

Writers Voice



Spring Edition #257 SEP 2017

QUARTERLY BULLETIN OF THE FELLOWSHIP OF AUSTRALIAN WRITERS NSW INC.

SAVE THE DATE:

**Saturday
4 November 2017**



STATE COUNCIL MEETING

All FAW Branch Delegates are invited to join the Executive Committee for the second biannual State Council Meeting, Saturday 4 November 2017, starting 10:00am at Sydney Mechanics' School of Arts, 280 Pitt St, Sydney.

This will be immediately followed the same day by our...

FAW AWARDS LUNCHEON

York 1 Room, 'York Events', Club York
(formerly known as '99 on York')

95-99 York Street, Sydney, 11.30 for 12 noon

Our Special Guest Speaker this year is **Marilla North**, author/editor of *Yarn Spinners*, about the life and times of author Dymphna Cusack, as well as Miles Franklin and Florence James.

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

The order form for your Luncheon Ticket and Raffle Tickets is on the back of your Writers Voice mailing sheet.

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 addressed envelope for your receipt and ticket/s.

SEE MAP
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Meet fellow members at our FAW Awards Luncheon

THE Awards Lunch at Club York in Sydney is a great opportunity for members to get-together socially for lunch, enjoy the guest speaker and applaud this year's winners of the prestigious FAW Marjorie Barnard Award and Hilarie Lindsay Young Writers Short Story Competition.

The State Committee changed the date to early November so that the event doesn't clash with branch Christmas gatherings so why not support this initiative. Come in early to the bi-annual meeting of delegates at the Sydney Mechanics' School of Arts at 10am; then stretch your legs with a walk to 99 York Street and enjoy the 'fellowship' of meeting other FAW members.

It is a rewarding day which always makes me appreciate being part of a NSW-wide organisation such as ours. From year to year I catch up with members from branches far and wide.

Order your tickets, bring a friend and enjoy this inspirational day.

Maureen Kelly OAM, Hon Sec

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Images from the 2015 Awards Luncheon...



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>

Patrons:

Prof. GA Wilkes,
Prof. E. Webby AM, FAHA,
Ms Patti Miller BA, MA

State President:

Trevar Langlands – 0402 209 267
<president@fawnsww.org.au>

Vice President:

Cate Plink – 0458 375 256
<vicepresident@fawnsww.org.au>

Hon. Secretary:

Maureen Kelly OAM – 0417 403 720
<honsecretary@fawnsww.org.au>

Hon. Treasurer & Membership Registrar:

Kay Bakon – 4321 0935
Unit 801, Henry Kendall Gardens,
150 Maidens Brush Road, WYOMING NSW 2250
<treasurer@fawnsww.org.au>

Publicity Officer and Competition Convenor:

Cate Plink – 0458 375 256
<compconvenor@fawnsww.org.au>

General Committee Members:

Colleen Parker – 6583 3997
<parkerpattinson2@bigpond.com>
Stefania McDonald – 0447 097 728
<gencom@fawnsww.org.au>

General Committee Member and Public Officer:

Vince Hatton

Isolated Writers Convenor:

Carolyn Cash – 0427 895 574
<isolatedwriters@fawnsww.org.au>

Webmaster:

<webmaster@fawnsww.org.au>

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Editor: Ken Driver. Copy for submission should be sent to:

The Editor, Writers' Voice
65 Barbara Boulevard, Seven Hills NSW 2147
Tel: (02) 9831 6808
Email: <wveditor@fawnsww.org.au>

QUARTERLY COPY DEADLINES:

15 NOVEMBER, 15 FEBRUARY, 15 MAY, 15 AUGUST

FAW NSW Inc. State Council: Biannual Delegates Meetings

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

Next meeting: Saturday 4 NOVEMBER 2017, 10.00am at Sydney Mechanics School of Arts, 280 Pitt Street, Sydney (immediately prior to the Awards Luncheon at 99 York St.)

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'.

PAYMENTS VIA ONLINE BANKING:

BSB: 082-936 Account: 172389833 Account name: Fellowship of Australian Writers. Please include your name as identification for payment.

Writing Fellows

FAW Writing Fellows are listed here: <fawnsww.org.au/membership/writing-fellows/>. 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: successful candidates will be presented with certificates acknowledging their outstanding service at the Annual Awards Luncheon and in addition, a permanent Honour Roll in *Writers' Voice* lists the names of recipients, as well as on the website <fawnsww.org.au/about-us/distinguished-service-awards/>. 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 contact the FAW Secretary Maureen Kelly <honsecretary@fawnsww.org.au>.

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 up to 7,000 words 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

Awards Luncheon Guest

ANOTHER exciting awards luncheon will take place on Saturday November 4 for our FAW end of year get-together at Club York in Sydney, formerly called '99 on York'.

See front page and the back of your *Writers Voice* address sheet for booking details.

Our guest speaker this year is the wonderful **Marilla North**, author of a new book on Dymphna Cusack—a wild, talented, eccentric author with many early links to our FAW.

Marilla was born in 1945 and educated in Newcastle NSW. She gained Honours in English in the Leaving Certificate when she first read Dymphna Cusack's World War II novel *Southern Steel*, which ignited Marilla's passion to commit her life to Cusack's life and work.

Marilla completed her MA at Wollongong University with a dissertation on the Cusack/James best seller *Come in spinner*. Her poetry has been published in the press and literary journals and her collection *Blue Glass and Turtle Eggs* was published by Jacaranda Press.

Over the 90s Marilla worked as a freelance journalist and book reviewer. She has taught Australian literature to American students at Boston University and in 2014 was awarded the Alfred Midgley post graduate fellowship from the University of Queensland, enabling her to return to her trilogy on the life of Dymphna Cusack. Her first book in the trilogy is *Yarn Spinners—A Story in Letters*.

I invite you to attend our November luncheon and enjoy the stories and historical input from the early years of the FAW. Come along, bring a friend, and join in with the fellowship of our members, wonderful food and a chance to see the winners of our 2017 FAW NSW sponsored competitions—the Marjorie Barnard Short



Marilla North

Story Award and the Hilarie Lindsay Young Writers Short Story Competition for Australian School Children.

I hope you enjoy listening to my chosen guest for this year. Marilla can tell you about the amazing life of well known author Dymphna Cusack, an insight into the incredible life she lived and her association with the FAW, along with wonderful slides that will enable us to look back on decades of a fabulous career.

Marilla's book *Yarn Spinners* is a most fascinating window into the lives of three of Australia's foremost authors of the mid 20th century: Dymphna Cusack, Miles Franklin and Florence James. The book lifts the lid on the seamy side of Sydney at the end of World War II when American servicemen were over paid, over sexed and over here.

Dymphna is the central character and there are many ups and downs over the years. Dymphna's books include *Come in Spinner*, *Say No To Death*, *Jungfrau*, *Southern Steel*, *The Sun in Exile*, *Picnic Races*, *Heatwave in Berlin*, *Caddie*

(made into a movie), *Chinese Women Speak* and many more. Many of her books and scripts have been staged and also performed on radio.

Dymphna was a teacher, political activist, actor, scriptwriter and commentator among many other things. She was born in West Wyalong in 1902 and died in Sydney in 1981.

What a fascinating history to delve into over a delicious lunch. I have heard Marilla at her special talks and you are all in for a treat.

Marilla is happy to visit your branch and meet your members and currently lives in the Blue Mountains with her husband.

Trevar Langlands

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD HONOUR ROLL



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

*Deceased

State Council News

From the secretary's desk

GREAT to report I have been busy providing **FREE ISBN** to members which means many of you are publishing your work—congratulations!

To speed up provision of ISBN, set out below is the information I require:

- Author's name and address
- Contact phone number
- Date of birth
- Publication title
- Retail price
- ebook, digital, hardback or paperback
- Short description of subject matter of book
- Target audience
- Perfect bound
- Publication date

If you have a jpeg of your cover this would also be a great asset.

It can take 6-8 weeks before it appears on a Google Search.

It does, however, appear on *Bookwire*—see this example:

www.bookwire.com/books/all?query=9781922050502&pn=1&ps=20

Please forward information to

honsecretary@fawnsw.org.au.

Advice regarding successful processing will be advised as soon as possible thereafter.

I hope I continue to receive numerous ISBN requests!

Maureen Kelly OAM

Hon Secretary FAW NSW

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 2018, 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 2017. 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

280 Pitt Street to 99 York Street via QVB

For those attending both the State Council Meeting on 4 November and the FAW Awards Luncheon that follows (see front page), it is about 15–20 minutes walk. We recommend heading south to Bathurst St, right at Bathurst St and right at George St, along to Town Hall Station, go downstairs, through QVB arcade to the other end of the Queen Victoria Building, left on Market St and right at York St.



FAW Branch Reports

BLUE MOUNTAINS FAW

THIS time of year is when we all feel the need to get our batteries charged and what better way to inspire the Muse than to get away from the daily grind and spoil ourselves with a change of venue, climate, and in my case a dose of nostalgia by meeting old friends and relatives. The UK was at its best with three weeks of almost perfect weather and I can't wait to start scribing!

Our 'poet in residence' Cynthia Hallam has released her latest book of poetic gems; *New Horizons*. Simple language woven to capture everyday moments with colour and feeling. A pleasant and very comforting read. [See *Bookshelf back page—Ed*].

We must record the achievement of Loris Hawkins who will be 90 this month and is still creating notable work. It is very satisfying to see that longevity can produce considered work based on the panoramic view of life that we oldies have. Keep it coming Loris!

John Smith

EASTWOOD/HILLS FAW

Yet another busy quarter for us at Eastwood/Hills branch, but also a very productive and exciting one. With two guest speakers and our annual Literary Competition we enjoyed learning about and reading a vast array of writing styles, techniques and genres.

May was a particularly thrilling month for me as our guest speaker Pamela Freeman presented a workshop on Writing For Children, my preferred type of writing and she was good enough to set and mark an assignment for us. We learned about characterisation, age appropriate dialogue and how it can move the text along and coupled with action can make for a 'unputdownable' children's story. We also focused on creating an enticing hook to keep children with increasingly smaller attention spans turning the pages.

In June, branch favourite Jacqui Winn presented yet another enlightening and challenging

workshop on short story writing, focusing on how each sentence must lead naturally to the next with techniques to help us do this in our own writing. She shared ways we could ensure that as much as possible each word earned its place in our work.

Our annual Literary Competition in July rounded out the quarter for us. We had an enjoyable afternoon sharing a variety of high quality literary works, sweet treats and even sweeter company. The stories and poems shared were extremely varied in both style and theme including family dramas, indigenous history and the need to laugh through illness and how that laughter can bring health and even youth back if only for a little while, to mention but a few.

Artelle Lenthall

FOREST FAW

At our meeting in May, Esther Osborne gave a presentation on the guidelines for entering competitions. This was a great refresher and warning to read the conditions of entry carefully before submitting work, as every competition is different. Christiana Star drew from her own experiences to hold a workshop on digital promotion and building your writer's platform. Christiana stressed the importance of defining your brand and readership. She detailed how to blog, set up a web presence and use it to build a mailing list and connect to your social media accounts. Christiana also touched on goals to achieve after publication to promote your novel such as using the print media, public speaking as well as promoting your novel/poems online.

June 15 was the closing date for submissions to our Forest FAW Internal Short Story Competition. An external judge presented her report and critiques at our meeting in August. In June Maureen Fries held a workshop on What Makes a Good Elevator Pitch. Members were challenged to keep our pitches short and sweet, edit ruthlessly, skip industry jargon and show our passion

to write a memorable, unique and engaging pitch.

In June we said goodbye to Emma Gaulton who has moved to Port Macquarie. Emma's valued contributions to our group and her warm smile will be missed.

Our workshop in July focussed on self-publishing with some members contributing their own experiences. After this, several members shared a piece of writing they were currently working on or completed. Christiana Star gave feedback on a Literary Speed Dating seminar she attended at the ASA. It was an opportunity to give a three minute pitch to the two agents and nine publishers present. Christiana found it gave her useful feedback and was interesting.

Winter has been a productive and successful time for many of our members. Maureen Fries, Meg Dunn, Colleen Russell and Mary Ann Napper have had successes in short story competitions. Our poets, Lindsay Hay, Catherine Smith and Beatrice Yell have had achievements and Pam Bayfield's latest novel was profile of the month in *Pittwater Online News*. [Refer to *Literary Achievements p20* in this issue for further details]. We congratulate these members on their great stories and poems.

Mary Ann Napper

GREAT LAKES FAW

Our branch lost one of its well loved members on 2nd June. Noelle White, aged 91, passed away suddenly, and will be sorely missed by all. [See *obituary p15—Ed*].

At our June meeting we looked at the use of flashback in stories. We brought examples from personal reading, and discussed them.

At our July meeting we again welcomed well-known local author, Jacqui Winn, who gave, as usual, a wonderfully interesting talk on Troubleshooting the Story. We had all written stories to use, having been given choices of several different openings for a 600 word story. They were...

'December came like a blow to the back of the head...'

cont. next page...

FAW Branch Reports

Great Lakes

cont. from previous page

'I am sorry he's gone, but I'm not sorry I did it...'

'Mark my words, when that train arrives there'll be trouble...'

We had a good range of different stories, and Jacqui showed us how to trim them without losing the meaning, and how to make sure through first, second and third drafts that the reader would understand and enjoy the stories, without losing the theme. We had several guests come to the meeting, which was thoroughly enjoyable.

Our August meeting was led by Christine in the absence of President Hermione, who is travelling in Canada, and we discussed the subject 'The Lost Art of Letter Writing'. We all wrote a letter to someone, and this proved interesting as well as entertaining.

For our September meeting we are to update a fairy tale and write our own version of a chosen tale. This should prove quite a task. Our next two meetings (September and October), will be held in a meeting room at the Great Lakes Library, as Club Forster is undergoing renovations.

Christine Hayes

GRIFFITH RIVERINA FAW

Griffith has been very cold and quiet during the winter months with only the die-hards turning up at meetings the past couple of months! I am assured all will be back on board from August.

We have been keeping busy since we opened and have had everyone read from some of their works. We have a very diverse range of writers which makes it interesting; a fair amount of sci-fi in there!

We have one published author in our group and have been pleased to listen to some of his work.

At first we did a lot of fun games to get to know each other but are now settling into a little more serious work. I have approached the local high school and they are quite happy

for us to hold a competition for their pupils.

We would like to thank so many people from the Fellowship for all your help in our first few shaky months, especially Maureen and Jill for all your information!

We charge on toward Christmas with hope in our hearts and magic in our pens!

Mariyn (Maz) Sayer

HUNTER FAW

Our group is maintaining its focus on critique of poetry and prose, so every month we look forward to reading what each member has produced. The variety of the work and helpful comments never ceases to astound. For the last 40 minutes of the meeting we have been focussing on experimenting in modern poetic form and I am looking forward to hearing some interesting examples that have been written this month.

Thanks to Liverpool FAW member Peter Pike for sending our group a complimentary copy of the magazine he produces called *FreeXpresSion*.

Our former president Jan Dean wrote an obituary for the recently deceased Pam Jeffery who was one of our founding members and past president [see page 15—Ed].

Luciana Croci

LAKE MACQUARIE FAW

May was the perfect time, when the countryside was in the full flush of autumn, for some members of our group to enjoy a day excursion to nearby Pokolbin in the Hunter Valley. We travelled by small private bus and were able to enjoy wine tastings, coffees and walks through sculpture gardens, all in beautiful and inspiring settings. It was a great way to get some good motivation for writing projects and to spend relaxing time together as a group.

Soon after our Pokolbin excursion, at our May general meeting, we met poets Magdalena Ball and Jenny Blackford, both of whom have recently published new collections of poetry (*Unmaking atoms* and *The loyalty of chickens*, respectively). They

encouraged us to abandon rules and to write poetry any way we like; in short, to just play with our writing.

In June we were at last able to meet Ryan O'Neill, after missing out at our cancelled February meeting. Ryan, who teaches at Newcastle University, spoke about experimental writing and explained how it challenges everything we have come to expect in conventional fiction. It plays with time and point-of-view and abandons the whole 'cause and effect' approach. What can keep the reader engaged in experimental fiction is humour. Not long after meeting Ryan at our June meeting we learnt that his latest book, *Their brilliant careers*, had been shortlisted for this year's Miles Franklin Award.

Our July meeting was the group's Annual General Meeting where we dealt swiftly with our business. We were reminded by our President and other office holders of what a successful year we have had. There have been plenty of engaging and inspiring speakers at our monthly meetings, our financial position is sound, and membership numbers are also solid. A new Committee was elected, including incoming President Kristen Mair. Outgoing President Alison Ferguson was commended on the great job she had done through the year.

After the AGM Alison led us through an exercise designed to identify story ideas and prepare for writing them up. Using our favourite writing genres as a prompt we established the scope of what we might write, who the protagonist would be and the nature of the inciting incident. Other parts of the exercise involved further defining aspects of our protagonist and other supporting characters. It was a great exercise which prompted many thoughts about future works amongst our members.

Pam Garfoot

LIVERPOOL FAW

Once again our numbers have suffered due to members relocating, or due to family commitments, but we have welcomed two new

members, Tania C. Wilde and Adelfo Cyrus Alanis into our ranks.

We hope to see our numbers increase when we hold a Literary Competition combining FAW and *FreeXpresSion* and sponsored by Rick Vincenti and Peter F Pike. This will be next year as the project was only tabled at our last Meeting.

Our members have been busily publishing and selling their books! Peter F Pike is having a book launching for his recently published book of Sonnets titled *IConverse*. The launch event will be held from 6.30pm to 7.45pm in the Gold Room at Liverpool Library, 170 George St., Liverpool on Friday 15th September 2017. Guest of Honour: Wendy Waller (Mayor).

We hope to see many FAW members from other Branches on that night. As well as other invited guests, hopefully many who read the 'flyers' and are curious to 'have a look' will pop in and may even decide to consider membership of our Liverpool Group.

Rhonda Rice

MACARTHUR FAW

July guest speaker, Celie Gannon's presentation took the form of an informal chat based around her experiences as a writer. A hot topic was whether to self-publish or not, and how to go about it. Celie, who grew up in the main street of Campbelltown during the fifties, when it was still a country town, had many colourful stories to tell. She also spoke about her career as an entertainment journalist, working for newspapers such as *The Australian*, as well as about the various books she has written, an example being *Celie's Book of Quotes*. We all agreed it was a most enjoyable afternoon.

Yet again winner of our in-house writing competition was Victoria Chie, with a very amusing story about a family travelling in a car along with a very talkative parrot. It is not until the trip is finally over that the aggravating avian is brought under control. The theme of our present competition is 'Lost and Found'.

More good news from Victoria: a short story entitled 'Making Adjustments' sold to *Yours* magazine. Congratulations, Victoria.

Our last meeting raised some interesting questions about judging; in particular, should a judge be able to indicate corrections on an entrant's manuscript? This led to the issuing of a set of judging criteria which will be useful in the future. It was also an opportunity for us to express our appreciation to the judges themselves, both for their valuable critiques and for the time they give to the task.

Barry Flanagan has again surprised us with the release on an e-publication, a collection of short stories entitled *The Boys from Brokenback* (available on Smashwords and Amazon). A sequel to his coal-mining novel, *Brokenback*, it describes the working and private lives of the employees of the Brokenback mine, located in New South Wales' Hunter Valley.

It is encouraging to see our local member of Parliament taking an interest in our activities. Trevar Langlands has informed us of a letter he has received from Greg Warren MP, congratulating him on his re-election as State President of the Fellowship of Australian Writers. Trevar recently had an article on the history of the FAW published in local regional newspaper, *The Chronicle*.

At our last meeting, discussion turned to the writing regimens of



Mudgee Valley: James Howard as Henry Lawson.

various members. For many people, writing is a very rewarding and all-absorbing activity, so it was not surprising to hear of people spending up to six hours a day at their word processors. It was also comforting to hear that we are not all Mozarts, with many of us needing to make numerous revisions in order to achieve the desired result.

I am pleased to report that numbers in our group are holding steady, with a couple of recent visitors expressing an interest in joining.

Bernard Smith

MUDGEE VALLEY FAW

With St Mary's Church Mudgee and Father Tony we hosted a night of poems, stories and songs to celebrate **Henry Lawson's 150th Birthday**. Henry went to school for a time at the school attached to St Mary's. Our

cont. next page...



Musicians Bruce Kurtz, Ross Kurtz and Don Coombes at the Mudgee Valley Henry Lawson 150th celebrations.

FAW Branch Reports

Mudgee Valley

cont. from previous page

local readers and musicians were joined by professional actors to showcase the multi-faceted works of Henry Lawson. Three hours of listening and participation kept the audience enthralled and wishing for more when the night came to a close.

Mudgee Performing Arts Society invited our members to join them for a weekend Story Club Workshop. Our members presented their resulting masterpieces to a live audience as part of the Mudgee Readers and Writers Festival in August.

Jill Baggett

NORTH ARM COVE FAW

Winter is behind us, hooray! The cold weather did take its toll on members' attendance due to illness but that is all behind us now and we go forward to celebrate the 20th birthday of our branch which will take place October 15, 2017 with a lunch for members and guests at North Arm Cove Community Centre.

The 'townies project—a group of members 'created' a fictitious township *Matilda Bay*, first settled in 1833, and have written stories relating to characters living in the town in the 1980s—is moving along 'slowly but surely.' The writers have held regular monthly meetings to discuss plots, characters and events and the project is now at the critique stage.

Monthly assignments have continued to be both challenging and interesting.

An observation exercise triggered by photos of two/three people in conversation proved valuable. Members' initial observations were expanded enabling them to write 200 words/28 lines of poetry.

Surrealism in Literature: Members 'slam' selected 16 letters/words beginning with these letters and created a second person/present tense image, story or poem using plurals, adjectives, adverb forms of completely nonsensical or wildest writing. This exercise seriously took everyone out of their comfort

zone but no one disappointed—the challenge was met full on!

'Show not tell' was also again revisited with short stories triggered from a painting. This exercise is always very valuable.

At the August meeting, members were thrilled to welcome two new members—great news in itself but also a very unique occasion. The new members, Debbie and Greg Mutton, are the parents of member Tim Grant so we now have three members of the same family in the branch.

Finally, judging will take place shortly on the short story entries received from Karuah and Tea Gardens Public School grade 5/6 students.

Maureen Kelly

PORT MACQUARIE-HASTINGS FAW

Our Branch turned 39 in July and is looking forward to a big celebration next year for our Ruby Anniversary.

A busy quarter for us with 5 new writers joining and we are thrilled to have some new ideas and writing experiences they will share with us. We had our local newspaper, *The Independent*, interview yours truly and photograph me with Beth Anderson and Brian Tolagson to accompany an article written by their reporter which covered nearly a whole page. This resulted

in a Social group in our community inviting us to speak to their members and discuss our recently published anthology, *HEARTBEAT OF THE HASTINGS* and the details of our 39 years of branch history. The group purchased 9 books, so positive vibes everywhere.

We held a committee meeting on Sunday 6th August and planned ahead until our AGM in March 2018 though each meeting topic will be flexible if something or someone suggests a more relevant idea at any time. With a growing group of 16 now, we are keen to share our writing, learning, developing of skills and bonding while socialising as well. We also look like having 4 or 5 manuscripts published by or in 2018.

We are pleased to welcome Emma Gaulton, a member from Forest FAW who has transferred to us as she now resides in Port Macquarie.

Fellowship of Australian Writers Port Macquarie branch is on Facebook now. Check in and say 'hello'.

Very exciting times!

We were fortunate to have Pippa Kay as our Guest Speaker for our June 24th meeting. Pippa brought her published book, *Doubt and Conviction* with her, at our request, so we could understand the complexities associated with writing about crime.



Cutting the cake to celebrate the 39th anniversary of Port Macquarie-Hastings branch.



Port Macquarie-Hastings Workshop session presented by Pippa Kay.



Pippa Kay at the Port Macquarie Workshop.

What a fantastic topic that was. Pippa shared her 8 years of 'blood, sweat and tears' in researching and interviewing the subject matter for the book, which was about a 'real crime'. It assisted those of us who are interested in the many areas of knowledge required to be researched, for the background story of a crime novel. The Question and Answer opportunity was well utilised and Pippa was extremely generous in her responses to us.

We shared afternoon tea and then Pippa changed topics and took us through the important points for writing successful Short Stories. What was so fortunate for us was that Pippa is a judge for

many competitions so we obtained a greater understanding of the variations of what judges might look for. For this topic, Pippa had her book, *Back Stories*, an anthology, and shared extracts to demonstrate some of her points.

What a worthwhile workshop meeting it was. We learnt lots, we laughed lots, we socialised lots in sharing our attempts, our suggestions, our questions and responses. We shared titles of published books and authors from which we can enjoy while learning at the same time. This demonstrated to us all in attendance, just what is so great about belonging to the Fellowship of Australian Writers because we have generous members within our organisation with such talent to encourage us.

Colleen Parker

PORT STEPHENS FAW

We have a new committee and are going full speed ahead with our writings and plans for our new book, initially 'The Beaches of Port Stephens' now titled *Sand, Sea and Sky Port Stephens*. It comprises a collection of poems and short stories about our lovely area.

Wendy Zirngast our new president is doing wonders with the layout and photographs and yesterday as a group we read all through and edited the almost perfect text and layout. Thank you Wendy.

We are very proud of where we live and find pleasure to write about it. A few members are on holiday and those here are braving the winter chill and finding it a good time to write. Our meeting finished on a positive note.

We are a happy group of writers.
Christine Gregory

SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS FAW

These past few weeks have been amongst the hardest that FAWSH has ever had to endure. On July 19th we lost two of our cherished Members in a fatal car accident on the Hume Highway, Gabrielle Stewart and Berlio O'Brien. Only 2 days before, I was with both of them at the home of our Treasurer Kathryn Litchfield, where we were enjoying one of the Branch's regular get-togethers, a social time when members discuss personal writing plans informally over a cuppa and a snack. Berlio had been ill for some time but her parting words were of how much better she now was. She was looking forward to re-joining us at our August meeting, and her intention was to visit Holland immediately afterwards for the wedding of two young friends. Gabrielle and I had been working together for some months, planning and designing the Branch's next Anthology *FIGMENTS*, which will be launched at our October meeting. Gabrielle's work for the Anthology, both literary and artistic, is amongst the best I have seen her produce. It will be an appropriate memorial to her. Vale, Gabrielle and Berlio, we miss you both.

Under the circumstances this FAWSH Report will be short and I know you will understand...

At the August meeting, Secretary Barb Angell resigned with regret owing to health issues. Uta Purcell volunteered to replace Barb as Secretary, and will work in conjunction with President Luisa Hall.

The great thing about the Fellowship of Australian Writers is that it brings together an ever widening group of people with a passion for writing: prose, poetry,

cont. next page...

FAW Branch Reports

Southern Highlands

cont. from previous page

memoir, academic or journalistic papers, writing in every imaginable category. Long may the organization continue to flourish.

Dr Barb Angell

STROUD WRITERS

The winter months reduced our meeting numbers, with the northern hemisphere summer enticing three Stroud Writers and winter illnesses attacking others. In spite of this our meetings were vibrant with ideas bandied about, news swapped, suggestions made, and each other's writing skills perfected.

All year, our focus has been on contributions to our forthcoming anthology. At last we have a title and the editorial committee is poised to finalise the contents and see it through to publication. We are excited that a local artist has agreed to work with us.

Last year, under the guidance of member Elizabeth Bradhurst, we conducted a local public schools writing competition, which culminated in the publication of the colourful booklet *Young Writers of the Stroud District*. The competition is being held again this year. The response from our three schools has been overwhelming with teachers, parents and children 'coming on board'. Every student has submitted an entry. Some of our members will do the preliminary judging and the final judging will be done by Sydney-based teachers. Every student will receive a participation certificate; winners and runners-up will be presented with a book prize and all entries will be published in a book in time for Christmas.

First-readers, researched and written by member Nette Brooks, are being trialled with a group of children with specific reading difficulties. We are thrilled that Nette's writing is producing books which appeal to the imaginations of this particular readership.

In September we are combining with Great Lakes FAW, and Tuncurry

U3A Creative Writing Group for a Writers' Get-Together at Possum Brush Cafe, Wootton. Our member Peter Uren, will give a presentation *E-Publishing—a guide to KDP*, after which we shall have a series of round-table discussions.

Two members of the enthusiastic Night Owls group are looking forward to participating in a Weekend Writers' Retreat, being conducted by the Society of Women Writers NSW Inc., in September. This will be a first-time 'full-on' workshop event for them. As other groups have commented, all writers should attend at least one large writers' festival or workshop, during their writing careers.

Susan Filson

SUTHERLAND FAW

Sutherland FAW have had a very busy winter, putting the final touches to our *Writers Unleashed Festival*. We had over 100 participants booked in for the day, and all the Editors and publisher consultations were booked out. There were 195 entrants for the Picture Book Competition. [See *Writers Unleashed story and pictures p18—Ed*].

A heartfelt thanks to Joyce Noble, our *Shire Scribblers* Newsletter Editor who has revamped our newsletter giving it a very modern look with user friendly navigation. We need to be reminded that it takes many hours in producing the newsletter, which Joyce does single-handedly! We have also sold more than 80 copies of our anthology, *DREAMS OF HOME*.

Sutherland branch continues to thrive and we welcome new members to our group. We will continue to meet at Sutherland library, but with the exorbitant room hire increases, we may well have to find a new venue next year. It seems that all local government libraries and community halls have increased their room rental costs. It's a shame that local community groups are being discouraged from using facilities set up by Councils for local groups!

Sutherland FAW has been involved in a consultation process with Sutherland Shire Council Councillors who are proposing to run

a Sutherland Shire Open Poetry and Short Story competition. Recently Helen Armstrong and myself met with councillors and Debbie Best, Manager, Library and Information Services to map out the logistics for a competition in 2018. When we have firm guidelines and a date, FAW members will be notified via *Writers Voice*.

In our last few meetings we have been focusing on developing a point of view, and character development. It is always interesting to see what the imagination is capable of achieving. In May, the challenge was to write a story from a list of clichés. For example: 'A blast from the past;' 'a fate worse than death;' 'Beauty is in the eye of the beholder;' 'Don't bite the hand that feeds you.' We had some interesting short stories from the clichés.

We also explored flash fiction. In our increasingly busy world, with the immediate sharing of news content via Twitter, webinars, YouTube, Facebook and the 'blogosphere', the ability to convey an idea briefly and efficiently is increasingly valued. And even if the ultimate goal is the epic novel, honing effective writing capability is always useful. Our flash fiction exercise began with "It hadn't always been blue..." and had to be no more than 99 words. We listened to everyone's stories which covered a range of topics with some challenging twists. In June, we had a workshop on the Art of Writing Dialogue to create character or to drive the plot. We'll examine some of the do's and don'ts and misconceptions of writing dialogue. This was a condensed version of a presentation given to the senior writing students at Gympie Technology High School last year.

Helen Armstrong's workshop on developing character was well received. In summary she said... "When planning a story, we need to develop our main character and his/her negative and positive attributes before we write. A character flaw can also be a positive characteristic, in the right circumstances. If you have a character who is selfish to begin with but who learns to share, then our character has grown

through the story. In a short story, we need to avoid having too many characters. Ask questions to your character and listen to what the character tells you, and write down the answers. Your character should answer you more directly and some of the answers may go beyond your original question. Then put your character in a challenging situation. Strengths, weaknesses and fears. By now your character should be sitting comfortably in your head, so you can focus on developing the elements of your story.”

Sylvia Vago

WOLLONDILLY FAW

Wollondilly Branch has a number of new members since our last Anthology was published in 2014. Work has commenced on an upcoming Anthology which will showcase over twenty of our current members’ work.

Most members have a number of stories or poems included. The majority of our members submitted stories or poems including haiku and cinquains and drawings or photos. It is anticipated that the Anthology will be published late this year or early next year.

At the June meeting members had a bit of fun with a ‘Weird or Daggy Dress Up’ theme.



Rosemary Peters, Narelle Noppert and Jean Mills at Wollondilly’s ‘Weird and Daggy Dress Up’ June Meeting.

Our Vice President, Rosemary Peters, a long term member of the FAW, has recently produced a book of her stories titled *Growing a Memoir*. Our *Scribblings* editor, Jean Mills, helped Rosemary in this endeavour.

Wollondilly FAW continues to grow and welcomes Kylie Savage, Anne Ovenden and Helen Reynolds as new members.

Due to the number of new members our meeting time has been increased by half an hour.

Sandra Reynolds

WYONG WRITERS

In May, our normal meeting room at the Wyong RSL was booked for a function and our meeting was moved to a corner of the noisy public area of the club lounge. This unsatisfactory arrangement led to our president and committee finding a new venue. We met for the first time in June, in the quiet Woodbury Park Community Centre. A most satisfactory outcome.

The focus of the meeting in May was ‘Structure in the Short Story’. Members were encouraged to re-read their favourite short story and pay attention to its structure. We shared insights we found helpful in terms of planning and executing our own short stories.

June saw us focussing on three aspects of developing characters for creative writing. Attention was given to three techniques:

- Observation of people when we’re sitting in a café or standing in a queue etc., gathering plain facts.
- Draw on a memory of somebody they knew and make bullet-point notes on socio-economic status.
- Think of someone entirely different they knew, and this time focus on developing a psychological profile.

Characteristics from each category were written up on a whiteboard to form a basis for a character. The members then did a short writing exercise to flesh out their character.

At our July meeting, Kathryn Cougran conducted a three hour workshop on Writer’s Block. Her approach gave the attendees opportunity to share what their experiences of writer’s block were. This opened up conversations around overcoming blocks specific to our members. We took away great practical strategies for defeating our writer’s block demons.

Including our three visitors, we had a bumper attendance of nineteen at the June meeting.

Wyong Writers has inherited the Central Coast FAW library. It is being administrated by Johan Luidens, formerly of the CCFW branch. We look forward to accessing these rich resources.

Rose Fox



Trevar Langlands with Wollondilly members Jean Mills (left) and Rosemary Peters. Jean is holding Rosemary’s book ‘Growing a Memoir’.

Poets Voice

TRIPLE 0

Today I can wear my purple coat, the turban hides the hair.
Make way, I am old, take care I break easily.
I have tested for old timers; they ask you to spell words backwards
the date, the year and remember two things I told you earlier.

A walking stick is useful or a Zimmer frame. People notice you
with equipment and wrinkled rheumy hands.
At first I left many sticks behind in the bus, movies, trains,
and one folded up in the aircraft pocket next to the sick bag.

At the IGA a girl with metal things in her nose wants my card,
I ask did it hurt when they wired up your face.
She says not so you'd notice, holds a hand out for the card.
Is it Seniors, Health, Opal, or the Bank one, I've forgotten the PIN.

A young man takes my shopping to the disabled park.
The kind of fellow I'm sure I would once beckon to my bed,
a bit like my grandson, all tan and polite, white teeth,
probably eats as much as five wharfies.

The car is not as old as me. When it was shiny new
I would smooth my hands over the bonnet with love.
Nowadays, like a marriage, we are used to each other
and together we manage to find our way home.

I never went back for my driving license.
The eyes are the main problem, reading that chart.
People always stand right in the middle of that big dark spot.
How do they expect anyone to recognize them?

It's hard to stay below the radar, to keep up,
maybe they won't notice if I lose the way to the lavatory.
Remind myself again, today is Tuesday, my given name is Mary
I am eighty two, and the doctor's appointment is Friday.

My daughter's number is by the phone next to the Triple 0.
Triple 0... now who the devil is that?

Jennifer Dickerson, Shoalhaven FAW

A message from the Poetry Editor

POETS: I continue to receive some really interesting work.
Thank you. If something you have sent me has not yet
been published, it may just be waiting patiently for a
space; or it may be suffering from one of these problems...

Reminders:

1. Please remember to single space your work with a
single space between stanzas. [I do not have time to re-
format your work for you].
2. If you forget to add your name and FAW branch, your
poem will not be published in WV. [I do not have time
to chase poets who do not wish to own their work
publicly.]

Enjoy your poetry writing

Shirley Goodbar

WORDS

Words
are birds that spin in bright sky,
trees that grow green shelter,
stars alight in night's deep terraces,
gold coins in the currency of souls.

No words
cause birds to fall,
trees to wither,
stars to vanish,
souls to die.

Sulks and evasions done,
let us join words and hands
to talk of love
and hate, of hope
and pain,
misunderstandings, ecstasies,
beginnings, ends.

Together our voices set free birds
and trees and stars and souls.

Wendell Watt, Moocooboola FAW

The King of Beasts

The Lion (Panthera leo)

Stranger, look deep into my amber eyes,
don't you recognize me? The King of Beasts?
Well may you gaze with a look of surprise—
I saw human-kind as fare for my feasts;
but you clever man far out-witted me.
You can kill me at a distance with ease
I have no resistance; my only plea
is that your cruel, senseless killings cease.
I recall you used me as a symbol
for grace, strength, beauty, dignity and pride.
In spite of my size I was quite nimble
using stealth, speed and cunning as my guide.

Though I have lived a life of distinction—
why is my kind destined for extinction?*

© *Peter F Pike, Liverpool FAW*

**It is believed there are less than 20,000 lions in the world.*

Submissions to Poets Voice:

*If you would like to contribute to this page of Writers Voice,
please send your poem to our honorary Poetry Editor,
Shirley Goodbar for consideration. Send by email as a typed
attachment to: <sgoodbar@theorchards.com.au>*

*Shirley needs to receive copy by the beginning of February,
May, August or November, for inclusion in the March, June,
September or December edition respectively. Please provide
your name and FAW branch for publication.*

*Please note, poems accepted for publication under the 'Poets
Voice' banner will be deemed to have been published and
therefore are not eligible for entry in FAW competitions.*

Competition Results

RESULTS: EASTWOOD/HILLS FAW 2017 LITERARY COMPETITION

BOREE LOG AWARD FOR BUSH VERSE

- 1st: 'Equal under southern soil', Tom McIlveen
2nd: 'Pappinbarra Dreaming', Tom McIlveen
H/Comm: 'Transformation', Brenda Joy
H/Comm: 'Lament', Brenda Joy
Comm: 'Tribute beneath the river red gum', Elizabeth Egan

SHORT STORY

- 1st: 'Bombilla', Carney Vaughan
2nd: 'Insula', Heather MacKenzie
H/Comm: 'Spiral', Joshua Kemp
H/Comm: 'Gone, gone, gone', Bill Bean
Comm: 'The Phone', Peter Joseph Head
Comm: 'Uncle Andrew's Home', Marie Watt

POETRY

- 1st: 'Moonlight Sonata', Frances Lovell
2nd: 'Breaking the News', Jeff Guess
H/Comm: 'Agatha Christie Contemplates Australia for the First Time—1922', Jeff Guess
Comm: 'An Overturned Orange Wheelbarrow', Jeff Guess
Comm: 'Images of Genocide', Faie Dana Watson
Comm: 'Reviewing the Waves', Damen O'Brien
Comm: 'Cri de Couer', Faie Dana Watson

ALAN RUSSELL AWARD FOR MEMOIR

- 1st: 'Give my Love to Flo and Ted', Mike Woodhouse
2nd: 'An Apprenticeship', Nicole Hodgson
H/Comm: 'Jericho on the Jordan', Gordon Plowman
H/Comm: 'Feast of All Saints', Marie Watt
H/Comm: 'Like the Curate's Egg—No Pony, But a Life Good in Parts', Carney Vaughan

PAULINE WALSH AWARD FOR SHORT, SHORT STORY

- 1st: 'A Better Life', Gina Dawson
2nd: 'Guitar Boy', Kerrin O'Sullivan
H/Comm: 'Weathering the Storm', Maree Gallop
Comm: 'Losing Dennis', Gina Dawson
Comm: 'Santoro's Shoes', Gina Dawson
Comm: 'Nana's Warm Friends', Vincent Morrison

RESULTS: 2017 SHOALHAVEN LITERARY AWARD FOR SHORT STORIES

Judged by Dr Laurie Steed

- 1st: 'In the Deep', Cassie Hamer, Queen's Park, Sydney.
2nd: 'My Father's Gun', Andy Murdoch, Preston, Vic.
3rd: 'Palya', Susanna Freymark, Federal, NSW.
Geoff Bolton Award: 'The Clarinet', Craig Vaughan, Berry.

Passing of Geoff Bakon

OUR State Treasurer Kay Bakon is a committee member we all have connection with, whether it be forwarding our annual subscriptions or meeting up with her at the Annual Awards Lunch, so it was with great sadness the entire 'Fellowship of Australians Writers family,' learned of the sudden passing of her beloved husband Geoff, June 6, 2017.

Geoff, who had not been enjoying good health for a while, passed away peacefully in his sleep mid-morning at their home in Wyoming, NSW.

He was an extremely genial man, full of fun, who always had a smile on his face and a cheery word for us when we met him. During the years the State Committee visited regional areas of our membership, Geoff accompanied Kay and we looked forward to catching up with him. He was often an adviser to us and was extremely respected for his vast knowledge.

He loved his golf and I, personally, had many a chat with him about my 'lack of skill' on the golf course!

Geoff was an incredible support to Kay, and we knew how much joy they brought to each other. His passing has been felt by us all. Kay, know that our thoughts, respect and support are always there for you at all times.

Rest in peace

Geoff Bakon—one of 'Nature's gentlemen'.

Maureen Kelly, Hon Sec

Like, Share, Follow other branches



MANY branches are adding a **Facebook** page to their Internet presence. Those we know of are included in 'Branch Meetings and Contacts' on page 26. If your branch has a social media page that is not included there, please advise the Editor <wveditor@fawns.org.au> so that we can include it in the next edition of *Writers Voice* and on the FAW NSW website.

To find other branches that may have their own page, log into your Facebook account and type the name of the branch you are looking for into the 'Search for people, places and things' field at the top of the web page or Facebook app.

Then, begin sharing with each other by using their 'Like' button or leaving a short message for that branch. Constant communication flowing back and forth keeps us all connected.

The FAW's Facebook page is at /FAWNSW.

And don't forget to visit the **FAWNSW website** <fawns.org.au> from time to time to keep up with the latest posts under the 'News and Events' and 'Writing Competitions' menu tabs.

Obituaries

Mavis (May) Ethel Hayes

MAY Hayes, one of our longest serving members at Eurobodalla FAW, passed away 23rd June 2017.

May was a lady of many talents and one of these talents, cooking and organising the culinary side of our functions, was rewarded with an FAW Distinguished Service Award. Each meeting May's fresh, warm scones with jam and cream were devoured. Not satisfied with doing this, she made and iced a birthday cake each month, never missing a member's name.

None of this impinged on her ability to create poetry. Her father was Scottish and a teacher and he imbued a love of learning, and helping others. May's poems were written for her pure enjoyment and this was reflected in the way she wrote and presented them. Often on scraps of paper and sometimes indecipherable, always amusing, with often a twist at the end. Animals and family were her main topics. Her love of native animals shone through as she fed possums and birds at her home.

In 2009, the late Fergus Thomson, Mayor of Eurobodalla, May and Syd (her husband) inaugurated the Eurobodalla Mayor's Writing Competition, open to children from 5–18 years. It is coincidental that both Syd and May passed away just after reading and marking this competition. May instigated an award in Syd's honour, for the Outstanding Writer. A hand-crafted pen and plinth, made by craftsman Richard Turley, from locally sourced wood. The Eurobodalla Branch of FAW has decided to continue this award and include May's name.

May had a very long and varied life. She was born in Melbourne, a twin, her sister predeceased her and had three brothers. She started work at 16 and her first job was drawing movie posters for Hoyts. One of May's talents was dancing and she performed at the Tivoli, Melbourne. She still had her glamorous outfit and tap shoes tucked away in her wardrobe. Meeting Syd when he visited Australia was a pivotal point, they married and moved to England. Their first daughter Jeannie was born. They returned to Australia, where Michael was born and Syd started his career in a one teacher school in Australia. Moving from city living to rural NSW, Girilambone, came as a shock to both of them. They adapted and enjoyed the experience and friendships. This was when May became 'a great shot with a rifle' dispatching feral animals.

Their next move was to Turlinjah, on the south coast. Then came Moruya Central School. Leanne was born during this time and Syd accepted a position at Deakin High. May could then further her career and taught painting at TAFE



The late May Hayes receives her Distinguished Service Award certificate in 2015 from FAW Hon Secretary Maureen Kelly OAM

in Canberra. She exhibited her work and won prizes at Canberra and Moruya shows. During retirement, May and Syd travelled around Australia, often taking grandchildren with them. These were all recorded as slides and photographs, as she was an avid photographer.

May and Syd settled into Broulee where they were both involved in the school, helping children gain the confidence to create and learn. The Arts Centre is named in May's honour and she taught art until 2016 and still went on Tuesdays to help the children with their reading. May was the School's Patron.

May was a prolific painter and donated or gifted many of her works. She completed her last oil painting, of Broulee beach, this year. May illustrated our branch's anthologies and two children's books. She was working on producing a cookery book, featuring recipes handed down from her mother and grandmother and illustrated with photos of her children and grandchildren cooking.

May will be remembered and missed by all as she had great kindness and an impish personality.

Rosie Toth

Pamela Mary Jeffery

12th February, 1933–15th July, 2017

PAM Jeffery, a founding member of Hunter FAW, spent much of her life at Adamstown NSW. Her final years were as a resident at Bupa Dementia Unit, Waratah. In life she had a wonderful partnership with her husband Philip who joined Hunter FAW to assist Pam, President at the time, in the capacity of Treasurer. After Pam's diagnosis, he lived on a different floor at Bupa so he could be close to her and create the ambience of home, thus easing her move. Sadly, Phil was hospitalized at the time of Pam's funeral and couldn't attend the service, held at St Columba's Catholic Church, Adamstown on Wednesday, 19th July at 10:30am with Father Terry Horne officiating.

When her duties as wife and mother permitted, Pam served as a librarian, which worked well with her love of reading books and writing. She had success in competition, particularly with memorable short stories and was generous in assisting writers of all levels. Her wry sense of humour is legendary. The Denis Butler Writing Awards were dear to her heart and the last time they were held she demonstrated her flair for hosting.



Pamela Jeffery

Pam would have been thrilled to see Kate Walker, Zeny Giles, Carla Edwards and me, representatives from her writing days, at the celebration of her life as she was in her element when the subject of literature arose; she was a perfectionist.

Pam is survived by her husband Phil, her sons Peter, Terry, Andrew and Martin and their families. May she be united in eternal life with her deceased daughter, Katherine.

Jan Dean, former President of Hunter FAW

Noelle White

NOELLE was born in France, and then adopted by a British woman and taken to England when she was just a few months old. As she grew older she took dancing classes, and then, when only sixteen, she joined the troupe at the Theatre Royal. During the war she and the troupe entertained the troops as well as the general public. They travelled to France, Holland and Belgium.

At the end of the war Noelle travelled to Australia on holidays and met her future husband. They planned their marriage and corresponded with each other until she arrived back 'down under' to marry her fiancé in 1948. In later years she wrote a book which she called *Up Over to Down Under*, and consisted of the letters she and fiancé Peter sent to each other. This book was also presented as a radio play on the local radio station.

After Peter's death Noelle moved to Forster NSW, where she joined Red Cross, as well as a sewing circle, then started a quilting group of her own. She also joined U3A (University of the Third Age), writing stories, poetry, and occasionally giving talks on her travels. Some of those travels took place as she grew older, one travelling on a container ship as a passenger. She went to the Spice Islands, Norway, and Russia over the years, and recently published a book called *Hither and Thither, Tales of a constant traveller*. She wrote many stories and poems while a member of FAW Great Lakes Branch, and has been a well loved member and friend of us all.

Christine Hayes



Noelle White

Reprinted here is one of Noelle's poems, beautifully expressing her love and joy in reuniting with her husband...

My own sweet love, do you recall
those walks along the beach,
our future undecided then,
a marriage out of reach.

How would we know, how could we tell
that fate would intervene
and we would be together soon,
despite our fears unseen.

In Java, Qantas filled your days,
in London I survived,
with our daily aerogrammes
to keep our love alive.

Four months, three days,
the cable came,
"I'm heading back down under!"
So much to sort and pack,
no time to sit and wonder.

The day I left, the sun shone bright
by Speedbird New York bound,
across the States, across the seas
half the world around.

And there you were, my own sweet love,
with roses in your hand,
a smile as wide as the Harbour Bridge,
what a welcome to your land.

After many years of strife and care
I shall never forget that day
and that extra special happy time
when I returned to stay...

Book Reviews

Gus at the Lohengrin

Ron Jones

RON Jones is an FAW member from Southern Highlands and has written verse and short stories but never tackled a novel.

Well, now he has! Ron has sat in on meetings and read some of his shorter items but now he has the chandler to read through a chapter of his new novel. A couple of the group decided to write novels and others were invited to join them and so Ron set out on the adventure. After five years three novels had been finished—Ron's being one of them. Ron tells me he found the going hard as the habits of the short story writer remain all too apparent.

Ron's novel is called *Gus at the Lohengrin* and it's about a porter called Gus at the Hotel Lohengrin built in 1863 and situated in Lytham St Annes in the UK.

Gus always had problems with his name during his school years but it made him tougher for life ahead. Until four years earlier the hotel had been owned by Mr Arthur Crowther but on his death it passed to his son Julian a local solicitor, who had little interest in the place.

It was not a very fashionable hotel but it did have an unusual style. Many guests stayed quite a long time but in fact many left in the dead of night or before breakfast.

With a hotel's typical coming and going, Ron has managed to create a large number bed of characters.

It's a really good chance for other writers to see how many characters can be found and what they are like. There is miss Cavendish who always dominates the dining room; Bella the chambermaid shivers, too involved in people's affairs; Mrs Gibson who is always sick; Mrs Bumper, a permanent guest who 'keeps herself to herself' as they say.

There is a hint of fraud, amorous goings on, and many secrets. I love the many different characters in Ron's book, he really brings them to life. You feel you know them as it covers a number of years. There are 39 chapters in the book and each one is like a story which fits together as one book.

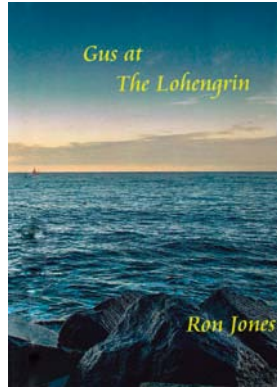
Many readers will find people they can identify with, so enjoy the adventure; it's like staying in a holiday hotel and as I mentioned, such a good look at characters for anyone starting a novel.

Good work Ron as your first attempt. I hope you will continue. For a first time novel of some 350 pages you have created a most interesting book.

I would love to tell readers about many more of the characters but you should discover them for yourself. The finale is very interesting too I might add.

The book is published by Hypercet/Woods Printing, Mittagong NSW and is available by contacting Ron Jones on 02 4883 7071.

Reviewed by Trevar Langlands



New Horizons

Cynthia Hallam

2017 Ginninderra Press

NEW Horizons is Cynthia Hallam's sixth volume of poetry. Her 51 poems continue on the themes she has developed in previous works: plays on words and observations of her world at a distance and very close. Subtle observations of the hidden lives and emotions of both people and animals are Cynthia's greatest strength. She is an observer who notices every nuance; the little things that make people who they are as well as the small victories, frustrations and tragedies we all experience.

In 'Flying under the radar' she is questioning the value of a life that passes unnoticed. She sees the loss of memory in a marriage and the endurance of love. Cynthia comes face to face with wildlife and shares the joy of her relationship with her cat. In the poem 'Tuning in' she gives us tips on the art of eavesdropping. Don't tell anyone but I use all of these strategies; poets do that so beware.

As I read the poems I sometimes find myself on Macquarie Road, Springwood. Cynthia has captured the flavour of our town and some of the people who live there. On the whole I most enjoy her observations of nature and the wild creatures we share our lives and homes with.

[See also 'Bookshelf' back page—Ed].

Reviewed by Kerry Healey-Binns,
Blue Mountains FAW



IConverse

Peter F Pike

Some extracts from reviews of Peter's book of Sonnets...

"The 53 sonnets of height and weight, light and delight coursing this slim and sleek volume, together with the beautiful images blending into them, are sure to charm and elevate the reader with their unalloyed quality, rich variety, and originality in imagination. These sonnets lilt us with their strikingly natural ease and flow; and we will exclaim that a 'golden pennant is unfurled' by them."

U. Atreya Sarma, MA (English Lit)

"... He (Pike) is at home with his sonnets, creative but accessible, careful with line, rhythm, rhyme and the final couplet, as we see in 'Come Fly with Me':

*With immense excitement, we zip and zoom
in venting boyhood's super-sonic boom."*

Patricia Prime, New Zealand, Editor and Reviewer

Roundup

30-year Celebration

IT was with great pleasure that our Branch Committee received an invitation to attend the 30th anniversary celebration recently of our Meeting Hall, the Mac Adams Music Centre in Port Macquarie.

Along with the other 70 users of the Hall each month, we socialised with the Council staff and local Deputy Mayor in appreciation of the excellent facility we are fortunate to have at our disposal every month. Imagine our surprise when the Guest of Honour was welcomed to the microphone to tell a little of the history of the Hall's conception and development, who was FAW Poetry Editor in our bulletin, Shirley Goodbar.

Shirley is from the Upper Central Coast area, but her earlier life was spent in the Port Macquarie community where she worked tirelessly to develop a band and marching members. Historical photos show a red colourful uniform, precision parade of a marching troop.

We offer our hearty congratulations to Shirley for the concept and overseeing the building of the wonderful facility we have today.

Colleen Parker

Below: Port Macquarie Hastings branch committee at the 30-yr celebration of their Meeting Hall, Mac Adams Centre.

New Writers Centre

MACARTHUR writers look like getting their very own Writers Retreat.

Wedderburn Resources Centre will be turned into a hub for emerging writers. Wedderburn at Campbelltown is already the home of many well known artists. The secluded bush centre will offer writers a quiet place to work and write.

The hub is established following a two-year \$60,000 grant from Create NSW to open up three writers' spaces; the other two in Parramatta and the Blue Mountains.

WestWords—an organisation dedicated to encouraging Western Sydney residents to embrace literature—was awarded the funds and has teamed up with Campbelltown Council and Campbelltown Library to get the Wedderburn Centre up and running.

Executive Director of *WestWords* Michael Campbell said the Centre will be used for showcases and hoped writers would get involved in projects particularly relevant to the area, such as the 200th anniversary of Campbelltown in 2020.

More news as it comes to hand.

westwords.com.au

Trevar Langlands

(L-R): Treasurer: Walter Van Hoorn, President: Colleen Parker, Mac Adams Hall originator and FAW Poetry Editor: Shirley Goodbar, Port Macquarie Hastings Deputy Mayor: Elise Inteman, Hon. Secretary: Beth Anderson, Vice President: Joie Black.



Roundup

The Writers are Unleashed

WHAT a fabulously successful event we had this year at our **8th Writers Unleashed Festival**, held in Gymea! The day kicked off smoothly with all the 140 participants being registered. This was a huge increase in our numbers on the day, over all our past festivals.

With much enthusiasm the day started with the children's author, Sandy Fussell, who provided tools to create an authors platform on the web, blog and social media. Sandy explained the best sites to use and showed how small promotional film clips (such as slide show) are a great way to promote your work to a wider audience.

In the Elouera Room, Baz Radburn provided elements to add suspense to your story and provided entertainment with his harmonica. The local authors panel gave three different writers' journeys and provided tips they had gained along the way. These included: Patricia Leslie, Georgia Mathers, and Dave Reardon.

At morning tea the **Picture Book Writing Awards** were presented to many awaiting the results. Sylvia Vago (Awards Co-ordinator) provided some background on those who had entered this year. (Catherine Pelosi, 3rd award in 2013, will be published by Hachette in 2018.) Zoe Walton and Sue Whiting, who judged the final shortlist, presented the awards. First prize went to Rebecca Sheraton, with *Guess Who? Amazing Animal Babies*. She also received a final shortlist placing for one of other entries, *There's a Gorilla in the Oven*. Second and Third placing went to Liz Ledden, with *Atlas and Shine* and *Bella's Bottle*. The remaining shortlisted were: Leonie Hearn with *Bossy Boots*, Graham Davidson, with *The Great Cee-ah-li* and Colleen Maranda with *Obie's Art Place*.

Amanda Hampson provided useful ideas in constructing a historical novel. Felicity Pulman helped us with developing our ideas, looking at what, where, when and why. Geoffrey McSkimming provided his reasons for going indi, with his popular kids series. His older books, now out of print, had their rights revert back to him, but through his efforts he is re-publishing them as ebooks.

Lynn Sutherland chatted with the author Holly Throsby on how she wrote her book *Goodwood*. Sarah Ayoub added to our understanding in building our teen female characters. While Deb Abela inspired us with how to keep kids enthralled with details and history, removing the details that may bore them.

After lunch, the crime writer Gabrielle Lord spoke about maintaining the tension of a novel, as her YA series was written to a seemingly impossible brief. This was a challenge for her, coupled with the need to complete the work within months instead of her usual schedule. Allison Tait gave the audience specific ways to keep glued to that chair and write, not to be diverted by distractions. One of the most popular sessions of the day was with Cathie Tasker the editor. She provided some key points in editing the structure of your manuscript, developing key areas such as characters and giving such useful advice that we as writers may not have considered before.

All consultation spots were booked out again this year, some within the first day that tickets went on sale. The editors, James Read (Pantera Press), Kimberley Atkins (Penguin Random House) who are editors of adult manuscripts, Zoe Walton (Penguin Random House), Clare Hallifax (Scholastic) who are editors of children's manuscripts, all gave advice and direction to those writers they chatted with at their consultations. They provided insightful information on ways to improve aspects of the manuscripts.

In the final session of the day, the editors on the panel each expanded on the audience's questions, on what to avoid and look out for when submitting a manuscript to a publisher. Sue Whiting, to a packed room in the Southern Cross Room, gave her top tips when creating a picture book. She showed ways to stimulate your ideas further, by even

Below: Writers Unleashed Committee. L-R: Julianne Miles-Brown (Director), Jenny Mathers, Sylvia Vago (President FAW Sutherland and Picture Book Writing Competition Co-ordinator), Lynn Sutherland, Donna Wallace (Treasurer FAW Sutherland), Helen Armstrong, Leanne Bowie, Fiona Johnstone, Pat Strong.





Writers Unleashed Editor Panel. L-R: James Read (Pantera Press), Kimberley Atkins (Penguin Random House), Clare Hallifax (Scholastic) and Zoe Walton (Penguin Random House.)



L-R: Writers Unleashed Picture Book Co-ordinator Sylvia Vago, Sue Whiting (Final Judge), Rebecca Sheraton 1st Prize Winner, Zoe Walton (Final Judge—Penguin Random House).



*Amanda Hampson (author of *The French Perfumer*), one of the presenters at the Writers Unleashed Festival.*



*At the Writers Unleashed Festival, Lynn Sutherland (left) in conversation with Holly Throsby (author of *Goodwood*).*

recording the reading of your manuscript until every page and word brings meaning to the book.

The scrumptious food provided by our conference centre Tradies added to the day. Sarah Menary, from Allen & Unwin's Faber Writing Academy, ran a table again this year in the main room. Bloomin Books, from Caringbah, was our bookshop. Book bags, with the authors' books, were also given away. Many writers networked and gained friendships, relating their experiences and drawing on other emerging writers and their ideas, to continue and enhance their writing. The participants provided us with such positive feedback and the benefits they received at the close of the day.

I would like to thank the fabulous Committee and other FAW members, who all assisted to ensure that the day was such a success, Sylvia Vago, Donna Wallace, Lynn Sutherland, Helen Armstrong, Jenny Mathers, Leanne Bowie, Pat Strong and Fiona Johnstone. Our thanks goes to FAW NSW for ongoing support. We look forward to next year's festival with an array of experienced and talented authors. <www.shirewritersfestival.weebly.com>

Julianne Miles-Brown
Writers Unleashed Director



NSW State MP for Port Macquarie, Leslie Williams with Colleen Parker, President of Port Macquarie Hastings FAW branch at the launch of their new anthology *HEARTBEAT OF THE HASTINGS*. 2017.

Literary Achievements

BLUE MOUNTAINS FAW

Cynthia Hallam:

New Horizons, a book of poems published by Ginninderra Press.

EASTWOOD/ HILLS FAW

Carolyn Alfonzetti:

Poem 'City Lights' sold to *The School Magazine*.

Erina Booker:

The publication of her eighth collection of poetry, *A Cobbled Path*, June 2017.

Beverley George:

Haiku published in Serbian and English *Haiku Novine* #31, 2017

Led 2 ginko (walks while writing haiku) for U3A Central Coast February 28th and May 23rd 2017 at Gosford/Edogawa Gardens)

Tanka in *Earth: our common ground*, Skylark Publishing [UK]

Tanka in *Skylark: a tanka journal* vol. 5 issue 1 Summer 2017 [UK]

Tanka in *Eucalypt* issue 22, 2017 edited by Julie Thorndyke

Haiku in *Blithe Spirit* vol. 27 number 2 2017

Introduction and tanka sequence in *International Tanka* no. 1 2017 [Japan]

tanka selected for 'Selections and Reflections' from 2016 Tanka Society of America's anthology *Ripples in the Sand* [US]

3 haiku in Australian Haiku Society's Winter Solstice celebration

2 tanka in *Red Lights* 13 (2) 2017 [US]

2 haiku in 9th Yamadera Basho Memorial Museum English Haiku Contest, July 2017

Haiku published on *Daily Haiku*: Charlotte Digregorio

Haibun on Australian Haiku Society website

Perform poem 'Catching Up' for Pearl Beach Glee Club annual concert 25th and 26th August.

Anne Howard:

Commended for short story, 'Footsteps', Eastwood Hills FAW Monthly Competition, October 2016

Highly Commended for poem, 'Souvenir', Eastwood Hills FAW Monthly Competition, February 2017

Highly Commended for short story, 'Misconceptions', Eastwood Hills FAW, Monthly Competition, April 2017

First Place for research and back-story, for essay 'Froth and Bubble' on Adam Lindsay Gordon, Eastwood Hills FAW Monthly Competition, March 2017, Researching Equal second in Eastwood Hills FAW annual Pauline Walsh Short Story Competition

Presented workshop to Eastwood Hills FAW, 'Structured Verse: Building Various Forms', on 6th May 2017

Three Letters published in *Australian Doctor Weekly Magazine*.

Marilyn Humbert:

Second place in the 2017 H. Gene Murtha Memorial Senryu Contest

Free Verse published in *Award Winning Australian Writing* 2017

Free verse, tanka and haiku published in *Peaceworks—Moving Beyond 1915 Remembrance*

Tanka published in *Ribbons, Frameless Sky, red lights, Eucalypt 22, Kokako 26, Moonbathing, Hedgerow*

Tanka Prose published in *Atlas Poetica, Haibun Today*

Haiku published in *Creatrix Failed Haiku*

Haibun published in *Haibun Today Failed Haiku*

Cherita published in *Atlas Poetica*, 'the cherita: your storybook' journal Vol 1 No 1

Artelle Lenthall:

Short Story, 'Except for the Mouse' accepted for publication in *Creative Kids Tales* Inaugural Short Story Collection

1st Place for 'Shadows' in Eastwood/Hills monthly competition, June 2017

Cecile Yazbek:

Commended for 'Songs' in Eastwood/Hills FAW monthly competition, May 2017.

FOREST FAW

Meg Dunn:

Short story, 'Stone the Crows' published in August edition of *Positive Words Magazine*

'The Final Act', shortlisted in the Pittwater Short Story Award 2017.

Maureene Fries:

'What you see in the Dark', shortlisted in the Pittwater Short Story Award 2017.

Colleen Russell:

'When I Run out of Coffee', shortlisted in the Pittwater Short Story Award 2017

'The Children', shortlisted in *Positive Words* Short Story and Poetry Competition 2017

'Are You a Uke Tragic', selected for publication in an anthology by FAWQLD Literary Award

'What's In a Name', highly commended in the FAWQLD Literary Award.

Catherine Smith:

Two tanka poems selected for publication in *Ribbons* Spring/Summer 2017: Vol 13, Number 2.

Beatrice Yell:

One tanka poem selected for publication in *Ribbons* Spring/Summer 2017: Vol 13, Number 2.

Pam Bayfield:

For The Love of Grace—The Next Generation, was Profile of the Month in the Pittwater Online News Issue 319. The prologue and first chapter were published.

Lindsay Hay:

'Complexity', awarded a Commended Certificate in the 2017 Patron's Prize for Poets at the Peter Cowan Writers Centre, Joondaloo, WA.

Mary Ann Napper:

'The Scarlet Dress', highly commended in the Stringybark Seven Deadly Sins Short Story Award and published in an anthology titled *Gift of a Casserole and Other Deadly Sins*.

'A Special Letter to my Autistic Twin' published in *Autism Parenting Magazine* (USA) Issue 65, August 2017.

HUNTER FAW**Gail Hennessy:**

Pocket book of poems, *Written on Water* published by Flying Island Books, ed Christopher (Kit) Kelen, Macau, 2017

Poem, 'Message to my Mother', published in *Grieve* national writing competition, Hunter Writers Centre, 2017

Poem, 'The Dichotomy of the Paper Flower' won the Philip Bacon Ekphrastic competition in Queensland Poetry Festival 2016 and was published in *Award Winning Australian Writing*, 10th anniversary edition, Melbourne Books, 2017

Poem, 'To the Ancestors' Commended in the Henry Kendall poetry award and will be published by the Central Coast Poets Inc, November, 2017.

Jan Dean:

Poem, 'Fish and Fowl' accepted for publication in *Not Very Quiet*, a new online journal of women's poetry to be released in September

Four poems accepted for publication in the Twentieth Anniversary anthology of Interactive Publications (Queensland)

Judged the 2017 In-house poetry competition for Central Coast Poets Inc.

ISOLATED WRITERS**Grant Cole:**

Read one of his stories as the guest speaker at the Goulburn Men's Probus Club on 11 July.

LAKE MACQUARIE FAW**Glenys Buselli:**

Published in *Hunter Professional Arts Magazine*, issue 2, May–Jun 2017, memoir 'Fair fowl and fish' and co-written article 'Local writers reflect on this year's Newcastle Writers Festival'.

Alison Ferguson:

Published in *Hunter Professional Arts Magazine*, issue 2, May–Jun 2017, articles 'Travel writing' and 'Writing others' lives'

Published in *Hunter Professional Arts Magazine*, issue 3, Jul–Aug 2017, article 'Multi-platform creativity'.

Pam Garfoot:

Published in *Hunter Professional Arts Magazine*, issue 2, May–Jun 2017, short story 'The near miss' and co-written article 'Local writers reflect on this year's Newcastle Writers Festival'

Published in *Hunter Professional Arts Magazine*, issue 3, Jul–Aug 2017, short story 'The invasion' and article 'Ryan O'Neill's brilliant career'

Published on the Queensland Family History Society's webpage called *31 Links in a Chain*, memoir 'Our affinity with horses' (www.qfhs.org.au/events/open-day/31-links-in-a-chain/our-affinity-with-horses/).

Elizabeth Horwitz:

Published in *Hunter Professional Arts Magazine*, issue 2, May–Jun 2017, editorial

Published in *Hunter Professional Arts Magazine*, issue 3, Jul–Aug 2017, editorial 'Brimfull'.

Elizabeth Hunt:

Published in *Hunter Professional Arts Magazine*, issue 2, May–Jun 2017, co-written article 'Local writers reflect on this year's Newcastle Writers Festival'.

Tony Lang:

Published in *Hunter Professional Arts Magazine*, issue 2, May–Jun 2017, story 'The hysteria meter' and a poem 'The dieter's parody'

Published in *The Presbyterian Review*, winter edition, article 'W.E. Henley and the 2016 Edinburgh Tattoo' and a poem 'Reflections on the Death of a Fly'

Published in *Hunter Professional Arts Magazine*, issue 3, Jul–Aug 2017, article 'What happened to poetry' and a poem 'Dream sheep'.

Kristen Mair:

Published in *Hunter Professional Arts Magazine*, issue 2, May–Jun 2017, co-written article 'Local writers reflect on this year's Newcastle Writers Festival' and a short story 'The slow process of decay'.

Cate Plink:

Published in *Hunter Professional Arts Magazine*, issue 2, May–Jun 2017, co-written article 'Local writers reflect on this year's Newcastle Writers Festival'.

Chloe Plink:

Published in *Hunter Professional Arts Magazine*, issue 2, May–Jun 2017, co-written article 'Local writers reflect on this year's Newcastle Writers Festival'.

Linda Visman:

Published in *Hunter Professional Arts Magazine*, issue 3, Jul–Aug 2017, memoir 'Smelling a memory'.

LIVERPOOL FAW**Peter F Pike:**

Book of Sonnets *ICONVERSE* published

Sonnet, Limerick and poem in *FreeXpresSion* July 2017

cont. next page...

Literary Achievements

Liverpool

cont. from previous page

Two poems in *Metverse*

Poem published in *Tamba*

A selection of poetry published by Goulburn Valley Writers

Poem published in Poets Voice section of *Writers Voice*, Winter Edition Jun 2017.

Vindu Maharaj:

Novel *Cultural Prison—A daughter's worth* published Feb 2017.

Toula Pappadam:

Children's Picture Book *Lex* published in November 2016. This is Toula's second publication; the first being "*Oh My!*" *Said the Fly* in 2013. Both published under her own registered publishing name of ToJoBooks.

Eric Esber:

Two poems 'Fantasy' and 'Mysteries' in *FreeXpresSion* July 2017.

Rhonda W Rice:

Poem 'The Boy On The Stool', 2nd Place in *Positive Words* Literary Competition 2017

Poem 'Topsy Woman Dancing on a Cruise' Highly Commended in Scribes Writers Poetic Licence Comp 2017

Poems published in *Positive Words* and *FreeXpresSion*

Collection of short poems selected by WA Poets for inclusion in The Big Screen and Poetry on the Pavements at the Perth Poetry Festival 2017.

MACARTHUR FAW

Barry Flanagan:

Short story collection, *The Boys from Brokenback*, released as an e-book, a sequel to his coal-mining novel, *Brokenback*.

Victoria Chie:

Short story, 'Making Adjustments', sold to *Yours Magazine*
Winner of both the March and June in-house writing competitions, Liverpool FAW.

MOOCOOBOOLA FAW

Mary Bramston:

Short Story, 'The Waiting Game' In *The Write Angle* #57, Nov/Dec 2016:

Short Story, 'A Question of Courage' in *The Write Angle* #58, Feb 2017;

Short Story, 'Big Red Roses' in *The Write Angle* #59, June 2017;

Short Story, 'I'm Sorry About That' in *Positive Words*, July 2017.

Robert Dickins:

Poem, 'Vale' in *Positive Words*, July 2017.

Pam Taylor:

Short Story, 'Marmalade' in *Positive Words*, Jan 2017.

Paul Vallis:

Short Story, 'It Came from the Sea' in *Positive Words*, Jan 2017.

Wendell Watt:

Prose Poem, 'This is all it is' in *The Write Angle* #57, Nov/Dec 2016;

Poem, 'Beginnings' in *The Write Angle* #57, Nov/Dec 2016;
Short Story, 'Milady Comes to Visit' in *Positive Words*, July 2017.

John Egan:

Poetry Collection, *Crossing The Heads* published by Ginninderra Press, Port Adelaide;

Chapbooks, *Putting To Sea* and *A Safe Harbour* published by Ginninderra Press, Port Adelaide;

Poems, 'Special' in *Positive Words*, Feb 2017; 'Snake', 'There' and 'Stars', April 2017; 'An Old Photo' and 'Half the Winning...'; May, 2017; 'No Ordinary Lunch' and 'Laneways and Darkness', July 2017;

Poems, 'The Seasons' and 'Angels and the Moon' in *The Write Angle* #58, Feb 2017; and 'Wrecking Ball', June/July, 2017;

Poems, 'Landing in Wollongong' in *The Mozzie*, Jan/Feb 2017; 'Sodden' and 'Never called you Violet', March 2017; 'Effects', 'Three in the Morning', 'You're all Natural Clowns', April 2017; and 'Leaves in the City', June 2017;

Poems, 'And Night Rolls In' in *Valley Micropress*, New Zealand, Jan 2017;

'Like a Patient' and 'Parallels Never Meet', April 2017;

Poem, 'Trash or Treasure' in Fernando and Silver, *Hope Whispers*, Poetica Christi Press, Melbourne;

Poem, 'Already' in *Poetry Matters* #29, March 2017 and The Editor's Award for this poem;

Tanka, 'My intuition...' and 'Seven Arches: Seven Piers...' in *Kokako* #26, New Zealand;

Poem, 'JMW Turner: The Fighting Temeraire' in *Polestar* #32 and a review of the collection '*The Long Way Home*', by Robin Hilliard, Ginninderra, 2015.

Poem, 'Performance' in POAM, April 2017.

More from Moocooboola FAW... the following achievements were sent to us in November 2016, but were inadvertently missed for the December 2016 issue. To compound the error, they were again overlooked for March 2017 and June 2017 issues. Apologies to Moocooboola branch members for this omission. So, here they are... "better late than never!"—Ed.

Mary Bramston:

Short Story, 'Where the Spirit Lies' in *FreeXpresSion*, Oct 2016;

Short Story, 'Waiting' in *Positive Words*, Nov 2016.

Wendell Watt:

Poem, 'Time for Angels' in *Positive Words*, Oct 2016.

John Egan:

Poem, 'Common Sense, Really' in *Poetry Matters #27*, July 2016;

Poems, 'Taps', 'Lovesong' and 'Hindsight' in *Positive Words*, August 2016, and 'Perspectives', Oct 2016;

Poem, 'Rain at Midnight' in *The Wright Angle #56*, Aug/Oct 2016;

Poem, 'The Graveyard Watch' in *Beyond The Rainbow #87*, Sept/Oct 2016;

Poems, 'I Dream of White Clouds...' in *The Mozzie Collaborative Poem, The Mozzie*, Aug 2016, and 'Something', Sept 2016;

Poems, 'The Next Morning' in *Valley Micropress*, New Zealand, Aug 2016, and 'Floating', 'Night Rain at Luster Gap', 'At Dragon—Inception Monastery' and 'Our House', Sept 2016;

Chapbooks, *Sydney Central* and *Play It Louder* published in the 'Pocket Poets' Series by Ginninderra Press, Port Adelaide.

MUDGEY VALLEY FAW**Kevin Pye:**

'Where Angels Dare' published in *Seniors Magazine*

'Dear Henry' published in *Active Seniors Magazine* (Probus)

Highly Commended, 'I Regret to Advise', Gulgong Henry Lawson Festival

2nd Place Bundooma Anzac Competition, 'What Is A Photo Worth?'

Commended, Scribes Competition, 'Read it... and wonder'.

Pamela Meredith:

'The Gift' read at Mudgee Readers Festival Story Club event.

Jill Baggett:

'The Little Yellow Car' read at Mudgee Readers Festival Story Club event.

NORTH ARM COVE FAW**Bob Bush:**

Performed his poetry during July at Forster Laurel Club, Anglican Women Diocese of Newcastle, Forster Lions Club and Teralba Ladies Probus.

Tim Grant:

Three poems 'Tranquility Threatened', 'Looming Storm', 'Then She Walked in', published in *Myall Coast Messenger*

'Land So Dear' in *Headstart's Newslink* June magazine.

Maureen Kelly:

Editorial in *Myall Coast Messenger*, 'North Arm Cove Fellowship of Australian Writers branch history and members' achievements'.

Joan Williams:

Performed her poem 'From my window' at Pancreatic Cancer fundraiser North Arm Cove Community Centre.

SHOALHAVEN FAW**Irene Wilkie:**

Book of poems, *Extravagance* now available as an e-book or as paperback or on demand from Ginninderra Press and eight other outlets such as 'The Book Depository' etc.

Poem, 'The Eye Beholding' Highly Commended on the WB Yeats Poetry Prize Australia 2016 website

Poem, 'Hey Mister' accepted for the inaugural edition of the online ACT poetry site *Not Very Quiet*.

Jennifer Dickerson:

Novel, *The Claimants Daughter* to be launched at Nowra library on 7 September.

Available from <jdickerson@shoal.net.au> and at Dickerson Gallery, 34 Queen St Woollahra NSW.

SUTHERLAND FAW**Antoinette Conolly:**

The Fifth Planet self-published [see *Bookshelf* back page].

Sal Gallaher:

Published a short story in *Short Fiction Break*.

Fiona Johnstone:

Short story published in anthology for Oatley Writers.

Julianne Miles-Brown:

Gave a very successful talk on writing historical fiction at Sutherland Library

HNS Australia have Julianne on their blog spot.

Interviewed on *Buzzwords* about the Writers Unleashed Festival.

Pat Ruell:

Short Story published in anthology for Oatley Writers.

Elaine Staples:

Short story published in Lane Cove Literary Competition anthology.

Lynn Sutherland:

Press Releases for FAW Sutherland and Lionesses

Press Releases for Writers Unleashed Festival, published in *The Leader* of June 6 2017.

Sylvia Vago:

Short story published in anthology for Oatley Writers.



Out and About with Trevar



Trevar with Kerrie Erwin (above left) and Florence King (above right).

Radio Guest Authors

I recently had two guest authors on my radio show... authors with a difference.

Kerrie Erwin is author of several books and is a leading spiritual medium and healer. A star of TV, Stage (as an actress) and Radio.

Kerrie's latest book is *Sacred Signs—Messages of Love From Spirit*. Others are *Magical Tales of the Forest* and *Memoirs of a Suburban Medium* amongst others.

Kerrie's web site is <<http://pureview.com.au>>.

Florence King is the author of two books on her life which had many ups and downs including domestic violence. Florence is also a psychic healer and medium and often teams up with Kerrie on audience shows.

Florence's web site is <www.florencemedium.com>. Phone 0408 774 228.

On both occasions we had a really fascinating discussion on life and death.

To quote Kerrie...

"What Happens when you Die?"

I can only speak from my own spiritual experience, as I am still here on Earth. I was always told you go to live in heaven. This is just another dimension right next to us. When Cousin Jan died, she was only 50, and she had a terrible cancer that killed her within a short time. We were all extremely shocked and saddened, as she still had young children.

It just wasn't fair. Jan who was a sweetheart, never once said a nasty word about anyone. How unfair that she should end up like this... dead and lonely, lying in that big awful coffin. When I attended Jan's funeral I was shocked to see her standing next to her coffin. I wasn't expecting this at all, and I had to rub my eyes and pinch myself a hundred times. She looked beautiful, and younger. She had a shining light all

around her. Telepathically, she told me she was not alone, and was together with her younger sister Pamela, who had died as a baby; her father, and there were others who I did not know. She seemed so peaceful and strong."

Kerrie was attracted to the spirit world as a very young girl. At an early age she could see and communicate with people no one else could see.

Their books are available via their web sites.

Trevar Langlands

Sincere Condolences

As State President for the NSW FAW I would like to express sincere condolences and support on behalf of my State Committee and all FAW Members to **Southern Highlands FAW** on the terrible loss of two valuable members, Gabrielle Stewart and Berlio O'Brien who were killed in a fatal car accident in July [see Branch Report p9].

I had met them previously at a meeting and their Treasurer Kathryn Litchfield had been with them at her home just 2 days before enjoying fellowship of members.

Berlio had plans to visit Holland for a wedding. Gabrielle and Kathryn had been working together on the Branch Anthology to be launched in October.

The loss of two wonderful members with such literary and artistic skill is very difficult for all as well as the loss of such enthusiastic and talented people.

Vale Gabrielle and Berlio—we will all miss you.

My good wishes also to Barbara Angell who has had to resign as Secretary owing to illness issues—hope you can overcome the problems Barb.

Trevar

Writing Competitions

Closing date: 28 September 2017

THE 2018 SUNDAY TIMES (UK) EFG SHORT STORY AWARD

The most valuable prize in the world for a single short story. The prize, worth £30,000 to the winner, is an international award, founded in 2010, that is open to any story of up to 6,000 words written in English. Stories need to have been either previously unpublished or only published after 31 December 2016. Five other authors shortlisted for the award will each receive £1,000. The prize is administered by the Society of Authors (UK).

To be eligible, the author must have a record of prior publication in creative writing in the United Kingdom or Ireland. A longlist of up to twenty entries will be published in February 2018 and the winner will be announced in April. *Full terms and conditions* for the prize can be found at the following website address and writers can access the entry form via the Short Story Award website at: <<http://shortstoryaward.co.uk>>.

The deadline for entries is 6pm (GMT) on Thursday, 28 September 2017.

For any queries, you can write to the address below, or send an email to <stefgqueries@societyofauthors.org>

POSTAL ADDRESS:

The Sunday Times EFG Short Story Award 2018,
The Society of Authors,
84 Drayton Gardens,
London, SW10 9SB
United Kingdom

Closing date: 13 October 2017

LAMBING FLAT FAW 2017 WRITING COMPETITIONS

Following on the very successful series of creative writing workshops held recently in Young, the Lambing Flat Branch announce their 35th annual writing competitions.

Adult category*:

- Short stories up to 1500 words
- Poetry up to 50 lines.

\$5 entry and \$200 first prize in each section.

The adult competition is open to all comers and has no set theme so anyone, be they writers of fiction, family history, romance or articles should enter. We are interested in all styles so with a limit of 1500 words this competition is an ideal venue to write those stories. There is no set theme so let your fancy and pen fly.

And don't forget the poetry; traditional rhyming or free verse is most welcome up to a limit of 50 lines.

This year's competition is sponsored by the South West Slopes Credit Union and we are very grateful for their support.

*Also School student competition for Primary and Secondary Students, free entry, details on entry form.

Entry forms, for both adult and student, with all details, available by sending an email to <lambingflatbranchfaw@hotmail.com> or call Ted 0459 707 728 or Joan 02 6382 2614.

Closing date 30 September 2017:

SCRIBES WRITERS 'SHORT TAKES' OPEN LITERARY COMPETITION 2017

Category A: Fictional Short Story. (For the purpose of this competition, a fictional short story does not include Fan Fiction.)

Category B: Memoir (For the purpose of this competition, a memoir is defined as an incident or series of related incidents from the writer's own life—not an autobiography or obituary.)

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

Prizes (each category): 1st \$200; 2nd \$100. Highly Commended and Commended Certificates at judges' discretion.

Entry Fee: \$7.00 per entry, per category.

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>.

NORMAL COMPETITION CONDITIONS

Unless stated otherwise, these conditions apply to ALL WRITING COMPETITIONS (except 'Writers World')

- 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.

Branch Meetings and Contacts

BANKSTOWN WRITERS

1st Saturday – 1.00 to 4.00 pm
Banksia Room,
Revesby Workers Club
Enquiries: CarneyVaughan42685383

BLUE MOUNTAINS WRITERS FAW

1st Sunday – 1.45 to 4.45 pm
Springwood Court Function Room,
133 Macquarie Rd, Springwood.
Enquiries: Kerry Healey-Binns (Pres.)
02 4782 5294. *Email:*
<healbinn@bigpond.com>
Facebook page:
Blue Mountains Writers FAW

EASTWOOD/HILLS FAW

1st Saturday – 1.30 pm
Pennant Hills Community Centre, Cnr
Yarrara & Ramsay Rds, Pennant Hills
Enquiries: Elizabeth Collins
(Pres.) 9873 2941
Email: <elizabeth.ac3@gmail.com>
or Sally Lewry (Sec.) 0448 878 856
Email: <dslewry@bigpond.com>
Web: <hillsfaw.wordpress.com>

EUROBODALLA FAW

**1st & 3rd Wednesdays–
10.30am to 2.30pm and
1st Tuesday 6.30–8.30 pm**
McKay Centre, Page St, Moruya.
Enquiries: Rosie Toth 0437 627 756
Email: <rosietoth102@gmail.com>
Web: <www.eurobodallawriters.org>

FOREST FAW

3rd Saturday – 2.00 pm
Forest Community Arts Centre
Darley Street, Forestville.
Enquiries:
Pam Bayfield (02 9913 1147
Email: <pambayfield@gmail.com>

GREAT LAKES FAW

2nd Friday – 1.00 to 4.00 pm
Great Lakes Library
(for September and October 2017
during Club Forster renovations)
4-12 Breese Pde, Forster, NSW
Enquiries:
Christine Hayes 6555 9904
or post, Mrs Hermione Browning,
15 Eden Place, Tuncurry 2428

GRIFFITH RIVERINA FAW

Last Thursday – 6.30pm
Multicultural building
Bana Ave, Griffith
(Between courthouse and park).
Enquiries: Marilyn Sayer 0488 444 951
Email: <mazysayer@icloud.com>

HUNTER FAW

1st Wednesday – 10.15am
Dining Room of Sydney Junction
Hotel, Beaumont St., Hamilton
Enquiries: Luciana Croci (Pres.)
0439 601 351 or Christine
Brotherson (Sec.) 4969 7794

ISOLATED WRITERS FAW

*This group of writers do not meet in
person but keep in contact through
Carolyn Cash, their Convenor, either
through the state FAW website
<fawns.org.au> or email
<isolatedwriters@fawns.org.au>
See inside back page for full details
and guidelines.*

LAKE MACQUARIE FAW

2nd Saturday – 2.00 to 4.00pm
Toronto Community Centenary Hub,
97 The Boulevard, Toronto.
Enquiries:
<lakemacaw2@gmail.com>
Facebook:
<www.facebook.com/LakeMacFAW>
Website:
<lakemacaw2.wordpress.com/>
Twitter: @lakemacaw2
Instagram: #lakemacaw2

LAMBING FLAT (YOUNG)

2nd Monday – 5.30 pm
Catherine McAuley Hall, Young.
(Retirement Village, off
Demondrille Street.)
Enquiries: Ted Webber (Pres)
0459 707 728 or *Email:*
<juneted@yahoo.com>
Branch email:
<lambingflatbranchfaw@hotmail.com>

LIVERPOOL FAW

2nd Saturday – 1.00 to 4.00pm
Dr Pirie Community Centre
Cnr Bigge & Moore Sts, Liverpool.
Enquiries: Rick Vincenti (Pres.)
0404 496 776. *Email:*
<president@faw-liverpool.org.au>
or Rhonda Rice (Publicity)
<secretary@faw-liverpool.org.au>
Web: <www.faw-liverpool.org.au>

MACARTHUR FAW

3rd Sunday – 1.00 pm
Campbelltown RSL Club
(Jade Room), Carberry Lane.
Enquiries: Margot Shugg
Email: <margotshugg@aapt.net.au>

MOOCOOROOOLA FAW

3rd Thursday – 1.30 pm
Gladesville Library
Pittwater Road, Gladesville.
Enquiries: Brian Rutter 9817 5508 or
John Egan 9799 3077 / 4464 1719
Email: <jeganjr@hotmail.com>

MUDGEY VALLEY FAW

2nd Tuesday – 12 Noon
Club Mudgee, Mortimer Street.
Enquiries: Jill Baggett 6372 0743
PO BOX 356, Mudgee 2850
Web: <mudgeevalleywriters.wordpress.com>

NORTH ARM COVE FAW

3rd Thursday – 6.30 pm
Community Centre, The Ridgeway,
North Arm Cove.
Enquiries: Maureen Kelly 4997 3237
22 Promontory Way,
North Arm Cove NSW 2324
<thecovenews@exemail.com.au>

PARRAMATTA FAW

1st Saturday – 12.30 pm
Room A Level 2, 1 Fitzwilliam Street
(RAFFLES building next door to the
library and across the road from
Parramatta Station).
To gain access to the 2nd floor ring the
Secretary, Lyn Leerson 0421 188 770.

PORT MACQUARIE- HASTINGS FAW

Last Saturday – 1.00 to 4.00 pm
The Mac Adams Music Centre
33 Lord Street, Port Macquarie
[behind the Players Theatre]
Enquiries: Colleen Parker (Pres.)
6583 3997, PO Box 67 Port
Macquarie NSW 2444
<parkerpattinson2@bigpond.com>

PORT STEPHENS FAW

3rd Thursday – 10.00 am
Tomaree Library, Salamander Bay
Enquiries:
Christine Gregory (Pres.) 4982 2004
Email: <gregorywrite@bigpond.com>
Web: <portstephensfaw.snappages.com>

SHOALHAVEN FAW

2nd Saturday – 10.00 am
Meeting Room, Arts Centre
Berry St, Nowra (next to Library).
Enquiries: Jennifer Dickerson (Pres.)
Mobile: 0412 530 434
Email: <jdickerson@shoal.net.au> or
<info@fawnswoalhaven.org.au>
Web: <fawnswoalhaven.org.au>

SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS

2nd Saturday – 10am to noon
The Henrietta Rose Room,
Bowral Library.
Enquiries: Barb Angell (Sec.)
Phone and SMS: 0417 192 055
Email: <fawshinfo@gmail.com>
Web: <fawsh.wordpress.com>

STROUD WRITERS

**Fortnightly Thursdays
9.00 am to noon**
Stroud Library, Church Lane.
Enquiries:
Dianne Foster 4994 5727
c/- Stroud Library – GLLS
12 Church Lane, STROUD NSW 2425
Email: <stroudwriters@gmail.com>

SUTHERLAND SHIRE FAW

Last Saturday – 12.30–3.30pm
Sutherland Library, meeting room 1
30–36 Belmont St, Sutherland
Enquiries:
Sylvia Vago (Pres) 9501 2348 or
0402 016 883
PO Box 602, Sutherland 1499
Email: <sutherlandshirefaw@gmail.com>
Web: <sutherlandshirefaw.weebly.com>

SYDNEY CITY FAW

3rd Friday – 4.00 pm
Sydney Mechanics School of Arts,
1st Floor, 280 Pitt Street.
Enquiries: John Clarke 8920 8690

WOLLONDILLY FAW

2nd Sunday – 1.00 pm
Tahmoor Community Centre,
6 Harper Close, Tahmoor.
Enquiries: Sandra Reynolds (Sec.)
4684 2142 or 0409 066 770
Email: <wollondillybranch.faw@gmail.com>

WYONG WRITERS

4th Saturday – 1.30pm
Woodbury Park Community Centre,
1 Woolmers Cres (off Woodbury
Park Drive), Mardi NSW
Enquiries:
Mei-Ling Venning (Pres.) 4333 7489
85 Oaks Road, Shelly Beach 2261
Email: <meilingvenning@hotmail.com>
Web: <www.wyongwriters.org>

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.fawnsw.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 (*see opposite page*) 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,
53 Summerhill Road, Reservoir VIC. 3073.
Phone: 03 9478 1942
Email: <president@writers.asn.au>
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 Queensland (FAWQ)
Email: <fawqwrite@gmail.com>
Web: <www.fawq.com.au>

FAW ISOLATED WRITERS BRANCH

MEMBERSHIP ENQUIRIES:

Carolyn Cash, Isolated Writers Convenor
Fellowship of Australian Writers NSW
PO Box 429, Caringbah NSW 1495
Email: <isolatedwriters@fawnsw.org.au>

MEMBERS' ACHIEVEMENTS:

The Editor, Writers Voice
65 Barbara Boulevard, Seven Hills NSW 2147
Email: <wveditor@fawnsw.org.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*). Make cheques/money orders payable to **Fellowship of Australian Writers** and enclose SSAE for receipt if required.

ELECTRONIC ROUND ROBIN (ERR):

This consists of manuscripts submitted by members, sent as email attachments 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.

Apart from your comments, your contribution to the scheme is no more than the time 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.

ERR Closing Dates

The ERR closes at the end of each month.

ERR Submissions

Send your submissions to the ERR coordinator,
Brian Armour. *Email:* <isolatedwriters.err@gmail.com>

FAW Members' Bookshelf

ANTOINETTE CONOLLY

The Fifth Planet

A science fiction novel for Primary School readers. Abigail Mitchell, Matthew Gordon and Madison Ramsey are three 11 year old friends who go to the Royal National Park for a bushwalk and picnic. After a violent electrical storm, only Maddie returns home. Abby and Matthew find an alien space shuttle and inadvertently become stowaways. The shuttle is driven back to the mother ship which returns to the home planet of Zorgon.

Their journey takes them to many different and sometimes dangerous worlds. Will the two children have any possibility of returning home to Earth or must they remain with the Zorgi people forever?

The novel has 157 pages and appeals equally to girls and boys, requiring only that the reader has an active imagination. Available from the author for \$25 including postage and packaging.

Contact <a.conolly@optusnet.com.au> or phone 02 9545 4553.

CYNTHIA HALLAM

New Horizons

New Horizons is Cynthia Hallam's sixth volume of poetry. Her 51 poems continue on the themes she has developed in previous works: plays on words and observations of her world at a distance and very close. Cynthia is an observer who notices every nuance; the little things that make people who they are as well as the small victories, frustrations and tragedies we all experience. [See also *Book Review p16—Ed*].

Published 2017 by Ginninderra Press. Available from The Turning Page Bookshop, 1/125 Macquarie Road, Springwood. Phone 02 4751 5171, or contact The Blue Mountains FAW on its Facebook page of the same name, where Cynthia Hallam is a member.

PETER F PIKE

IConverse

A book of 53 sonnets. Each sonnet has an accompanying apt colourful illustration and an appropriate black and white icon. [See also *Book Reviews p16—Ed*].

Available from the author <peter@freexpression.com.au> for \$12.95 plus postage, but for FAW Members the postal charges will be waived.

TANIA PENNELL

One Fine Day

If you enjoy a cracking Australian yarn, fun with friends and crazy family drama, join Mia and her mates in an adventure with a very dodgy side. Set in the heartland of New South Wales, *One Fine Day* is an easy enjoyable read, the first book in the Mia Mystery series.

Cost \$16 plus \$6 P&H. To purchase a copy email <info@bushnbeach.com.au> or ring 02 6379 4116.

KATHRYN BERRYMAN

Erinland

A fantasy novel. Two troubled young adults find themselves key players in a deadly game that spans the 21st century and the Viking Age.

Amy, finding it difficult to 'fit in', becomes increasingly obsessed with the virtual reality game Erinland. The VR characters and the mist of Erin begin to invade Amy's dreams and her waking moments. She finds herself drawn into Erinland in 9th century Ireland. Amy becomes part of this mystical world as she joins in the struggle to defeat the Viking raiders. Richard has a complicated home life and feels he doesn't belong anywhere. A series of events finds him desperate and living on the streets, where he finds himself dragged into 9th century Norway by Viking warrior Richard finds acceptance with the Vikings and joins them on a colonisation raid to Ireland.

10% of every copy sold will be donated to support Father Chris Riley's 'Youth Off the Streets.'

ISBN 9781925530001. \$25.00 with free postage (within Australia). Also available as a Kindle eBook and from Amazon Print-On-Demand. <www.kathrynberryman.com>

GREGORY TOME

Watching from the Shadows

This poetry book by Southern Highlands FAW member Greg Tomes has been published by Ginninderra Press. It can be ordered by logging onto the Ginninderra Press website. RRP \$20 plus \$7 for packaging and postage. Print and e-book editions are also available through Amazon Book Depository and other online booksellers.

RECENTLY PUBLISHED BOOKS FOR SALE

Please send updates and details for inclusion – or deletion – in this section of *Writers Voice* to: <wveditor@fawns.org.au> or mail to:

The Editor, *Writers Voice*, 65 Barbara Boulevard, Seven Hills NSW 2147

For the FAW NSW *website*, members should also send a cover image and blurb to the *webmaster*: <webmaster@faw.nsw.org.au>

The FAW Bookshelf web page address is: <http://fawns.org.au/bookshelf/>

PORT MACQUARIE HASTINGS FAW

Heartbeat of the Hastings

This anthology is a collection of tales of some of our community's selfless volunteers who are the heartbeat of our Port Macquarie community and of some who are the arteries to the rest of the world. It is a suitable gift for birthdays and Christmas as it tells the stories of the causes and communities in which the volunteers participate.

The local CWA, Riding for the Disabled and Sailability (Sailing for the Disabled) perform many miracles in their day-to-day operations. A women's health clinic in Nepal, Mercy Ships off the west coast of Africa and construction work on a small island off Vanuatu are some of the offshore volunteering that is performed by our wonderful Aussies.

This B5, full colour book is available for purchase at \$20 + postage if required. Contact Colleen Parker at <parkerpattinson2@bigpond.com>.

VINDU MAHARAJ

Cultural Prison

Vindu's debut novel *Cultural Prison*, subtitle 'A daughter's worth' is on sale for \$29 retail, but for FAW members, \$25 plus postage either through Liverpool branch or directly from her. Vindu's email address: <vkumaraj@hotmail.com> The book has been launched in Fiji and Australia, and is a 'book of courage' for women victims.

PAMELA KING

Angel with Drumsticks

This is the story as it was told to the author by Angelo Ferrari, drummer, singer and founder of the Italian Beat rock group *Angel and the Brains*. After recounting how the band was formed and its music ambitions, it continues to tell the true story about the aftermath of La Messa Dei Giovani (La Messa).

La Messa was conceived to fulfil the desires of the Vatican II to make the Catholic Church more appealing to young people but, because of resulting bitter and vicious arguments within the church and the media, the Vatican took a course of action that was inconsiderate, hurtful and cold hearted.

The story describes how these young musicians, who had responded to an invitation from the church to perform the first rock mass in Rome had their fledgling careers destroyed by the Vatican. Recent articles falsely acclaimed the event as being a successful innovation of the Catholic Church at the time.

Purchase information is available from the website <www.pam.id.au>.

SUTHERLAND SHIRE FAW

Dreams of Home

Dreams of Home is a home-grown collection by talented writers at the Sutherland Shire branch of the Fellowship of Australian Writers. The collection is in partnership with 'SPARK' High School's Writing Competition, featuring the junior and senior winning entries. The book is available for purchase at \$15—please contact <sutherlandshirefaw@gmail.com> for further details.

FAW NSW

Unlock the Writer Within

Unlock the Writer Within is a resource guide book developed by the Fellowship of Australian Writers NSW Inc, members, who share their successful writing techniques. Covers over 100 genres. Short story, crime and romance as well as poetry, articles, memoir and family history. Ebook help and guidance, editing, punctuation and grammar explanations and exercises through to the publishing minefield which includes literary agents, query letter sample, copyright, ISBN and CIP and barcode requirements. It helps the writer deal with rejection and turn that negative into a positive. Over 400 pages, just \$20 plus postage \$12. Order from the FAW Hon. Sec. Maureen Kelly, 22 Promontory Way, North Arm Cove 2324 <honsecretary@fawns.org.au>.



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.