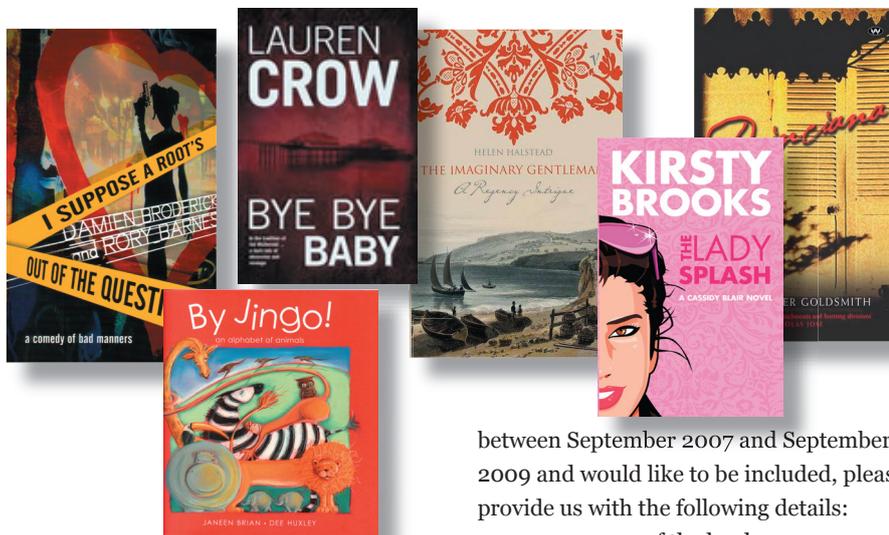




## Christmas Party

The SA Writers' Centre Saint Lucy's Christmas Party is on again. Saint Lucy, being the Patron of Writing, has had the audacity to have her saint's day on a Saturday so we've decided to push our date back. Join us on **Tuesday 16th December from 6pm until late**, to celebrate the end of another writing year. Bring a plate and drink ... no need to RSVP.

## Spreading the Word



In 2009 the SA Writers' Centre will once again, spread the word about South Australian publications with its feature promotional brochure of books. This will be used as a promotional tool in a variety of different ways: for the SA Writers' Festival (running in September 2009); for the information of public libraries and bookshops; and for the general promotion and marketing of SA authors. If you have published a book

between September 2007 and September 2009 and would like to be included, please provide us with the following details:

- name of the book
- date of publication
- genre
- a one sentence description
- a book cover image (if available)
- how readers can obtain a copy of the book (web link, phone number etc)

Please email or post the details to either [comms@sawc.org.au](mailto:comms@sawc.org.au) or PO Box 43, Rundle Mall Adelaide SA 5000.

## Member Benefits

We have recently updated the benefits of being a member of the SAWC:

- monthly newsletter (11 issues per year) keeping members in touch with writing activities, publishing markets and opportunities
- access to the newsletter online (please let us know if you wish to be an online subscriber)
- discounts on seminars, workshops and readings
- 10% discount at these bookstores:

Mary Martin  
 Imprints  
 Molly's Bookshop  
 Cosmic Pages  
 Martin's Secondhand Books  
 Mindfield Books  
 Interleaves Bookshop  
 Quantum Books  
 Cope Centre (for books and workshops)  
[sportswriter.com.au](http://sportswriter.com.au)

- discounts at Palace/Nova Cinemas: \$12 tickets
- special rates for photocopying
- discounted advertising for individuals and free advertising for member groups in *Southern Write*
- free use of the Centre for book launches
- up to 40 hours free use of the Centre's rooms for member groups
- inclusion in the South Australian Writers' Register database for published writers
- invitations to launches and events organised by the SA Writers' Centre
- discounts for room hire at the Centre
- access to one-off member specials, including discounts on books and subscription offers for literary journals



# February, 2009 Workshops



## Sally Heinrich WritingChildren's Picture Books

**Saturday February 28, 10am-1pm**

Picture Books are an exciting world where words and images merge to tell the whole story, and sometimes more. Come along and enter this world and re-enter the world of childhood - sometimes scary, sometimes exciting, but never dull. Play with ideas and language and perhaps discover something unexpected. Bring along a picture book that has captured your imagination, either a contemporary one, or one from your own childhood.

**Sally Heinrich** has been working as a freelance illustrator since leaving university years ago, and so far hasn't had to get a real job. As well as illustrating other people's stories, she has written as well as illustrated four picture books of her own, a junior novel and a series of information and activity books on different Asian countries. She now spends about half her time writing and the other half drawing. Besides books, other clients include the Singapore Zoo and Night Safari. Much of her recent work has been influenced by living and travelling in Asia, and she hopes through her work to provide a way of bridging cultural boundaries, and to foster greater understanding between people from different cultures and backgrounds.



## Annie Fox Develop Your Creativity

**Saturday February 28, 10am-1pm**

Flex your creative muscles and get your imaginative juices flowing in this playful creativity workshop. Annie will guide you on a journey using writing, drawing, interactive character development and story making exercises. This fun workshop is suitable for all levels of experience. Willingness to enjoy yourself essential!

**Annie Fox** is a multi-award winning screenwriter, script editor and consultant. Her credits include: *Ocean Girl*, *Thunderstone*, *Cybergirl*, *Pirate Islands*, *Wicked Science*, *The Sleepover Club*, *Blue Heelers*, *Good Guys*, *Bad Guys*, *State Coroner*, *Something in the Air* and many others. Her shows have been both nominated for, and received Awards, including AFIs, BAFTAs and ATOMs. She is a proud Ambassador for Flinder's University and received their prestigious Distinguished Alumni Award in 2006. She has recently returned from living in Bali for sixth months where she was studying an Ancient Javanese Royal Family Martial Art with Prince Kangeng Madi Kertonegoro.



## Les Wicks Poetry: plan to be published

**Saturday February 28, 2pm-5pm**

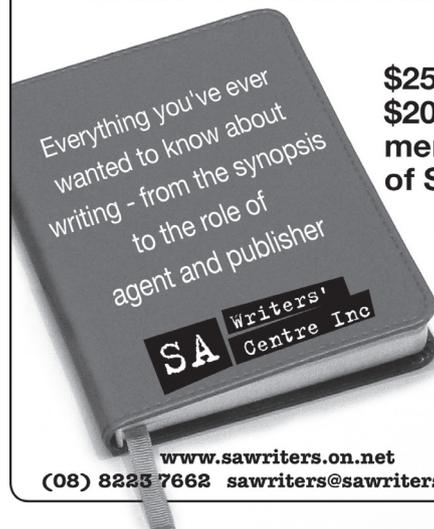
OK, you write and are starting to think it may be better if your work gets out there into a wider world, on to the next level. This is for you, all styles, all ages. Les' workshops are known for their constructive and friendly orientation. This workshop will have an emphasis on the nuts and bolts of establishing a poetry audience. A key component of the day will be traditional workshoping where one of each participant's poems are discussed. But this won't be all that's covered. Participants will benefit greatly from applying insider's hints on how the poetry scene works. Poems are examined with a view to finding outlets that fit your style ... all in addition to intensive editorial feedback. Other topics include running your own projects, taking up opportunities offered by the internet and, of course, getting your book published. Everyone who so wishes will have their poems published in an established internet magazine. Experience has shown this approach is highly effective, combining practical information with an artistic dialogue among peers over a solid block of time.

**Les Wicks** is widely published both in Australia and overseas, an accessible poet with eight collections to his name. He's been involved in dozens of editing projects over his 30 years as a writer and has done his popular workshops from Hobart to Byron Bay to Broken Hill.

### Booking a Workshop

Cost: \$55 for SA Writers' Centre members or \$77 for non-members  
• Forum \$5 • Bookings on 08 8223 7662, sawriters@sawc.org.au or through [www.sawc.org.au](http://www.sawc.org.au)

## Handbook for SA Writers

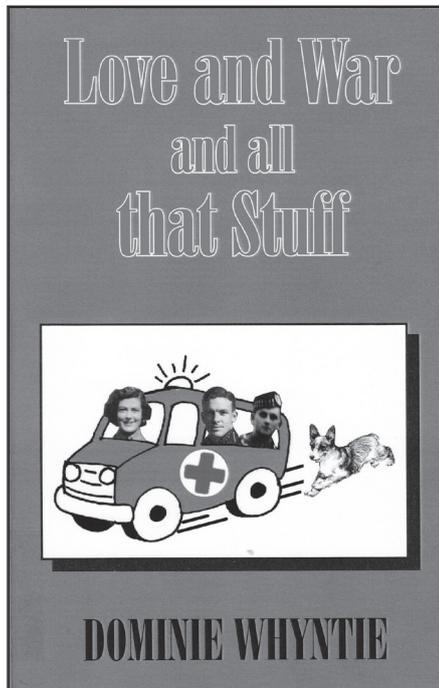


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of SAWC**

[www.sawriters.on.net](http://www.sawriters.on.net)  
(08) 8223 7662 [sawriters@sawriters.on.net](mailto:sawriters@sawriters.on.net)

# Profile: Dominie Whyntie

A long-term member of the SA Writers' Centre, Dominie Whyntie has self-published two books about her remarkable life: *Love and War and All That Stuff* and *Ladies Bring A Plate*. *Southern Write* investigated her motivations and experiences.



**You have clearly had an active and varied life. How did you first find your way to deciding to write your life story (and actually doing it)?**

I was the third of a family of five girls and we had a wonderful nanny who taught us to read and write as soon as we could hold a pencil, and long before we went to school, which in my case was not until I was nine years old, as I was considered to be delicate. You wouldn't think that being bundled off to boarding school was particularly suitable for a delicate child but it was the norm for upper-class children in those days and I soon learned to toughen up. I happened to have an exceptionally retentive memory, and to this day can recite, word for word, most of Hillaire Belloc's 'Cautionary Tales', and A.A.Milne's 'Christopher Robin' poetry, plus all the nursery songs and ditties our nanny sang to us. I suppose you could say that I have always been a writer. My poems and plays were performed by my sisters, and endured by unfortunate visitors who came to afternoon tea parties.

I must have been a proper nerd at school, where I was used to being top of the class. When I moved up to the Latin class I

missed several weeks, owing to an outbreak of measles, and on re-joining found myself amongst the dunces. This didn't suit me so I wrote to my father and begged him to have me excused from the subject. He couldn't have cared less as he didn't really approve of over-educated girls, and I got my way, something I have always regretted as the origin of words and language became a passion of mine. Over the past few years my children and grandchildren have begged me to write down the many stories and anecdotes that I have related to them about my long and turbulent life, and when I finally settled in Goolwa, I found the ideal environment to embark on the project.

**In your first book – *Love and War and all that Stuff* – you use extracts from your wartime diary. How much did you have to 'edit' the diaries or was the material all there?**

When I sat down to read my battered old diary, memories flooded back so quickly I could hardly keep up with them. Even names (which I am not good at now-a-days) and the faces they matched were as familiar to me as they were on my 17th birthday when the first entry was made. Of course it

***If you are young, and not easily discouraged, by all means try your luck with a publisher, but if, like me, you are an octogenarian, and haven't a lot of time to spare, go for self-publishing***

needed a good deal of editing to bring it to life as it was really not more than staccato accounts of daily happenings during my last years of school in Switzerland. An immensely eventful year as it happens, encompassing the start of the Nazi persecution of the Jews, and the horrors of the Spanish Civil War, all of which affected my fellow pupils. I tried to record events as

seen through the eyes of a young girl of her time, and likewise through the war years into adulthood.

**In your second book – *Ladies Bring A Plate* – you, again, write from a very personal point-of-view. Do you have an amazing memory or were you always recording your adventures along the way?**

I had no diary to remind me and was far too busy in the Cummins years to do much writing. I do however have many friends left to prod my memory, and I have to admit to adding a bit of writer's licence on occasions, but it doesn't take much to stir a fertile memory into action. To maintain accuracy of dates etc. (particularly in the first book) I relied on my army of electronically-minded grandchildren for research.

**I understand you have been a long-time member of the Sand Writers Writing Group. How has this helped you in your writing?**

I owe an immense debt to this group of enthusiastic writers, who have encouraged me all along the way. There is a lot to be said for group critiquing, as you get a representative view from readers of varied taste, and learn to accept rebuffs as well as positive suggestions.

**What has been your experience of self-publishing? What tips would you give prospective self-publishers?**

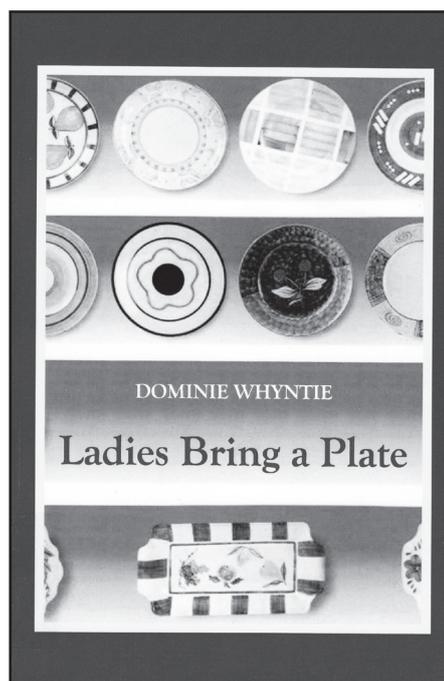
Thanks to Joyce Fitzpatrick, president of Sand Writers at the time, I applied and received, a grant from Country Arts SA, which enabled me to acquire the services of a first-rate mentor, Christine Harris, who guided me for the last year of *Love and War and All That Stuff* (the book took me over two years to complete). I would strongly advise any would-be self-publisher to do the same. You think you know it all, but you don't know the half of it. Christine and I had many 'ups and downs' but we were on

the same wave-length and ended up firm friends. Mentors don't come cheap but, in my opinion, are essential to put you on the right track. 'More of this, don't skip,' was her constant cry, which rang in my ears all through the second book, for which I could not afford her wisdom.

When you have reached the end of your tether and can't stand the sight of your manuscript any longer, choose a good editor to prepare your book for the printer. This will cost you again, but misprints and spelling mistakes can occur even after proof-reading, and the printer only prints. I was lucky in that Sand Writers had been using June Spencer and Allbiz for several years and I was able to empathise with them both from the start.

Don't think that a crowd will appear out of nowhere for your launch. There is more hard work to be done. Personal invitations should be sent to everyone you can possibly think of, well in advance. If you do this well, the launch turns into a party and the books sell like hot cakes!

If you are young, and not easily discouraged, by all means try your luck with a publisher, but if, like me, you are an octogenarian, and haven't a lot of time to spare, go for self-publishing.



## Board's Eye View

As the year comes to an end, SAWC Deputy Chair **Sean Williams**, asks the big questions.

'What are you writing about?'

This is one of those questions to which there is sometimes no easy answer. For every story, there's plot, character development, setting, and many other elements, all of which could be candidate answers. Having recently spent a week working on a film treatment of my second novel *The Resurrected Man*, I can tell you that it concerns a series of grisly murders made possible by a transportations system much like the Star Trek transporter, but it's also about the intense relationship between a man and his adopted father, and the blurring line between life and death, and how betrayal can damage trust beyond all hope of repair. Which one is the right answer? It depends on who's asking, I guess, but that doesn't mean the question is unimportant.

That stories take on lives of their own only compounds the problem. What started off as an idea becomes notes, then drafts, and after considerable thought and labour arrives at a 'finished' work. I use quotes to indicate that this is by no means the end of the process — but even at this point it is hard to say whether this version is the same as the idea we started with. Titles and names can change; plots can go in surprising directions; themes can emerge that we weren't aware of when we started writing. Is it still the same story?

To this mix we can add editors and agents, if we're talking about book aimed for commercial sale. Feedback leads to yet more re-writes. If the book is adapted into another medium, such as a movie, it can undergo a series of discrete and sometimes dramatic evolutions through the writing of treatments and scripts, the input of producers, directors and actors, and occasionally in response to the feedback of test viewers and studio heads. Viewers often complain that the finished result has strayed too far from the source material, which begs the question: at what point did they become discrete things, sharing only a title, or perhaps not even that?

The issue of definitive versions was one raised during the writing of *Star Wars: The Force Unleashed*, which started off as a script by Haden Blackman, and ended

up as a novel adapted by me, a graphic novel illustrated by three different artists, and a computer game for several different platforms, some of them featuring endings that change depending on how you play the game. The canonical version is the novel, meaning that it's the one incorporated into the official universe by the continuity gurus at Skywalker Ranch, but how relevant is that to someone who first encounters it on his or her PS3? Not very, I suspect. In the end, there's no obvious way to determine where this collaborative story starts or stops.

Which could bring me to Christmas ... but I won't go there. If I'm going anywhere, it's to state the obvious: that a good adaptation retains enough of the spirit of the original to be recognisably the same story. Where you might find that spirit can be a bit of a mystery; it's the mystery that lies behind the question: 'What is my story about?' It's also the same mystery behind 'Who am I?' for I know that I react very differently to Christmas than I did when I was five, and yet I still insist that I am the same person.

It would be ludicrous to suggest that books have souls in the same way that some people believe we do, but as metaphor I'll take it. The soul of a story is what every writer is looking for, and to which, once found, we must always be true.

Biographers, historians, journalists, and popular scientist wear this assertion on their sleeves. Arguably they find it easier than fiction writers to name the beast they're trying to track down and capture, but I'd hate to generalise. Truth can be maddeningly difficult to pin down, which only makes it all the more precious.

So as this year draws to a close, let us remember that every fiction writer is, to a certain extent, a liar, but that there must still be truth at the heart of what we do. Let's promise to pursue that truth wherever it leads us, in the hope of answering such perennial questions with confidence, or at least with style. The day we stop struggling with this issue is, I'm sure, the day writing stops being interesting — just like life, and politics, religion, and love.

'What's it all about?' Beats me, but it's a lot of fun finding out.

# Spotlight: Independent Publishers

Many new writers want to get published by the big houses but independent publishers help to keep Australian writing fresh and innovative, and can offer opportunities for work that falls outside of the mainstream.

In a recent article in *Island* 'A Lovely Form of Madness: Small Presses in Australia', Louise Swinn and Zoe Dattner, founders of Sleepers Publishing, discuss the reasoning behind their decision to establish an independent publishing house. They, along with Kate Freeth, author of a research report for the Small Press Underground Networking Community (SPUNC), celebrate the proliferation of small presses in Australia. Though exact numbers are hard to come by, it seems there are at least 200 small and independent presses operating in every state and territory.

Here we put the spotlight on just a few that have connections with South Australia:



Ginninderra is an Aboriginal word said to mean 'throwing out little rays of light' and is part of Canberra's Belconnen area, in which Ginninderra Press operated for its first twelve years. Recently they have moved to Port Adelaide and its owner, Stephen Matthews, has met with quite a few Adelaide writers to discuss possible projects.

Set up in 1996 Ginninderra Press aims to provide opportunities for new and emerging authors as well as for authors writing in unfashionable genres or on unpopular subjects. They recognise that there are many more publishable manuscripts than mainstream publishers can publish. They choose to operate without any direct government subsidies and, therefore, of necessity operate on a very limited budget.

Ginninderra accepts poetry manuscripts, fiction and non-fiction manuscripts and run two imprints: Mockingbird (short fiction selected by Craig Cormick) and Indigo

(poetry selected by Alan Gould and Geoff Page).

Stephen says 'I started up Ginninderra Press in Canberra, initially to provide opportunities for new writers. Within a short time, I was also publishing work by established authors writing in difficult-to-sell genres, such as poetry and short fiction. Over the 12 years of the business's operation, I've published more than 600 titles, several of which have won awards.'

'Following a change in personal circumstances, I relocated to Port Adelaide in June 2008. Though I had already published books by more than a dozen South Australian authors, I'm happy to be receiving more submissions from local writers as word gets round that I'm here. Amongst recent books by authors new to the GP list are *The Day Lit By Memory* (Elaine Barker), *The Good Samaritan* (Julia Miller, writing as Julia Haisley) and *Queensland* (Kon Calembakis).'

In 2009, other SA authors new to GP will include Ken Vincent, Joan Fenney and Mika Logan. As well as launches of their books, other GP events will include poetry readings and panel discussions throughout the year. For more information go to [www.ginninderrapress.com.au](http://www.ginninderrapress.com.au)

## Paroxysm Press

In the last few editions of *Southern Write* you may have noticed the striking graphic of two hands holding a gun advertising *Ten Years of Things That Didn't Kill Us*, the ten year anniversary anthology of Paroxysm Press, a publishing label based in Adelaide, run by Daniel Watson. Paroxysm Press is nationally distributed and specialises in releases a little more hard-edged than most, to be stocked in independent book and music stores.

Their titles include *Adventures in Captivity* by Kerryn Tredrea, *A Thing of Beauty* by Stephen Studach, *S.F & T\** by Kami, the spoken word CD *Looking for*

*Japanese Porn, Croak & Grist* by Shane Jesse Christmass and Hop Dac and the anthologies *Waste, Fingers and Tongues, Shotgun* and *Paroxysm*.

As a more 'in your face' kind of publisher, Paroxysm does not call for submissions in any traditional sense but Daniel, and his team of creative editors Kami, Kerryn Tredrea, Hop Dac and Shane Jesse Christmass are active on the spoken word circuit and willing to talk to writers/creators who are as dedicated as they are to the production of works that embody their motto 'too stubborn to die'.

Both the established and up and coming Paroxysm authors tour extensively and regularly attend festivals and run launches/events in the eastern states, especially in their 'second home' of Melbourne. They have a strong relationship with the Australian music scene with much of their fan base coming from this source. They often perform spoken word gigs with punk and metal bands, acoustic musicians and sometimes DJs. Joining their mailing list (via the website) is probably the best way to keep informed about up and coming publication opportunities. Go to [www.paroxysmpress.com](http://www.paroxysmpress.com)

ILLURA PRESS



## Ilura Press

Ilura Press was co-founded by University of Adelaide PhD (Creative Writing) graduates Christopher Lappas and Sabina Hopfer.

The main focus of Ilura Press is on the production of general and literary trade fiction.

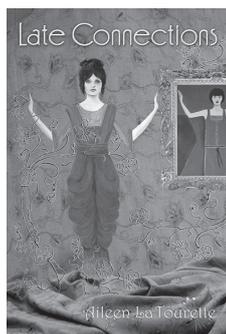
The emblem of Ilura Press is based on

Cycladic artifacts dating as far back as 2700 BC and the name 'Ilura' is a mixture of ancient Greek combined with a Hindu moon goddess and general concepts of re-birth and cycles. There is a local North Italian dialect in which Ilura is a colloquial word meaning 'at that moment' or 'what now?'

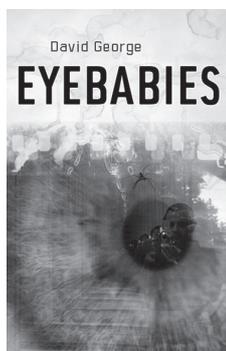
For Christopher and Sabina the 'what now?' is about publishing fresh and innovative writing by authors they work closely with, providing an experience that many larger publishing houses cannot. In this way, they see their role as not only helping to nurture writers but to nurture writing that does not have to cater to the demands of market-driven production. Set up in response to a critical view of publishing – with a belief that mass-market paperbacks and celebrity memoirs were choking the industry – Ilura aims to increase the amount of engaging and innovative writing being produced.

In a short space of time (they were officially established in

2006) they have published four novels: *Late Connections* by Aileen La Tourette, *Eyebabies* by David George, *Pickle to Pie* by Glenice Whitting and *The Higher*



*Realm* by James Friel. Also, they have produced a tri-annual creative journal, *Etchings*, which features fiction, poetry, essays, art and photography and has already been described as one of the key journals of its kind. The Ilura Press motto is 'publishing by writers for readers'.



As Christopher puts it independent publishers such as Ilura are 'the creative artery that feeds the heart and the future of literature'. Go to [www.ilurapress.com](http://www.ilurapress.com)

## SPUNC

The Small Press Underground Networking Community (or SPUNC) has been set up to advance the interests of the Australian small and independent publishing sector, and a visit to their website provides a list of some of the many independent avenues available to writers. Here are just a few:

aduki independent press  
[www.aduki.net.au](http://www.aduki.net.au)

Black Pepper Publishing  
<http://users.vic.chariot.net.au/~bpepper/>

Brascoe Publishing  
[www.brascoebooks.com.au](http://www.brascoebooks.com.au)

Breakdown Press  
[www.breakdownpress.org](http://www.breakdownpress.org)

Celapene Press  
<http://celapenepress.com.au/>

Coeur de Lion  
[www.coeurdelion.com.au/](http://www.coeurdelion.com.au/)

Express Media  
[www.expressmedia.org.au/](http://www.expressmedia.org.au/)

Ford Street Publishing  
[www.fordstreetpublishing.com](http://www.fordstreetpublishing.com)

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<http://puncherandwattmann.com/>

re.press  
[www.re-press.org](http://www.re-press.org)

Sleepers Publishing  
[www.sleeperspublishing.com](http://www.sleeperspublishing.com)

Spinifex Press  
[www.spinifexpress.com.au](http://www.spinifexpress.com.au)

Vignette Press  
[www.vignettepress.com.au](http://www.vignettepress.com.au)

Go to [www.spunc.com.au](http://www.spunc.com.au) for the full list.

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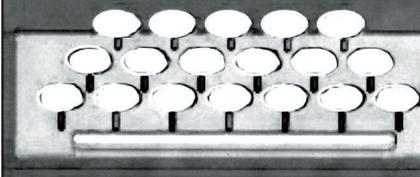
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# What's on in Adelaide

## Poetica December and January Program

*Poetica* is a poetry program presented by Mike Ladd on ABC Radio National on Saturday at 3.05pm and repeated 3.05pm on Thursdays.

- 6 Dec** The poetry of cricket
- 13 Dec** Alice in Wonderland
- 20 Dec** 101 Poems by 101 Women
- 27 Dec** Norwegian poet, Rolf Jacobsen
- 3 Jan** Stella Polaris
- 10 Jan** South of the Border
- 17 Jan** The Accidental West
- 24 Jan** Eastern Approaches
- 31 Jan** Patrick Kavanagh

## Tuesday 2 Dec: Friendly St Poets

The final Friendly St. Poetry reading for 2008 will be held at the SA Writers' Centre. It's open mic with the only limit being 4 mins of time (which includes introductions) Reading starts at 7pm until late. Friendly St Poets does not meet again until February 2nd 2009. Guest Readers are the Promising Poets mentored throughout 2008. Cost is \$5/\$4 concession entry with free wine, juices and ice cold water.

## Monday 8 Dec: Wordfire

Ding dong merrily and all that jazz, it's Christmas Wordfire! Readers include Patrick Allington, Gillian Britton, Sam Franzway, Melanie Kinsman, Mandy Treagus and Sandy Verschoor, with music from Blind Mary (Maire Dall). Visit the new website: [www.word-fire.com](http://www.word-fire.com)

Time: 7pm for 7.30

Venue: Crown and Sceptre, 308 King William Street

Entry: gold coin donation

## Tuesday 9 Dec: Book Launch

Elaine Baker's collection of poetry, *The Day Lit by Memory*, published by Ginninderra Press, will be launched by Mike Ladd at 6pm at the SA Writers' Centre. All welcome.

## Thursday 11 Dec: Hard Boiled

Paroxysm Radio-Demo #3: *Kids These Days* will be launched as part of the Hard Boiled end of year event. Open mic is on as usual. And the night will finish off with the Redneck Lounge. Free entry.

Time: 8pm start

Venue: La Boheme, 36 Grote St

## Thursday 11 Dec: Book Launch

*Queensland*, the poetry of Kon Calembakis, will be launched at the SA Writers' Centre from 7.30pm with an introduction by John L Malone and speech by Graham Rowlands. Food, wine, fruit juice and mineral water will be available. All welcome. Further details phone 8342 2851 after 8pm.

## Thursday 18 Dec: North Eastern Writers Christmas Party

North Eastern Writers are having a Christmas Party with special guests Jude Aquilina and Louise Nicholas followed by a poetry slam. It will be held from 7pm at the Tea Tree Gully RSL Hall. \$5 entry. Drinks and nibbles provided. RSVP and enquiries to [margaret@northeasternwriters.com](mailto:margaret@northeasternwriters.com)

## Friday 16 January, 2009: The Tuxedo Cat Readings

A midsummer's dream heat-wave reading. Open mic.

Venue: The Tuxedo Cat, 17-19 Synagogue Place

Time: 7pm til late

Enquiries: Jules 0466 672 877.

## Member News

### Jeff Guess collection

Pembroke School have published Jeff Guess' ninth collection of poems *The Silent Classroom*. The poems are the result of a two year residency and reflect on all aspects of what a school is. An accompanying anthology of student work *Two Schools of Thought* was also published. The books were released in November and are available from the school. Linda Koopman, the Head of Middle School English, has said of Jeff's collection: 'Jeff's years of working at the chalkface enable him to see the school with such clarity that he hands it to us transformed. He looks through the eyes of the child but responds with the precision of maturity'.

### Jeanne Squires workshop

Jeanne Squires gave a workshop to the Kensington & Norwood Writers Group on Wednesday 22 October 2008 entitled 'Reading as a Writer'. The workshop was attended by 25 people. Jeanne spoke about the importance of reading in the appropriate genre and at the appropriate level of competence to learn how to improve one's writing skill. The group reported that Jeanne's enthusiasm for her subject and her passion for writing and teaching others were very evident, as was her expertise.

### One Book One Burnside

Friday 31 October, Halloween, is notorious for ghosts, goblins and ghouls and was the perfect time for the finale of the Burnside Library's One Book One Burnside program. The book this year was Lauren Crow's (Fiona McIntosh) spine tingling murder mystery, *Bye Bye Baby*. Over 300 people took the opportunity to read the book. This year Burnside Library also ran a Short Crime Story competition. They were very pleased that entries were of an exceptionally high standard. The stories of the winner (Reece Pocock) and runner up (Mark Gamtcheff) can be found on the Burnside Libraries website ([www.burnside.sa.gov.au](http://www.burnside.sa.gov.au)) under Library news.



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# Opportunities

## **The Lifted Brow submissions**

*The Lifted Brow* is seeking submissions for its fifth issue until 1 January 2009. *The Lifted Brow* is an independent journal. As well as 'straight' fiction, essays, interviews, poetry, art portfolios, and comics, they are looking for scrappy, innovative stuff. For this issue, they have a special interest in publishing a film script, a critical-type film essay, or a play script. Submissions will be read and responded to by 1 February. Address submissions to [editors@theliftedbrow.com](mailto:editors@theliftedbrow.com)

## **Going Down Swinging submissions**

*Going Down Swinging* is a Melbourne-based international literary journal publishing poetry, short fiction and non-fiction, flash, comic art, graphic art and a spoken word CD, twice a year. They are now calling for submissions for their 28th issue, due for release May 2009: new, unpublished poetry, short fiction and non-fiction, comic and graphic art, and spoken word recordings. All *GDS* contributors are paid for inclusion in the magazine. Submissions close 1 January 2009. Go to [www.goingdownswinging.org.au](http://www.goingdownswinging.org.au)

## **Writer wanted for Life Story**

Writer required to write a life story for Richard Lintvelt, who grew up on a farming property, travelled NZ on a motorbike, worked two years as a stockman in the Northern Territory, spent six years with the gas and oil industry, including five months in Libya, was a crew member on the Young Endeavor Delivery Voyage from England to Australia in 1987 and would like to emigrate to Sweden. Payment offered. Call Richard on 8369 2674.

## **Graveyard tales**

*Potter's Field 3* is a print anthology of tales from the graveyard. Submissions of stories between 2000 to 8000 words that will scare readers, but not stories that will make them gag. Deadline is 31 December 2008. Go to [www.samsdotpublishing.com/pottersfield.htm](http://www.samsdotpublishing.com/pottersfield.htm) for submission guidelines.

## **Film blog**

Launch of an online venue with weekly blog catering to film-makers, film-lovers and conscious creatives/citizens. Looking

for writers who wish to blog and engage with a global audience. Compensation based on expertise/experience and efforts required. Visit [www.cultureunplugged.com](http://www.cultureunplugged.com). Email your profile/interest/ samples to: [apply@cultureunplugged.com](mailto:apply@cultureunplugged.com)

## **Voiceworks for young writers**

*Voiceworks* is a national, quarterly magazine that features exciting new writing by Australian young writers. It is a unique opportunity for young writers and artists (under 25) to publish their poetry, short stories, articles and comics, illustrations, drawings and photos. They are currently seeking submissions for issue #76, *BUDGET*. Email Tom Rigby, [editor@expressmedia.org.au](mailto:editor@expressmedia.org.au), with any questions, pitches or brilliant ideas.

## **Special offer for members**

Purchase the 2008 Award Winning *Australian Writing*, a book that showcases short stories that have won a short story competition in Australia in a given year, at a discounted price of \$25 plus \$3.95 postage (normally \$34.95). SAWC members can email [info@melbournebooks.com.au](mailto:info@melbournebooks.com.au) and mention this offer. Further information at [www.melbournebooks.com.au](http://www.melbournebooks.com.au)

## **stop drop and roll submissions**

*stop drop and roll* is a new quarterly magazine based in Melbourne, Australia. The magazine is now open to submissions from established and emerging writers from Australia and around the globe. Email the editor [sean@stopdropandroll.com.au](mailto:sean@stopdropandroll.com.au) or visit [www.stopdropandroll.com.au](http://www.stopdropandroll.com.au) for more information.

## **Arts Angels Short Stories 2009**

Art Angels in Canada is looking for stories and poems to be included in a book of fictional stories and poetry. Deadline is 31 December 2008. Each published author accepted will receive two free copies of the book on publication, plus successful writers will be able to buy the book at a reduced cost. For more information contact [artsangels@shaw.ca](mailto:artsangels@shaw.ca), attention: Margaret Hinchliffe.

## **Radio Adelaide Poetry**

Radio Adelaide's 'For a Peace of the Action' program is seeking poems with a theme of peace or social justice - humour is welcome. Contact Clayton: [clayton.werner@gmail.com](mailto:clayton.werner@gmail.com)

## **Ghost Writers Wanted**

Griffith University student is after ghost-writers to participate in her Honours project of 'Why Ghostwriting remains an invisible occupation'. The project involves completing a short questionnaire. If you are interested, please email Vanessa on [vanessa.chapman@student.griffith.edu.au](mailto:vanessa.chapman@student.griffith.edu.au).

## **Mutant Stepchildren**

If you write fantasy, horror, magic realism, science fiction, speculative fiction or any of the many forms of fantastic fiction usually lumped together under 'speculative fiction', then you might want to join the new speculative fiction writers' group the Mutant Stepchildren. First meeting will be held in the atrium of the SA Writers' Centre on 7 December 2008 at 11am. Contact Jeff Harris by phone 8258 9162 or email [jlharris@senet.com.au](mailto:jlharris@senet.com.au)

## **Ozwords**

Subscription to *Ozwords*, the newsletter of The Australian National Dictional Centre is free. Includes word competitions and articles on word history. Readers wishing to subscribe should send their snail mail address to Ozwords Subscription Manager, GPO Box 2784, Melbourne, VIC 3001.

## **ABR Poetry Prize**

A reminder that the Australian Book Review Poetry Prize, with a first prize worth \$4000, closes on 10 December. Go to [www.australianbookreview.com.au](http://www.australianbookreview.com.au)

## **New Writing Group**

Some writers living in the West Beach area are considering starting up a new writing group. The idea is to keep admin and cost to a minimum and get together once a month at a local cafe to read work and provide each other with constructive criticism. If you would like to be involved in this new group, please email Lynette at [oysterlw@optusnet.com.au](mailto:oysterlw@optusnet.com.au) or phone her on 0403 174 421.

# Member Achievements

**Murray Alfredson's** poem, 'Agnus dei' has been selected for display on *Overland's* new web page and has been republished in *Poets ink review*, November 2008.

**Melanie Atkinson** entered and performed her poem, 'Breezing Through Life', at the Blackwood and Burnside heats of the Australian Poetry Slam, and then at the finals in the State Library. She placed second in the State and will now fly to Sydney to compete in the National Grand Final at the Opera House.

**Janeen Brian's** rap poem 'The Street where I Live' was published in Issue 4 of *Challenge* magazine.

**Owen Carmichael's** travel features on Bangkok 'A House by the Canal' and Berlin 'Sally Bowles, Cabaret and All That' were published in *MCV* for 16th and 30th October respectively.

**Graham Catt's** poem 'Hieronymus Bosch' will be in *Wagtail #83*, published by Picaro Press, due for release in February.

**Lucy Clark's** book *City Surgeon, Outback Bride* was published in November. In December her latest book *Children's Doctor, Christmas Bride* will be released.

**Bernice Cohen** was commended in the STARS story competition for her story 'Reflections'.

**David Conyers** was on the Recommended Reading 2007 list in the MirrorDanse anthology *Year's Best Australian Science Fiction and Fantasy Vol 4* for his short stories 'Weapon Grade' and 'From the Sick Trees'.

**Astrid Cooper's** *Starlight Desire* has been nominated in the US as 'Best paranormal romance of 2008' on the night owl romance review site.

**Judy Dally** won second prize in the Mersey Community Hospital Support Group Poetry Award for her poem entitled 'Hospital Visitor'.

**Ross Duffy's** short story 'For the Sake of the Child' was published in *The Write Angle* magazine (Queensland), his story 'Last Rites' was placed third in the Examiner Port Stephens Literature Awards and stories 'Vanessa's Choice' and 'Deft Counselling' received commendations in

the Scribblers (WA) Literary Competition.

**Mike Dumbleton's** junior novels *Jet-ball* (Illustrated by Roger Roberts) and *One Cool Kangaroo* (Illustrated by Richard Dall) have been published by Era Publications.

**Shirley Dunn's** poems were published in *Positive Words*: 'House' (July), 'Leaving Home' (August), 'The Enthusiasts' (September) and 'Mrs Golightly' (October).

**M.L.Emmett's** poem 'The Dancing Bears Return' was published in *Social Alternatives* Vol. 27, No 3. The poems 'Honeymoon Daiquiris', 'Spring Triolet for Martin', 'Afterwards in Venezia' and 'Waiting to Fly' have all appeared in recent editions of *The Mozzie*.

**Phillipa Fioretti** has been selected to participate in the Hachette Livre/ Queensland Writers Centre Manuscript Development for Fiction Writers for her contemporary romantic comedy manuscript *The Book Of Love*.

**Nigel Ford** was awarded a High Commendation in the CJ Dennis Literary Awards for his poem 'Tis A Small Country Town' in the Open Poetry Section. His short story, 'The Hitch', which won First Prize in the Geebung Writers Murder Short Story Competition last year is being published in their anthology, *Murder Aplenty*. His poem, 'Granite Island Cafe', was published in the Fleurieu Life magazine liftout of *The Times* newspaper.

**Kevin Gillam's** poems have appeared this year in *Meanjin*, *Overland*, *Island*, *Wet Ink*, *Blast*, *Heat*, *Southerly*, *Westerly* (forthcoming), *Pendulum*, *Poetry Monash*, *Famous Reporter*, *Unusual Work*, *Visible Ink*, *Verandah*, *Stylus* (internet), *Leaf Press* (internet), *Eureka Street* (internet) and *The Mozzie*. He also has a poem in *Best Australian Poetry 2008* (forthcoming), and was a guest at the Queensland Poetry Festival 2008.

**Jeff Harris** was on the Recommended Reading 2007 list in the MirrorDanse anthology *Year's Best Australian Science Fiction and Fantasy Vol 4* for his short story 'Working Stiffs'.

**Lolo Houbein** has started writing food garden columns for the bi-monthly magazine *Sumptuous*. Her story 'The Basement of Happiness' was published in *Diamond Dog: Contemporary Australian Short Stories - Reflections on Multicultural Society* (Gendaikikakushitu) 2008, launched in Tokyo.

**Katherine Phelps's** young adult comedy, *The Kookas*, about an Australian rock group hoping to hit it big was selected as a finalist for the Scen Development Australia's pitch competition.

**Reece Pocock's** short story, 'The Girl in the Red Beret', won first prize in the Burnside Library Short Crime Story Writing Competition. One of the Judges was Fiona Macintosh, who presented the prize at the Burnside Library 'One Book one Burnside' evening.

**Graham Rowland's** poems 'Palm or Plane' and 'Sigurdur Hjartason's Museum, Reykjavik' were published in *Westerly* and *fourW nineteen* respectively.

**Jewels Smith** came Runner Up in the Search for a Carer's Story with the Sir Roden Cutler Charities Inc in October. This achievement granted her a Certificate, medal and other gifts.

**Zenda Vecchio's** short story 'Nettie' has been published in *Pendulum 2008*.

**Amelia Walker's** poem 'Just Your Everyday Apocalypse' was published in *Poems in Perspex: Max Harris Poetry Award 2007*. Her poems 'Stories' and 'Even Doves Can Bite' will be published in the next issue of *Offset* while 'Ease' and 'Small Questions an Irrational Daughter Might Ask Her Scientist Father' have been published in *Page Seventeen*. 'Image/ Imagine' and 'The Poem That Cannot Speak Its Name' were published in *Unusual Work* and 'Son, Cruel, So' and 'Impossible' will be published in the next issue of *Poetrix*. 'Onion Man' has been published on *Ditch*, a Canadian website.

**Glennis Wakelin** (writing as Glennis Leith) has published her children's novel *Beat It!* and her short story 'Kaito's Last Pearls' will appear in the 2008 edition of *Offset*.

# Competitions

## December 12: Eltham Little Theatre Ten Minute Play Competition ☞●

For plays no longer than 10 mins in length, with max 8 in the cast. 1st prize of \$1000 and performance at The Eltham Performing Arts Centre. Entry fee of \$10 per play. Enquiries to thequicke@elthamlittletheatre.org.au or Paula on 0422 954 837 or www.elthamtheatre.org.au

## December 15: Aussies Dreaming Science Fiction and Fantasy Short Story and Art Competition ★☞

Three categories: 1. Short story 18yrs+, max 3000 words, 1st prize \$50. 2. Junior short story, max 1500 words, 1st prize \$25 and 3. Black and White Cover Art, 1st prize \$50. Entry fees of \$5 per entry for Categories 1 & 3, \$2.50 for Category 2. Post submissions, with entry form, to Aussies Dreaming, PO Box 430, Williston 5118.

## December 19: The Hill of Content Bookshop 2008 Hal Porter Short Story Competition

For short stories, any style, up to 2500 words. Prize is \$1000. Entry fee is \$5.50. Cheques made out to East Gippsland Art Gallery. No entry form required. Mail entries to: Hal Porter Short Story Competition, East Gippsland Art Gallery, 2 Nicholson St, Bairnsdale, VIC, 3875. Further enquiries to pedrom53@bigpond.net.au

## December 30: Positive Words Mini-Monthly Challenge

Write a short story in 100 words or less, or a poem in 10 lines using the word 'Rhythm' at least once. Prize is 6 months subscription to *Positive Words*. Entry fee is \$1 in unused postage stamps, no entry from required. Send to: The Editor, Sandra Lynn James, 466 Old Melbourne Road, Traralgon 3844.

## December 31: Turner Maxwell Short Story Competition 2009 ☺●

For short stories maximum 5000 words. Ten winners will be awarded a publishing contract worth £1000 and free marketing for 12 months. Entries should be

sent as an email Word attachment to [tmb@turnermaxwellbooks.com](mailto:tmb@turnermaxwellbooks.com). Details at [www.turnermaxwellbooks.com](http://www.turnermaxwellbooks.com)

## January 9, 2009: International Poetry Competition ☺★●

Open to young people under 30 years of age. No entry fee. Send only one unpublished poem which has never been awarded a prize (maximum 50 lines). The general theme is: 'Roads'. Three winners will be awarded a prize of \$500 each and publication. Special prizes for the best poems of people under 16. For more information go to [www.castellodiduinopoesia.it](http://www.castellodiduinopoesia.it)

## January 15, 2009: Adelaide Plains Poets Inc Poetry Competition ★

For poetry. The theme is "Tracks and Trails". Prize pool of over \$500 and categories for adults, secondary school and primary school students. For information, contact Carolyn Cordon on (08) 85272 412 or 0418 806 490. Email [holschter@bigpond.com](mailto:holschter@bigpond.com) or write to 30 Germantown Road, Redbanks, SA, 5502.

## January 30, 2009: Kidman Trail Australian Bush Poetry Competition ☞

For Bush poetry. Three classes: 1. Open: any subject, 2. Open: South Australian horse heritage, 3. People's Choice Award. Prize for 1 & 2 is \$100 first prize, for class 3 \$100 voucher for The Alma Hotel, Willunga. Entry fee is \$6.60 per entry. Enquiries to Julie Fiedler on [horsesa@horsesa.asn.au](mailto:horsesa@horsesa.asn.au), [www.kidmantrail.org.au](http://www.kidmantrail.org.au) or 0402 488 306.

## January 31, 2009: Haibun Poetry Contest ☺●

The contest is looking for haibun poetry with a length not more than 30 lines, each line of not more than 80 spaces long with at least one haiku also to be included. Sample haibun can be read at the following sites: <http://hailhaiku.wordpress.com> and <http://contemporaryhaibunonline.com>

## January 31, 2009: FAW (QLD) Lovers of Good Writing Competition ☺☞●

For short story, open theme. Word count from 1000 to 2500. \$5 per entry, limit of 3 entries per author. Judge is Kate Eltham. First prize \$250, second prize \$100, two runner up prizes of \$50. An entry form must accompany each submission. Forms may be downloaded from website [www.fawq.net/](http://www.fawq.net/) or requested from convenor [svskow@gmail.com](mailto:svskow@gmail.com)

## February 14, 2009: Eaglehawk Dahlia and Arts Literary Competition ☞●

Three categories: 1. Short story, max 3000 words, 1st prize \$200, 2nd \$50. 2. Poetry, limit 30 lines, 1st prize \$200, 2nd \$50. 3. Bush Verse, limit 52 lines, 1st prize \$100. For entry forms send SSAE to Ruth Claridge, 99 Victoria St, Eaglehawk 3556 or phone 03 5446 8240 or go to <http://dahlia.bendigo.net.au>

## February 20, 2009: Laura Literary Awards ★☞●

The Flinders News Prose Awards with three sections: 1. Open: short story, max 1500 words, prize \$200; 2. YA (13-18): max 1000 words, prize \$50 and 3. Junior (under 13): max 500 words, prize \$25. The C.J. Dennis Poetry Awards for poems up to 60 lines. Open prize: \$200. Young adult (13-18) prize: \$50. Junior (under 13) prize: \$25. Fee for open sections \$10 per entry. All student entries free. Guidelines and entry forms at [www.laurafolkfair.com](http://www.laurafolkfair.com)

## February 20, 2009: Alan Marshall Short Story Award ☺★☞

For short stories, open theme. Open section: \$2000 first prize, \$1000 second prize, stories up to 2500 words. Local Writers section: \$1000 for writers who live in the Shire of Nillumbik, stories up to 2500 words. Young Writers section: \$400 for writers aged between 15 and 19 years for stories up to 1000 words. Judge is Sophie Cunningham. For more information contact Catherine Dinkelmann on 03 9433 3126 or email [Catherine.Dinkelmann@Nillumbik.vic.gov.au](mailto:Catherine.Dinkelmann@Nillumbik.vic.gov.au)

## February 28, 2009: FreeXpression Literary Competition ☺☞

Five sections: Short story, Traditional Rhyming Poetry, Free Verse, Article/Essay and Haiku. \$5 per entry (\$25 for 6 entries), accompanied by entry form. First prizes range from \$100 to \$250. More information from PO Box 4, West Hoxton, NSW, 2171.

## March 31, 2009: Kernewek Lowender Writers' Competition ☺★☞

Theme is 'A Voice from the Grave'. Entry fee is \$5 for first entry, \$2.50 each for subsequent entries. Adult Short Story up to 2500 words and adult Poetry up to 50 lines. Prize money \$100 each. Young Writers: 12-18 yrs, max 2500 words. (\$50 prize) Under 12, 1000 words (\$25). Young Poets: 12-18 yrs, to 50 lines (\$50). Under 12, to 30 lines (\$25). Entry form from SA Writers Centre.

Please note: competitions are listed in order of closing date  
For more youth competitions go to [www.wordbox.bravehost.com](http://www.wordbox.bravehost.com)

### Key

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

### Entry Forms

The SAWC holds some entry forms and guidelines for members. 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.

