poems up to 200 lines. There were 230 entries in the poetry section of this national award.

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# Literary Competitions...

## ☞ 22 September 2006

EJ Brady Short Story Comp, up to 2500 words. 1st prize \$1000. Entry fee \$10. Also Very Short Story category. 1st prize \$200. Entry \$5.

## ☞ 23 September 2006

The Cove Inaugural Historical Writing Competition. Theme: some aspect of Australian History – past, present or future. Category 1. Historical fiction to 2500 words.

Category 2. Historical non-fiction to 2500 words. 1st prize in each category \$250 with book vouchers for runners up. Entry fee \$10. For more info call 02 9555 9757.

## ☞☺ 29 September 2006

The Gwen Harwood Poetry Prize 2006. A previously unpublished single poem or a linked suite to 100 lines. First prize of \$1500. Entry forms downloadable from [www.islandmag.com](http://www.islandmag.com)

## ★☞ 29 September 2006

Fellowship of Australian Writers NSW. Jean Stone Poetry Award – poem or group of poems to 60 lines. Entry fee \$10. 1st prize \$500. The Walter Stone Award for a Biography, Monograph or Bibliography on some aspect of Australian Literature – entry fee \$20, 1st prize \$1000. The Hilarie Lindsay Young Writers' Award Poetry Competition – 4 sections for school-aged children. No entry fee. Prizes from \$50-\$150.

## ☞ 29 September 2006

Copper Triangle Writers' Group Open Short Story to 2000 words and Open Poetry to 60 lines. 1st prize in each category \$100. Entry \$5 or 3 entries \$10.

## ☞★ 29 September 2006

The Katherine Susannah Prichard Short Fiction Awards. Max 3000 words. Open and Young Writer sections. \$5 entry. 1st prize \$300.

- ☺ 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.

## ☞☺ 30 September 2006

Highlands Literary Award. A. Children's fiction (theme: Lost) to 3000 words. B. Children's fantasy using magic or original fairytale to 3000 words. C. Open poem. Prize money to \$150. Entry fee \$5.

## ☞☺ 2nd October 2006

Cut Short 2006 CAE Short Story Competition. Stories to 1000 words. First prize \$400. Entry fee \$5.

## ☞ 20 October 2006

Wannabee has teamed up with literary journal Wet Ink to offer great prizes. First prize: \$300, publication in Wet Ink, and a one year subscription to the magazine. Second prize: \$200. Open theme to 30 lines. Entries close 20th October. Entry forms from [www.wannabee.com.au](http://www.wannabee.com.au) or by post: PO Box 59, East Melbourne 8002.

## ☞☺ 27 October 2006

NSW Writers' Centre 2006 Prize. \$500 will be awarded to the best self-published book (between 1/9/05 and 31/8/06). entrants must supply 2 copies of the book with an entry fee of \$20, and a fully completed entry form, available at [www.nswwriterscentre.org.au](http://www.nswwriterscentre.org.au)

## ☞ 31 October 2006

Yellow Moon Nutshell 20. Categories include Cinquain, Idyll, Clerihew, Humorous/nonsense and Tetractys. \$5 each entry or \$10 for three. Prize money \$30-\$70.

## ☞★ 31 October 2006

The Examiner Port Stephens Literature Award. \$1300 in prize money. Adults:- Short stories to 2500 words -any theme. 1st \$500, 2nd \$200 and 3rd \$100 plus \$100 Tanilba House Award and four \$50 highly commended prizes. Children:- Short story to 500 words. 1st prize \$60 and 2nd prize \$40. Two sections 6 to 12 years and 13 to 16 years. Entry fee:- \$5 per story. No entry form required. Postal orders, cheques made out to TACE. Cash accepted. 6 The Parkway North, MALLABULA 2319. Enquiries to Geoff Walker 02 4982 4095.

## ☞☺ 31 October 2006

United Federation of Planets Sci-Fi or Fantasy Competition. 3000 words. Entries to be in M.S Word 2000 or less to [holonovel@ufpofsa.org](mailto:holonovel@ufpofsa.org)

## ☞☺ 31 October 2006

Australasian Short Story Awards. Open theme to 5000 words. Entry fee \$5, or \$15 for 4 stories. First prize \$300.

## ☺ 31 October 2006

Rhyming Poetry Competition. Prizes: 1st - \$100, 2nd - \$75, 3rd - \$50. Entry forms from [rosieq@westnet.com.au](mailto:rosieq@westnet.com.au) or Competition Co-ordinator: 13 Rockford St, Mandurah, WA 6210.

## ☞ 31 October 2006

Yellow Moon Spirit of Place. \$5 each entry or \$10 for three. Free verse, or traditional with rhyme and metre about the place you live.

## ☺ 31 October 2006

The Best of Times Short Story Competition. Two categories: humour and general. Stories up to 3000 words. First prize \$300. Entry fee \$5.50 (inc. GST) per story, payable to Chris Broadribb. No entry form required. Include a cover sheet with your name, contact details, story title and category and where you heard about the competition. Post to Chris Broadribb, PO Box 116, Burwood NSW 1805 or email to [cabbook-2@yahoo.com.au](mailto:cabbook-2@yahoo.com.au) See [www.geocities.com/spiky\\_one/times.html](http://www.geocities.com/spiky_one/times.html) for further details.

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# Friday at the Strand by Louise Nicholas

It's five past three when I arrive at the Strand. Janet is already there. I apologise for being late and we sit at a table by the wall. Mel takes our order – a hot choc for Janet and a skinny cap for me. Janet is a Creative Writing student and my writing partner. We've been meeting every Friday fortnight for three years. Our writing aspirations are curtailed at times by other responsibilities but our meetings are a constant.

While we're waiting for our drinks, we give our families a brief airing – her daughter's new job, my mother's battle with dementia. Then we pack them away and shove them out of sight for the next two hours. Hard-hearted perhaps, but family concerns have no place here!

Recently, I attended the Mildura Writers' Festival and Janet wants to know all about it. I tell her about a conversation I overheard between two young poets. "I don't read the work of other poets," said one. "I don't want to risk losing my own poetic voice." We shake our heads and curl our lips in disbelief. Do up-and-coming artists steer clear of art galleries for fear of 'losing their eye'? Do would-be singer/songwriters trade in their iPods by the gigabyte lest they 'lose their ear'?

And why is it, we continue grumbling (as we spoon chocolate dusted wisps of froth into our mouths), that some older, more established poets show no compunction in collecting a fee for an obviously unprepared reading? "Let me think ... what shall I read?" they mumble into the microphone as they flick back and forth through their last five collections. Or, "You'll have to tell me when my time's up. I'm hopeless with time ..." While we, their forgiving (or so they assume) audience, become less forgiving by the minute and wonder when (if ever) it will be politic to shout, "Time!"

We stop and listen to ourselves and laugh at our well-earned 'grumpy old women' status. I tell her about some of the highlights of the festival: Raymond Gaiter's anecdote about Primo Levi surviving Auschwitz by reciting lengthy passages of Dante's 'Canto of Ulysses'; Les Murray resplendent in cap, gown and boyish grin

accepting an honorary doctorate from La Trobe University; Raymond Gaiter again, on avoiding overarching sentimentality in autobiographical writing by looking past the self and focusing on the event. All of it we discuss with relish – and a lemon truffle sneaked in from Haigh's across the road.

Then we get down to business. We take out our books and find our notes from our last meeting. What tasks did we set ourselves and did we achieve them? I am able to announce that the Australia Council grant application is finished at last. A couple of months ago, I broke it down into its component parts and, with Janet to keep me on track, I've finally ticked them all off. She beams her approval and we order a glass of wine to celebrate. The fact that I haven't even started the other item on my list – to write a poem in the form of a dramatic monologue for the monthly workshop I attend – is a minor point. "Next time, perhaps," Janet says.

It's Janet's turn. University holidays haven't provided the space she needed to rewrite the first chapter of her autobiographical novel. Nothing has changed it seems. A wife and mother spending more time about the house than usual, is fair game. If family demands don't trap you, domestic duties (the 'dom dts' as Australian writer Marjorie Barnard termed them) will. "Perhaps my problem lies in my inability to say no, and my unbearable guilt if I do," says Janet. According to a recent survey, 600,000 Australians want to write a book one day, presumably when they 'get the time'. Few seem to realise it's more a matter of having to 'take the time'. We ponder this sobering thought while we drain our wine glasses and decide against ordering another. We take out our diaries, mark in our next meeting - same place, same time, two weeks from now – and turn our attention to the tasks we want to achieve by then ...

It's after five when we leave the Strand. I have a book launch to go to, Janet and her husband are off to see *Ten Canoes*. But tomorrow we'll both timetable some writing time so that we don't turn up at our next meeting empty-handed.



I like to think that Janet's Distinction Average is due, in some small way, to me making sure she keeps ahead of deadlines and that her apostrophes stay on the right side of the 's'. Equally, by having an eye for extraneous words, she's had a part to play in a prize-winning poem here and successful publication in a literary journal there. Without our meetings, perhaps we wouldn't have continued writing past the first terrifying assignment or rejection slip. Perhaps we would never value our writing enough to put it ahead of the many other demands on our time. Without our meetings, maybe I'd have difficulty meeting my writing commitments, such as this one.

*Louise Nicholas is a teacher and early-morning poet. She has been a regular at Friendly Street Readings for over ten years and is also involved in a project partially funded by Arts SA to write and perform poetry that focuses on women's health and aging issues.*



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