

Writers Voice



Spring Edition #249 SEP 2015

QUARTERLY BULLETIN OF THE FELLOWSHIP OF AUSTRALIAN WRITERS NSW INC.

Eurobodalla FAW to host the November State Council Meeting

Eurobodalla branch extends an invitation to all FAW members as well as branch delegates. Make this a great excuse to visit the beautiful Eurobodalla—stunning coastline and hinterland, charming towns, rivers, mountains and islands.

DATE: Saturday November 7, 2015

VENUE: McKay Centre, Moruya

SATURDAY SCHEDULE

- 8.30am: 'Early Birds' Moruya Markets visit, Riverside Park, Moruya (optional)
- 10.00am: Morning Tea at the McKay Centre
- 10.30am: **FAW State Meeting**
- 1.00pm: Lunch will be provided by Eurobodalla branch
- 6.30pm: Dinner at Granite N Green, Moruya Golf Club, cnr Evans & Murray Sts.

ACCOMMODATION

Luhana Motel, 82 Princes Hwy (cnr Ford St), Moruya
Monarch Hotel/Motel, 50 Vulcan St (Princes Hwy), Moruya
Bryn Glas, 19 Valley View Lane (self-contained accomm 6 mins drive Moruya)
Moruya Motel, 2474 Princes Hwy (1.5 km north of Moruya)
Moruya Heads East's Dolphin Beach Holiday Park, South Head Rd (6 km)
Post and Telegraph B&B, cnr Page and Campbell Sts, Moruya
Moruya Waterfront Hotel/Motel, 1-5 Princes Hwy, Moruya



Moruya River and Town. Photo: John Hicks, courtesy Eurobodalla Tourism.

MEETING ADDRESS

Recreation Room, McKay Centre,
Page Street, Moruya (between cross
streets Queen and Campbell and next
to the Memorial Hall).

GETTING THERE

Car: 4.5 hours south of Sydney via
Princes Hwy

Fly: Rex to Moruya Aerodrome. Our
members can collect you.

Rail: Train from Central to Bomaderry,
shuttle bus to Nowra to link with
Premier Coach (\$5 Red Fare – \$2.50
train, \$2.50 bus for seniors over 60).

Coach: From Central with Premier
Coach Service.

Saturday Afternoon Activities (Optional)

Members are available as escorts for:

- car trips to various beaches
- bushwalks, eg Bingie Dreaming
track or Tomakin – Mossy Point
– Broulee;
- Botanic Gardens, Batemans Bay.

cont. page 4

IN THIS ISSUE...

State Council News	3
FAW Branch Reports	5
Letter to the Editor	12
Poets Voice	13
Roundup	14
Literary Achievements	16
Competition Results	19
Book Reviews	20
Vale Bernie Butler	21
Sharing Workshop Resources	21
Writing Competitions	22
Vale Eileen Backhus	24
Workshop: Image Resolution	25
Branch Meetings and Contacts	26
FAW Members' Bookshelf	28

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WRITERS VOICE ISSN 0817-0746

The official Bulletin of the Fellowship of Australian Writers NSW Inc is published quarterly. Opinions expressed are those of the individual authors and not necessarily those of the FAW or the editor. The editor reserves the right to edit or delete submissions for length, content, or policy. All advertisements and items are accepted in good faith but the FAW NSW Inc cannot accept responsibility for misrepresentation by advertisers nor does inclusion of any item imply endorsement by FAW NSW Inc.

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QUARTERLY COPY DEADLINES:
15 NOVEMBER, 15 FEBRUARY, 15 MAY, 15 AUGUST

FAW NSW Inc. State Council: Biannual Delegates Meetings

Next meeting: Saturday 7 November 2015. Hosted by EUROBODALLA FAW.

The Executive Committee and Branch Delegates meet the first Saturday of May and November each year. Minutes are mailed to each Branch Secretary.

General Membership and Subscriptions

Membership is open to anyone who has a love for writing—writers, whether amateur or professional—or anyone interested in promoting Australian literature.

AFFILIATION FEES – \$40 pa Full Membership (\$20 U21/Youth Rate)—due by 31 DECEMBER each year and paid to the *Branch Treasurer where a member attends meetings*. Cheques/money orders payable to **Fellowship of Aust Writers**.

Each Branch sets its own ANNUAL FEE from which the \$40 (or \$20) affiliation fees are forwarded to FAW State Council for costs involved with printing and mailing *Writers Voice*, public liability insurance and administration.

ISOLATED WRITERS – \$46 pa (\$51 overseas, \$23 Youth U18)—see inside back page. Please mail subscriptions to the FAW State Treasurer Kay Bakon (address at left). Please make cheques/money orders payable to 'Fellowship of Australian Writers'.

Writing Fellows

FAW Writing Fellows are listed here: <www.fawnsw.org.au/Writing_Fellows.pdf>.

The broad criteria for this class of membership, are that the applicant should have had a substantial body of work published and should normally have been a member of the FAW for at least two years. A committee of the State Council adjudicates on each application, which should be forwarded to the Registrar of Writing Fellows, FAW State Council, C/- Hon Sec. 22 Promontory Way, North Arm Cove NSW 2324. The application should:

- be accompanied by a \$50.00 cheque, payable to 'Fellowship Aust. Writers'.
- indicate the Branch where the applicant is currently a member and the number of years of FAW membership.
- have attached a list of published, performed or broadcast works, with dates and details of publication. Also list any literary prizes awarded, although such works may be unpublished. Unpaid contributions to newspapers etc. and self-published works (unless widely sold and acclaimed) should not be included.

The one-time fee of \$50.00 will be used to cover costs of administration and cost of certificate. Excess funds will be used to further the work of the FAW. If the application is unsuccessful, the cheque will be returned, perhaps with a suggestion to re-submit an application when a greater body of work has been published.

Distinguished Service Award

This annual award recognises FAW members confidentially recommended by their Branch Committees and approved by the DSA Assessment Committee. DSA members will be honoured in the following way: a ceremony will be held at the Annual Presentation Luncheon and the successful candidates will be presented with certificates acknowledging their outstanding service. In addition, a permanent Honour Roll in *Writers' Voice* lists the names of recipients of the DSA.

Guidelines for assessing recommendations for Distinguished Service Awards:

- Recommendations must be as a result of a unanimous decision of a current Branch Committee.
- Qualifications to include the following features:
 - Length of service as a current financial member to be at least ten (10) years.
 - Required to have a regular attendance record at Branch Meetings.
 - Required to have participated in activities organised by the Branch Committee on a regular basis for at least eight years or to have served on the Branch Committee for at least eight years.
- All recommendations to be submitted to the DSA Assessment Committee, C/- Hon Sec. 22 Promontory Way, North Arm Cove NSW 2324, by 30 June of each year.
- A committee comprising the State President, the Vice President, the Secretary and the Treasurer will assess recommendations. The DSA Committee's decision is final.

ISBN

Members requiring their FREE ISBN (one number per publication) should, in the first instance, contact the FAW Secretary Maureen Kelly <honsecretary@fawnsw.org.au>. Your request will then be passed to Alan Russell (phone 02 9680 3374) <Alan_Russell@internode.on.net> for action.

Public Fund

Donations of \$2.00 and over to this account are tax deductible. When there are sufficient funds, Branches may approach State Council for an amount for a specific purpose. Without donations FAW cannot grow and achieve this aim. When a member makes a donation, a note of his/her Branch is made.

FAW Manuscript Assessment Service

Critical reading with general criticism, editing including interpolation of articles, short stories and novels. A fee applies of \$50 (\$60 non-members) for a sample assessment of 2 chapters and \$25 (\$30 non-members) for 1 or 2 poems of no more than 60 lines each. A detailed quote for the critical assessment of the remaining work will be supplied should the author require further editorial or constructive advice. For manuscripts, please include a synopsis and approximate word count and a stamped self-addressed envelope for return of all the assessments. For further information phone 0417 403 720 or write to FAW Assessment Service, C/- Hon Sec. 22 Promontory Way, North Arm Cove NSW 2324.

State Council News

From the President

GREETINGS TO members. Can you believe how fast this year is going? I think we need to be on one of those planets where the week is one month long. I am looking forward to meeting up with members at Eurobodalla in November [cover story] and of course at our Annual Awards Lunch [see notice next page].

I hope we get a good audience as guest speaker **Jim Haynes** is really looking forward to meeting and entertaining you and you will have a great time. Jim is in great demand and often heard on Sydney radio. Please 'Google' him and you can read about his books and his CDs. You can be assured of a good afternoon of fun and entertainment. Jim will also have his Australian themed books for sale.

We will be part of the **Book Expo** again this year at Olympic Park [see 'Roundup' p14]. For bookworms and writers it's a great chance to check out marketing your book and to meet up with publishers and authors; the food is yummy too!

I recently introduced author Dr Rochelle Llewelyn Nicholls at our local Library. Dr Nicholls is the author of *Joe Quinn Among the Rowdies* and you will find my review elsewhere in this issue. I never knew a book about a baseball player could be so interesting!

It was a pleasure to promote the Southern Highlands Writers Festival recently, and what a line up of fabulous guests they had—David Marr, Robert Dessaix, Don Watson,

Geraldine Doogue amongst many others. You can listen to podcasts and read about the festival at <www.shwf.com.au>. My guest on 100.3FM was actress and founder/director of the Festival, Michaela Bolzan.

I would like to wish Sutherland Branch all the best for their Writing Festival in November which unfortunately clashes with our Awards Luncheon. Hope it goes well even though we will miss you here.

I hope members will get out and about and promote our competitions—row row row!!!

Remember the Argonauts? I used to be an Argonaut, in fact I think that was my first go at writing apart from school. I wrote some little stories and then heard them dramatized or read on air. I don't remember my Argonaut name however.



Helen Luidens

My thanks to our hard working Committee. Vice President **Helen Luidens** recently resigned from her position. Helen has been a huge part of the FAW for many years and has undertaken various roles, as well as conducting workshops.

Over the years we have had many occasions to have a laugh and work over things as Helen has a good sense of humour.

I would like to wish Helen all the best for whatever she does in the future and trust good health will be hers along the way as well.

Better get out of here before the end of year beats me.

Cheers

Trevar Langlands,
State President

ATTENTION ALL BRANCHES:

FEES DUE



A message from your Treasurer

HELLO TO all members. It is getting near to the end of the year again, and time to start thinking about renewing your memberships. Current members pay the full yearly fee to their branch Treasurers, who will then send \$40 for each member to the State Treasurer.

Isolated Writers send \$46 directly to the State Treasurer.

To help with our finances, I am requesting that all payments be accompanied by a return self-addressed envelope for the receipts.

All those who pay before 1st January, automatically go into our 'Early Bird' draw for \$50. Any who do not renew by 26 February 2016, will no longer receive their copy of *Writers Voice*.

To all Branch Treasurers:

When January arrives, please send me the details of payments given to tutors and/or speakers engaged between January and December 2015. No need to wait for the end of your financial year. I need to know the amounts so that I can renew the GIO Workers Compensation Insurance at the end of February.

Send to:

Kay Bakon, Hon. Treasurer
FAW NSW

Unit 801, Henry Kendall Gardens,
150 Maidens Brush Road,
WYOMING NSW 2250



Trevar Langlands at Radio Station 100.3FM

State News

From the Secretary's Desk

Barbara Simmons' contribution to the Fellowship of Australian Writers' State Council and the organisation as a whole was immense so, it was with sadness, the committee accepted her resignation prior to May's Annual General Meeting.



Barbara Simmons with husband Graham

Barbara, a member of Shoalhaven Branch, was a committed member of the FAW team, making the long journey, as do many of our current committee, to attend meetings in Sydney, Gosford and regional branches.

She was the FAW Webmaster, setting up the website and FAW Facebook page, was responsible for producing the Membership package, organised the competition a few years ago to select the new logo, and was also Membership Secretary until Kay Bakon took over the position a couple of years ago.

Barbara carried out her duties with commitment; her views and technical expertise were '21st century' which enabled the Fellowship of Australian Writers (established 1928) to move forward and embrace modern technology.

Her skills, ideas for a modern-day FAW and her warm friendship will be greatly missed by president Trevar Langlands and those of us on his committee.

We wish Barbara well in her continuing association with Shoalhaven FAW and her travels with husband, Graham, in the future.

Maureen Kelly OAM,
FAW State Secretary

FAW AWARDS LUNCHEON

Saturday 14 November 2015

Red Room Buffet, Level 1, '99 on York'
(formerly known as the Bowlers' Club of NSW)

95-99 York Street, Sydney

11.30 for 12 noon

Special Guest appearance by Australian author, poet, songwriter and performer

JIM HAYNES

Cost: \$45 per person / Raffle Tickets \$1 each.

The order form for both of these is on the back of your Writers Voice address label.

To obtain tickets, please send your order form and cheque to:

Hon. Treasurer, FAW NSW, Unit 801, Henry Kendall Gardens
150 Maidens Brush Road, WYOMING NSW 2250.

Make all cheques payable to 'Fellowship of Australian Writers'.

And to help with our finances, please enclose a stamped return address envelope.

We look forward to meeting you all again this year.

SYDNEY CBD CONSTRUCTION WORK

Please allow extra time to get to the York Street Sydney venue as there may be delays because of significant public works under way in the area, including among others...

- Construction of Light Rail on George Street
- Major refurbishment of Town Hall and Wynyard Stations.

For up to date information, visit <mysydney.nsw.gov.au>.



November State Meeting

cont. from front page

Saturday Evening Dinner & Entertainment

Granite N Green, Restaurant, Moruya Golf Club, Evans St, Moruya.
6 pm for 7 pm dinner.

Sunday Activities (Optional)

Eurobodalla members are available to accompany you. Choose from:

- 11.30am-2pm: CLYDE RIVER LUNCH CRUISE with Merinda Cruises, departing Innes Boatshed, Batemans Bay (\$30, Seniors \$28; optional fish, chips and salad \$12—no credit card facilities, cash only)
- MOGO ZOO, 222 Tomakin Rd, Mogo. Open 9am-5pm, 7 days. Adults \$31, Seniors \$25
- FORESHORE WALK (sealed footpath) at Tuross Head, followed by the best fish and chips on the South Coast at the Boatshed or Pickled Octopus beside the lake at Tuross Head.

Beyond Sunday (Optional)

- Boat trip from Narooma to Montague Island—seal and whale-watching
- Kayaking
- Browse the shops at Mogo and visit the Mogo Goldfields
- Pick up a copy of *101 Things to do in the Eurobodalla* from the Tourist Information Office and plan your own adventure.

RSVP

Please RSVP by **Friday 23 October** to Eurobodalla FAW President Rosie Toth, <rosietoth102@gmail.com> or 0437 627 756, in particular for the Saturday Lunch and Dinner and the Clyde River Lunch Cruise.

FAW Branch Reports

BLUE MOUNTAINS FAW

WE HAVE continued to focus on writing spontaneously during meetings. The focus of writing in the last three months has been on writing short stories with the aim of writing a well-finished story by June next year. At our meeting on September 13 our guest speaker was Peter Pike from Liverpool FAW. Peter spoke about the 'Royal Order of Adjectives' with an amusing work sheet. We welcomed other members from Liverpool at the meeting, to talk about writing and share afternoon tea.

David Berger

CENTRAL COAST FAW

Two more members have published books this year...

We of the Central Coast branch join with Wyong branch in congratulating Shirley Goodbar on her poetry book *Kaleidoscope*, which certainly lives up to its title. Charming illustrations by Yvonne Sorensen accompany many of the poems. We are indeed privileged to be treated to a glimpse into Shirley's world.

Johan Luidens has done it again! On 9 August he launched his third book at the Kincumber Community Centre where ninety guests enjoyed

good company, interesting speakers and as always with Helen's catering, good food. I have not yet read Johan's *Friends and Foes*, but I'm told it is a splendid yarn.

Cate Plink is one of our most enthusiastic members and regularly presents a new chapter of her novel for critiquing at most meetings. Cate has taken over the position of secretary, adding this to her other position of being convenor for the Mona Brand competition. Her commitment is greatly appreciated by our members.

Our lunch gatherings after the meetings continue to be enjoyed. We are possibly the most noisy and enthusiastic diners in the hotel dining room, and we are truly happy customers. No need for us to get into cars or buses to find a restaurant; we have only to come downstairs from the meeting room to our favourite table. Our special Christmas lunch will be held here also.

Johan has kept us all up to scratch about the writing competitions from the FAW branches and also those that are not affiliated with us. I for one have entered several this year. When I first began writing as a hobby for my retirement, I entered almost every competition advertised

in the newsletter. I do recommend to all emerging writers, that to do so can be not only rewarding, but it also generates the need for re-writing one's work. I lose count of the number of times I re-write my stories, but I believe that they are improved each time.

Regards to members at all the branches and especially those who are new to us. If you gain even a fraction of the joy and fulfilment that writing and the Fellowship has given me, then you will be blessed indeed.

Pat Lindsay

EASTWOOD/HILLS FAW

Eastwood/Hills FAW were delighted to welcome old friends and prestigious guests over the last three months. We began this quarter welcoming back past member, Carmel Summers for an engaging workshop on collaborative writing. We panicked and laughed as we worked together to complete exercises based on Carmel's instruction and examples from the literary world.

July proved a real treat, with esteemed guest presenter Suzanne Gervay, who had us on the edge of our seats while sharing how to write from the heart. Suzanne graciously taught with examples from her own writing and discussed our attempts during the workshop for far longer than we expected and we were all most grateful for her generosity and expertise.

cont. next page...



Eurobodalla FAW president Rosie Toth gives a talk about the FAW to Batemans Bay U3A, following the launch on July 25 of Eurobodalla's recently published anthology, 'Flights of Fancy' [story next page].



Robin Macpherson reading his story, 'Miss Orr' from the Eurobodalla anthology.

FAW Branch Reports

Eastwood/Hills

cont. from previous page

Our Literary Competition Presentation Day was a terrific opportunity to welcome both new and old friends as well as some respected guests. We were happy to have both The Friends of the Library (Epping) and Bush Poet, Brian Beasley as guest presenters and judge in Brian's case. The afternoon provided us with the chance to be entertained by the works of highly skilled writers from all over Australia.

Inspired by this, next month we look forward to sharing some of our own work with each other during a whole afternoon of critiquing. I'm sure the afternoon will result in the polishing of some competition winners and maybe even some published works.

In the next few months Eastwood/Hills FAW will be working on Historical and Science Fiction Writing, so if you're a history or sci-fi buff feel free to join us in October and November respectively. We meet on the first Saturday of the month and all are welcome.

Artelle Lenthall

EUROBODALLA FAW

So what have we been up to this quarter? Well, we've planned lots of activities to entertain FAW members at our hosting of State Conference on the weekend of Nov 7 [*see front page*] and hope many of you will venture to the Eurobodalla and spend some time with us. We're looking forward to showing it off.

We attracted close to 100 people to the launch of our new anthology, *Flights of Fancy*, (a free drink and refreshments probably helped!) and sold nearly that number of copies at the same time. Following that, we presented a talk for Batemans Bay U3A, covering everything from submission of entries, editing, re-editing and self-publishing through CreateSpace (Amazon). This was interspersed with readings of short prose and poetry pieces from the anthology [*photos previous page*].

Networking with Writers of the Far South Coast, based in Merimbula

<admin@writersfsc.org.au>, at the Batemans Bay Writers Festival was a positive step towards our two groups sharing their expertise and ideas. We plan to offer our talents to each other in running workshops in 2016 and we look forward to developing them. We have snared Dr Rae Luckie for a Memoir Writing workshop in November after many recommendations in WV.

Stafford Ray, author of *Cull*, his enviro-political thriller, has just returned from a book-signing tour of NSW and Queensland. He recommends planning it all beforehand and using the Libraries for a talk and signings. One small town had its whole book club of 20 people turn up.

Some more ideas we've used, or plan to, for short burst writing (100-200 words) at our meetings:

- Describe your relationship with your mirror
- Sunday morning, 3 am
- Thank you, Mum, for piano lessons
- The only weed in the garden

Rosie Toth

FORESTVILLE FAW

At our meeting held in May we welcomed Marilyn Humbert who enlightened us with her presentation on Tanka Prose. Following on from this we were given a writing exercise to present at our June meeting. Our task was to select a tanka poem and write a paragraph about what we imagined to be the story behind it. The challenge was to make each word of the tanka earn its place in our story. The outcome was fascinating as some members who chose the same tanka wrote entirely different stories.

Throughout 2015 many of our group have been working on the final drafts of their novels. Our meeting in July was an opportunity to share extracts which were followed by lively comments and helpful suggestions.

In August we attended a workshop with Joan Childs. Joan teaches Sanskrit and gave an informative presentation of her knowledge and enthusiasm for this classical Indian language which predates writing and is acclaimed to be the oldest

language. Based on formulas and fifty four characters we were surprised to discover how elaborate and rich Sanskrit is compared to modern languages. It is still used in everyday conversation in remote villages of India. This deeply spiritual language gave us an insight into another culture and another way of viewing our world.

Our prolific author, Pam Bayfield, has set a date in November for the launch of her sequel to *For The Love of Grace*, a period drama set in The Rocks and Manly in the late nineteenth century.

Our poets continue to enjoy successes. Three of their poems were selected for publication in the feature article, 'The Atomic Era,' in the latest edition of *Atlas Poetica*, an international journal. Only twenty five poems out of two hundred submissions were chosen.

Those of you who possess a passion for writing are welcome to attend our meetings held on the third Saturday of the month at 2pm in the Forestville Community Centre.

Mary Ann Napper

GREAT LAKES FAW

Our April meeting proved most interesting. The subject was "What do you collect and why?" These turned out to be many and varied, from president Hermione's collection of blue and white ornaments from all over the world, to Amanda's collection of bird pieces, and Anne's collection of the stickers to be found on fruit and vegetables and such. We learned a lot, and then we followed it up in May with a story or poem about our collected items.

At the May meeting we discussed stories with a "twist in the tale" and "surprise endings". On 29th May several members took a trip to Nabiac and inspected a quaint gift shop full of collectables. They took notes on things they liked, and then went to lunch at a pleasant cafe. A very good time was had by all. At the June meeting they all discussed ideas they had formed after the Nabiac trip. The assignment for that month was to write a 600 word story or 20 line

poem with titles 'Lost and Found' or 'Wedding Woes'.

In July we talked about our favourite authors, and the August assignment was to write a story or poem, attempting to use the style of these favourite authors. An alternative assignment was to write a short 100 word story titled 'Cheesecake'. Member Rose Marie read us a lovely poem that she wrote called 'Then and Now', in which she tried emulating Banjo Paterson's style.

Member Marcia has been away with illness, and we all wish her a speedy recovery. President Hermione is also absent at the moment, looking after her husband, who is not well. We also wish him a speedy recovery, and Hermione's return to our meetings.

In September we are to try our hands at writing a short play. Themes can be "Mistaken Identity" or "The Waiting Room". Hopefully it will prove very entertaining.

We welcomed member Noelle White back early from her overseas trip, as it was curtailed by the cancellation of so many air flights from Bali due to the ash from the volcano. She didn't get to see Bali at all.

Christine Hayes

HUNTER FAW

The last few months have been quite productive with members coming up with different inspirations for writing in each session.

Our writing explored "sense of place" led by D. Gentile, who started us off by reading an excerpt from *Tono Bungay* (a work renowned for its recreation of place, class and social scene written by HG Wells) and a poem 'To Brooklyn Bridge' by Hart Crane.

Our next incursion was into humour led by L. Wellard who introduced us to poems by the well-known American humorist Don Marquis. J. Tregellis involved us in memories evoked by a favourite photo in a photo album. C. Brotherson used the theme of foreign correspondent, introducing us to the work of Khaled Hossein in *A Thousand Splendid Suns*. We had a session where each member brought a piece of writing that was a favourite, and thus were introduced to poets

like C. Cavafy, Sara Holland-Batt and Viktor Frankl.

All of these meetings included the act of writing, each piece being critiqued briefly and set for home revision. We hope all will be included in our forthcoming anthology.

Our highlight so far this year has been the guest Mr Ralph Richardson who gave us hints on writing and editing illustrated by the anecdotal monograph *What did he see?* as well as introducing us to his recently published book on atheism.

In August we used material from FAW's publication *Unlock the Writer Within*, in particular the section on compiling an anthology, which we found very useful as we envisage doing just that in the near future.

We welcome our new attendee, member from Bowral, Jenny Crozier.

At our September 2 meeting, one of our members, the noted poet Jan Dean launched her chapbook *Paint Peels, Graffiti Sings*.

We meet at 10:15 on the first Wednesday of the month at the refurbished Junction Hotel at Hamilton. Visitors are welcome and we ask for a gold coin donation.

Luciana Croci

LAKE MACQUARIE FAW

The Lake Macquarie Branch has gone through a re-grouping period, with a change of office holders and other changes. Nonetheless members have continued to produce much impressive work across many genres: books, short stories, book reviews, poems, memoirs, history articles and more. Our critique groups have continued to be well attended, with many members submitting pieces for critique.

In June, our President Terry Colling led the group through a discussion of reading and its relationship to our creative lives. A writing exercise saw each of us focus on a book from our past which had a great impact on each of us. What an eclectic range of books we remembered.

At one of our critique sessions we welcomed Anthony Scully, a local producer for ABC Open Radio ('real stories by real people all around Australia'). Anthony described the

projects set each month by ABC Open <open.abc.net.au>. Some members were able to record their stories for ABC Open broadcasts, and several of our members have already submitted to the website short stories of fewer than 500 words for various project topics.

After our AGM in July we listened to a fascinating guest speaker, Claire Pasvolsky. Claire's accomplishments include acting, writing, producing and directing. We spent time focussing on the many facets of our creative selves. Claire gave us some useful guidance on how to nurture our writing activities, including working through an "automatic writing" exercise.

Our August meeting, led by Acting President Jan Mitchell, was devoted to an engaging discussion about the value or otherwise of good grammar, and whether traditional grammatical forms are necessary for good writing. This was followed by a discussion about gender in writing voice.

Pam Garfoot

LAMBING FLAT FAW

Lambing Flat Writers Group launched their annual writing competition at the South West Regional Library at Young on July 28. President Ted Webber gave a brief speech on the group and the upcoming competition. This coincided with FAW member, Valerie Parv as *writer-in-residence* at the library for the day [*photo next page*]. Valerie generously promoted our local writers' group and described how she felt she had "found her tribe" when she came to Young and joined the group.

Valerie gave two presentations over the course of the day, attracting a crowd of 50, with some guests coming from as far as Orange and Canberra. "I don't want to read a story, I want to live it," the international best-selling romance novelist told her audience. Valerie was on hand at the library from 10am until 3pm to provide advice, knowledge and experience. "Love what you do and do it with all your heart and passion," Valerie told participants.

There have been several changes made to this year's writing

cont. next page...

FAW Branch Reports

Lambing Flat

cont. from previous page

competition. The closing date is a month earlier, on 16 October 2015. The sections have been reduced to Adult Open, Secondary Students and Primary Students, each with two categories—Short Story and Poetry. Please check the details in the 'Writing Competitions' section of this edition of *Writers Voice*.

Our writing competition is in its 33rd year, and is held in conjunction with the *66th National Cherry Festival*, which is celebrated at Young each December during the cherry season. Our aim is to try to attract more local entries, as well as entries from far and wide. The response last year was fantastic and we are hoping for the same again this year. Thank you to all those who entered last year and we encourage you to please try again this year. We are extremely grateful to our local sponsors: Young Shire Council, South West Slopes Credit Union, Young Services Club and Wombat Bush Poets. Without their continued support, the competition could not be conducted.

President Ted has been extremely busy promoting the competition to local and district schools, to all NSW

FAW branches, ACT groups, also doing radio interviews.

Our AGM in May saw the same people elected to take on the committee positions of president, secretary, treasurer and competition coordinator as last year, with the positions of vice president and publicity officer not being filled. Our monthly meetings range in number from 4 to 12. Members enjoy exchanging thoughts, ideas and happenings, and the opportunity to read aloud a piece they have written, with constructive critique an important and enjoyable part of each meeting. Last meeting saw some amazing stories from members!

Happy Writing to everyone.

Maree Myhill

LIVERPOOL FAW

We have been holding workshops to increase our knowledge and skills in writing. These have been held by Lydia Vincenti, Toulou Papadam and Rick Vincenti. In August Toulou began a series on Editing—a most important and interesting aspect of writing, which will continue monthly into the new year.

We will be visiting the Blue Mountains group on the second Sunday of September where Peter F

Pike will be presenting a paper, 'The Royal Order of Adjectives.'

Our updated website was launched in September, in a new and informative format. Please visit: www.faw-liverpool.org.au.

The anthology team has continued its task of compiling our work for the Anthology to be published in November. This has taken up much time and is very appreciated. Our monthly meetings have been busier than usual. As well as the normal 'read and critique' sessions, we have been concentrating on preparing our individual work for the Anthology, which will be launched on November 7 at 'Boat Shed Hall' Angle Park, Homestead Avenue, Chipping Norton 10.00am-2.00pm. RSVP required.

Our Summer Poetry and Prose Evenings will begin again in October 2015. Dates and venue to be advised.

Rhonda Rice

MACARTHUR FAW

In future, new members of our branch will have the option of being teamed up with a 'buddy' or mentor who will answer any questions they might have, as well as endeavouring to make them feel welcome. This is one of a number of ideas that our committee came up with last year, and which have since been put into practice.

The venue for our meetings is Campbelltown RSL Club, which kindly provides us with the use of a modern seminar room on the first floor, as well as a range of other facilities. The premises has recently been renovated with very little disruption to our proceedings. One of the many improvements has been the installation of an escalator. Apart from the obvious benefits, members and visitors can now arrive at the meeting coffee-intact.

We continue to hear about books that have had an influence on our fellow writers. At the last meeting, John Steinbeck's *The Grapes of Wrath* was discussed for its powerful description of human suffering—although not avoiding criticism in some other respects. Works under discussion ranged from *A Man of Property* by John Galsworthy to *Go Set a Watchman* by Harper Lee, while



The 2015 Writing Competition for FAW Lambing Flat Writers Group was officially launched at the Young Library during Valerie Parv's writer-in-residence day at the library in July. Pictured are Branch President Ted Webber and Valerie Parv promoting the group and the competition to the large group in attendance.

Kenneth Grahame's *The Wind in the Willows* remained a fond memory for all.

Our secretary, Pauline Twemlow, informs us that the RSL club has asked us to write a report about our group's activities for its in-house magazine. Pauline has been liaising closely with the management staff, making arrangements for next year and even discussing ideas for this year's Christmas party.

Barry Flanagan has announced the publication of the latest in a trilogy of novels set in Lithuania during the period of the Second World War. Following on from *The Undeclared War* and *Across the Green Border*, *The Invisible Front* is "the story of a small group of freedom fighters based in one of the many resistance camps in Lithuania... the war in Western Europe may be drawing to a close but the war in the East is just beginning" <BarryFlanaganBooks.com>. Whilst researching these highly authentic novels, the author travelled extensively in Lithuania. Congratulations to Barry on this great achievement.

Congratulations also to Bob Bee on winning our bi-monthly writing competition with a short story entitled 'The Cork Expedition'.

Margot Shugg, whom we already know for her three books of short stories, revealed yet another talent when she was asked by *The Macarthur Chronicle* to contribute to its Best Recipes column. The result was a recipe for 'beef san choy bau (without the bau)', accompanied by a handsome photo of the chef at work in her kitchen. Unsurprisingly, Margot managed to work into the mixture a few paragraphs about her passion for writing, as well as the work of the Macarthur Branch of which she is President.

Writing exercises continue to be creative and challenging. Last month, our imaginations were titillated by the subject of favourite food; while in July, we were all asked to write the first line of a poem which was then passed from person to person for completion (try digging yourself out of that hole!).

Bernard Russell Smith

NORTH ARM COVE FAW

Members are relishing 'warming up' their brains at the start of each meeting with two minutes of 'slam' writing, the subject being drawn from a hat. When visiting Port Macquarie branch, Maureen Kelly enjoyed this exercise and introduced it to cove members who have certainly embraced the idea.

Ron Stewart's assignment at the June meeting produced some very good writing in the style and era of Henry Lawson and Banjo Paterson, while Lee Clayton's July assignment had members enjoying writing Haiku poems again. Garry Boyd's August assignment will reveal the winner of the 'Smartie' award.

Judging of the public school short/poetry competition for Karuah and Tea Gardens Public School students is underway, students writing up to 1500 words, theme 'Batman and Spiderman join forces' which has produced some very interesting writing by the youngsters!

Members are all participating in an in-house competition at present, judging commencing shortly.

You win some and you lose some!...

Prolific humorous poet Margaret Wilson was farewelled at the beginning of winter. She has moved to Victoria and is sadly missed by everyone. However, everyone is thrilled to welcome two new, very accomplished members—Jan Furness and Gail Rust—to their ranks.

Maureen Kelly OAM



North Arm Cove FAW new members
Gail Rust (left) and Jan Furness.

PORT MACQUARIE-HASTINGS FAW

We wish Joie, our branch contributor, a speedy recovery. In her absence I report that we had two excellent workshops: June was Dr Rae Luckie and August was newspaper journalist, Laurie Sullivan. Enquiries to branch <joie10@bigpond.com>

Colleen Parker

PORT STEPHENS FAW

We are now settled in with our new President Peter Goldman and vice president Noel Watham, with Penny Lane to take over as Secretary Treasurer—once she returns from caravanning up north.

A small but busy group attended our June/July meetings with our own guest speaker Janice Love who with her songwriting skills, guitar and computer web site skills was able to teach us lots about song writing. Or should I say guide us with helpful hints and references of where to seek out more on songwriting.

Janice sings well and we ended each session with smiles on our faces. More please Janice.

We now look forward to warmer weather. Our last homework, titled 'A cup of tea, a good lie down and a Bex' gave us much amusement.

This month's homework is 'Journeys'. I am sure we will be well entertained. I have chosen Steam Train Journeys. We always have surprises and look forward to the coming warmer months part of the year.

Anyone is welcome to our meetings. We have a website <portstephensfaw.snappages.com>.

Christine Gregory

SHOALHAVEN FAW

We've heard some wonderful stories read for our 'homework' and '5 minute exercises' over the past few months. It's amazing how many different approaches can be taken for a subject—either as a short story of up to 500 words, or as a quick response to a subject in five minutes at the beginning of our meetings. It's all very inspiring.

cont. next page...

FAW Branch Reports

Shoalhaven

cont. from previous page

Last meeting we had an excellent guest speaker, Christine Paice come and talk to us about her first adult fiction novel, *The Word Ghost*, which was published by Allen and Unwin in June 2014. Christine is a poet and writer. She has published two poetry collections (both by Ginninderra Press) and her children's book, *The Great Rock Whale* was published by Hachette Australia in 2009.

Christine was a runner up in the Newcastle Poetry Prize and she won the national Josephine Ulrick Award for poetry in 2009 with her poem, 'The Ministry of Going In'. Her poem, 'The Quality of Light,' was shortlisted for the Blake Poetry Prize 2013.

Christine facilitates creative writing and poetry workshops and works as a mentor for poets and writers. She is also the Deputy Chair of Kiama Council Cultural Board. (Kiama is a delightful seaside town on the South Coast of NSW and is where Christine lives).

So we were very keen to hear her words of wisdom. We weren't disappointed. Christine is a lively and entertaining speaker and she was very generous with her advice—which was, "be persistent".

We heard about her experiences as she went through the process of getting her book accepted by first, an agent, then the trials and tribulations of getting a publisher, having to make multiple changes to her draft, meeting new and demanding deadlines, insisting on the cover she wanted and getting on with the daunting task of becoming a published author. All this came with her pervasive sense of humour, so there was much laughter and enjoyment of the tales she told.

Along with the "Persistence" message, came "if you're not reading, you're not learning how to write. If you are writing poetry, read poetry. If you are writing short stories, read short stories, etc." Yes, it was another enjoyable and informative morning for the Shoalhaven FAW members. Our thanks to Christine Paice.

Chere Le Page

SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS FAW

FAW Southern Highlands has revived its website: this is now available at fawsh.wordpress.com and we are now making available members' works in progress, especially unpublished poetry, in a members-only section.

We plan to launch a new writing competition for local residents, including school children, in 2016, and planning is now underway. We are also planning poetry performances at local libraries and on local radio programs.

At monthly meetings we are currently working through the construction of a short story by each member, based on principles of character, plotting etc. A flurry of snow in the highlands led to "Snow in the Highlands" being a topic for poems presented at the August meeting. As an easier exercise, we also read original limericks. As usual, we have been set etymology research homework, on words set each month by Greg Tome.

Our poetry group recently focussed on sonnets, and most attendees made their first attempts at writing one. All agreed it was a challenging task.

Ken Challenor and Greg Tome continue to have their short plays accepted at Crash Test Drama, Bundanoon, where Brian Haydon's *Aliens* recently won the popular vote and thereby qualified for the Gala Final, and Margaret Symonds recently had her *Slippery Slope* performed at Armidale Shorts Festival.

Ron Jones, a member of long standing and an excellent writer, has recently re-joined us after a period of ill-health, and we look forward to welcoming back some of our other recovering and travelling members.

Brian Haydon

STROUD FAW

We have been remembering and celebrating the life of our late member, Bernie Butler, through his writing [see page 21]. Bernie passed away on July 11 2015, aged 92.

Peter Uren, our prolific writer, is preparing for the launch of his third novel, *The Classic Bike Workshop*. The

launch will be held in October in Raymond Terrace. Peter will not be resting on his laurels. He has already commenced sharing his fourth novel in this motorbike series.

As Peter has now had extensive experience in self-publishing and reaching a wide audience, selling internationally, we knew that Peter was the man for our recent publishing workshop. Peter co-facilitated the event with local self-published author, Zeny Giles, and editor/publisher Michael Jameson. The workshop was well received by our members and visitors. This was due to Peter's exemplary presentation. He was organised and shared his knowledge gained from experience and research, delivering a balanced view of publishing from the cheaper through to the more expensive options. Our event was held at a local lady's home, located on a beautiful property with lovely gardens and local fauna.

We have recently welcomed new members to our Night Owls group. This group continues to pursue and share their individual projects. They include science fiction, historical fiction, Gothic fiction, fantasy, and non-fiction articles. Our meetings will now include a focus on grammar and writing technique as we have a number of people new to writing.

If you are interested in joining our day or evening groups please send an email to stroudwriters@gmail.com.

Sharon Burke

SUTHERLAND FAW

The year is flying by and our group has welcomed five new members who have brought with them a wealth of experience and knowledge to complement our great team of current writers.

Our monthly presentations have been a great success. In May our Vice-President, Frank Maguire presented a lively talk on tragedy and tragic characters. He brought a diverse range of writing reference books along. Finally he gave two scenarios as a starting point for writing.

For our June meeting, I presented a workshop called 'From Page to Podium: How to project your voice to sound interesting'.

Julianne Miles-Brown presented an interesting writing exercise, where you use your own childhood experiences as a starting point in developing a story, or to develop a character's view of different experiences. The task was to imagine you have a time machine in which you can go back in time to the ages of 5, 10 and 15 years. Consider the following:

1. What scares you the most?
2. What do you keep secret?
3. Whom do you most want to spend time with? And lastly, what things made you laugh?

Childhood experiences are not just food for memoir writing but can be an impetus for developing a work of fiction.

We welcomed Cate Plink, State Council Publicity Officer and Competition Convenor, to our July meeting, where she shared her knowledge about up and coming competitions and requirements for the Book Expo to be held in October.

Helen Armstrong our Secretary gave a presentation on the pitfalls and successes of e-publishing for Amazon Books. Also that blurbs are a powerful way of marketing your book. She used blurbs from novels as examples.

We did a reflective writing activity called "If You Could Turn Back Time". Imagine the last day of high school—what would you tell your 17-year-old self? The stories produced by our members were informative, poignant, funny and sad.

In August, our new member Jenny Mathers, who is a writer and editor, presented a writing activity on developing character arcs when plotting our stories.

Our informative monthly newsletter, *Shire Scribblers*, continues to provide a wealth of information for our members and local community. Our editor, Joyce Noble's column 'Erudition' provides inspiring writing tips from experts on various writing matters such as writing effective character descriptions, writing comic characters and using personal stories for creative nonfiction.

The *Writers Unleashed Festival* committee coordinated by Julianne

Miles-Brown has been busy organising writers' presentations and editor consultations for the big day on 14 November.

We also received more than 150 entries for the Picture Book Competition which is run in conjunction with the Writers Festival. The winners will be announced at our *Writers Unleashed Festival* at Gynea Tradies on 14 November. More details are available on the website: <www.shirewritersfestival.weebly.com>.

Sylvia Vago

WOLLONDILLY FAW

Our Branch has welcomed two new members in recent months. Richard Bell, grand-son of Clare Bell who has been a valuable member of the branch for some time and appears to have passed her writing skills on to her grandson, and Jeane Mills who is new to the area and has been writing for some time.

We were invited to participate in the *Festival of Fun* held at Tahmoor on 2nd July. The branch had a stall promoting the FAW and our Branch at this popular event. We received a number of enquiries about the FAW and our Branch on the day.



Clare Bell works the stand for Wollondilly FAW at the Tahmoor 'Festival of Fun'.

Wollondilly Branch now has a Facebook page 'Wollondilly Fellowship of Australian Writers – FAW'. It is worth a look and 'like'.

Vincent Morrison, a long time member of the Branch, was recently successful in being awarded a First Prize in the Eastwood/Hills Literary Competition Memoir Section with 'Goose Patrol' and a commendation for his short, short story 'The Sandwich Men'.

A number of other Wollondilly Branch members have published books...

Jan Whiten's children's book *Chooky-doodle-doo* has now been released in America. It was recently read on *Playschool*.

Clare Bell published two books, *Farm Days*, *Kids Ways* and her more recent memoir *My Australia*.

Richard Bell's published book *The Gospel of Schizophrenia* had its official launch on 22 August.

Enquiries about these books can be referred to the branch at <wollondillybranch.faw@gmail.com>.

Sandra Reynolds

WYONG FAW

We have been delving into the 'Mystery Writers Box' by free writing from prompts introduced by Elizabeth McVie, Yvonne Sorensen and Margaret Young over the last three months. Visitors are able to join in and are amazed at how much they can write in ten minutes from just a couple of words or a partial sentence. Our free writing session is then followed by critiquing members' selected work.

Our biggest news this month is the publication of Shirley Goodbar's poetry book *Kaleidoscope*, illustrated by Yvonne Sorensen [see 'Bookshelf' back page]. Shirley has written poetry most of her life and the book contains one hundred and ten selected poems from a sixty year collection. Yvonne has a Fine Arts Degree from Darwin University and also taught there.

'Scribblers' still meet of a Monday at The Lunch Box, Wyong. Members once having participated with these sessions are more confident to submit work for competitions etc as well as continue writing novels.

Margaret Young



Letter to the Editor

Insufficient Merit?

Condition 14 in the Conditions of Entry for the current Marjorie Barnard Award states that the FAW reserves the right not to award any prizes if, in the judge's estimation, no entries of sufficient merit are received.

This condition seems to be a growing trend with the FAW's writing competitions. It hardly encourages entries. If a member did decide to enter they would probably keep it a secret from others in their group in case condition 14 was invoked. How embarrassing to have told everyone you had sent in a story and for the world to then learn that everything submitted had been a load of rubbish.

A competition should keep faith with the entrants, particularly when they have paid to enter. Imagine an athletics meet where the placegetters were not awarded prizes because the judge thought they had been running a bit slow that day. In the end, no one will bother entering writing competitions, particularly when their entry fee did not even subsidise another writer's prize.

Was the non-awarding of a prize a condition of the original charter for the Marjorie Barnard Award, or is it something that has evolved over the years? I would be happy to be enlightened.

Victoria Chie, Macarthur FAW

Response from the FAW Competition Convenor

Firstly let me assure you that, as far as I am aware, Condition 14 has not been imposed on any of the Competitions held to date. As for it being a growing trend, as far as I am aware, this condition has been in force since the inception of the competition some fifty years ago. I will however take up the matter with the Management Committee when we meet in September.

The FAW NSW runs five competitions only—the same competitions they have always run—the two Hilarie Lindsay Competitions and the Biannual Walter Stone, Jean Stone, and the Marjorie Barnard.

The entry fee subsidises the costs which are not covered by the Trust Fund, which covers the prize only. The other costs include the Judges' Fees, Mailing Fees and other miscellaneous costs of administering the competition, and are met by

FAW NSW. If you look at the annual treasurers report, the FAW NSW actually loses money on running the competitions in many years.

Cate Plink,
*FAW NSW Publicity Officer
and State Competition Convenor*



Bring your ideas to the Meeting

Do you have anything for discussion at the **State Council Meeting** in Moruya on November 7?

If you would like to suggest any topic for consideration by the State Council delegates, write down your thoughts and send them in for inclusion on the Meeting Agenda. Write or email to:

Hon. Secretary, FAW NSW Inc.
22 Promontory Way
NORTH ARM COVE NSW 2324
<honsecretary@fawns.org.au>

– to reach the Secretary **no later than 23 October**. Please mark your letter or email 'FOR NOVEMBER MEETING'.

WORKSHOPS

Do you have a favourite Workshop Presenter or Theme? Our new-look FAW website is being prepared for launch soon [see page 25]. Your input can be published on the website and shared with other branches. Send an email to <webmaster@fawns.org.au>.

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD HONOUR ROLL



Irene Acland*	Meryl Bentley*	Margaret Jackson	Dr John Sheppard
Denise Aldridge	Elaine Burton	John Jacobs	Margot Shugg
Carolyn Alfonzetti	Ken Challenor	Pat Lindsay	Barbara Snel
Patricia Allen	Jan Dean	Helen Luidens	Dorothe Squires-Cooper
Gavin Austin	Beryl Dundas	Vince Morrison	Frank Urban
Barbara Aylott	Margaret Ekin	Peter F Pike	Margaret Wilkinson
Eileen Backhus	Thelma Flower	Margaret Robinson*	Margaret Young
Margaret Barlow	Eileen Gray	Alan Russell	
Miriam Bates	Pip Griffin	Albert Scott	
Cyril Bentley*	Mavis Hayes	Bridget Sharp	

*Deceased

Poets Voice

The Suit

In Nineteen Hundred and Ninety Three
Little Johnny Howard said to me
Here, take this present and vote for me
Go out and spend it, and make the country free.

Eleven Hundred Dollars, he thrust in my hand
And he said "Go on, spend it on something that's grand."
Well I thought and I thought, now what is it that's needed
To perk up my life, can I sartorially feed it?

So I looked in me wardrobe and realised, as I got older,
Me friends in the town would give me the shoulder
If I went to their funerals in something that's bright,
Something that attracted all of the light.

So off I went to 'Peter Jackson'
And I asked him to fit me in a suit, a black one,
A suit I could wear to all of the funerals
Of the friends who'd be dying
after they'd been given their remunerals.

What an idea, I was pleased as Punch,
Now, having a suit I could wear out for lunch,
But it's a shame to say that the medical crew
Invented some drugs that kept people anew.

So nobody died for years, I was really upset,
There was nowhere to wear me black suit and yet
The black suit fit when I put it away
At the back of the wardrobe, and waited for the day
When I'd be called on to wear it, me respects to pay.
It hung, never changing, aging away.

Then, suddenly, a friend fell off the perch
And I knew that we'd all have to go off to Church,
And join all the people, wishing him well
Saying their prayers, and ringing the bell.

But when the trousers I tried to put on,
There was too much flesh hanging round me bum
I'd gained so much weight, I couldn't fasten the zip.
And what's more I couldn't do up the clip.

So I put on a pair of black tracky Daks, why?
To wear with me jacket, with resplendent black tie
I thought no one'll know, but friends said "No, way,
The white stripe on your trackies'll give you away."

Mike Robinson, Eurobodalla FAW

The Mist

If you walk out
into the mist,
it retreats
just beyond
your arms' reach,
like a white narrative
of joy, like a vision
of the future
but your woollen coat
catches the moisture
and is damp
so you've merged into the mist
which is also behind you
and is your past.

John Egan, Moocooboola FAW

The Dove

I watched him as he sat on the wire,
next to her. Two doves.
He preened and plumed,
gave her the fan-tail,
puffed up his chest and wriggled his wings.

She glanced, with apathetic eyes.
He continued, but
she flew away.

He sat alone, askance,
with fallen crest
alone on the wire.

David Berger, Blue Mountains FAW

NEW POETRY EDITOR REQUIRED

David Berger of Blue Mountains FAW has resigned from the position of honorary Poetry Editor for Writers Voice, effective from the December 2015 issue.

Would any poetry aficionado like to volunteer? The role involves vetting and compiling member contributions considered suitable for publication and sending them to the Writers Voice editor by the quarterly copy deadline.

For now, contributions for this page in December issue can still be sent for consideration to David by email <isdafrog@bigpond.com>. Please provide author name and FAW branch.

After that?... well, we hope to publish contact details for a new volunteer in December issue. Poetry lovers, help us to keep this page going. Any takers?

*Many thanks David, for your time and assistance in this role—
Ken Driver, Editor.*

Poems accepted for publication under the 'Poet's Voice' banner will be deemed to have been published and therefore not eligible for entry in FAW competitions.

Roundup

Writers enjoy mid-year dinner

NORTH ARM Cove FAW branch members took time out from writing to enjoy a mid-year dinner held at North Arm Cove Community Centre, July 31, 2015.

The celebration also coincided with member **Lal Clayton's** 91st birthday and was a chance for new members Jan Furness and Gail Rust to get to know their fellow members.

The letter 'R' was the theme for the night, Christina Laponder and Garry Bond both reading interesting essays they had written about the meaning and use of the letter 'R' which everyone found both informative and humorous. Great entertainment!

The 'birthday girl' Lal received cards, gifts and a birthday cake from members and, together with her 92-year old husband Jim, shared poetry with her friends, Jim reading her favourite poem 'Green and Gold Malaria' by Rupert McCall, to the dinner guests.

It was a great evening of 'fellowship' to brighten this long and very cold winter!

Maureen Kelly



North Arm Cove member Lal Clayton cuts the cake to celebrate her 91st birthday.

Central Coast Local Author Expo

HELD 22 JULY 2015

Organised by Gosford City Central Library, this event was a first of its kind. Its aim was to showcase local published authors to the general public and give them an opportunity to both sell their books and give a 10-minute talk.



Helen Luidens addresses the Central Coast Local Author Expo

Helen Luidens, then vice president representing the FAW NSW, gave a speech at the start of this function giving the audience information about the Fellowship as well as some of its history. One of the comments she received later was how interesting it was to hear about its origins



**BOOK
EXPO
AUSTRALIA**

17/18 OCTOBER 2015

**EXHIBITION HALL 5, SYDNEY SHOWGROUND,
SYDNEY OLYMPIC PARK**

Once again this year, the Fellowship of Australian Writers will be represented at **Book Expo Australia**, a high profile event in Sydney for authors, bloggers, publishers and the reading public.

FAW members can take advantage of this unique networking opportunity to get first hand information from industry experts, as well as selling their published books to the general public.

There are over 100 exhibitors and three stage performance areas. Concurrent conference streams include a Bloggers Conference, a Getting Published Conference and *PitchFest Australia*, which will offer potential and established authors the opportunity to sit in front of a publisher for ten minutes.

To participate in the event and promote your book at the FAW booth, contact the state FAW Publicity Officer **Cate Plink** <compconvenor@fawns.org.au> or phone 4341 1138 (a.h. only).

For event information and to buy tickets, visit <www.bookexpoaustralia.com>.

Facebook: <[facebook.com/bookexpoaustralia](https://www.facebook.com/bookexpoaustralia)>

Twitter: <[@bookexpoaus](https://twitter.com/bookexpoaus)>.

TOOWOOMBA WRITERS' FESTIVAL

SATURDAY 14 NOVEMBER 2015

Philharmonic Hall,

7 Matthew Street, Toowoomba QLD

- Competitions
- Writers' Market
- Free Writers' Workshops
- Book Launch—Fellowship of Australian Writers Queensland anthology.

Sponsored by FAWQ and Antonia Hildebrand

More info: <toowoombawritersfestival.com>.

in 1928 and the names of some of the well known writers who were active in the early years.

The function was well publicised and more than sixty people had booked seats for the talks, but many more just wandered in.

The talks by the authors were quite entertaining and many people visited their exhibition tables and bought books.

Helen gave out copies of *Writers Voice* as well as bookmarks and sold some copies of *Unlock the Writer Within*. She also welcomed three new members for Central Coast FAW among hopeful beginning writers.

Byron Bay Writers Festival

HELD 7–9 AUGUST 2015

This festival is a hub of literary genius from children's authors like Terry Denton and Andy Griffiths to controversial literary talent like Julia Gillard, and ever the popular event. 2015 was the event's first ever inclusion of self-published authors.

We arrived on day one and found the nearest parking a trek past other enthusiastic early arrivers. The atmosphere is a mixture between ecstatic excitement and the serious calm of words, contrasted against the cut-throat hum of activity at the bookshop! Wow, buying books was now akin to an all contact sport.

And my books were in there, somewhere, amongst these other authors who I could only sum up by saying that they're stars; and I felt somewhat of a sparkle myself. I set up my generous space and got ready to greet book lovers—and they came. The pace was perfect, with calms between the storms, and so many people interested in self-publishing.

I'd like to thank Byron Bay Writers Festival for letting the small fish through the door; and for anyone interested in literature, Byron Bay in early August is the place to be.

Cassandra Webb, Eurobodalla FAW.



Cassandra Webb at her Byron Bay Writers Festival stand.

Cassandra's self-published books can be found in most book shops, or online at <www.sparklepublications.com.au> or <www.newfrontier.com.au> and on Amazon.

Mudgee Valley FAW launches inaugural Norman McVicker Award

Mudgee Valley branch have had a friend in Mr Norman McVicker since he retired to Mudgee in 1980. He assisted us in judging competitions, promoting our events and officiating at our presentations.

We were very sad when Norman became ill and passed away in 2012. We had lost a friend. Now we find that that friendship continues, and will for many years to come.

Norman has left a legacy in his Will. He requests it be used to encourage young people to write.

Mr Sof Lee, Executor of Norman's Estate, approached our group asking if we would be interested in providing ideas of how this could best be achieved.

It's been decided we are going to host a competition for Short Stories and Poetry by young people 22 years of age and under. The total prize pool is \$2,200, so, encouragement indeed. We will run the initial competition with entry closing date at 29th February 2016. If it is successful we will make the competition an annual event.

It will be called The Norman McVicker Award.

Details are on our website <mudgeevalleywriters.wordpress.com>. [See also 'Competitions' p23 this issue].

In Norman's own words, "I had a life before retiring to Mudgee". He certainly did.

Norman's work in writing and theatre began while he was still at school and continued throughout his long and creative life. His life has been recorded by Mr Sof Lee at <budgeebudgee.wordpress.com>.

In the words of Mr Sof Lee:

In Mudgee, he was a local historian and volunteer writer of 'Tales from Along the Wallaby Tracks', a weekly column in the *Mudgee Guardian*. For over 23 years, he produced 1185 articles focusing on 'quirky' characters and aspects of Australian history.

In 1989, Norman led the restoration of Eurunderee School near Mudgee where one of Australia's literary greats, Henry Lawson grew up and received his education.

For those contributions, in 2003, Norman received the Order of Australia Medal for service to performing arts, particularly theatre and to the community of Mudgee, presented to him by Prof. Marie Bashir AC, New South Wales Governor. After that, Local MP, George Souris presented the 2006 NSW Premier's Outstanding Community Service award to Norman. This is followed by a NSW government 2007 Seniors Week Achievement Award for outstanding contribution to the community in the field of Education and Lifelong Learning.



Literary Achievements

EASTWOOD/HILLS FAW

Anne Benjamin

'A Place to Stand' with Jan Foster, Carmel Summers and Marilyn Humbert

'All you need is love' – 3 tanka (Ed by Amelia Fielden)
Shortlisted in ZineWest 2015

Elizabeth Collins

Highly Commended in Eastwood/Hills July Competition on Collaborative Writing

Beverley George

Ten renga with Simon Hanson in *Skylark* 3 (1)2015
tanka sequence 'In Winter Light' with seven other poets in *Skylark*

Ten renga with Simon Hanson published in *Blithe Spirit* 25 2 2015 [UK]

rengay with Simon Hanson published in *Blithe Spirit* 25 2 2015 [UK]

Helena Hamilton

2nd Place in Eastwood/Hills July Competition on Collaborative Writing

Philippa Holland

Highly Commended for a Children's Story in Eastwood/Hills March Competition

Anne Howard

Commended in Eastwood/Hills March Competition on Children's Story Writing

Highly Commended in Eastwood/Hills July Competition on Collaborative Writing

Artelle Lenthall

Shortlisted in ZineWest 2015

1st Place for 'Journeygirl on the Road to Publication' in Eastwood/Hills May Competition

Margaret Longhurst

Voted No.1 for poem recitation of original work 'Pioneers' – Podcast through Blacktown City Library

Carmel Summers

'A Place to Stand' with Jan Foster, Anne Benjamin and Marilyn Humbert

tanka sequence with Julie Thorndyke in Kokado

tanka sequence with Margaret Grace in *Skylark* 3

'All you need is love' – 3 tanka (Ed by Amelia Fielden)

David Terelinck

2 tanka in *Soft Thunder* – the British Haiku Society Tanka Awards 2014/15

1 tanka in *Skylark* Vol. 3 No. 1, Summer 2015

Responsive tanka sequence, 'Slipping Across that Blue Horizon', with Kathy Kituai in *Skylark* Vol. 3 No. 1, Summer 2015

1 rengay, 'Noir' with Carol Judkins in *Skylark* Vol. 3 No. 1, Summer 2015

1 tanka prose, 'Orbiting Grief', in *Skylark* Vol. 3 No. 1, Summer 2015

1 article, 'Rengay: A Foot in the Door of the Tanka World', in *Skylark* Vol. 3 No. 1, Summer 2015

2 tanka in *Eucalypt* 18, 2015

1 tanka prose and audio recording, 'Pallid Cuckoo', in the Bimblebox 153 Birds Art Project – launched May 2015 in Queensland

1st Place in Eastwood/Hills July Competition on Collaborative Writing

Honorable Mention in the 2015 TSA Sanford Goldstein Tanka Awards

1st Place, poetry section, Eastwood Hills FAW 2015 Literary Competition

Comm & Highly Comm, poetry section, Eastwood Hills FAW 2015 Literary Competition

Julie Thorndyke

'All you need is love' – 3 tanka (Ed by Amelia Fielden)

tanka sequence with Carmel Summers in Kokado

tanka sequence 'In Winter Light' with seven other poets in *Skylark*

2 tanka in *eucalypt* 18, 2015

2 tanka in *Prospect*

tanka in *Gusts*

2nd Place in Eastwood/Hills May Competition.

EUROBODALLA FAW

Suzanne Newnham: 3 columns accepted for *PnP Authors Promotional Magazine* website. The magazine is new – first issue was in January this year.

JULY: 'Isolation – not just a writer's sanctuary';

AUG: 'Brain Fog';

SEPT: 'Pain Awareness'. <peterpattimaricacciolfi.webs.com>

Judy Turner: Commended for her story, 'The funeral' in the memoir section of the Eastwood-Hills FAW Literary Competition 2015.

HUNTER FAW

Jan Dean received an invitation to contribute to an anthology of land poetry from Australian and Indian poets edited by Jaydeep Sarangi and Rob Harle, published by Cyberwit, Allahabad, India.

She has had a tanka published in each of *Eucalypt* 18 and *Prospect* #5 (Blue Giraffe Press).

Her pocketbook *Paint Peels, Graffiti Sings* in English and Mandarin was launched by Judy Johnson at the 2015 Newcastle Writers Festival and will be relaunched at the September meeting of Hunter FAW.

ISOLATED WRITERS BRANCH

Brian Armour

Continues to do an amazing job coordinating the Electronic Round Robin.

Carolyn Cash

Article 'Anzac Day: War, Women and the Queen Mother' published on her blog <carolynmcash.wordpress.com/2015/04/27/anzac-day-war-women-and-the-queen-mother>

Writing, presenting and producing her weekly online radio

show *Right Royal Roundup* <rightroyalroundup.com.au>, currently with over 6,000 Facebook “likes” and over 700 followers on Twitter.

Cynthia Rowe

2 tanka published in *Eucalypt* #18 2015;
interviewed by Tatjana Debeljacki for *Diogen* magazine, interview published in *Diogen* May 2015;
3 haiku published in *Presence* #52;
tanka published in *A Hundred Gourds* 4:3 June 2015;
2 haiku published in *A Hundred Gourds* 4:3 June 2015;
3 haiku published in *Creatrix* #29 June 2015;
'war memorial' haiku First Honorable Mention in the Jane Reichhold International Prize category 2015 ukiahHaiku Festival, and published in a printed book with the other winning entries;
'love at first sight' and 'rebirth' Zatsuei Haiku of Merit Shintai Haiku World Haiku Review June 2015;
'back fence' haiku bilingually published in *NeverEnding Story* by Chen-ou Liu;
7 haiku published in the June 2015 issue of *Scope*; issue co-editor *paper wasp* no. 21 vol. 3 winter 2015;
6 haiku and 6 text photographs published in *paper wasp* number 21 volume 3 winter 2015;
'cattle herd' haiku Highly Commended the New Zealand Poetry Society Haiku competition 2015;
'Plots for Sale' 2nd Prize Short Story Section Eastwood/Hills Branch FAW 2015 Literary Competition.

LAKE MACQUARIE FAW

Terry Colling

Recorded for ABC Open broadcast: short story 'Entanglement'.

Pam Garfoot

Published in *Queensland History Journal*, vol. 22, no. 9 (May 2015): article 'An indefatigable northern inspector: Thomas Clohesy of the Queensland Police';
Judged a 'meritorious entry' in 'Who was Harry Hartog' Creative Writing Competition: short story 'Who was Harry Hartog: here's my guess';
Published on ABC Open 500 Words website: short story 'Crosspatch' and 'My brush with the law';
Published in *Junoeseq Literary Journal*, Issue 4, May 2015: short story 'The third stage';
Published in *HPA Magazine*, issue 3, mid July–early Sept: travel memoir 'Trinidad homestay'.

Jan Mitchell

Published online by the Hunter Writers Centre: *The Great Big Rip Off: rant*, May 2015;
Published in *HPA Magazine*, issue 2, May–June 2015: memoir 'The delights of ocean cruising' and book review of *Spring Tide* by Cilla and Rolf Börjind 'Scandi-Noir, a good read';
Published on ABC Open 500 Words website: short stories 'Finding Shirley', 'Loved and lost', and 'Caught up in the drama of catching a crook';

Published in *HPA Magazine*, issue 3 mid July–early Sept: 'Crossings in Realitas: a premature book launch' (Jan's book *Crossings in Realitas* is now available on Amazon).

Rina Robinson

Published in *HPA Magazine*, issue 3 mid July–early Sept: poems 'The direction of art' and 'Nature's gift'.

Wendy Robinson

Published on ABC Open 500 Words website: short story 'Time to be carefree'.

Linda Visman

Linda continues producing her beautiful and nostalgic blog posts, *Wangiwriter's blog*, at <wangiwriter.wordpress.com>

Published in *HPA Magazine*, issue 2, May–June 2015: short story 'The Quintessential Quill' and poem 'Drought';

Published in *HPA Magazine*, issue, 3 mid July–early Sept: memoir 'Looking at photos 1991'.

Thelma Wawrzonek

Published online by the Hunter Writers Centre: *Mothers found guilty: rant*, August 2015;

Published on ABC Open 500 Words website: short story 'The FJ Holden holiday' and 'The tale of the dead cat';

Recorded for ABC Open broadcast: short story 'The tale of the dead cat'.

LIVERPOOL FAW

Peter F Pike

Sonnet published in latest edition of *Metverse Muse* (India).

Vindu Maharaj

Article 'He Doesn't Say He Loves Me', *FreeXpresSion* August.

Rhonda Rice

2nd Prize in Scribes Writers Poetic Licence Comp. for poem 'When Blokes Get sick (Man Flu)';

Poem 'Cry of the Child' accepted by World Vision Australia for publication/use in promoting the world-wide care of children.

Poem 'The Vision' in *FreeXpresSion* July;

Poem 'Bush Fire Victims' *FreeXpresSion* August;

Poem 'Mountbatten' in *YOURS* magazine June.

MACARTHUR FAW

Robert Bee

Winner of in-house short story competition with a story entitled 'The Cork Expedition'.

Barry Flanagan

e-book published, completing trilogy begun with *Across the Green Border* and *The Undeclared War*.

The third book is called *The Invisible Front*. (Details: <BarryFlanaganBooks.com>).

Margot Shugg

Extensively quoted in an article in the *Macarthur Advertiser*.

Literary Achievements

MOOCOOROOOLA FAW

Pam Taylor

Short story 'A Matter of Attitude' and poem 'Rain' published in *FreeXpresSion*, June 2015.

Mary Bramston:

Short story 'The Potato Lady' and poem 'Doorsteps' in *FreeXpresSion* June 2015.

John Egan:

Poems 'Ghosts and Dreams', 'Borderlands', 'Don't Touch', 'Hydrangeas', 'Opening Night', 'With You', and 'Rise' in *Beyond The Rainbow* May/June 2015.

Poems 'The Pit, the Labyrinth, the Tower', 'Downstream' and 'In Memory of Thea Astley' in *Polestar* #28.

Poems 'Thunderclouds' in *Positive Words* May 2015 and 'Silence' and 'Facile' June 2015 and 'Birds' July 2015.

Poems 'More' and 'An Engine' in *The Write Angle* May/June 2015.

Poem 'The Moss Vale Train' in *Communion*, Walleah Press.

Poems 'Time' and 'Birdsong' in *Tamba* Winter 2015.

Poems 'Smile' and 'Three Men' in *Valley Micropress*, New Zealand, May 2015 and 'Delphi', 'The Way to Work' and 'Perfection' June 2015.

Poem 'The Song' in *Inner Child*, Poetica Christi Press.

Poem 'On the Hawkesbury' Highly Commended, Scribes Writers Poetic Licence Competition and 'Glenfield Station' Commended.

Poem 'Stars' in *The Senior*, August 2015.

Poems 'At Berry Station' and 'The Mist' in *The Write Angle* 52, Aug-Oct 2015.

MUDGE VALLEY FAW

Pamela Meredith

Short Stories and Voice Recording published in ABC Open.

Joan Taylor, Miriam Bates, Joy Hibberd, Kevin Pye and Nev Newman all published in our fortnightly column 'The Ink Spot' in the *Mudgee Guardian*.

NORTH ARM COVE FAW

Garry Boyd

Poem published in *Myall Coast Messenger*.

Bob Bush

Poem 'Hickory and Steel' Highly Commended award Bundaberg Poets' Society 2015 Written Competition for Bush Verse; also Highly Commended Eastwood/Hills FAW Literary Competition 2015;

Shared poetry from his book *From a Bush Poet's Pen* with audiences at Newcastle Family History Society, Anglican church group, Belmont Bay Ladies Probus Club, Beresfield Seniors, Tea Gardens Grange and National Combined Forces Association.

Lal Clayton

Poem published in *Myall Coast Messenger*.

Moira Hooper

Poem 'Global Warming' published in *Myall Coast Messenger*.

Maureen Kelly

50-word short story published in *Myall Coast Messenger*.

Kate Milford

Poem awarded prize Bushman's breakfast, Merriwa 'Running of the Sheep' festival.

Ron Stewart

Poem published in *Myall Coast Messenger*.

SHOALHAVEN FAW

Anthony Watkin

His book, *Forgive Let's Tango* is now available on <Amazon.com> as a Kindle E-Book.

It's a story about the protagonist John's quest to find meaning in a society where there is pressure to deliver all the time. His life is marked by repeated efforts to create a personal shrine to life. John's work takes him across the world. From the Middle East, to Europe and finally Australia. His travels help him to find out who he really is.

Geoffrey Grocott

His book, *Love-War and Motorbikes* is a memoir which is now published in print and as a Kindle E-Book by Amazon.

Irene Wilkie

A multi-award winning poet, her works have been widely published in many anthologies and journals. She was recently included in *The Australian Poetry Journal* and *Flashing the Square*.

Jen Mors

A poet and short story writer, Jen continues to have her short stories published in ABC Open to great acclaim. Jen recently opened her magnificent home, Willow Wood in Broughton Vale, to thirty literary guests to hear Shoalhaven FAW Vice President Jennifer Dickerson read from her newly published book, *Quirky Verse*. The afternoon was a great success, with guests also enjoying a delicious afternoon tea and the glorious views and décor of Willow Wood. Jen Mors has plans to open Willow Wood, (which is designed with writers in mind) for other literary events in the near future.

STROUD FAW

Peter Uren has had an article published by ABC Open for *The Drum*; facilitated as a keynote speaker at Stroud Writers' recent self-publishing workshop; and has a book launch coming up in October for his third novel, *The Classic Bike Workshop*.

Sharon Burke continues to write historical non-fiction articles for the local real estate's publication, *The Pioneer*.

Dee Wardrop assists at the Preschooler Storytime sessions at Stroud Library to encourage reading as part of the Great Lakes Better Reading Better Communities Project.

SUTHERLAND FAW

Helen Armstrong

Published *Butterflies in the Wind* novel on Amazon.

Sutherland

cont. from previous page

Antoinette Connelly

Five of her novels displayed in the London Book Fair.

Elaine Staples

'Friends' in *Positive Words* June 2015—in honour of her friend who recently passed away;

Article 'Once a Child', in *FreeXpresSion*, July 2015; also shortlisted in *Positive Words* magazine poetry and prose competition;

Radio interview and reading of her work.

Jodie Wells-Slowgrove

Wilderness Fairies series—*Daisy's Gift* book launch held on August 8 at Sutherland Library.

Lynn Sutherland

Press releases for Lioness Club;

Spoke on 2SSR radio about the Writers Unleashed Festival.

SYDNEY CITY FAW

Pip Griffin

Two poems, 'Evidence of Love' and 'Becoming', in *Poetry Matters* 24 July 2015, a competition issue with the theme "speaking of love".

WYONG FAW

Shirley Goodbar

Published *Kaleidoscope*, a poetry book, illustrated by member artist **Yvonne Sorensen**.

Journaling along The Way!

It's inspiring to walk to Santiago de Compostela!

Our 10-day guided Camino tour includes:

- ◆ Journal workshops led by a Writing professional
- ◆ Small group - maximum 14 participants
- ◆ Flexible walking distances
- ◆ Luggage transfers/comfortable accommodation

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RESULTS: EASTWOOD/HILLS FAW

2015 LITERARY COMPETITION

SHORT STORY

(Judges Philippa Holland and Laura Davies)

H/Comm: 'The Land Army', Mark Fowler;
'A Women on the Boards', Mark Fowler

2nd: 'Plots for Sale', Cynthia Rowe

1st: 'In Late Summer', Kerrin O'Sullivan

POETRY

(Judges Margaret Longhurst and Carolyn Alfonzetti)

Comm: 'Midnight Rider', David Terelinck;
'Working Alone', E. Speers;
'On Anzac Bridge, 2015', Richard Hagerty

H/Comm: 'A Tremble of Purple', David Terelinck;
'Der Graben', Jerry O'Donovan;
'The First Beige Thing I Have Ever Loved',
Cameron Semmens

2nd: 'Nil by Mouth', E. Speers

1st: 'A Man's House', David Terelinck

MEMOIR

(Judges Alan Russell and Mary Milton)

Comm: 'The Funeral', Judy Turner;
'A Word Not Spoken', Colleen Russell

H/Comm: 'Bloody Tamworth', Don Horne;
'The Art of Self-Deception', Mike Woodhouse

2nd: 'Destination: Liberation via Literature', Carmel Lillis

1st: 'Goose Patrol', Vincent Morrison

PAULINE WALSH AWARD FOR SHORT, SHORT STORY

(Judges Dr Ann Howard and Frances Moon)

Comm: 'Singing in Tune', Eileen Cooke;
'Subtraction', Christine Tapper;
'The Sandwich Man', Vincent Morrison

H/Comm: 'Hello Stranger', Don Horne;
'Executing Orders', Mike Woodhouse

2nd: 'Hearing Voices', Kerrin O'Sullivan

1st: 'On my Knee', Carmel Lillis

BOREE LOG

(Judge Brian Beesley)

Comm: 'Bobby's Return', Tom McIlveen;
'Bluey', Tom McIlveen

H/Comm: 'Murray Moon', Brenda Joy;
'Sealed with a Kiss', Tom McIlveen;
'Hickory and Steel', Bob Bush

2nd: 'The Cattle Pastures', Tom McIlveen

1st: 'Roadside Pizza', Tom McIlveen.

Book Reviews

Joe Quinn: Among the Rowdies The Life of Baseball's Honest Australian

Rochelle Llewelyn Nicholls

IT WAS a pleasure recently to meet up with and introduce to an audience the very interesting Dr Rochelle Llewelyn Nicholls, author of the book *JOE QUINN Among the Rowdies*.

Now... if you think this is going to be a boring book about baseball you are in for a big surprise! Sure it covers baseball, but then so much more.

Joe Quinn was born on Christmas Eve in a squatters camp at Ipswich Queensland, to a poor Irish couple who had immigrated during the potato famine more than 100 years ago.

As things were difficult in Queensland in the 1800s they decided to come to Campbelltown NSW and Joe spent quite a bit of his early life there. Joe's life would make a great movie. His father Patrick could not read nor write and moved the family where ever he could find work.

Things did not go too well in Campbelltown and they considered they had nothing to lose so sailed for the USA, settling in Dubuque, Iowa. Quinn showed great talent for Baseball and by 1884 it led to his debut with the St Louis Maroons. He later moved to National League and became a great American hero and baseball legend. Sad he is so unknown in the land of his birth.

This is a fabulous story of family, friends and ambition. There are also many interesting photos from early Australia and his family life both here and in the USA. I am not a sports person but found this a fascinating read and part of our history. Perhaps one day a baseball ground here will be named after him, or even a plaque or statue of him will appear.

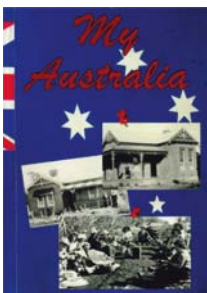


Trevar Langlands with 'Joe Quinn' author Rochelle Nicholls.

Dr Nicholls, author of *Joe Quinn*, went to America to research the history of Joe and is now touring Australia promoting it. Rochelle holds MSc and Phd degrees from WA University where she specialised in modelling of biological and mechanical systems. She has worked as a sports scientist and medical researcher in Australia, USA and Europe. Dr Nicholls also raises horses in her spare time in Southern Australia and competes in rodeos and camp draft. A very different lifestyle compared to most other writers.

Joe Quinn is published by McFarland Press. Rochelle is happy to visit writing groups if contacted. She can be contacted via her website <www.rochellenicholls.com> where you will find more information about her books, journal publications and writing services.

Reviewed by Trevar Langlands



My Australia

Clare Bell

MY AUSTRALIA is the title of a book by Clare Bell of Wollondilly FAW. I have read some extracts on my radio show and people love it. It was a huge pleasure for me to attend and help launch the book recently.

This is a collection of memories, verse and snapshots from country life in Australia.

Clare spent the first seven and a half years of her life on the family farm, six miles out of Canowindra, New South Wales. In 1937 her parents sold out and moved to Narringa and an 18 hundred acre property at Pheasants Nest NSW.

Clare's writing really began with Blackfriars Correspondence lessons and many excellent marks for her compositions.

Clare is a lover of history and small articles and had articles published in local papers, then progressing to a small book, *Farm Days, Kids Ways*, written from childhood memories. Joining Wollondilly FAW has made her many friends and provided the incentive to continue writing.

A glossary of terms used in the book is handy for the younger generation who may not be so familiar with past terms and Aussie slang.

Clare has a way of bringing to life the wonderful memories of the "olden days" when life was hard but simple. Among the enjoyable memories I found were... the flea plague; drought-stricken Mallee; her first travels on a steam train; the days of sleeping on the veranda; Bargo of the 40s; and some wonderful history in verse.

I am fond of old photos and there are plenty of fabulous old photos included... the old home at Pheasants Nest; the Pea Pickers picnic; a little Clare on the prize stallion; farm machinery and T-model Fords; Echo Vale, Nattai before being flooded; an early photo of Canowindra's main street; plus early photos of Bowral and Picton.

This is a most interesting history of an Australia fast disappearing—without these memories in print much of our history will be lost.

Clare has put her memories and experiences into this marvelous book. It is available via the Wollondilly FAW, or email Clare <clare.a.bell.1930@gmail.com>

Reviewed by Trevar Langlands

Vale

BERNIE BUTLER
alias Joe Single

16 May 1923 – 11 July 2015

BERNIE WAS a foundation member of the Stroud Writers, which commenced in 1997. He was a writer 'of the old school'—punctuation and grammar were important—and was happy to offer constructive criticism and/or valuable editorial tips. Two years ago we presented him with a Life Membership.

Bernie was one of those gifted individuals who loved a chat; with anyone anywhere anytime. Be they aged nine months or ninety years, he could always leave them with a joyful smile lingering around their lips: a beautiful smile that mirrored his. Bright twinkling eyes that flashed curiosity and mischief. Had a great laugh and often did so. Always polite, friendly and a real gentleman.

After casually meeting Bernie in the street, some of our members joined our group having been drawn by his storytelling. I can hear in his voice the mischievous chuckle as he relates his many adventures during his travels around the world with his little black billy.

Stroud, and the world at large, lost an amazing storyteller with the passing of Bernie Butler. Bernie's stories include his billycan story that was recorded and produced by *ABC Open*. This story contributed to Australia's history, and that of the world, as Bernie related his travels all over the world with his billies. Bernie contributed to the societal and technological fabric of our history and his billycan story—and how he met the original Paddy Pallin—have been celebrated on the *Paddy Pallin Facebook page*.

From a young age, Bernie was a prodigious diary keeper, as he saw a story in everything and had a particularly sharp eye for detail and an incredible memory. Volume after volume was filled with his observations detailing everything: the clothes people wore, prices of food, itineraries, scenery, sounds, smells. These diaries are an historian's treasure trove.

For the past twenty years or so, Bernie had been rising early in order to transcribe the handwritten diaries. From 4am–8am he typed, carbon copy beneath, and regaled the Writers with his adventures. Bernie did not like to use his own name ("There are too many I's") thus Joe Single was born. When carbon paper and typewriter ribbons became difficult to procure, Joe switched to a computer.

*His stories of cycling right across England and Europe
Camping in barns, telling people he met about two-up
Or on the deck of some old steaming ships
I never tired of listening to his trips
Loading his bicycle on board a train
Going to far away places, then back again
His mischievous exploits were awe inspiring
He never seemed to be boring or tiring.*

Bernie wanted to make it to a ton; he just missed, but he made a ton of difference while he was here. Bernie Butler (alias Joe Single) will be missed but not forgotten, as his stories will keep his memory alive.

Combined effort of Stroud Writers FAW



Bernie Butler

Workshop Resources: Share them around

WE INTEND to share information on successful workshops and presenters. To begin that scenario I have read some of the Branch Reports and found some valuable information there...

- *Eastwood/Hills*: Engaging workshop by **Carmel Summers** on collaborative writing; also **Suzanne Gervay** and bush poet **Brian Beasley**.
- *Eurobodalla*: **Dr Rae Luckie**, a Memoir workshop.
- *Forestville*: **Joan Childs** taught Sanskrit, a classical Indian language.
- *Hunter*: The branch used **Unlock the Writer Within** and selected the topic 'compiling an anthology' because they are intending to do just that in 2016. As there are over 100 topics in the resource book, your branch could select a member to choose a topic and likewise do a presentation from it, after absorbing the information.
- *Lake Macquarie*: Useful guidance by **Claire Pasvolsky** on creativity.
- *Liverpool*: **Toula Papadam** did a series of Editing workshops.
- *Port Macquarie*: Had a newspaper journalist, **Laurie Sullivan**.
- *Port Stephens*: **Janice Love** a songwriter, guitarist presented a 'melodious' popular workshop.
- *Shoalhaven*: **Christine Paice** gave a writing and poetry workshop.
- *Stroud*: **Peter Uren** co-facilitated a workshop with **Zeny Giles** and editor/publisher **Michael Jamieson**.
- *Sutherland*: **Frank Maguire** presented on tragedy and tragic characters.

Lots of exciting activity and Fellowship with many of the Presentations given by members. I am not saying that these Presenters are all available for travelling to other branches, but the greatest resource we have is our own writers. Most of us have specialised skills, interesting experiences or knowledge to share from which we can learn.

As we develop our thinking in regard to workshops, there could be an opportunity for a little bit of pocket money, a branch income source or even a barter system where a branch swaps a speaker with one from another branch. Just contact the branch for the information you want.

My *personal* option would be to keep the maximum fee at about \$200 plus travelling expenses = 20 participants @ \$10 each.

Your Committee is keen to hear views both for and against my suggestion about sharing workshops and presenters.

Colleen Parker

Writing Competitions

Closing date 25 September 2015:

FAW NSW MARJORIE BARNARD AWARD 2015

PRIZE: \$500

CONDITIONS OF ENTRY:

(Failure to comply with the following conditions will result in disqualification without refund)

- 1 The Award is for **Short Stories up to 3000 words**.
- 2 Entrants must be permanent residents of Australia.
- 3 Submitted entries must not have previously been published, nor be under consideration for publication, although may have been entered in other competitions but not won a monetary prize. Receipt of entry will not be acknowledged however.
- 4 Multiple entries are permitted, with a separate Entry Form per entry.
- 5 Entry Fee is \$10.00 per entry. Only one cheque/postal order/direct debit is required for multiple entries.
- 6 Cheques should be made payable 'Fellowship Aust. Writers'. *Please DO NOT post cash.*
- 7 The closing date is **25 September 2015**.
- 8 The submission should be emailed as an attachment to <comconvenor@fawns.org.au> as either a Word document, or a PDF. The entry forms, a copy of the direct debit receipt, Cover sheet and Title page, should also be included as attachments. Postal entries will be accepted, if the entrant does not have connection to email. They should be printed or typed on A4 sheets, in minimum 12pt font, on one side, double line spaced and the sheets firmly fixed together. **Hand-written text will be disqualified.**
- 9 The author's identity must appear on the **Entry Form ONLY. The author's name must NOT appear on either the manuscript or the title page.**
- 10 A separate cover sheet must be attached containing the title, word count, author's name, address, telephone number and email address (if available). **Only page No. and title of the entry is to appear on each page of the manuscript.**
- 11 The author retains copyright to all work submitted, although prize-winning entries or a precis must be available for publication in the Fellowship's bulletin *Writers Voice* and on the FAW NSW website. Unsuccessful entries will not be returned unless accompanied by a stamped, self-addressed envelope of appropriate size and postage.
- 12 Entries must be original, creative and inspiring works which present to the audience an engaging work of literary excellence.
- 13 The judge's decision is final and no correspondence will be entered into.
- 14 FAW NSW reserves the right not to award any prizes if, in the judge's estimation, no entries of sufficient merit are received.
- 15 Other than stated here, Normal Competition Conditions apply [see opposite page].

THE AWARD:

The Winner will be invited to the FAW NSW Annual Luncheon to be held in Sydney on 14 November 2015, for the announcement and presentation of the Award. Results will be published in the *Writers Voice* and on the FAW NSW website <www.fawns.org.au>

ENTRY FORMS can be downloaded from <www.fawns.org.au> or by request to:

The Convenor, FAW Marjorie Barnard Award
C/- 5/15 Bogan Road,
BOOKER BAY NSW 2257

For more information:

Email: <comconvenor@fawns.org.au>

Phone 02 4341 1138/Mobile 0458 375 256.

Closing date 30 September 2015:

SCRIBES WRITERS "SHORT TAKES" OPEN LITERARY COMPETITION 2015

- **Category A: Fictional Short Story** (For this competition, a fictional short story is *not* Fan Fiction)
- **Category B: Memoir** (For this competition, a memoir is defined as an incident or series of related Incidents from the writers own life. It is *not* a mini autobiography or an obituary.)

Theme: Open. Word Count: 1000 Maximum (excluding Title).

Prizes (each category): 1st \$200; 2nd \$100.

Highly Commended and Commended Certificates at the judges' discretion.

Entry Fee: \$7 per entry per category. Entries must be post marked on or before closing date 30th September 2015.

Entries should be addressed to:

Scribes Writers Prose Competition
South Barwon Community Centre
33 Mount Pleasant Road
BELMONT Victoria 3216.

For full competition details, conditions, and entry form visit the Scribes Writers website Prose Competition page at <www.scribeswriters.com/prose.html>.

Closing date 16 October 2015:

LAMBING FLAT FAW (YOUNG, NSW) REGIONAL WRITING COMPETITION

Encouraging Writers for over 33 years, since 1982.

**Short Story & Poetry, Adults & Students Awards,
in conjunction with the 66th National Cherry Festival**

- ADULT SHORT STORY (limit 1,500 words):
1st prize \$200, 2nd prize \$50.
- ADULT POETRY (limit 50 lines):
1st prize \$150, 2nd prize \$50.
- SECONDARY SCHOOL SHORT STORY (limit 1,000 words): 1st prize \$75, 2nd prize \$25.
- SECONDARY SCHOOL POETRY (limit 30 lines):
1st prize \$75, 2nd prize \$25.
- PRIMARY SCHOOL SHORT STORY (limit 500 words):
1st prize \$30, 2nd prize \$15.
- PRIMARY SCHOOL POETRY (limit 12 lines):
1st prize \$30, 2nd prize \$15.

Entry fees: \$5 per adult entry. School student entries FREE, one entry per section only (for students).

Information and entry forms available by sending SAE to:

Lambing Flat FAW Competition
PO Box 498
YOUNG NSW 2594

Or email: <lambingflatbranchfaw@hotmail.com>. Or on the Web: <fawyoungnsw.vix.com/creative-writers>.

For more information phone Ted Webber 0459 707 728 or Joan Dwyer (02) 6382 2614.

Closing date 30 October 2015:

**BIRDCATCHER BOOKS
AUSTRALIAN SHORT FICTION AWARD**

First prize \$250. Second prize \$100.

Top 50 entries to be published in an anthology.

Closing date for early bird entries is 30 October; closing date for all entries is 31 December 2015.

Competition administered by:

Birdcatcher Books

PO Box 432

CHURCHILL VIC 3842

Details at <birdcatcherbooks.com/competitions>.

Closing date 31 October 2015:

**THE LONDON MAGAZINE
SHORT STORY COMPETITION**

Established to encourage emerging literary talent, the award provides an opportunity for publication and recognition, as well as rewarding imagination, originality and creativity. *The London Magazine* is looking for unpublished short stories from writers across the world. Maximum 4,000 words.

1st Prize: £500. 2nd Prize: £300. 3rd Prize: £200

Entry fee: £10 per short story

The winner is published in a future issue of *The London Magazine*. The runners up will be published on its website. The winners will also be announced at a champagne reception at the House of Commons, London UK in early 2016.

For more information contact Rachel at <competition@thelondonmagazine.org>. For Conditions of Entry and to see the writing style visit <www.thelondonmagazine.org/short-story-competition-2015/>

Closing date 31 October 2015:

THE BEST OF TIMES SHORT STORY COMPETITION #20

For humorous short stories (any theme) up to 2500 words. First prize: \$300–\$500 (depending on number of entries); second prize: \$100.

No entry form is required. Include a cover sheet with your name and address, story title and word count, and where you heard about the competition.

Entry fee is \$10 per story. Send a cheque or money order made out to Chris Broadribb or use PayPal to pay <cabbook-20@yahoo.com.au>.

Post your entry to:

Best of Times Short Story Competition

PO Box 55

BLAXCELL NSW 2142

Include a large SSAE if you want the story returned and a results sheet, or a small SSAE for results only.

Or email your entry to <cabbook-20@yahoo.com.au>. Visit the Competition website: <www.bestoftimes.com.au>.

NORMAL COMPETITION CONDITIONS

Unless stated otherwise, these conditions apply to ALL WRITING COMPETITIONS:

- Entries should be submitted in English, using one side of A4 paper, typed double-spaced (except poetry) in a standard typeface (12 pt min.), using generous margins. No fancy fonts, clip art or decorations of any kind.
- NO names or addresses to appear on manuscripts. A separate COVER SHEET must be attached, containing the title of the entry, competition name, section category if applicable, word or line count, author's name, address, telephone number and email address (if available). Title and page number (ONLY) of the entry should appear on each page of the manuscript.
- Entries must be original work and must not have won a cash prize in any other competition nor been published in any form, as at the closing date of the competition.
- Entries may be entered in more than one competition at the time of entry HOWEVER the entry must be withdrawn from any subsequent competitions if the writer is advised prior to the closing dates that the entry was successful elsewhere with a cash prize.
- Cheques and/or money orders should be made payable to the organisers, unless otherwise stipulated. Multiple entries may be paid with one cheque or money order – do not send coins or stamps.
- Copyright remains with the author. Entries will not be returned and will be destroyed after the announcement of results.
- The judges' decisions will be final and no correspondence will be entered into.
- If you require a copy of the results mailed to you, please send a standard DL-sized stamped, self-addressed envelope (SSAE) with your entry.

These are general guidelines. For complete conditions relating to individual competitions, and to obtain entry forms (where required), contact the relevant competition organisers.

Closing date 29 February 2016:

**MUDGE VALLEY FAW
2016 YOUTH LITERARY AWARD
*The Norman McVicker Award***

The award is sponsored by Norman McVicker estate with the aim of promoting literature to young people. Young people up to 22 years old, are invited to submit their original literary work.

Total Prize Value: \$2200. Theme: OPEN.

- **Short story** (2,000 words max.):
1st Prize \$800, 2nd Prize \$200, 3rd Prize \$100.
- **Poetry** (100 lines max.):
1st Prize \$800, 2nd Prize \$200, 3rd Prize \$100.

Highly Commended and Commended Certificates awarded.

The scope of the work may contribute toward Australian literature or have Australiana content—i.e. all aspects about Australia, for example, life, aspirations, vision, current affairs, the bush, etc, but this is not a prerequisite. The work of Henry Lawson and others may provide guidelines but not limited to the style. Invention of new style, creativity or breaking the old boundaries are also key aspects of the award.

For more information, full conditions of entry, and to download the Entry Form, visit

<mudgevalleywriters.wordpress.com/competition/>

Bundy Festival

WriteFest Bundaberg

16–17 MAY 2015

by Carolyn Cash

The weekend kicked off with a Meet-and-Greet Dinner at the Bargara Golf Club, which was an informal gathering to meet everyone, including some of the guest speakers who would be conducting the various workshops over the two days, catering for many different genres.

About 40 people attend and swapped stories over dinner. Some wanted to write, but didn't know where to start. Others were already writing, with works in progress, and others had their work published.

Dr Lindsay Simpson, Cathleen Ross, Kandy Shepherd, Shannon Curtis, Graeme Simson, Anne Buist, Peter Ball and Jason Nahrung were conducting workshops focusing on writing memoirs, self-publishing, plotting, research and what novelists can learn from screen writers.

The Saturday programme was held at the CQ University at Bundaberg, with six workshops in the morning and six in the afternoon.

Attendees were able to purchase books which were available for sale and ask writers to sign them. It was a great opportunity to meet up with fellow writers.

Shannon Curtis' workshop, *Plotting using six stage structure*, focusing on the four W's of character, was very helpful with understanding characters. Some food for thought included what does my character want and need—both externally and internally? What is my character's motivation? What stands in their way to achieving their goal?

Shannon also explained the six stage story structure using the movie, *Iron Man*, as an example with set-up, turning points and building up to the story's climax.

After lunch, Dr Lindsay Simpson's workshop focused on research, especially for those writing non-fiction books and historic novels. Useful advice included reading on the topic, visiting actual places mentioned in the book, finding people to interview and using primary sources.



WriteFest workshop presenters Graeme Simson and Anne Buist, busy working whilst waiting for their flight at Bundaberg Airport.

Vale

Eileen Backhus

Eurobodalla FAW

WE HAVE been saddened by the recent death of Eileen Backhus, one of our earliest members. Eileen was previously a member of the Speakers' Club and her expertise and flair in presenting her stories encouraged us all to improve our storytelling techniques.

It was not long before we discovered that Eileen was top-class secretarial material and consequently she served in that office for many years.

She kept everyone informed and up to date, was meticulous in the execution of her role, always gracious and helpful, not only to other committee members but to the full membership. Newcomers were made to feel welcome with kind words of encouragement.

Our group has produced five anthologies and Eileen has been involved in the production of all of them as a writer, editor and illustrator. Her artwork has added immeasurably to the quality of these volumes.

She was a multi-talented lady who excelled in the sports of fencing, dancing and Tai Chi, was a fine needlewoman and calligrapher. She produced work in oils, water colour and pastels. In her later years she created pen and ink works of high quality.

We will miss her gentle presence, her sense of fun and her ability to enjoy every new experience.

Margaret Barlow

Dr Simpson also recommended using *Scrivener* as a useful project management tool. It costs about \$60, but there is a 30-day free trial for both Windows and Mac at www.literatureandlatte.com/scrivener.php. One great feature is auto-saving your work.

Afterwards, I had a brief interview with literary agent Alex Adsett regarding my historical novel, who offered some useful advice.

On Sunday, I joined Shannon Curtis' workshop on *Pacing and Tension* at the School of Arts Building, with a recap on character profile, their motivation and understanding on what makes them tick, using setting, description, action, dialogue and adding conflict.

The weekend finished with a literary luncheon at Across the Waves Sports Club.

WriteFest is definitely worth attending, as I found the workshops very helpful in my own writing journey.

WriteFest website: bundywriters.com.

Workshop: Image Resolution

Ken Driver

IT'S ALL ABOUT THE PIXELS!

For commercial printing, images must be shot at high resolution—5 megapixels or greater—more pixels are better! eg. 2100px = 18cm wide.

- Send the original image if possible
- If re-saving as JPG, always choose 'maximum' or 'best quality' if intended for print
- Let us do the cropping and resizing
- For email attachments, NEVER choose 'for email' or 'small'—that destroys quality that is irretrievable.

How many pixels in my image?

PC: In Windows Explorer, right-click on the image file—or, open it in Windows Photo Viewer and select File—then go to Properties, select the Details tab and look at Dimensions (don't worry about the Horizontal and Vertical resolution numbers; what matters is the number of pixels, width and height).

Mac: In Finder, right-click (or Control-click) the image file and select Get Info; pixel dimensions and color space are displayed under More Info—or, open the image in Preview, select Tools, show Inspector (Command-I), General Info tab.



1



2

1. 380 x 246 pixels at 72ppi* – looks OK on screen
2. The same pixels at 150ppi – OK for desktop printers
3. The same pixels at 300ppi – commercial print resolution but output size is way too small
4. This is what happens to a low-quality JPG downloaded from the web when it is enlarged – pixellation and artifacts are visible in print.



3



4

*ppi = pixels per inch. Image: iStockphoto.

Sneak Preview: A new FAW NSW Website is coming soon...

more next issue...

Fellowship of Australian Writers NSW Inc.



ABN 59 557 152 715

General correspondence: Hon. Secretary, FAW NSW Inc.
22 Promontory Way, NORTH ARM COVE NSW 2324

Internet: <www.fawnsww.org.au>

Facebook: <www.facebook.com/FAWNSW>

ABOUT THE FAW

The aims of the FAW are:

- to foster and endorse the growth of Australian writing
- to promote excellence in writing
- to encourage writers, and those interested in writing, to join the Fellowship and enjoy the support, help and knowledge of members
- to expand the Fellowship across the State
- to provide an organisation to assist writers unable to attend Branch meetings
- to take the Fellowship into the 21st century and take advantage of technology and its new role in writing and publishing.

Branch Meetings

The branch fellowships hold regular meetings; conduct workshops and tutorials; hold writing competitions and publish anthologies of members' work. Visitors are most welcome to attend meetings or to contact the Fellowship through their respective branch (*listed here*) or by contacting the FAW NSW State body (*as above*).

The Fellowship of Australian Writers INTERSTATE BRANCHES

Victoria:

Fellowship of Australian Writers (VIC) Inc.
6-8 Davies Street, Brunswick Vic 3056
VENUE: The Hive Creative Centre,
710 Station Street, Box Hill.
Phone: (03) 9898 8717
(Pres. Philip Rainford 0413 736 723)
Web: <www.writers.asn.au>

Tasmania:

Fellowship of Australian Writers (TAS) Inc.
PO Box 234, North Hobart TAS 7002
Phone: 03 6234 4418
Web: <www.fawtas.org.au>

Western Australia:

Fellowship of Australian Writers (WA) Inc.
PO Box 6180, Swanbourne WA 6010
Phone: 08 9384 4771
Email: <admin@fawwa.org.au>
Web: <www.fawwa.org.au>

Queensland:

Fellowship of Australian Writers (QLD) Inc.
Web: <www.fawq.net>

FAW ISOLATED WRITERS BRANCH

MEMBERSHIP ENQUIRIES:

Carolyn Cash, Isolated Writers Convenor
Fellowship of Australian Writers NSW
PO Box 429, Caringbah NSW 1495

MEMBERS' ACHIEVEMENTS:

The Editor, *Writers Voice*
65 Barbara Boulevard, Seven Hills NSW 2147
Email: <wveditor@dri-print.net.au>

AFFILIATION FEES:

FAW NSW Affiliation Fees are due **31 December** each year.

Isolated Writers: \$46.00 pa
Under 21/Youth Rate: \$23.00 pa
Overseas Members: \$51.00 pa

Mail subscriptions to the FAW State Treasurer Kay Bakon (see page 2 for address). Please make cheques/money orders payable to **Fellowship Aust Writers** (*exactly as written*) and enclose SSAE for receipt if required.

ROUND ROBIN:

This consists of manuscripts submitted by members for reading and comments by other members. They are collated and at least two parcels of the manuscripts are sent to members as listed, who in turn read, comment and send them on. The last person on each list sends the parcel back, at which time the items are reviewed with comments and each manuscript returned to its author. Poems, articles, short stories, plays and chapters of books are acceptable.

Please limit your submissions to:

- 1 short story, maximum 5,000 words, or
- 2 short stories, total maximum 5,000 words, or
- 1 article of similar length, or
- 3 poems (or 1 poem, maximum about 80 lines), or
- 1 chapter of a book in progress (of reasonable length).

These guidelines are flexible. A combination of several of the above can be offered if the items are only short. Attach a blank sheet behind the manuscript for comments, remembering that five or six people need to be included. Include a self-addressed envelope of suitable size and postage value for the workshopped items to be returned.

Apart from your comments, your contribution to the scheme is no more than the postage required to send the parcel of manuscripts on to the next person on the list—a small price to pay for the value that can be derived from others' constructive remarks on your work.

Round Robin Closing Dates

- AUTUMN: 28 February • WINTER: 31 May
- SPRING: 31 August • SUMMER: 30 November

Round Robin Submissions

POSTAL:

Margot Shugg, Round Robin Convenor
91 Coachwood Cres, Bradbury NSW 2560

Electronic Round Robin (ERR):

Similar to the postal Round Robin, except that manuscripts are sent as email attachments. Contact:

Brian Armour, ERR coordinator
Email: <astro123@optusnet.com.au>

FAW Members' Bookshelf

JOHAN LUIDENS

Friends and Foes

"At least you'll be far away from war-torn Europe" These are the famous last words from his mother as Kees is preparing himself to fly to the Dutch East Indies to join his first ship. Little do they know that both will be facing difficult times dealing with friends and foes. Kees will be maturing as he faces combat but not only with the Japanese. His mother will be battling with loneliness, hunger and the Germans. She even makes life difficult by hiding a young Jewish man. Available from the author (\$30) – email <helen.johan@hotmail.net.au> – or from the publisher <www.TatePublishing.com>

SHIRLEY GOODBAR

Kaleidoscope

Illustrated by Yvonne Sorensen. A selection of one hundred and ten poems on life. Written in many different forms, the poetry reflects the ordinary experiences of everyday life and offers both laughter and reflection. The poems are taken from Shirley's lifetime collection. The title "Kaleidoscope" was chosen to describe the variety of subject and form. Yvonne has practised and taught art for many years and has a Fine Arts Degree and a Grad. Dip. Ed at Charles Darwin University where she tutored in the School of Art. The book is available from the *mybook* self-publisher's website <shirleygoodbar.mybook.net.au>. Or, for autographed copies, email <sgoodbar@theorchards.com.au>. \$25 plus p&h.

EUROBODALLA FAW

Flights of fancy

This is the group's latest anthology, which contains 49 stories and poems by 21 Eurobodalla authors. Available as ebook from Amazon et al, and hard cover from <rosietoth102@gmail.com>. ISBN 9781310529771.

CLARE BELL

My Australia

My Australia is a nostalgic collection of short stories, poems and photographs with an Australian theme and focuses on the old days of the Wollondilly Shire, where author Clare Bell was brought up on a farm from the age of seven. One fictional piece tells of the trials and small joys that people experienced during The Great Depression. Another is about life in a railway camp in the 1950s. Black and white snapshots show life during World War II and beyond with petrol and food rationing. This book is about the Australia Clare knew when she was young. \$12 plus \$2 postage. Available from the author <clare.a.bell.1930@gmail.com>

MARGOT SHUGG

Chuck the Train Dog

Margot's third collection of short stories follows up on her previous books with eight more stories telling tales of ordinary characters in intriguing situations. There's Chuck, a stray dog that adopts a rural family; a strange tale of a meeting with an old friend; a Pools winner's growing circle of friends; romance through the eyes of a teen; an unlikely marine encounter; a neighbour's dogs raises some questions; street racing; and a disappearing husband. Cost: \$15 + \$2 postage. Contact the author (02) 4626 2424 or email <margotshugg@aapt.net.au>.

MIKE ROBINSON & TONY MAYNARD

Absorbing Yarns

This book contains a collection of over 90 Short Stories and Poems for Adults on a multitude of topics. These are easy, readable items for quiet moments, with topics such as:

- How do you handle a mouse plague in inclement weather?
- Why did a Wallaby get a French polish?
- What surprised the chicken?
- How do you control a camel and fix a telephone fault?
- Who was Terry, the Giant?
- What's the secret of Number Nine?
- What's the truth about the Tooth Fairy?

Available from the authors at Eurobodalla FAW, or from the Eurobodalla Writers' stall at Moruya, and other local Markets. Also available at local festivals. 220 pages, RRP \$20.00. All profits (50% of RRP) from sales of the book will be donated to Cancer Research.

PETER J. UREN

Dominator in the Shadows

Dominator in the Shadows is Peter J. Uren's second novel, and the sequel to his popular *The Old Mechanic*. Set three years later, it tells the story of two men who each have a dream to own their chosen motorcycle: one a Vincent Black Shadow, the other a Norton Dominator 99 650SS. The story again takes the reader through the process of restoring an old classic motorcycle. Along the way, they maintain, repair and service many classic British motorbikes. But the book is more than just about motorcycles; it is a story of the blossoming love between the boss's daughter and her "accidental hero", and the final realisation by the main character that material possessions are a poor substitute for what is

RECENTLY PUBLISHED BOOKS FOR SALE

Please send details for inclusion in this section to:

<wveditor@fawns.org.au>

or mail to: **The Editor, Writers' Voice,**
65 Barbara Boulevard, Seven Hills NSW 2147

The FAW Bookshelf web page address is:

<www.fawns.org.au/bookshelf.html>

really important in life. Available from the author for \$18.00 plus \$8.50 postage within Australia. Email <theoldmechanic1@yahoo.com.au>. Available as an eBook on Kindle Reader through the Amazon website.

ANTOINETTE CONOLLY

Alien Wizardry

A fantasy novel for Primary School readers, this book is the sequel to the *Cauchemar Trilogy*. Zachary travels again to the magical world of Cauchemar at the request of his friend Mactavish, who is now a wizard. The boy has made three previous journeys there but on the last occasion the ginger cat did not return with him to Earth. Cauchemar is threatened with extinction if an ancient prophecy is not satisfied. Alien assistance is required to complete the task and many difficulties have to be overcome. Zachary and his new companion, Taffy, have many friends who help: Magenta the witch, Bijou the dragon and Ulysses the unicorn (to name a few). Can they succeed in defeating the black magic of Malfactorius and save Cauchemar? 195 pages, appeals equally to girls and boys, requiring only that the reader has an active imagination. Available from the author for \$25 incl. p&p. <a.conolly@optusnet.com.au> or phone 02 9545 4553. See website <antoINETTEconolly.weebly.com>.

JEREMY GADD

Under Centauri

Contains fifteen short stories about life in contemporary rural Australia. The stories are about local people encountered during extensive overland travel through remote regions. They include a story about a Greek migrant with a speech impediment who found acceptance in Darwin during the devastation of Cyclone Tracey; how a fishing boat crew encouraged a crocodile to follow their vessel in order to get rid of the refuse thrown overboard—and the consequence; how a dead child saved his mother during a major flood. They are humorous or poignant, universal in their themes, socially aware and have emotional impact. \$17 plus postage. Available from the publisher Anaphora Literary Press, USA, email <director@anaphoraliterary.com>.

PAMELA TRUSTRUM

Everything Stops for Tea

An older woman invites a lonely young man into her extraordinary home... A family gather to hear their lawyer read their wealthy grandmother's will... It is winter, clouds heavy with rain scurry overhead; in the deserted park a young woman sits alone on a bench... An engineer finds himself on a ship in a life or death situation... These and other stories are told vividly with humour, charm and a warm insightfulness. Comments from readers include: "this is not a book it's an entertainment"; "It made me laugh out loud on the train"; "It was very funny, I really enjoyed it"; "Write another one". Direct from author, \$20 incl postage in Australia. Email <pamtrustrum@optusnet.com.au>

SHAWNA HARTLEY

Unsung Heroes Cambodia: People and Projects Making a Difference

About volunteers, for volunteers, by volunteers. Co-authored by Lee Anderson, Kerryan Griffin and Shawna Hartley. People from all over the world are helping Cambodia recover from the atrocities of the Khmer Rouge. This collection of 65 short stories celebrates these volunteers, providing inspiration and practical tips for aspiring do-gooders. It includes ethical considerations and direct links to projects. The diversity of NGOs, sharing their wealth of experiences, provides insight into 'voluntourism' that translates to every country. Combined with stunning photography that reveals an unusual perspective of Cambodia that made it a recent Amazon Best Seller in its category. Not-For-Profit, large format (A4), 168 pages, available for \$35 + shipping on <www.unsungheroes.net.au> ISBN 978-0-0875545-0-5.



The paper this publication is printed on is in accordance with the rules of the Forest Stewardship Council®. The FSC® promotes environmentally responsible, socially beneficial and economically viable management of the world's forests.