

# Writers Voice



Winter Edition #244 JUN 2014

QUARTERLY BULLETIN OF THE FELLOWSHIP OF AUSTRALIAN WRITERS NSW INC.

## Annual General Meeting Report

**A** NEW face joins the 2014/2015 State Council Committee.

There was only one new nomination received to join the State Council committee for 2014/2015 at the Fellowship of Australian Writers' annual general meeting held May 3, 2014 at City of Sydney RSL, George Street, Sydney.



Stefania McDonald

The new general committee member is Stefania McDonald.

Last year's committee members—president Trevar Langlands, vice president Helen

Luidens, 2nd vice president/webmaster and Social Media Coordinator Barbara Simmons, Treasurer Kay Bakon, Hon Secretary Maureen Kelly, Outreach Convenor Colleen Parker and Competition secretary/publicity officer Cate

Plink—all retained their positions, being returned unopposed.

Whilst the committee are thrilled to welcome Stefania to their ranks for the coming year, it is sad to note that with a membership of over 600, only one person was interested in nominating to serve on the new committee.

The committee was hopeful that by reducing the number of State Council meetings from four to two per year, (one of which would be convened in a regional area), this may have been an incentive for more members to put up their hands and nominate!

This, sadly, was not the case and, as has been pointed out previously, the present committee, like a good bottle of wine, are 'maturing fast'; and travelling to meetings from Shoalhaven, Port Macquarie, North Arm Cove (Port Stephens), Campbelltown and the Central Coast is a 'big ask' but with no fresh faces in the wings, it was their strong commitment to the FAW that compelled them to serve another year.

Apart from the committee representing Central Coast, Macarthur, Port Macquarie, North Arm Cove (Port Stephens), and Shoalhaven branches, other attendees at the annual general meeting were Isolated Writers' convenor Carolyn Cash, Pauline Twemlow (Macarthur), Johan Luidens (Central Coast), Mei-Ling Venning and Yvonne Sorenson (Wyong), Helen Armstrong (Sutherland), Jenny Crozier (Southern Highlands), and Stefania McDonald (Isolated Writers, now a committee

member); with apologies received from Pip Griffin (Sydney City) and Pat Strong (Sutherland). Only nine branches represented from a total of twenty-nine!

The newly-elected committee urge all members to consider nominating for a committee position from next year onwards, being mindful that the Fellowship of Australian Writers NSW Inc will celebrate its centenary in 2028! Lack of interest could spell the demise of this valuable organisation which, at its beginning, included such notable writers as Miles Franklin, Steele Rudd, and Dorothea MacKellar.

**Let's keep the FAW going in our state  
To celebrate 100 years in 2028!**

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BOOK  
EXPO  
AUSTRALIA



30-31 August 2014

Exhibition Hall 5  
Sydney Showground  
Olympic Park

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# Fellowship of Australian Writers NSW Inc.



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\*\*\* NOTE QUARTERLY COPY DEADLINES \*\*\*

15 AUGUST, 15 NOVEMBER, 15 FEBRUARY, 15 MAY

## FAW NSW Inc. State Council: Biannual Delegates Meetings

Next meeting: Saturday 1st November 2014, 10:00am in Port Macquarie NSW

[Details page 4].

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

## General Membership and Subscriptions

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

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

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

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

## Writing Fellows

FAW Writing Fellows are listed here: <[www.fawnsww.org.au/Writing\\_Fellows.pdf](http://www.fawnsww.org.au/Writing_Fellows.pdf)>.

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

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

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

## Distinguished Service Award

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

Guidelines for assessing recommendations for Distinguished Service Awards:

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

## ISBN

Members requiring their FREE ISBN (one number per publication) should, in the first instance, contact the FAW Secretary Maureen Kelly <[honsecretary@fawnsww.org.au](mailto:honsecretary@fawnsww.org.au)>.

Your request will then be passed to Alan Russell (phone 02 9680 3374)

<[Alan\\_Russell@internode.on.net](mailto:Alan_Russell@internode.on.net)> for action.

## Public Fund

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

## FAW Manuscript Assessment Service

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

# State Council News

## Fellowship of Australian Writers NSW Inc.

Financial Summary Year Ended 31 March 2014

	2014			2013		
	WORKING ACCOUNT \$	AWARD TRUST ACCOUNT \$	TOTAL \$	WORKING ACCOUNT \$	AWARD TRUST ACCOUNT \$	TOTAL \$
<b>INCOME</b>						
Advertising	204.00		204.00			
Affiliation	19,208.00		19,208.00	19,014.50		19,014.50
Affiliation - Isolated Writers	2,023.00		2,023.00	2,205.00		2,205.00
Book Sales	4,618.00		4,618.00			
Competition Entries	1,514.00		1,514.00			
Donation	74.00		74.00			
Interest	975.18	2,040.44	3,015.62	1,493.55	2,757.99	4,251.54
Luncheon/Raffles	2,669.00		2,669.00	2,113.00		2,113.00
Miscellaneous Income	36.00		36.00	50.00		50.00
Hilary Lindsay Entries				218.00		218.00
Jean Stone Entries				1,080.00		1,080.00
Walter Stone Entries				300.00		300.00
Writing Fellows				50.00		50.00
Luidens					500.00	500.00
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>31,321.18</b>	<b>2,040.44</b>	<b>33,361.62</b>	<b>26,524.05</b>	<b>3,257.99</b>	<b>29,782.04</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>						
Advertising & Publicity	275.00		275.00			
Audit Fees	495.00		495.00	385.00		385.00
Book Supplies	5,021.50		5,021.50			
Books (Melbourne)				544.50		544.50
Bulletin	12,915.67		12,915.67	20,627.96		20,627.96
Capital Items <\$400	85.00		85.00			
Early Bird Award	50.00		50.00	50.00		50.00
Filing Fees	51.00		51.00	82.00		82.00
Functions & Luncheon	2,277.00		2,277.00	2,460.00		2,460.00
Insurance	2,349.26		2,349.26	2,174.26		2,174.26
Judging Expenses	852.00		852.00			
Petty Cash	874.98		874.98	494.18		494.18
PO Box Rental				146.00		146.00
Rent	85.80		85.80	42.90		42.90
Repairs & Maintenance	245.00		245.00			
Sundry Expenses	311.20		311.20			
Telephone	285.49		285.49	393.92		393.92
Hilary Lindsay Comp				223.00		223.00
Jean Stone Comp				288.00		288.00
Miscellaneous (Annual FAW Awards)				90.00		90.00
New Letterheads				300.00		300.00
Walter Stone Comp				715.96		715.96
Workshop Travel & Accommodation (Public Fund)				843.00		843.00
Prizes		950.00	950.00		3,100.00	3,100.00
Shares written off					10.00	10.00
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>26,173.90</b>	<b>950.00</b>	<b>27,123.90</b>	<b>29,860.68</b>	<b>3,110.00</b>	<b>32,970.68</b>
<b>OPERATING SURPLUS</b>	<b>5,147.28</b>	<b>1,090.44</b>	<b>6,237.72</b>	<b>(3,336.63)</b>	<b>147.99</b>	<b>(3,188.64)</b>
<b>REPRESENTED BY</b>						
Working Accounts	27,262.40	3,518.07	30,780.47	22,115.12	4,468.07	26,583.19
Public Fund Account	931.46		931.46	931.46		931.46
Term Deposits	24,284.48	54,040.44	78,324.92	24,284.48	52,000.00	76,284.48
<b>ACCUMULATED FUNDS</b>	<b>52,478.34</b>	<b>57,558.51</b>	<b>110,036.85</b>	<b>47,331.06</b>	<b>56,468.07</b>	<b>103,799.13</b>

# State Council News

## From the President

**H**I to all Members. Well time is flying by and we need to do as much as we can to enjoy the life.

Thank you first for reinstating me as President at the AGM on May 3rd.

I shall do my best as usual and no doubt will meet up with many of you again. I am really looking forward to the next biannual State Meeting at Port Macquarie in November [*details below*]. It's a great chance to meet many of the members from that part of the State.

On my radio show I interviewed FAW member Christine Gregory from Port Stephens concerning the launch of the young readers book *Ripples*, recently published by Port Stephens FAW. This is a delightful book of poetry and prose for young readers. A super gift for the younger members of the family and to help with their reading.

On 1st April I gave a talk to about 45 members of the Picton View Club. I discussed the FAW and the good things about being a member, plus a bit about the Radio Station and also some of my Russian highlights.



Paul Brunton with Stokes Journal

## Guest Speaker

Our Guest Speaker at the annual FAW Awards lunch in November will be a very knowledgeable man: Mr Paul Brunton, who was Senior Curator at the Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW, from 2002–2012.

Paul worked with the Mitchell Library's Australiana collections from 1973 and was Curator of Manuscripts from 1986 to 2001. He will speak about the days of Henry Lawson and the people he knew and the many people Lawson helped get into print.

This is very appropriate as Lawson and many of the early

talented writers were very much connected with the FAW, with many of them serving on the Committee.

Hopefully he will have some interesting old photographs and slides to show us as well. This is a look back at our history as well, so I do hope lots of you come along. Details of the venue etc will be in the September edition of *Writers Voice*.

## Executive Meeting and AGM

We had another very good Committee Meeting at Gosford on Tuesday 29 April. With such a good Committee we managed to get quite a lot of work done.

We also had an excellent Annual General Meeting on May 3 [*see report front page*]. It was really good to see members who give up their Saturday to come along to the AGM. Afterwards we all enjoyed lunch together and all the Fellowship of our FAW really came to the fore with ideas, chat and laughs.

I want to welcome a new Committee Member: Stefania McDonald. Congratulations Stefania, lovely to have you join the State Committee and I hope you enjoy it. Good to have a new person on the Committee.

Congratulations to all Committee Members re-elected into Office positions—faces we know well from last year, but remember we need new blood as we do not all go on forever.

Even if we do go over the 100 mark we will probably be past serving on a

Committee and be looking for a little relaxation.

I want to thank Carolyn Cash for her work with Isolated Writers. Carolyn is very absorbed in her position and is doing very well.

We all must hand it to Colleen Parker for her work on the *UTWW* publication which has been selling steadily. This is a most informative book for budding writers, and even for many full time writers who may be stuck for an idea or two.

Cate Plink does a marvellous job with our Competitions. Kay Bakon handles a job not everyone is capable of doing, keeping the books and doing the banking. Vice President Helen Luidens is most capable with Workshops and Insurance details and hubby Johan keeps us informed as regards the Trust money.

We get many compliments on our Website and it really is looking good, thanks to the professional work of Barbara Simmons.

I am amazed at the wonderful job done by Secretary Maureen Kelly—efficient, knowledgeable and enthusiastic.

I do hope many of you will take the trip up to Port Macquarie in November and enjoy the weekend. I am sure it will be a great Fellowship gathering with lots of laughs and lots of things to learn.

**Trevar Langlands, State President**

### A great combination:

#### A visit to Port Macquarie plus the November FAW State Council meeting.

Port Macquarie—Hastings FAW  
welcome the FAW Management Committee and all FAW members

**Saturday, November 1, 2014**

**Mac Adams Music Centre, Gordon Street, Port Macquarie**

10am morning tea; 10.30am–12.30pm State Council Meeting  
Lunch followed by free time to explore Port Macquarie. Dinner 6pm—venue tba.

#### How to get there:

- Ample car parking at the venue • QANTAS and Virgin both fly to Port Macquarie
- Train travellers alight Wauchope where a CountryLink bus transfers passengers to Port Macquarie • Sydney–Brisbane Coaches drop off/pick up at Port Macquarie.

#### Accommodation:

**Town Beach Motor Inn**, 12 Gordon Street offers affordable, high quality accommodation close to the meeting venue. Phone 6583 8899. <[www.townbeachmotorinn.com.au](http://www.townbeachmotorinn.com.au)>

Email <[info@townbeachmotorinn.com.au](mailto:info@townbeachmotorinn.com.au)>

Stay the weekend or a week: Port Macquarie offers a multitude of tourist attractions!

For further information contact FAW Hon Sec Maureen Kelly <[mokelly@exemail.com.au](mailto:mokelly@exemail.com.au)>

*The State Council committee look forward to meeting you all at Port Macquarie.*



## Hon. Secretary's Report 2014

**M**Y SECOND year as the FAW NSW Honorary Secretary has flown by.

I enjoy very much working with my fellow State Council committee colleagues and I love hearing from members throughout NSW, either by email or phone.

Changes have occurred which we hope will streamline the operation of your Fellowship even further.

The Rozelle Sydney phone number is no more, instead committee members have their personal phone contact numbers listed on *Writers Voice* page 2.

Mail re-direction by *Australia Post* has ceased, which is saving us money. Instead, you can contact us direct by email or 'snail mail', most of this mail coming to my address. This way, there is no hold-up in actioning any requests. Re-direction did slow receiving the mail a tad!

In March I had the pleasure of visiting Eurobodalla FAW to present four Distinguished Service Awards. Accompanying me on the trip and doing the driving was my fellow-North Arm Cove branch member, Elizabeth Deane. Thank you, Elizabeth. We attended their meeting and took part in all the writing exercises which were very instructive



*Maureen Kelly, Hon Sec. (centre) with FAW Distinguished Service Award recipients (l to r): Eileen Backus, Mavis Hayes, Margaret Barlow and Margaret Ekin.*

and fun. Thank you to all Eurobodalla members for your hospitality and fellowship.

I have accepted another year as secretary. I feel I have come off my training wheels, and my 'P' plates and am 'nearly' fully fledged as your secretary which is all thanks to the wonderful support I receive from president Trevar Langlands and my fellow-committee members—thank you.

My sincere and heartfelt congratulations to Colleen Parker for her publishing/collating skills producing *Unlock the Writer Within* and vice president Helen Luidens for coming up with the idea; also

everyone who contributed to this brilliant publication. Sales are going along slowly but surely, and we can ask for nothing more than that.

Finally, I would like to congratulate Carolyn Cash for her commitment and hard work publicising and advancing Isolated Writers. Carolyn will be in charge of our stand at the upcoming **Sutherland Shire Retiree Expo** to be held July 25/26, 2014 [see notice in 'Roundup'].

I look forward to seeing you all at the **Book Expo**—August 30/31, Sydney Showground. In the meantime, here's to another year of FAW achievement and advancement.

**Maureen Kelly OAM, Hon. Sec.**

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## FAW AT BOOK EXPO

**F**AW NSW will have a stall at the **Book Expo** to be held over the weekend of **30–31 August** at Sydney Showground, Olympic Park. This is the FAW's big promotion for 2014.

**Colleen Parker**, FAW Outreach Program Convenor, will be anchoring the panel at the Saturday seminar. Colleen has a lifetime of creative writing and publishing experience. Joining her on the panel are FAW State Committee members, **Barbara Simmons**, webmaster, who will talk about the digital age and the group's website involvement; **Maureen Kelly OAM**, Hon. Secretary, who has published *The Cove News* monthly for the Great Lakes area since 1995; and **Jenny Crozier**, an experienced

poet and long-time member of FAW Southern Highlands branch.

Visitors to the Book Expo can benefit from the vast collective experience of this panel of experts and will find the topics interesting and useful in furthering their writing skills.

The group will be promoting and selling *Unlock the Writer Within*, the FAW's informative 'Go to' guide to successful writing. This companion book brings over 100 writing topics together in one publication as an invaluable resource for writers both amateur and professional.

The Book Expo is also designed as a method for new and emerging authors to sell their books. If you are

looking for a channel to promote and sell your work, this is it! Members wishing to display their books for sale need to bring a maximum of five (5) copies to the Sydney Showground at Olympic Park over that weekend.

**Tip:** Make sure to provide Barbara Simmons with the required information for listing your book on the **Bookshelf** page on the **FAW NSW website**—blurb, cover pic, publisher, price, how to buy and your contact details—as this will be promoted as a reference source for your customers to purchase. Contact Barbara via email <[webmaster@fawns.org.au](mailto:webmaster@fawns.org.au)>

For more information, visit the Book Expo Australia website: <[www.bookexpoaustralia.com](http://www.bookexpoaustralia.com)>

# FAW Branch Reports

## BLUE MOUNTAINS FAW

OUR ANTHOLOGY *JOURNEYS* was launched in the beautiful new Katoomba Cultural Centre on 3rd April 2014.

**David Berger**

*CORRECTION: The information appearing on pp.4-5 in the Autumn edition of Writers Voice, describing the history of the Blue Mountains FAW, was attributed to David Berger (Branch President) whereas the article was written by Patricia Allen, an FAW Distinguished Service Award recipient. Apologies for the error—Ed.*

## CENTRAL COAST FAW

In March our president, Helen Luidens, celebrated her eightieth birthday. Johan made sure that she was given a wonderful birthday party in the function room of the Davistown RSL. Helen's many friends and family were treated to an excellent buffet lunch. The magnificent birthday cake had as a large centrepiece a teapot, tipped as for pouring, which was honouring Helen for her success as a potter. The inscribed words were in fact: *the world's best potter*.

Some of our members are experiencing the old enemy, writers' block, and we are hoping to work through some method for enlivening our writing. Perhaps if other groups are having a similar problem, we may be able to exchange ideas.

**Pat Lindsay, Vice President**

## EASTWOOD/HILLS FAW

It is difficult to believe that another quarter has passed so rapidly and that I am once again able to share some of our many experiences as we work together to learn our craft. This quarter we have been thrilled to experience workshops by current member Laura Davies and two much loved guest speakers; Jacqui Winn and Brian Beasley. Both Jacqui and Brian are very successful in their chosen genres and prior to moving out of the area, proud Eastwood/Hills FAW members.

Laura had us all talking, sharing, laughing and most importantly writing about our childhood in her workshop: 'Childhood Memoir'. With Jacqui we re-entered our childhood remembering tales of princesses, fairies, elves and things more sinister to relocate and rejuvenate our imaginations for her highly informative workshop: 'Working the Imagination'. Finally, earlier this month, Brian delighted us all, both with his clear and concise explanation of writing Bush Verse and with his enthralling recitation of one of his own poems, 'The Claim Near Gilbert's Hill' from his *Anthology of Award Winning Verse; 'For All We Are'*. As well as this, both our post workshop critiquing groups ('Tanka Huddle' and our yet to be named Prose Critiquing Group) are becoming increasingly popular and successful.

Our next quarter is a big one with Anne Benjamin encouraging us to

traverse the treacherous terrain of Travel Writing in June, followed by an entire afternoon of Critiquing in July and the Presentation Afternoon for our Annual Literary Competition will take place at our August meeting. We meet at 1pm every First Saturday of the month, at the North Rocks Senior Citizens Centre for adult writers of any age. All welcome.

**Artelle Lenthall**

## EUROBODALLA FAW

Some writing advice from Chuck Palahniuk: for the next half year; you may not use "thought" verbs. These include: Thinks, Knows, Understands, Realises, Believes, Wants, Remembers, Imagines, Desires, etc. You can't write: "Kenny wondered if Monica didn't like him going out at night..."

Instead, you'll have to un-pack that to something like: "The mornings after Kenny had stayed out, beyond the last bus, until he'd had to bum a ride or pay for a cab and got home to find Monica faking sleep, faking because she never slept that quiet, those mornings, she'd only put her own cup of coffee in the microwave. Never his."

This is a great way to "Show" rather than "Tell", the subject of our workshop in March. A perennial favourite, it was followed by 'Script-writing' in late May. Another variation to our regular program was an excursion to the Eurobodalla Botanic Gardens for some descriptive writing. We spread out to closely observe something that grabbed our attention and chose one of the given exercises. Reporting back it was a surprise how many different approaches had been used. This is always an interesting feature of sharing our writing.

Our AGM was held in April and the new office bearers elected include: Stafford Ray (President), Eileen Backhus (Vice Pres.), Dianne Wiggins (Secretary), Gillian Macnamara (Treasurer), Rosie Toth (Publicity), and Mike Robinson (Webmaster). A big thank you to our departing President, Tony Maynard, and Webmistress, Cat Sheely. Cat has done a fantastic job in setting up our web pages at <[eurobodallawriters.org](http://eurobodallawriters.org)>.

## DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD HONOUR ROLL



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



Maureen Kelly OAM (left) and Elizabeth Deane from North Arm Cove branch, visitors to Eurobodalla FAW in March.

and all the hard ground-work for our next anthology.

A highlight of the last few months was a visit by Maureen Kelly, FAW State Secretary and another member of the North Arm Cove branch, Elizabeth Deane, to present *Distinguished Service Awards* to the members who were unable to make the trip to Sydney last December: Eileen Backhus, Margaret Barlow, Margaret Ekin and Mavis Hayes [see photo p5]. The previous evening the committee took our guests to dinner at the Moruya Golf Club and spent a wonderful evening sharing stories over glasses of wine.

Just before Easter the organiser of a Shire-wide 'Writers Roadshow', Sue Maxworthy, principal of Bateman's Bay Primary, contacted us to see if any of our members would like to run two full-day workshops with 20 talented writer students, from 13 schools, in Years 5–8: one in Bateman's Bay and the other in Bodalla. Two of our members, Cassy Webb and Stafford Ray, jumped at the chance to design a day's writing activities for a bunch of eager students.

Our night group, set up and run by Louise Falcioni and Cat Sheely, and meeting the first Tuesday of every month, is going from strength to strength. Now one year old, it offers lively critiquing of stories posted online a few days earlier. Members also attend the local markets with their books for sale.

Eight of our past and present members have had their stories published in a new anthology being launched on May 24 at Hooked on Books in Bateman's Bay. Called *Memoirs from the Bay*, it is the result of the Perflex competition in

2013. The judges felt the stories were of such high quality they were publishing all 77! First, fourth and fifth place went to Euro FAW members and this will be a great way for them and the other contributors to showcase their work.

Never a dull moment in the Eurobodalla. Some enterprising folk have organised the first Bateman's Bay Writers Festival <[batemansbaywritersfestival.com.au](http://batemansbaywritersfestival.com.au)> for the weekend of June 7/8, ensnaring some high profile writers, including Richard Glover, Marion Halligan, Claire Wright (recent winner of the Stella Prize), Susannah Fullerton, Debra Adelaide, Fiona McIntosh, Jeff Apter, Jesse Fink, Peter Freeman, Patricia Sykes and more! A great addition to a thriving arts community in the Eurobodalla.

Finally, preparations are well underway for our 20th Anniversary Celebrations June 18 at the Moruya Golf Club. We hope to have many past and present members in attendance.

**Rosie Toth**

## HUNTER FAW

Leonie Wellard, Enid Bailey and Jacqueline Cook are new members. We welcome them and hope their time with us is enjoyable and productive.

Congratulations to the following FAW members whose poetry is in the forthcoming *a slow combusting hymn*, the mammoth Flying Island (Macau) anthology of work from and about the Hunter Region which will see an English edition released in August and eventually translations in Chinese, Portuguese, Indonesian etc: Leonie Wellard, Danny Gentile, Zeny Giles, Louise Berry, Eileen Dillon-Smith, Gail Hennessy, Jan Dean. Over sixty poets are represented. It is edited by Professor Kit Kelen and Jean Kent.

The gifted Peter Trist will lead our workshop on scriptwriting in June. As he has wide experience in theatre and an engaging, melodious voice we anticipate an enthusiastic response.

At our May meeting poets Jean Kent and Judy Johnson presented a mini-launch of their chapbooks *The Language of Light* and *Exhibit* respectively, published by Flying Island ASM Macau and translated into Chinese by Iris Fan. They read from their work and discussed the processes involved in the translation of their books. Ka'yil Raine Shaw, a student of the Hunter School of Performing Arts [photo next page], read an extract in Mandarin which was received with much interest since to that point neither Jean nor

cont. next page...



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# FAW Branch Reports



Performing Arts student Ka'yil Raine Shaw reads an extract in Mandarin from chapbooks by Hunter FAW poets Jean Kent and Judy Johnson at their mini-launch in May.

## Hunter

*cont. from previous page*

Judy had heard any of their poetry read in Chinese.

Louise Berry inspired members for our April meeting asking for responses written as if authors of particular books, stating how we came to write the book and what we liked about it, with group discussion after reading an excerpt. The approaches were varied and unexpected. Danny Gentile wrote an amusing piece based on Friedrich Engels the philosopher and father of Marxist theory, alongside Karl Marx. Julie Simpson said: "My response to Louise's workshop was a piece written in the voice of Doctor Samuel Johnson, explaining how he went about compiling his famous 2-volume dictionary. Starting in 1746, it took him 9 years to complete this huge project for 1,500 guineas. He had hoped to complete it in three. His ghost also takes a quizzical look at other famous wordsmiths including Noah Webster and the Merriam brothers and the compilers of Chambers and the Oxford English Dictionary and their on-line websites of today. It was accompanied by a number of facsimiles from his original work (which is now available on the net)."

In March our Treasurer Luciana Croci entertained us with the

lives and loves of Joséphine de Beauharnais. Luci set puzzles and written exercises after introducing us to fresh ideas on the woman of history she admires so much.

**Jan Dean**

## LAMBING FLAT FAW

The Lambing Flat FAW group have changed the monthly meeting schedule to every second Monday of the month rather than every third Monday of the month. Our meeting coincided with other community meetings and so the date has been changed to allow members and non-members the opportunity to attend both meetings. This change was implemented in May 2014 which was our AGM.

Our AGM saw a number of changes to our committee with Ted Webber being elected as President; Bianca Perkins Vice President; Carrie Hay Treasurer; Clare Brown re-elected as Secretary and Maree Myhill Publicity Officer. We expressed our gratitude for Mary Reeves' successful presidency over the past two years. Mary led our group through a dynamic period and we appreciate her commitment during this time. We also expressed our appreciation towards Joan Dwyer who has given 29 years of service in various roles within the committee and who stepped down from her successful tenure as Treasurer this year.

In March, Janice Ottey attended our meeting as our guest speaker. Janice is head Librarian at South West Regional Library Service. She provided us with a history of the local library and an update on future events. We also discussed how we could work collaboratively and utilise the services at the library.

President and poet Ted Webber recently had success at the Poet's Brawl at Dunedoo, winning first place. He also won second place for Performance at the Yass Show. Ted is a member of the Wombat Pub Bush Poets who perform regularly at the Wombat Pub and who recently provided one hundred dollars sponsorship for the junior poetry section for the Lambing Flat Writing

Competition held in conjunction with the annual cherry festival for 2014.

Our group has welcomed changes to our meetings over the last few years, most notably implementing less formalities. Our 'new style' meeting has been working well however it has come to the group's attention that in applying these changes we neglected to set writing tasks and spend time during each meeting to critique work. We hope that our first writing task for this year will inspire our members to put pen to paper on a regular basis and bring their work to the meeting for constructive discussion. The theme for this month is 'lonely, sad, and a long way from home'.

**Bianca Perkins**

## LIVERPOOL CREATIVE WRITERS

Our very well respected and well loved Treasurer, John Jacobs died suddenly a short time ago and one of our newer members, Vindu Maharai will take over the job he did so well and for so many years. John is sadly missed at every monthly Meeting for his humour and informative writing. We welcome Vindu to take over this important office.

At our AGM on 8th February 2014 the following nominations were carried: Rick Vincenti President; Peter Pike and Terry Harmer Vice Presidents; Lydia Vincenti Secretary; Vindu Maharai Treasurer; Vi Cochrane Catering Officer; Rhonda Rice Publicity Officer.

On 14th December during our Meeting, a Workshop was held by local writer Toulia Papadam who has self-published her Children's book *Oh MY! Said the Fly*. It was well received and informative.

We conducted a Poets and Writers Night, 'Pause for Paws', once a month through Summer at the Hilda Davis Hall, Macquarie St., Liverpool. Poetry nights were from 6.00pm to 9.00pm and a light supper was provided. The events were held on the 3rd Tuesday of each month 19th November, 17th December, 21st January, 18th February and Tuesday 18th March. Cost was \$5. Members from other



Branches and Writing Groups were welcomed and participated.

We are considering holding Monthly Markets in the Liverpool area. Members will volunteer to man the stall where new/used books will be available for sale. This will also be an opportunity to circulate information about our monthly Meetings. It will also be an opportunity for our members' individual work to be displayed/sold. The Markets are being organized in conjunction with *FreeXpresSion*, and will be held on the 3rd Saturday of every month. Toulou Papadam has offered to manage the stall. Other members will volunteer to assist. The stall will be held in the Liverpool area. Details phone Rick 02 9821 3373.

**Rhonda Rice**

## MACARTHUR FAW

In February, we had our AGM and election of officers. The new line-up consists of very experienced players, capable of substituting in any position. This year sees the return of Bob Bee—fiction and astronomy writer—to the President's chair where he will be ably assisted by Vice-President and short-story author, Victoria Chie. Margot Shugg (*First Bite of the Cherry* and *The Irish Fisherman*) will continue as Treasurer; while to complete the line-up, we have Pauline Twemlow, a sure pair of hands, in the Secretary's position.

State President and Macarthur member, Trevar Langlands, has warned us to be ready for disruptions at our monthly venue, as Campbelltown RSL Club undergoes major renovations. The club has been very kind, supplying a comfortable room for our meetings, so—short of laying bricks—we shall be doing everything we can to assist.

This year sees the return of our in-house writing competition which has been in abeyance for the past year. It will now be held bi-monthly, the winner to receive a handsome certificate. This move has been welcomed by members who sometimes feel inspired by the competition to write publication or competition-worthy stories.

Recently, we had a short discussion about the misconceptions that prospective members sometimes bring to meetings, even when they have been well-briefed by our contact person, with the result that they may be discouraged from joining. It would be interesting to know if other branches experience this problem.

**Bernard Russell Smith**

## MUDGE VALLEY WRITERS

Mudgee Valley Writers won the 2014 Mudgee Senior of the Year Award at the annual Seniors Week Lunch in March. The award was given in recognition of the achievements of the group in promoting the written word since 1986. The award is presented by the Mid-Western Regional Council to recognise outstanding efforts and contributions to the community [*photo 'Roundup' page 14*].

Our 14th Biennial Competition is underway with the first entries already in. We received grants from Moolarben Mine and Mid-Western Regional Council so are looking forward to a successful and rewarding competition for our entrants.

Last meeting we celebrated our 28th birthday, complete with cakes and lolly bags. Here's to the next 28 years!

**Jill Baggett**

## NORTH ARM COVE FAW

Members have been out and about attending writing and poetry events in the Newcastle/Port Stephens area during April and May.

Lal and Lee Clayton attended the Newcastle Writers Festival where they thoroughly enjoyed all the lectures on offer.

Garry Boyd, Moira Hooper and Maureen Kelly attended Port Stephens FAW's launch of their beautifully illustrated children's book, *Ripples*, at Tomaree Library, Salamander Bay at the beginning of April.

Elizabeth Deane, Moira Hooper, Maureen Kelly, Kate Milford and Margaret Wilson journeyed over to Clarence Town May 9, to support their fellow-member Bob Bush who performed his poetry at the Dungog Clarence Town CWA's 6th 'Day in the Bush' function. Bob was one of six very talented bush poets who entertained over seventy guests.

On the home front, members are planning to hold their very popular poetry afternoon August 24 at North Arm Cove Community Centre commencing 1pm.

Published members in the group will have a stall at the September 14 Vacy Country Carnival where they will be reading and, hopefully, selling a good number of their books.

The primary school short story competition will also be held again

*cont. next page...*



*North Arm Cove members visit Clarence Town CWA. (l-r) Maureen Kelly, Moira Hooper, Margaret Wilson, Bob Bush, Elizabeth Deane and Kate Milford.*

# FAW Branch Reports

## North Arm Cove

*cont. from previous page*

this year, members very keen to encourage young writers in the area.

Writing exercises have been varied... at the February meeting members wrote a story aimed at children 5–10 years old; March everyone was asked to ‘goal set’ providing a report on their long term goals (5 years) setting out what actions they have taken to achieve these goals; and for April another interesting assignment—in 500 words describe an interesting space like a submarine or a boiler room with two innocent children in the scene romping and playing.

Bob Bush conducted the May meeting where, of course, with his talents, he had members writing poetry.

**Maureen Kelly**

## PORT MACQUARIE-HASTINGS

The seasonal changes are subtle in the Hastings. Few trees shed their leaves and warm waters still roll onto soft sunny beaches. But the light is different. And a gentle crispness prowls the air as if to caution ‘winter’s on its way.’

It has been a fun and creative few months for Port Macquarie Writers. The Open House Competition has been announced along with numerous in-house events to motivate and entertain. Many members have experienced success in a variety of writing pursuits.

Our much admired Geoff Collins launched his second book. Our inspiring Connie Jones had her life story published. We have attended workshops and welcomed new faces. A few of our seasoned poets performed in lunchtime sessions at the Glasshouse. And our fabulous social secretary organised a wonderful event at ‘Writers at the Hope Café’. Here we read out pieces of work and performed original songs (well, one of us did—our newsletter editor is multi-talented). It was an afternoon of relaxed fun and social engagement.

Yes, the blue and yellow hues of summer days have dimmed; but our happy, growing group of writing friends continue to participate in a vivid and vibrant creative community.

**Kerry Buchanan**

## PORT STEPHENS FAW

Port Stephens branch are proud to announce the birth of its latest book *Ripples*, after a gestation period of eight and a half months. The book is a children’s publication featuring Port Stephens, and contains several local inhabitants, including Melanie the mermaid and Fred the dragon. All members contributed to the book and it was lavishly illustrated by Wendy Zimgast. The launch was successful and included the assistance of Melanie the talking puppet, readings from the book and a song composed by Janice Love and sung by four members.

It can be reported that branch president and mother of *Ripples*, Christine Gregory, is doing well. We take this opportunity to thank the representatives of North Arm Cove for their assistance.

The members wish to welcome a new member Maureen O’Sullivan and I am sure she will bring substantial assets to the group. Welcome Maureen.

**Bruce Flanagan**

## STROUD WRITERS

2014 Commenced with a vibrant *sub-group*, the Stroud Night Owls, which is meeting monthly. First time writers who are have set their ambitions high; writing novels in new genres with fascinating characters, time-shifts and absorbing sub-plots. There is liaison between the two groups, as some writers attend both.

*ABC Open Object Stories*: The ABC, in partnership with the National Museum, has been collecting stories about objects, that are a relic of the Australian way of life. The objects are filmed to make an audio-slideshow or photo story. Four Stroud Writers contributed to a workshop conducted by ABC Hunter’s Anthony Scully arranged by the Stroud Historical

Society. Their stories are to be found on the ABC web site.

*ABC Open 500 Words Project*: Sati Wiriyia, ABC Open Producer from the Mid-North Coast, gave us a presentation as to how we can become involved. It was an informative, hands-on workshop, with a writing exercise ‘Cringe’ for which our writers contributed some excellent stories. Peter Uren was asked to upload his story for the Hunter Writers Festival. We were very excited when his contribution was Short Listed. In spite of the appalling weather conditions, Peter was championed by several of our members. Peter has become a regular contributor to the Open Project, honing his writing skills whilst waiting for the proofreading/editing of his sequel to *The Old Mechanic*, which has been receiving favourable promotions and reviews through local papers and motor cycle magazines.

Vibrant local author, Kerri Lane graphically explained the trials, tribulations and rewards in becoming a writer for children. Members of Gloucester U3A Writers Group joined with us to attend the one day workshop. Practical exercises, helpful critiques and tomes of helpful advice, had the venue buzzing with enthusiasm. Although it is a daunting challenge, some members are determined to succeed in becoming published authors for children’s stories.

Stroud Writers have contributed stories and poems to *Aloneness*, a booklet that will be launched during Palliative Care Week, May 27 at Stroud Pub. This is a project initiated by the Mid North Coast Palliative Care Bereavement Groups.

**Susan Filson**

## WOLLONDILLY FAW

Here we go again with a brand new committee. We had our AGM in March and reshuffled some of the positions. We welcome Narelle Noppert as our President. She will miss designing and publishing the monthly newsletter *Scribblings* as



*Wollondilly FAW's new committee for 2014 (l to r): Olivia Mulligan (Secretary), Rosemary Peters (Vice President), Yvonne Wooldridge (Publicity Officer), Narelle Noppert (President), Sue Southwood (Librarian), Trish Ogden (Treasurer) and Vince Morrison (Editor and Publisher).*

she was in love with this job; we are however, very confident she will do a stalwart job as our new President. Vince Morrison takes on the job as Publisher and Editor and is finding it quite challenging. Vince loves a challenge!

The April *Scribblings* proved to be an excellent piece of work for this neophyte publisher, so I guess he has no worries there as we all enjoyed reading it.

Rosemary Peters our President for the last two years has agreed to be Vice-President. Needless to say we benefitted well under her wise council and we duly paid respect to her valuable contribution at our April meeting. Rosemary also agreed to take on the position of tea and coffee facilitator. A good choice as she will 'bring on the cake'. Yours truly was re-elected as Secretary so I continue as usual pumping out the words for the minutes and the quarterly reports.

Trish Ogden has cracked it as Treasurer and keeps a watchful eye on the pennies. Sue Southwood was re-elected as Librarian; she continues to be very creative and collects fine works at bargain basement prices for our library. Sue's cataloguing and colour coding skills are impressive. No book goes amiss under her eagle eye.

Yvonne Wooldridge was also re-elected as our Publicity Officer. The local papers are downsizing and the pages get fewer so Yvonne has a difficult job on her hands getting our announcements and events published to inform local readers. She is

however, successful as her consistent reminders do get results even if they are a bit late. It is important for us to maintain the FAW profile locally. All we need is a bit of scandal to increase the readership but to date we have had no offers.

The Anthology committee have been very busy. They have finished the first round of reading the proffered works. All the members are presently tidying up their stories and poems. The next job is the proof reading and placing the works in order. We have yet to decide on a title. Some of the suggestions are interesting. This shall remain a secret until the work is published.

Our big news to date is the publication of Jan Whiten's book. Jan was born in Bendigo, Victoria. Her early school years were spent at a tiny rural school with one room and one teacher for all grades. Jan is married with two sons. As a family they spent many happy hours sharing the magic of books together. Her love of reading children's books led Jan into the exciting world of writing her own stories for children. *Chooky-doodle-doo* is Jan's first commercially published book. It was inspired by the antics of Miss Milligan, one of her much-loved hens. It is a delightful rhyming and counting book with a theme of teamwork that will both entertain and educate small children. Jan also wants to pay tribute to the illustrator Sinéad Hanley whose funky style enhances the book. To quote Jan, "art is such an important part of the book".

The book launch was held at Narellan Library during story time on Wednesday, April 2nd at 11 am. About 80 people came. There were lucky door prizes, and two lucky children won a copy of *Chooky-doodle-doo*. There was also singing, games, and craft activities for the children. For those interested in acquiring Jan's book the ISBN is 9781921977879. It is published by Walker Books Australia. We wish her luck and hope her book sells zillions of copies.

Our members continue to enter their work in competitions. I have no reports of prize winners for this edition of *Writers Voice* but I am confident they will come rolling in as we have a good track record.

Last but not least I wish to thank FAW and Colleen Parker for editing the wonderful publication of *Unlock the Writer Within*. It has proved to be a very valuable contribution to our library. I have learned a lovely new word called 'enjambment'; it somehow rolls off the tongue. It's a really cool book. It is therefore incumbent on me to thank the team responsible for this wonderful collection of 'must knows'.

**Olivia Mulligan**

## WYONG WRITERS

Mei-Ling and Yvonne enjoyed meeting new people at the FAW AGM in May, especially being able to put faces to names. It was interesting to get a glimpse of diverse modes of operation within the different branches, and to talk about the way in which the needs of each community mould the shape of the particular group.

Recent Wyong Writing presentations have focussed on creativity around horoscopes and the reality of publishing in the twenty-first century. Margaret Young provided food for thought and writing from her notebook of wisdom and facilitated 'Walking with Words'.

Winter is a great time for us writers to snuggle up indoors and write!

**Derek Recsei**

# Poets Voice

## The Noise the Silence Makes

Listen to the noise  
the silence makes:  
a dog barking far away,  
a bird chattering to itself,  
the rumbling of the creek  
as clouds clatter in from the west  
and the rocks of the escarpment split,  
the tableland sliding  
down to the valley  
that's V shaped, as water  
eats into the earth,  
millimetre by millimetre,  
century after century,  
fluid and slow  
the flow of the earth  
towards the sea.

Rain and water,  
water and rain.  
Old silver gums  
spread to the sky,  
reaching into space  
as below, the damp earth  
fattens their roots  
and the grass murmurs  
in the sun.

A jet spools into flight,  
spreads its wings over the bay  
and out to sea,  
a wide turn to starboard  
to cross the coast  
and pass to the north  
as long thunder,  
ten minutes out of Sydney  
and climbing.

White trails of vapour  
dissolving in the vacancy of air.  
An hour to Melbourne,  
the sky washed and blue  
as pastel, tired,  
nondescript like the morning  
and superficial as silence.

*John Egan, City of Sydney FAW*

## Mind your language

I don't understand  
how the sky can be blue  
yet we can be feeling blue.  
Antagonists can stack on a blue  
or wonder what in the blue blazes  
is going on and scream blue murder.  
A redheaded man is nicknamed "Blue"  
All true!

A road between two mountains is a pass.  
You can pass an exam or pass the buck.  
We can pass time or pass the jam.  
You can pass out or pass away.  
A new admirer can make a pass,  
can pass you by, pass you up  
or win a family movie pass.  
What a farce!

Blocks are squares of streets or buildings,  
are a piece of land or a piece of wood.  
You can have your block knocked off  
(or something you own knocked off).  
Producers block an action on a set.  
You can reside in a block of units  
and block someone else's view.  
Kids like to play with blocks  
but 'polish off' an iceblock.  
What a crock!

Cricket is played on a pitch.  
It is quite easy to pitch a tent.  
Roads are repaired with pitch  
yet mountain roads have a pitch.  
It's great when helpers pitch in.  
Rivals can't wait to pitch a battle.  
A boat's pitch can make you sick.  
Singers need to have perfect pitch.  
You can pitch a ball or pitch a line,  
pitch your manuscript to a publisher.  
You can even have your pitch queered.  
How weird!

Think about fast and litter,  
graft, plot, wearing and sound,  
ring and smart, medium and race  
sock and harbour, crook and draw.  
The English language is as clear as mud.  
What a dud!

*Cynthia Hallam, Blue Mountains FAW*

## SUBMISSIONS FOR POETS VOICE

Please send your poem for consideration, to:

**The Poetry Editor, Writers Voice, PO Box 195, LAWSON NSW 2783**

Include SSAE for response. Or, send a Word attachment by email to David Berger  
<[isdafrog@bigpond.com](mailto:isdafrog@bigpond.com)>. Please provide your name and FAW branch.

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

## Note: Change of email address

My hotmail account was compromised in February and so I have not been using it. If you sent a poem to me by email, please resubmit it to <[isdafrog@bigpond.com](mailto:isdafrog@bigpond.com)> (or Box 95 Lawson NSW 2783)

*David Berger, poetry editor.*



# Prizewinning Short Story

## Bo and Braces

by Paige Spence

[Hilarie Lindsay Young Writers Short Story Competition 2013:  
Winning story, Section 1—Years 10, 11 and 12]

**W**HEN I was a little girl, I had three toy bears. Their names were Braces, Buckles and Bo.

She stares out the window, thoughts of a soon to be gone childhood swimming through her head.

*I got Braces when his namesake arrived upon my teeth. His fur was white and soft, endowed with precious tips that glittered in the sunlight.*

A glance downwards reveals to her beams raining down into the window, onto laces and folds sewed in the satin white dress that glint in return.

*My mother loved Braces as much as I and for many long hours we would talk as he lay upon my lap.*

Her mother, opposite, blinks at her with both anticipation and sadness. A bittersweet mixture.

*I would listen as my mother promised that on the day those metal bars were removed from my teeth Braces would be given a friend; his destined partner with a childish name. Braces Off: Bo.*

She thinks of the one who she is going to. Not him as who he is, but as an open doorway. A future. A prince to steal her away.

*Time passed and the day that I longed for came. At last I could touch the pearls in my mouth without cutting my tongue on ripping metal. That was the day when I met Bo.*

She closes her eyes, she remembers the first boy. The first time they met.

*Only this was not the Bo I expected. He did not complement my Braces. His brown fur was short, not soft. When the sun hit him, he did not shine. It did not feel like the two were as they were supposed to be: Braces and Bo, two halves of one whole.*

His face was dimpled with the imperfections of a young man, his brown hair greasy and unkempt. The first time they walked together his clammy hand kept slipping from hers. It wasn't like they were born to slip into each other's grooves.

*I grew to love him though, this Bo. His arms could wrap around my own and he fitted into my lap like a bear should. Bo and Braces began to look like they belonged together.*

For her, walking with him soon grew easier and being around him became a necessity. The first time they kissed,

her white blond hair flowed across his caramel cheeks. She wanted to be with him.

*Then, one day, my mother brought him home. Buckles.*

Her memories fast forward to another time; when she met the second boy.

*My mother spoke the truth as she handed him to me, that if we had found him earlier this would indeed be 'Bo'. He was soft and shiny, floppy and warm. A perfect hazel version of Braces. He was like the Bo I had dreamed of.*

It was a chance encounter. He shook her hand and introduced himself. His tan face was framed by chocolate hair that curled over his ears. At the touching of their hands she realised it. All of us are born with the hope of perfect union with another. This boy, just standing at a bar, was the one she was made for.

*I named this third bear Buckles with my mother's help, before lining the three up in a row. Braces, Buckles and Bo. Perhaps I had grown used to putting Bo with Braces but there was no denying that Buckles was his true partner. Buckles should have been Bo. I had the power to make him that, in my own childish way.*

She heard the first boy call out her name. She did not need to answer. She could take this one, this boy that was her perfect other half and live happily. No holding a palm that slipped from her fingertips. What could stop her?

*It took only a few seconds for a thought to hit my mind.*

She is jerked out of her memories as the car pulls to a stop.

*I made my decision.*

She takes her father's hand.

*Buckles should have been Bo. But he wasn't, was he? He was Buckles and although placing Bo and Braces together as the pairing I had planned for so long was harder it didn't matter. I chose Bo first. I loved him as Bo.*

She looked up the aisle and saw the man she had chosen.

*Short, furred, un-shiny Bo.*

Imperfect face, greasy hair, black suit. She walks up and takes his hand. She knows that this is right. He is the sun to her day. The stars to her night. The Bo to her Braces.

□

# Roundup

## Sutherland Shire Retiree Expo

FAW NSW Inc Isolated Writers' Convenor **Carolyn Cash** will represent FAW NSW at the **Sutherland Shire Retiree Expo** **Elouera Room at Tradies, Gymea** **Friday, July 25 & Saturday, July 26, 2014.** Carolyn will be promoting the Fellowship of Australian Writers NSW and also selling ***Unlock the Writer Within.***

If you are in the area, pop in and meet Carolyn and pick up your copy of this valuable FAW-produced resource book for only \$30. This will save you \$10 postage and handling costs.

For further information or if you are willing to help at the expo please contact **Carolyn Cash 0427 895 573**  
Email <[cmcash@tpg.com.au](mailto:cmcash@tpg.com.au)>

### UNLOCK THE WRITER WITHIN

is a valuable resource for all writers; amateur and professional. The FAW presents numerous topics of interest in one publication.

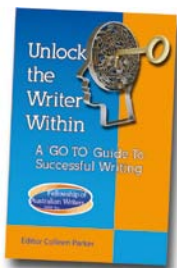
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**22 Promontory Way,**  
**NORTH ARM COVE NSW 2324**  
<[honsecretary@fawnsw.org.au](mailto:honsecretary@fawnsw.org.au)>



## Tune in to Trevar

FAW president **Trevar Langlands** has a weekly Arts & Entertainment radio segment on Macarthur Community **Radio 2MCR.** He often interviews published writers and other guests whose contribution is of interest to all FAW members.

Guest Speakers at the Annual FAW Prizegiving Luncheon have often been one of Trevar's on-air guests.

Tune in to **100.3FM** every Wednesday between 9am-12 noon or visit <[www.2MCR.org.au](http://www.2MCR.org.au)>.



## Mudgee Valley Writers Seniors Week Award

The Mudgee Valley Writers FAW group won the Mid-Western Regional Council Senior of the Year Award in March for their contributions to the community in promoting the written word, and are very thrilled about it of course.

(l to r): Mudgee Valley Writers members Joy Hibberd, Miriam Bates, Jill Baggett and Kevin Pye accepting the award at the Mudgee Seniors Week Luncheon from Councillors Esme Martens and Percy Thompson.



## Visit to Kandos

*Writers Voice* editor Ken Driver and his wife Bev visited Kandos during a recent road trip around north-west New South Wales. They were warmly welcomed as visitors to the April meeting of Kandos FAW in the town Library.

Pictured (l to r): Bev Driver, Tanya Pennell, Sr Kathleen Luchetti RSJ (President), Maureen Turner, Pamela O'Connor, Pamela Tan, Ken Driver, Alf Mulligan.

## Valerie Parv receives ASA Medal

**I**NTERNATIONALLY acclaimed romance writer **Valerie Parv**—a member of Lambing Flat FAW—has been awarded the 2014 ASA Medal by the Australian Society of Authors.

Established in 2003, the ASA Medal is awarded biennially in recognition of an outstanding contribution to the Australian writing community.

Valerie is an international best-selling author of romance fiction and has sold more than twenty-nine million copies of her books worldwide. Valerie is the first Australian writer to receive a Pioneer Award from RT Book Reviews, New York, for her contributions to the field of romance writing. She also proudly serves as an Australia Day Ambassador. Her practical guide

to the genre, *The Art of Romance Writing* (Allen & Unwin 1993, 2004) was voted the most useful book on romance writing in a poll of members of Romance Writers of Australia.

Valerie held Australia's first romance writing workshop in 1988, which led to the founding of Romance Writers of Australia, and she has been a member ever since. In 1999 Romance Writers of Australia established the Valerie Parv Award in her honour. Valerie mentors the winner during the year of their award, and nearly all past winners have been successfully published.

The other recipient of the 2014 ASA Medal—Sydney resident Nadia Wheatley—writes for both adults and young people. Nadia's award-



Valerie Parv acknowledges receipt of her ASA Medal at a function in Melbourne on Saturday May 24.

winning books cover the genres of fiction, history, biography and picture books, and reflect her commitment to social justice. Nadia's first book, *Five Times Dizzy*, is often described as the first multicultural children's book in this country.

## RIP Sharyn Killens

**A**TTEENDEES AT the FAW Annual Luncheon in December 2010 in Sydney will recall the harrowing but inspirational true life story of special guest **Sharyn Killens**, co-author and subject of the book *The Inconvenient Child*, published in April of that year by Miracle Publishing.



Sharyn Killens (dec.)

Sharyn passed away recently after a long and courageous fight with cancer and many other serious ailments that would have brought most of us down much sooner.



Lindsay Lewis

Co-author and publicist of the book, Lindsay Lewis helped Sharyn to share her extraordinary story. Sharyn and Lindsay were very close friends for more than 25 years. *The Inconvenient Child* was the result of their close collaboration.

Full details of the book, Sharyn's biography and photos of the notorious Parramatta Girls' Home and the brutal Hay Institution for Girls—where Sharyn spent some of her teenage years—are on this website: <[www.theinconvenientchild.com](http://www.theinconvenientchild.com)>

Sharyn's funeral was at Ourimbah on 1 May 2014, with 300 people from the entertainment industry in attendance, officiated by Father Chris Riley. *Following are extracts from the Eulogy given by Lindsay...*

"Sharyn O'Brien, Ahern, Crystal, Killens, Kennedy. Her name gives a hint to an extraordinary life lived. Each of those names represent a significant time in her life.

A life laid bare in print, for all the world to see which in no small part, showed the sheer guts and determination of this amazing woman.

Telling of those desperate times of her life has been her triumph because unsuspectingly, Sharyn gave a voice to thousands of women who had been through similar circumstances but have never had the opportunity or were brave enough to speak out.

To Sharyn, family was everything. She was so proud of her boys, Jason and Stephen, who were at times, her inspiration to not give in but to fight and stay focused to achieve a better life for the three of them. And then Sharyn met Allan, the love of her life. With Allan's twins, the extended family now includes 10 grandchildren and one great grandchild, who she all loved dearly.

And then there is her other family. Her American sisters: Debra, Donna, Sandra and her brother Thaddeus Jr who, when she found them, welcomed her with open arms and love and acceptance. She found her roots—her heritage—which as she said, completed the circle. She finally knew who she was.

Sharyn was an accomplished singer and entertainer and also worked as a publicist and an entertainment booking agent and manager.

She was funny, warm and generous; she was so sentimental and loving and giving and tenacious and determined and could be feisty and obstinate. But most of all, Sharyn was a true and loyal friend, a caring friend."





# Literary Achievements

## BLUE MOUNTAINS FAW

**John Smith** has had his memoir of National Service accepted into a RAAF Museum in the UK to be placed in their archives.

## BONDI WRITERS [EASTERN SUBURBS FAW]

### Cynthia Rowe:

haibun 'Style' published in *Presence* #49;  
haiku published in *Presence* #49;  
tanka published in *Presence* #49;  
3 haiku published in *A Hundred Gourds* 3:2 March 2014;  
haibun 'Light Finger Tapping' published in *Haibun Today* March 2014 8:1;  
judged the Eastwood/Hills short story Pauline Walsh Award 2014;  
'earth hour...' a Runner-up in The Haiku Calendar Competition 2014;  
2 haiku published in *Kokako* #20 2014;  
reviewed Peter Butler's '...And now for the Weather Forecast January 1st, 2204'.

## CENTRAL COAST FAW

It seems that **Johan Luidens**, our literary officer, is the only member to have achieved any literary kudos this quarter. His article on cancer of the prostate has been accepted for publication by the magazine *Bridge*. The subject is a topical one which undoubtedly will be well received.

While **Wanda Brook's** achievement is not of a literary kind, we feel that congratulations are in order. In only her second time of entering an exhibition of watercolour paintings, she had the thrill of seeing a sold sticker on one of her own. We attended the showing and were impressed by her artwork, especially as she is busy being our branch secretary and is in the throes of writing a romantic novel.

## EASTWOOD/HILLS FAW

### Carolyn Alfonzetti:

1st & 2nd in the Free Verse Section of the 2014 *FreeXpresSion* Literary Competition;  
Winner, Eastwood/Hills in-house John Kelly Award for an original myth, folktale or fairytale.

### Anne Benjamin:

Review of a haibun in *Haibun Today*, Vol 8, Number 1, March 2014;  
Rensaku, 'Waiting to be Filled' with Jan Foster published in *The Tanka Journal of Japan*, No 44 2014;  
Rensaku, 'Between Worlds', with Jan Foster published in *Kokako* 20, April 2014;  
MC for launch of David Terelinck's *Slow Growing Ivy*, 30 March 2014;  
2nd place, Monthly Eastwood/Hills FAW Competition 'Sonnets that Sing';  
Highly Commended, Eastwood/Hills in-house John Kelly Award for an original myth, folktale or fairytale;

2nd place, Monthly Eastwood/Hills FAW Competition for 'Childhood Memoir';  
2 tanka in *Gusts* 19, Spring/Summer 2014;  
Response sequence, 'Sounds of your Absence', with Carmel Summers *Skylark* 2:1, Summer 2014.

### Elizabeth Collins:

Commended, Monthly Eastwood/Hills FAW Competition 'Sonnets that Sing'.

### Laura Davis:

Winner, Eastwood/Hills in-house Pauline Walsh competition, 2014.

### Beverley George:

2 tanka in *Red Lights* 10 (1) January 2014;  
7 tanka from *This Pinging Hail* translated into Croatian by Djurdja Vukelic-Rozic and published in *DIOGEN pro kultura magazin* 2014;  
7 haiku from *The Birds That Stay* translated into Croatian by Djurdja Vukelic-Rozic and published in *DIOGEN pro kultura magazin* 2014 <[www.diogenpro.com/diogen-haiku-2014.html](http://www.diogenpro.com/diogen-haiku-2014.html)>;  
1 tanka in *A Hundred Gourds* 3: 2 March 2014;  
Review of *Hazy Moon* by Satoru Kanematsu. Nagoya, Gakuhōshu, 2013;  
Review of *The Prism* of Mokichi from the collected tanka of Mokichi Saito tr. by Fusako Kitamura, Reiko Nakagawa and Aya Yuhki Tokyo, 2013;  
Featured poet: Inaugural issue of United Haiku and Tanka Society (UHTS) <[www.unitedhaikuantankasociety.com/3spotlights134.html](http://www.unitedhaikuantankasociety.com/3spotlights134.html)>;  
Rengay 'Snapshot' with David Terelinck, published in *Fear of Dancing: The Red Moon Anthology of English-Language Haiku* 2013. RMP, 2014 [US];  
Rengay 'Cactus Bloom' with David Terelinck published in *Kokako* 20 2014 p. 31 [NZ];  
Tanka sequence 'The Red Bridge Curves' published *The Tanka Journal* 2014 No. 44 [Japan];  
haiku in *The Heron's Nest* volume 15 2013 [US];  
Convened the launch of *100 Tanka Poets from Australia and New Zealand: One Poem Each* at Hornsby Library;  
Tanka 'dark pond' translated into Chinese and published on *One Man's Maple Moon* edited by Chen-ou Liu;  
10 haiga in collaboration with Mariko Kitakubo [Japan] and Ron C Moss published on *Haiga Online* <[www.haigaonline.com/issue15-1/collaborations.html](http://www.haigaonline.com/issue15-1/collaborations.html)>;  
Honorable Mention, Kaji Aso Studio International Haiku Contest 2014;  
Commended, Monthly Eastwood/Hills FAW Competition 'Sonnets that Sing'.

### Helena Hamilton:

Second, Eastwood/Hills in-house John Kelly Award for an original myth, folktale or fairytale.

### Barbara Haworth:

Commended, Monthly Eastwood/Hills FAW Competition 'Childhood Memoir'.



**Philippa Holland:**

Winner, Monthly Eastwood/Hills FAW Competition 'Sonnets that Sing';  
 Winner, Monthly Eastwood/Hills FAW Competition 'Childhood Memoir'.

**Anne Howard:**

Commended, Monthly Eastwood/Hills FAW Competition 'Sonnets that Sing';  
 Commended, Monthly Eastwood/Hills FAW Competition 'Childhood Memoir';

**Samantha Sirimanne Hyde:**

Haiku published in *Shamrock* #27;  
 haiku & haiga published in *Chrysanthemum* 15;  
 4 haiku published in *The Zen Space* (Spring 2014 edition);  
 2 haiku in *World Haiku Review* (Spring 2014 edition).

**David Terelinck:**

Rengay with Beverley George published in *Fear of Dancing: The Red Moon Anthology of English-Language Haiku*;  
 1 haiku in *Windfall*, issue 2, 2014;  
 Launch of David's second tanka collection, *Slow Growing Ivy*, at the NSW Writers' Centre on 30th March 2014;  
 Tanka sequence 'Towards the Brightness' published in *The Tanka Journal* [Japan] No 44, 2014;  
 Three tanka in *Gusts* 19;  
 Rengay 'Cactus Bloom' with Beverley George published in *Kokako* 20, 2014;  
 First place in the tanka section of the British Haiku Awards competition 2013. To be published in next issue of *Blithe Spirit*;  
 Launched *Tanka to Eat: Themed tanka masterpieces by modern poets selected by Noriko Tanka* (trans. by Amelia Fielden & Saeko Ogi) at Manning Clark House, Canberra, 5th March 2014;  
*Castling Shadows*: collected tanka by David Terelinck <[www.davidterelinck.com](http://www.davidterelinck.com)>.

**Julie Thorndyke:**

Highly Commended, Monthly Eastwood/Hills FAW Competition 'Sonnets that Sing';  
 Second, Eastwood/Hills in-house Pauline Walsh competition, 2014;  
 Highly Commended, Eastwood/Hills in-house John Kelly Award for an original myth, folktale or fairytale.

**HUNTER FAW**

**Julie Simpson** will give her seventh set of writers' workshops for the Kurri Kurri Library. This series of 4 workshops will concentrate on novel writing as some members from her earlier sessions for beginners are now working on full length novels dealing with both fictional and true crime and speculative fiction. She will also give a special Editing workshop for FAW Wyong in August.

**Jan Dean** read poetry for Catchfire Press in their session at the Newcastle Writers Festival on 5th April and read with local poets at Agosti's Restaurant on 6th April. She

was involved in the first Poetry Bomb which is celebrated in many countries on 27th April. It was presented at the Barzingahh Café, Newcastle. She had a tanka accepted for *Eucalypt* 16.

**Josephine Tregellis** read for Catchfire Press at the Newcastle Writers Festival.

**Gail Hennessy** had a tanka accepted for *Eucalypt* 16.

**LAKE MACQUARIE FAW**

[This information was intended for March issue but apparently it was lost in transit. Apologies for any inconvenience caused—Ed.]

**Victoria Norton:**

'The Space Between' Highly Commended, Poetry Section Eastwood/Hills branch FAW Literary Competition 2013;  
 'The No-No Tree' finalist in Newcastle Herald Summer Short Story Competition 2013/4;  
*purple. emerald. gold* published collection of short stories 2013. Available from Amazon.com;  
 'Blue' shortlisted for and published online Australian Literary Review Short Story Competition 2013;  
 'Brown Boxes,' 'The Story of a Little Blue Bear,' 'Ice Melt,' excerpt from 'The Headland' and 'The Cockie's Mother and the Hired Hand' published in Hunter Professional Arts Magazine;  
 'One Night in Mirrabooka' published in *The Ness Fireside Book of God Ghosts Ghouls and other true stories* by Lachlan Ness;  
 'Wash, Rinse, Drain Repeat' *Northerly* (magazine of the Northern Rivers Writers' Centre).

**Linda Visman:**

Published in Hunter Professional Arts Magazine: Poetry: 'The River of Time', 'Tosca: Northern Territory', 'Silent Homage';  
 Article 'Photographic Records' published in *Skive Magazine Farewell edition*, November 2013, edited by M. Ward;  
 Memoir: 'The Long Goodbye';  
 Published in the anthology of women's stories *Waltzing Matilda and Other Australian Yarns*, 2014 and available on Amazon.com: 'Quartpot's Hippo', 'Black and White', 'Introduction to a Remote Community', 'Disaster Strikes', 'First Impressions' and 'Census, Bush Style'.

**Jan Mitchell:**

Published in Hunter Professional Arts Magazine—Book Reviews: *Snow Child* by Eowyn Ivey, *Wolf Hall* by Hillary Mantell and *Burial Rites* by Hannah Kent;  
 'A Ghostly Warning' published in *Ghosts, Ghouls and God*;  
 Poetry: 'Finding Peace'.

**Patricia Withers:**

Poetry: 'Procession', 'Dilemma', 'Streaks' and 'Snake' published in Hunter Professional Arts Magazine.

**Helen Marshall:**

Short Stories... 'The Apple Orchard' published in Hunter Professional Arts Magazine;

cont. next page...

# Literary Achievements

## Lake Macquarie

*cont. from previous page*

'The Bird Woman of Carlingford' published in *Ghosts, Ghouls and God*;

'Vulnerable' published in Hunter Professional Arts Magazine;

'The Apple Orchard' fourth place QRRRW competition.

### Tony Lang:

*Ghosts, Ghouls, God: and other true stories* published 2013; Short story 'The Day an APC Flew' published in Hunter Professional Arts Magazine.

### Carol Heuchan:

Poetry 'When the Horses Left the Yard' published in Hunter Professional Arts Magazine.

### Linda Brooks:

Author and publisher of *Wings to Fly*, (on adult Asperger's). This re-issue has more contributions from Professor Attwood and Dr John Miller;

Editor and publisher of a new book of short stories, *Waltzing Matilda & Other Australian Yarns*, which was released in February 2014;

Several of Linda's own short stories are included in the book: 'Waltzing Matilda', 'Country Snobs', 'Sunday School Blues', 'How to Lose a Guy in Ten Seconds', 'Can I Cuddle a Koala?', 'A Royal Fuss', 'More About Harry' and 'Who stole Christmas?'

### Rina Robinson:

A selection of her wonderful poems were published in an anthology.

## LIVERPOOL CREATIVE WRITERS

**Peter F Pike** has recently celebrated twenty years of publishing *FreeXpresSion* Literary Magazine. He also had two sonnets published in *Metverse Muse India*.

**Rhonda Rice** had a poem 'Broken Doll' published in *Zine West* 13, and a poem 'Waiting For The Knock' published in the *Police News* Magazine. She has had poems published in *FreeXpresSion* and was Highly Commended for her article 'Capital Punishment—To Kill Or Not To Kill' in the *FreeXpresSion* Literary Competition 2014.

**Lydia Vincenti** has regular travelling/cooking articles in *FreeXpresSion*.

## MACARTHUR FAW

**Margot Shugg's** second book of short stories, *The Irish Fisherman*, was issued in September 2013. It is available on application to Margot Shugg.

## MOOCOBOOLA FAW [GLADESVILLE]

### John Egan:

Poems, 'Joe Lynch 1927' 1st and 'Married in Black' Commended, in the 6th Corinella Waterline Writing Competition;

Poems, 'The Magic City' and 'The Kiss' published in *Exploring The Depths*, Poetica Christi Press, Melbourne;

Poems, 'With You', 'This Birthday', 'These Rings', 'Married in Black' and 'Gosford Hospital' published in *FreeXpresSion*, December 2013 and January 2014; Poems, 'Questions' and 'Partners' published in *The Write Angle* 45;

Poems, 'Old Pete', 'The Mistress of Dreams', 'Newcastle', 'Geishas at the Tea Ceremony', 'Nowra, Evening' and 'An Old River' published in *Beyond The Rainbow* 71 and 'Shuffling' in *Beyond The Rainbow* 72;

'Acting', 'Every Train' and 'And Yet' published in *The Mozzie*, Sept 2013, Dec 2013 and Jan/Feb 2014 respectively;

Poems, 'Felling the Banksia', 'Snake Lady' and 'The Wind' published in *Valley Micropress*, October 2013, Upper Hutt, New Zealand;

Poems, 'Slow Train Coming' 1st and 'Opening Night' Highly Commended in the 2013 Ipswich Poetry Feast.

### Vicki Harrold:

Poem, 'The Face in the Mirror' Commended in the Melbourne Shakespeare Society's Sonnet Competition.

## MUDGEY VALLEY WRITERS

*Mid-Western Regional Council Senior's Week Competition...*

### Miriam Bates:

2nd place, Poetry 'My Name is Mr Brown'.

### Joy Hibberd:

H/Comm, Poetry 'Australia's First Settlers'.

### Kevin Pye:

1st place, Poetry 'Painted Hands';

3rd place, Poetry 'Three Out of Ten';

H/Comm, Prose 'Board Odds';

Best Memoir 'Passing Time';

*also* Commended, Poetry in *FreeXpresSion* Competition;

Opening Address including Original Verse at Mudgee Relay For Life.

### Jill Baggett:

Short Story 'Sunshine Party Number One' published in *Beyond the Rainbow*.

## NORTH ARM COVE FAW

### Bob Bush:

Read and performed poetry from his latest book, *From a bush poet's pen*, between February and May, 2014 at: Tea Gardens Mens Probus, Gloucester Rotary Club (Poetry in the Saleyards), Hunter Ladies VIEW Club, Tanilba Bay/Lemon Tree Passage CWA, National Combined Forces Association, Baptist Community Services, Clarendetown Café, Waratah & Georgetown Seniors, Medowie Seniors, Frank Whiddon Masonic Homes, Maitland RSL Sub Branch, Lions Club Of Maitland, Harry Meyn Fund Raiser, CWA Clarendetown and Myall Coast Rotary Club.

### Maureen Kelly OAM:

Re-elected Honorary Secretary, Fellowship of Australian Writers Inc for 2014/2015;

Launched Port Stephens FAW's children's book, *Ripples* at Tomaree Library, Salamander Bay April 3, 2014.

## PORT MACQUARIE-HASTINGS FAW

### Geoff Collins:

Launched *The Improbable Adventures & Exploits of Mabel Hawkins (deceased)* Volume 2, at Port Macquarie Library, March 15th.

### Constance Jones:

1st prize in *FreeXpresSion* competition for article 'Louis Becke and Port Macquarie' April 2014;  
Life story published in book *Reflections of a Long Life* April 2014.

### Colleen Parker:

Editor/Published *Fire in the Sky* for Barbara Jackson, Feb '14;  
Book Review of *The Gene Bank Hacking* published in the autumn edition of *Writers Voice*.

## SUTHERLAND FAW

One of our prolific writers, **Elaine Staples** has published and presented a short story on Radio 2NBC 90.1FM with reading of 'A Design Fault';

Also included an interview "Why I am a writer", motivation etc with Ray Burgess;

'A Design Fault' published in April edition of *Positive Words*;  
Short story, 'Jacaranda' featured in April *FreeXpresSion*.

**Antoinette Conolly**, a creative and imaginative Young Adult author has published her fourth book in Cauchemar Trilogy series, *Alien Wizardry*.

**Jodie Wells-Slowgrove** had a very successful book launch for her first two books in the *Wilderness Fairies* series, published by Penguin Books Australia. The books are now stocked in reputable bookshops.

Our member, **Elizabeth Klein's** first book in her series, *Firelight of Heaven* was released in October last year. This coming August the second book in the series, *Green Heart of the Forest*, will be released. The publisher is Wombat Books.

Recently our President, **Helen Armstrong**, a long-time resident of Bundeena facilitated a Writers Breakfast for the Bundeena Maianbar *Art of Living* Festival on 16 March. The guest speakers were our talented members, **Jodie Wells-Slowgrove** and **Elizabeth Klein**, who as mentioned previously are published authors of children's fiction.

Finally we would like to acknowledge our member **Lyn Sutherland** who volunteers tirelessly for Lionesses Club, and writes all their press releases. She is involved in PR work for this worthy organisation, and also did a wonderful job promoting our Writer's Festival last November, which was a huge success.

## WYONG WRITERS

**Mei-Ling Venning** has returned from a trip in Yunnan, southwest China, and has written an illustrated blog about her fascinating trip. See <[meilingsyunnanblog.blogspot.com.au](http://meilingsyunnanblog.blogspot.com.au)>.

The Literary Awards and Competitions page on the Wyong Writers website is making it easier to find prose and poetry competitions to enter.

**Derek Recsei** entered his 'Bushfire' story into the 2014 Stringybark competition and was ranked 23 out of 216 entries, with good feedback provided on how to make his story publishable.

□

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# Prizewinning Short Story

## The Magic Shoes

by Georgia Sedlarevic

[Hilarie Lindsay Young Writers Short Story Competition 2013:  
Winning story, Section 4—Year 4 and under]

"OK CLASS!" mumbled Mrs. Truvelton as she was writing her name on the blackboard in the old classroom. "Today, we are doing joint writing. Firstly, the rules. Rule one, if your work is messy you will have to do it all over again or you will lose your snack and lunchtime. Rule two, no talking in my class or detention for your whole weekend!"

"Gees, she's strict!" said Lisa to Adam and Zoe in a whispering voice.

"Did I hear voices?" shouted Mrs. Truvelton in a mean and nasty voice, looking about the classroom. Everyone kept silent.

BRING!!!!!! Relief came when the bell went for lunch. Lisa, Adam and Zoe sat on the only picnic table in the dull and dingy school ground. There were worn monkey bars, one slide and one pole to slide down from a raised platform. This playground was always in the shade. There

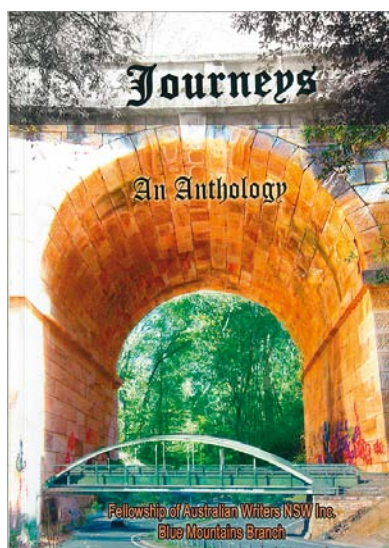
were only three pieces of equipment to play on. Lisa, Zoe and Adam were surprised by this. Their families all moved to Australia from Canada to enjoy more sunshine. Lisa, Adam and Zoe were best friends since kinder garden.

Zoe spied a lonely tree about twenty metres from the playground. She noticed something on the tree trunk. It looked like a poster or a piece of paper pinned onto the tree. "Look!" said Zoe as she jumped off the picnic table and ran towards the tree. Lisa and Adam followed along just behind Zoe. Zoe read out what was on the poster.

TALENT COMPETITION  
25TH OF DECEMBER  
AT THE SCHOOL GYM.

cont. page 21...

# Book Reviews



## Blue Mountains FAW Anthology

BLUE MOUNTAINS FAW recently launched their anthology *Journeys—An Anthology*. It certainly has a handsome cover of a Blue Mountains scene and it also commemorates the Bicentenary of the crossing of the Blue Mountains in 1813 as well as the 40th anniversary of the Blue Mountains Branch of the FAW.

An excellent job done by Springwood Printing Co, it is a delight for readers with Prose and Poetry. Many members have contributed to this publication and I would love to mention them all, however there is space only to mention a few.

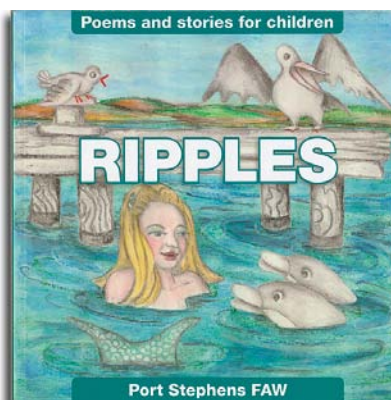
There are a number of very interesting photos and illustrations in this book and they highlight many of the works very well.

'To Venice with love' by John Smith is a very nice read. Rosemary Baldry delighted me with her story of 'Don't cry little rabbit'. 'The Bunyip' by Mat Elsdon is fun and very clever. I have always found the life of ants very interesting and 'The silence of the Ants' by David Berger very interesting and thought provoking. The romantic poem 'Moonlight' by Loris Islet Hawkins is really nice. And 'Bessie' by Pat Allen I found most engrossing.

Would love to tell you more but you must get a copy; it's full of great variety from this very talented Blue

Mountains Branch. The book also lists some information about each contributor and also a list of all their Anthologies and publications since 1973. Well done folks!

*Reviewed by Trevar Langlands*



## RIPPLES

Port Stephens FAW

I recently interviewed FAW member Christine Gregory on the publication of *Ripples*, published by Port Stephens FAW. Christine, the branch president, wrote the Foreword.

This book is for younger readers and there are stories and poems from members of the Port Stephens branch.

A lot of the content also concerns various aspects of the Port Stephens area, as well as local mythical beings.

The book is delightfully illustrated by Wendy Zirngast.

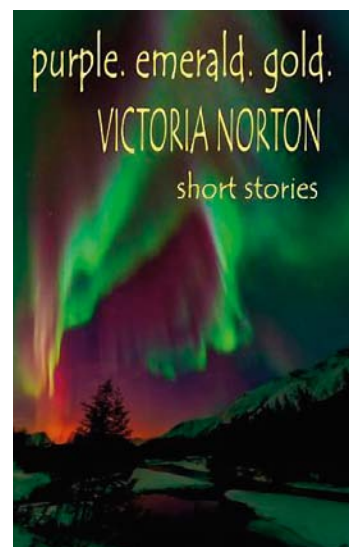
For some members, writing for younger people was a challenging situation.

The aim is to visit schools and share the book to encourage reading and help children write poems and stories.

Love 'the big red rooster', 'Thongs', 'My Granny' etc—they are all delightful and ideal for youngsters to read or for mum and dad or grandparents to enjoy reading to the younger family members.

For copies contact Christine Gregory at Port Stephens FAW or visit their website <[portstephensfaw.org.au](http://portstephensfaw.org.au)>.

*Reviewed by Trevar Langlands*



## 'purple. emerald. gold.'

Short stories by Victoria Norton

The March edition of *Writers Voice* featured a short story 'Beatrice Fed the Ducks on Monday' on the cover. That story is one from author Victoria Norton's book of short stories, *purple. emerald. gold.* Here Jan Mitchell reviews the book...

Victoria Norton loves to write and she writes with imagination and flair. Her first published book of short stories, poems and memories is a delight to be savoured. The title, 'purple, emerald, gold' comes from the initial story, 'The Headland':

The intricate music of my flute solo spins out melodic sound lines, alive with tone and texture, and it becomes a physical form, a wave of sound, wrapping around me, merging, melding, mending me to this place. Bright and rich, my sound colours the atmosphere. Purple. Emerald. Gold. It is the Aurora Australis. I am the concert flutist. I am the conductor. I am the audience. The applause is mine.

Not only does this extract give us the origin of her title, it perfectly demonstrates how Victoria weaves the magic of imagery into her words. Even snippets of memories are told in a way that allows the words to sparkle and shift from the ordinary.

Her roles as daughter, sister, wife and mother coupled with her



nursing career have provided Victoria with a plethora of experiences and observations around which to weave her stories. 'Beatrice Fed the Ducks...' is a poignant story of aging and memory failure, which is sure to pierce even the hardest heart. 'White Shoes' and 'A Weather Eye' bring memories of fellow nurses who influenced Victoria's attitudes to work and life, while 'Code of Denial' draws on her knowledge of drugs and their dangers.

The stories bring Victoria's insights into human nature into our consciousness, asking us to think about the rights and wrongs of human behaviour. In some, the character gets away with her bad behaviour ('The Gift Register'). In others ('It Should Have Been Me'), comeuppance is a just reward. 'Blue' is a wonderfully crafted story where all three characters receive justice, or at least we expect that in the end, Mary will as well.

The human need for love, comfort and trust are themes throughout this book, never more aptly expressed than in 'The Story of a Little Blue Bear', while the ability to enjoy the simple pleasure of life is demonstrated in 'The Best Kind of Christmas'.

Characters are revealed seemingly with ease and the experiences they have are realistic, whether they are from life or Victoria's wonderful imagination.

The book contains fifteen fictional short stories, two very short one act plays, several memories, an essay and a smattering of short poems.

**Reviewed by Jan Mitchell,**  
Lake Macquarie FAW

**'purple. emerald. gold.'**

Published by Linda Ruth Brooks  
Publishing Services

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## The Magic Shoes

*cont. from page 19*

"Today is the 24th of December" mumbled Adam.

Zoe continued to read out aloud. "Sign up at the library to enter. The first prize is \$5,000."

"Wow!" exclaimed Lisa in an excited shriek. "We should enter the competition."

"That's right," said Adam.

"Let's go and sign up." The friends ran back to the classroom.

"Mrs. Truvelton" called Lisa, Adam and Zoe in unison. "We want to enter the talent show."

"OK," replied Mrs. Truvelton in a surprised voice. "You should go to the library to sign up."

So, all three hurried to the library to sign up. Within a few minutes, Lisa, Adam and Zoe were signed up for the talent show. While Lisa was writing her name down, her eyes caught something she hadn't expected. Bethany's name was also on the list!

After school, the three friends went for a nice long walk in the bush to clear their minds. They couldn't believe that Bethany had also entered the talent show. Lisa started to talk about the time when Bethany bullied her at school and the nickname Bethany had been given by the other kids and for good reason. Every new school year, Lisa used to pray that she wouldn't get Big Bully Bethany in her class. Unfortunately, Lisa got Bethany more times than she cared to remember. Lisa told a story about the big bully.

Soon, the three friends veered off the footpath and ended up walking into a deep, dark bush. Zoe was bored and followed along behind her friends Adam and Lisa. As they walked, they kicked up stones on the dry, dusty ground. Zoe realized that she could no longer hear any chirping birds or see much beyond thick trees. She noticed that they were now in a big dark dingy bush and yelled out to Adam and Lisa. "We're lost in an enormous bush-cave-thingy!"

Adam and Lisa had stopped their conversation about Big Bully Bethany and the ham sandwich which ended up on Lisa's face, thanks to the bully. They looked around. Adam spotted something glimmering in the darkness. "Look over there! I can see something gold and shiny."

All three children approached the shiny object. "OMG!" shouted all three at the same time. "They are magic shoes!" The shoes sparkled brightly in the dark.

"Look!" said Adam. "It's doing something with the laces." The laces spelled out the words *FOLLOW ME HOME*

So that's what they all did, they followed the magic shoes home. Upon reaching their street, they each separated and ran to their own homes. Lisa picked up the shoes and took them inside. That night, Lisa practiced her dance with the magic shoes on until it was perfect!

"Beep-beep-beep-beep." Lisa's alarm clock woke her. It was a new day and the sun shone brightly and the birds chirped loudly. Today was the day of the competition. Lisa jumped out of bed, packed her special clothes for the dance and her magic shoes at the bottom of her bag. She kissed her mum and rushed off to school.

When Lisa got to school, she saw lots and lots of kids and heard singing voices coming from the school hall.

"Hi Lisa" said Zoe through a crowd of people.

"Come over here" motioned Lisa. Zoe met up with Lisa at the entrance of the gym hall. Lisa whispered in her friend Zoe's ear. "I need to talk to you about the magic shoes we found yesterday. The shoes can talk!"

"What?" asked Zoe in disbelief walking into the gym hall.



*cont. next page...*

## The Magic Shoes

*cont. from previous page*

"The shoes. They can talk!" repeated Lisa, "They can talk!"

Adam saw Lisa and Zoe at the back of the stage and ran to them. He was good at reading people's lips. "Are you serious? They can talk?" cried Adam. Just then the music bell went and the students took their places at the back of the stage. The hall was filled with parents eager to see their children perform. Mrs. Truvelton appeared before the children. "Line up now, Grade 3TR," she exclaimed.

The magic shoes sat perched on top of Lisa's bag. Somehow they knew that Bethany was rude to Lisa and had given her a hard time over the years. The shoes had a plan. They sneaked up to Bethany when no-one was looking and spoke to her, telling her that they would help Bethany win the competition if she wore them for her routine. If only Bethany knew that the shoes had something else in mind. Bethany was certain that she would win now that she had magic dancing shoes!

Mrs. Corstopilus, the gym teacher, called Bethany. "Come on Bethany, you're up next!" Wearing the magic shoes, Bethany took her position on stage and waited for the music cue. She was feeling smug. She could see more than 1000 people seated, all eyes on her. The music started and Bethany began to sing. Just then, Lisa spotted the magic shoes on Bethany's feet. Lisa exclaimed, "The magic shoes are on Bethany's feet!" But no-one heard her through the loud music. Lisa resisted the temptation to run on stage to take back her shoes. She was furious. She remembered what the shoes had said the night she found them, "Always trust in me, whatever I may do." Lisa knew the shoes were up to something, but she trusted them and sat back to watch the show. She looked back at Big Bully Bethany who was about to start dancing.

*Jump! Boing! Jump! Splat!*

Bethany had jumped into the air and fell flat on her behind. The magic shoes had ruined her dance. Mrs. Corstopilus quickly shut the curtains and ran to Bethany who was red-faced and terribly embarrassed. "Oh, poor darling Bethany. Are you ok?" Bethany didn't reply to Mrs. Corstopilus. She got up and walked off the stage bare-footed with a tear in her eye. Meanwhile, a huge smile grew on Lisa's face as she giggled to herself. She knew that the magic shoes were responsible for the spoiled dance routine. But at the same time, Lisa felt sorry for Bethany. Lisa felt that she should have told the magic shoes not to ruin the dance for Bethany. She walked over to the stage, picked them up and threw them into her bag. Lisa had something important to do before she went on stage, so she asked Mrs. Corstopilus to put her performance last.

Lisa found Bethany in the girls' change room. She was sitting all alone on a bench, sobbing. Lisa put her arm on Bethany's shoulder. "I'm sorry," said Lisa.

"What are you sorry for?" Bethany snapped back at Lisa. Lisa told Bethany about the magic shoes and how they had known that Bethany had bullied Lisa. She said she didn't like being bullied all those years but should have stopped the shoes from playing their trick on Bethany. Bethany wiped her eyes. "Really? After all those mean things I did to you?"

"Yes" replied Lisa. "We really should be friends."

"I agree and I'm sorry. Go. Go and do well at your performance. I hope you win," said Bethany and gave Lisa a tight hug. "Friends are better than enemies."

Lisa ran back to the stage wearing the magic shoes. When she joined Zoe and Adam on the stage, she could feel her heart beating in her chest. Lisa was excited and nervous. She had a very big smile, but it didn't matter to her if they won the competition today. She had made a new friend. □

**Closing date 31 August 2014:**

### **2014 FAW HILARIE LINDSAY YOUNG WRITERS POETRY COMPETITION for Australian SCHOOL STUDENTS**

Entries are sought from school children in the following categories...

**Section 1: Years 10, 11 & 12**  
(max. 60 lines). Prize: \$200

**Section 2: Years 7, 8 & 9**  
(max. 40 lines). Prize: \$175

**Section 3: Years 5 & 6**  
(max. 40 lines). Prize: \$175

**Section 4: Year 4 and under**  
(max. 20 lines) Prize: \$50

Entries must be the student's own work, unpublished and not having won any competition at the time of entry. *Normal Competition Conditions* apply [see page 25].

Prizes for Sections 1, 2 & 3 will be presented at the FAW NSW Annual Presentation Luncheon in November 2014. The prize for Section 4 will be presented at the winner's school. Results will be published in *Writers Voice* and on the FAW NSW website. Please download an **ENTRY FORM** from the FAW NSW website <[www.fawnsw.org.au](http://www.fawnsw.org.au)> or request one by email from the Competition Secretary <[compconvenor@fawnsw.org.au](mailto:compconvenor@fawnsw.org.au)>. Alternatively, send a stamped, self-addressed envelope to the postal address below. Entry form may be photocopied.

ENTRY FEE: \$2.00 per entry. Cheques or money orders should be made payable to 'Fellowship Aust. Writers'. Entry Fee can also be sent electronically to the FAW NSW bank account—BSB: 082-936 Account: 172389833—please include the words "Hilarie Lindsay Award" in the message line and submit a receipt with the entry.

Send entries with *signed* Entry Form and Entry Fee to:

The Convenor,  
FAW Hilarie Lindsay  
Young Writers Competition  
5/15 Bogan Road  
BOOKER BAY NSW 2257

For more information phone  
02 4341 1138 (ah only).

# Writing Competitions

Closing date 30 September 2014:

## THE FAW WALTER STONE AWARD 2014 FOR LIFE WRITING

Prize: \$1,500

The Award is for a Life Writing, defined as a work of biography, autobiography, memoir, monograph, bibliography. Biography and autobiography may be an extract to meet the word count requirements which is a minimum of 10,000 and a maximum of 25,000.

The Winner will be invited to an Awards Ceremony at the end of the year to receive their prize. Results will be published in *Writers Voice* and on the FAW NSW website <[www.fawnsw.org.au](http://www.fawnsw.org.au)>.

The competition is open to all residents of Australia 18 years and over with the exception of the judges and management committee members of the FAW NSW.

Receipt of entry will not be acknowledged however a results' list will be available if a SSAE is supplied with the entry. Multiple entries are permitted, with a separate Entry Form per entry.

Entry Fee is **\$25.00 per entry**. Only one cheque or money order is required for multiple entries or fees can be sent electronically (see Entry Form for details).

**ENTRY FORMS** containing the **full conditions of entry** may be downloaded from the FAW NSW website <[www.fawnsw.org.au](http://www.fawnsw.org.au)> or by sending a stamped, self-addressed envelope to the postal address below. Entry form may be photocopied.

Two copies of each manuscript are required.

A separate cover sheet must be attached containing the title and whether it is a biography extract, autobiography, extract, memoir, monograph or bibliography, word count, author's name, address, telephone number and email address (if available). Only page number and title of the entry is to appear on each page of the manuscript.

*Normal Competition Conditions* apply [see page 25]. Failure to comply with all conditions will result in disqualification without refund.

The author retains copyright to all work submitted, although prize-winning entries or a précis must be available for publication in the Fellowship's bulletin *Writers Voice* and on the FAW NSW website.

Entries must be original, creative and inspiring works which present an engaging work of literary excellence. The work is also to show some aspect of Australian history or have some Australian Historical significance.

FAW NSW reserves the right not to award any prizes if, in the judge's estimation, no entries of sufficient merit are received.

Send entries with Entry Form and Entry Fee to:

The Convenor,  
FAW Walter Stone Award 2014  
5/15 Bogan Road  
BOOKER BAY NSW 2257

For more information, contact the FAW Competition Secretary on 02 4341 1138 (ah only) or email <[compconvenor@fawnsw.org.au](mailto:compconvenor@fawnsw.org.au)>.

Closing date 30 September 2014:

## THE FAW JEAN STONE AWARD 2014 FOR POETRY

The Jean Stone Award is for a poem or group of poems up to 60 lines. Prize: \$500

The Winner will be invited to an Awards Ceremony at the end of the year to receive their prize. Results will be published in *Writers Voice* and on the FAW NSW website <[www.fawnsw.org.au](http://www.fawnsw.org.au)>.

The competition is open to all residents of Australia 18 years and over with the exception of the judges and management committee members of the FAW NSW.

Receipt of entry will not be acknowledged however a results list will be available if a SSAE is supplied with the entry. Multiple entries are permitted, with a separate Entry Form per entry.

**ENTRY FORMS** containing the **full conditions of entry** may be downloaded from the FAW NSW website <[www.fawnsw.org.au](http://www.fawnsw.org.au)> or by sending a stamped, self-addressed envelope to the postal address below. Entry form may be photocopied.

Entry Fee is **\$10.00 per entry**. Only one cheque or money order is required for multiple entries or fees can be sent electronically (see Entry Form for details).

Two copies of each poem are required.

A separate cover sheet must be attached containing the title of poem/s, line count, author's name, address, telephone number and email address (if available). Only page number and title of the entry is to appear on each page of the manuscript.

*Normal Competition Conditions* apply [see page 25]. Failure to comply with all conditions will result in disqualification without refund.

The author retains copyright to all work submitted, although prize-winning entries must be available for publication in the Fellowship's bulletin *Writers Voice* and on the FAW NSW website.

Entries must be original, creative and inspiring works which present an engaging work of literary excellence.

FAW NSW reserves the right not to award any prizes if, in the judge's estimation, no entries of sufficient merit are received.

Send entries with Entry Form and Entry Fee to:

The Convenor,  
FAW Jean Stone Award 2014  
5/15 Bogan Road  
BOOKER BAY NSW 2257

For more information, contact the FAW Competition Secretary on 02 4341 1138 (ah only) or email <[compconvenor@fawnsw.org.au](mailto:compconvenor@fawnsw.org.au)>.





# Writing Competitions

Closing date 30 June 2014:

## FAWNS VIBRANT VERSE POETRY COMPETITION 2014

*Pique our interest with your poetry*

- **Category A:** Free verse, open style, open theme.
- **Category B:** Traditional, rhymed or structured verse, open style, open theme.

The same conditions apply for both categories. Maximum 60 lines.

Prizes: 1st \$200, 2nd \$100, certificates awarded at judges' discretion.

Entry fee: \$5 per poem. Cheques or money/postal order should be made out to Fellowship of Australian Writers North Shore Branch, or entry fees can be paid by direct deposit to Fellowship of Australian Writers BSB 082 289, Account No. 50667 2584.

No entry form required, but a separate cover sheet should be attached for each entry, containing title, category (A or B), line count, name, address, telephone number, and email address (where applicable), and details of payment if made by direct deposit.

Title and text only to appear on manuscript. Entries must be typed, single-spaced, as per *Normal Competition Conditions* [page 25]. Author's name must not appear on the manuscript.

No email entries will be accepted. Entries must not be concurrently submitted elsewhere, nor have won a cash prize, or been published previously. Entries that flout this rule will be disqualified.

Judges' decision is final and no further correspondence entertained. Send entry with cover sheet and payment (or payment details if you have used direct deposit) to:

Competition Convenor  
5 Clement Street  
STRATHFIELD SOUTH NSW 2136

Enclose a business-size envelope SSAE if you would like a copy of the results. For further information, email <[fawnorthshore@gmail.com](mailto:fawnorthshore@gmail.com)> Results will be posted on the FAWNS website <<http://sites.google.com/site/fawnorthshorerregional/>> by Friday 15th August, 2014.

Closing date 14 July 2014:

## ALL POETRY COMPETITION

Australia-wide. No entry form required. A competition for all genres of original, unpublished poetry, 14–40 lines written in English and poem(s) not to have won a cash prize in any other competition. First Prize: \$200. Second Prize: \$100. Third Prize: \$60. Winners to receive a copy of *Tangents*, poetry by The Kitchen Table Poets, cover drawing by Robert Dickerson. Entry Fee \$7.50 per poem. Cheques or money orders made out to 'All Poetry'. Send *two* copies of each poem. No author name on ms. Please use a cover sheet showing name of author and poem, address, phone, (e-mail.). Entrants must be 18yrs or over. Feedback comments will be forwarded to thirty or more entrants. Include SSAE for this and results (optional).

Send entries to:

All Poetry  
PO Box 3268  
North Nowra NSW 2541

Conducted and judged by members of The Kitchen Table Poets, Shoalhaven. Visit <[www.kitchentablepoets.com.au](http://www.kitchentablepoets.com.au)> (news) for information and results. For featured poetry from the South Coast, see also <[www.artsrush.com.au](http://www.artsrush.com.au)> Entries can be post-marked up to and including July 14.

Closing date 31 July 2014:

## MUDGEE VALLEY WRITERS 14TH BIENNIAL COMPETITION

Open Theme.

OPEN CATEGORIES:

- **Short Story:** 2000 words maximum
- **Poetry (Rhyming):** 60 lines maximum

NOVICE CATEGORIES:

- **Short Story** by an author who has not previously won a monetary prize in any competition at time of entry, 2000 words max.
- **Poetry (Rhyming)** by an author who has not previously won a monetary prize in any competition at time of entry, 60 lines max.

Entry Fees: \$5 per entry or \$12 for three entries, by cheque or money order.

PRIZES:

**Open Sections:** First \$200 plus Trophy; Second \$100; Third \$50.  
**Novice Sections:** First \$100 plus Trophy; Second \$50; Third \$30.  
Highly Commended and Commended Certificates awarded.

Entry forms can be obtained by sending a stamped self addressed envelope to  
PO Box 356, Mudgee NSW 2850 or email <[j.baggett@bigpond.com](mailto:j.baggett@bigpond.com)>  
Entry forms and all entries to be forwarded to:

Competition Secretary,  
Mudgee Valley Writers Inc  
PO Box 356  
MUDGEE NSW 2850

Closing date 27 August 2014:

## PORT MACQUARIE-HASTINGS FAW OPEN COMPETITION

ENTRIES called for in 3 categories:

- **Short story** to 3,000 words
- **Rhyming verse** to 100 lines
- **Free verse** to 40 lines.

For all categories there is no specific theme.

COST \$5 per entry or 5 entries for \$20. Cheques and money orders should be made payable to FAW Port Macquarie-Hastings.

*Normal Competition Conditions* apply [see page 25].

Prize money for each category is 1st \$200, 2nd \$100 for each category and certificates for highly commended and commended entries will be awarded at judges' discretion.

MAIL entries to:

Open Competition Secretary,  
Port Macquarie Writers  
PO Box 67  
PORT MACQUARIE NSW 2444.

Results will be announced on October 25th at the branch meeting.

Enquiries: email <[brian.tolagson@gmail.com](mailto:brian.tolagson@gmail.com)> or phone (02) 6583 4384.



Closing date 27 September 2014:

**LAKE MACQUARIE FAW  
THE ALICE SINCLAIR MEMORIAL  
WRITING COMPETITION 2014**

The Lake Macquarie branch invites FAW members to enter its 2014 Alice Sinclair Memorial Writing Competition.

- **Category A: Poetry**, free or traditional to 50 lines, open theme.
- **Category B: Short Story** to 2,500 words, open theme.

Prizes (both categories): \$75 + certificate for first; \$40 + certificate for second; Certificates for any commended entries.

Eligibility: Open to all writers.

Limit: Maximum two (2) stories and/or two (2) poems per entrant.

Entry fee: \$5 for each entry in each category.

Submission of entries: No special entry form is required, though each entry must have a *separate cover sheet* with title, name, contact details and category entered. *Normal Competition Conditions* apply [see below].

Entries to be sent to:

Co-ordinator,  
Alice Sinclair Memorial Writing  
Competition  
52 Turrama Street,  
WANGI WANGI NSW 2267

Notification of winners: Winners will be announced at the Lake Macquarie FAW meeting, Saturday 25 October 2014. Winning and commended writers will be invited to the meeting. Results will also be published in *Writers Voice*.

Closing date 30 September 2014:

**FAWNS SUPER SHORT STORY  
COMPETITION 2014**

- **Category A: Super Short Story.**
- **Category B: Memoir.**

A memoir is defined as a memory in the writer's life of an incident, or a number of incidents relating to a single theme.

The same conditions apply for both categories. Maximum 700 words.

Prizes: 1st \$200; 2nd \$100, Highly Commended and Commended certificates.

Entry fee: \$5 for each story or memoir entered. Payment may be made by cheque or money order

to FAW North Shore, or by direct deposit to Fellowship of Australian Writers BSB 082 289, Account No. 506672584.

No email entries will be accepted.

No entry form is required but you must attach a Cover Sheet to each story or memoir submitted, stating the name of the entry, plus your name and contact details, and also details of the payment you are making.

The author's name must not appear on the story or memoir.

Enclose a business-size envelope SSAE if you would like a copy of the results. Your entry must not have won a cash prize at close of competition nor been submitted concurrently elsewhere.

If this rule is not adhered to the entry will be disqualified. Otherwise, *Normal Competition Conditions* apply [see below].

Send entry with cover sheet and payment (or payment details if you have used direct deposit) to:

Competition Convenor  
5 Clement Street  
STRATHFIELD SOUTH NSW 2136

For further information, email <[fawnorthshore@gmail.com](mailto:fawnorthshore@gmail.com)>

Results will be posted on the FAWNS website <<http://sites.google.com/site/fawnorthshoreregional/>> by Friday 7th November 2014.

Closing date 30 September 2014:

**SCRIBES WRITERS 2014  
OPEN LITERARY COMPETITION**

- **Category A:** Fictional Short Story
- **Category B:** Memoir

For the purposes of this competition, a memoir is defined as an incident or series of related incidents from the writer's own life. It is not a mini autobiography or an obituary. Open Theme. Max 1,000 words in either Category.

1st Prize \$200. 2nd Prize \$100.

Highly Commended and Commended certificates will be issued at the judge's discretion.

Entry fee: \$7 per entry, per category. Two copies of each entry required. No email entries will be accepted.

*Cover Sheet/ENTRY FORM and full Conditions of Entry* available at <[www.scribeswriters.com/conditions.html](http://www.scribeswriters.com/conditions.html)>

Entries must be post marked on or before the closing date. Late entries will not be considered.

Send entries with Entry Form and payment to:

Scribes Writers Open Competition  
South Barwon Community Centre  
33 Mt. Pleasant Road  
Belmont, Victoria 3216.

**NORMAL COMPETITION CONDITIONS**

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

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

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

# Branch Meetings and Contacts

## **BANKSTOWN WRITERS**

**1st Saturday – 1.00 to 4.00 pm**

Banksia Room,  
Revesby Workers Club

*Enquiries:*

Carney Vaughan 4268 5383

## **BLUE MOUNTAINS FAW**

**1st Sunday – 1.45 to 4.45 pm**

Springwood Court Function Room,  
133 Macquarie Rd, Springwood.

*Enquiries:*

David Berger (Pres.) 02 4759 2438

<davit2@hotmail.com>

PO Box 125, Springwood 2777

## **CENTRAL COAST FAW**

**3rd Sunday – 10.00 am**

Gosford Hotel, 179 Mann St,  
Gosford.

*Enquiries:*

Wanda Senamoglou (Sec.) 4333 9771

or Helen Luidens (Pres.) 4363 2627

<centralcoastfaw@live.com>

## **BONDI WRITERS**

**3rd Sunday – 2.00 pm**

Theory Room, Waverley Library,  
32-48 Denison St., Bondi Junction.

*Enquiries:*

Frankie Dowling 0422 090 868

PO Box 701 Bondi Junction 1355

<www.bondiwritersgroup.org.au>

## **EASTWOOD/HILLS FAW**

**1st Saturday – 1.30 pm**

Senior Citizens' Room,  
Cnr Farnell & North Rocks Rds,  
North Rocks.

*Enquiries:* Philippa Holland 9456 2723

<philandmike@hotmail.com> or

Shaun Lennon (Sec.) 9876 8276

<seanlennon43@yahoo.com.au>

Web: <http://hillsfaw.webs.com>

## **EUROBODALLA FAW**

**1st & 3rd Wednesdays – 10.30am  
and 1st Tuesday 6.30–8.30 pm**

The Community Centre  
Page Street, Moruya.

*Enquiries:* Rosie Toth 02 4473 6474

<rosieandtib@bigpond.com>

Web: <www.eurobodallawriters.org>

## **FOREST FAW**

**3rd Saturday – 2.00 pm**

Forest Community Arts Centre  
Darley Street, Forestville.

*Enquiries:*

Maggie Gowanlock 9948 3882

PO Box 248, Balgowlah NSW 2093

## **GREAT LAKES FAW**

**2nd Friday – 1.00 to 4.00 pm**

Forster/Tuncurry Memorial  
Services Club, Strand Street, Forster.

*Enquiries:* Christine Hayes 6555 9904

*Mail:* c/- Mrs Hermione Browning,  
15 Eden Place, Tuncurry 2428 NSW

## **HUNTER FAW**

**1st Wednesday – 10.15am**

Dining Room of Sydney Junction  
Hotel, Beaumont St., Hamilton

*Enquiries:*

Eileen Dillon-Smith (Sec.) 4928 2116

or Jan Dean (Pres.) 4954 9895

## **KANDOS**

**4th Monday – 2.30 to 4.00pm**

The Library, Angus Avenue,  
Kandos

*Enquiries:*

Kath Luchetti 6379 4679

<kluchetti@bigpond.com>

## **LAKE MACQUARIE FAW**

**4th Saturday – 2.00 to 4.00pm**

Multi-purpose Centre  
9 Thorn Street, Toronto.

*Enquiries:*

Jan Mitchell (Pres.) 0429 987 195

<lakemacaw2@gmail.com>

## **LAMBING FLAT (YOUNG)**

**3rd Monday – 5.30 pm**

Catherine McAuley Hall, Young.  
Retirement Village off  
Demondrille Street.

*Enquiries:*

Mary Reeves (Pres.) 6382 7703

<thatsisterofmine@yahoo.com.au>

Branch email:

<lambingflatbranchfaw

@hotmail.com>

## **LIVERPOOL CREATIVE WRITERS**

**2nd Saturday – 1.00 to 4.00pm**

Dr Pirie Community Centre  
Cnr Bigge & Moore Sts, Liverpool.

PO Box 4, West Hoxton 2171

*Enquiries:* Rick Vincenti (Pres.)

0404 496 776

<rick@vincenti.com.au> or

Rhonda Rice (Publicity)

<ricey38@optusnet.com.au>

## **MACARTHUR FAW**

**3rd Sunday – 1.00 pm**

Campbelltown RSL Club  
(Jade Room), Carberry Lane.

*Enquiries:*

Pauline Twemlow (Sec.)

<macarthur@fawns.org.au>

## **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.fawns.org.au](http://www.fawns.org.au)>

**Facebook:** <[www.facebook.com/FAWNSW](http://www.facebook.com/FAWNSW)>

## **ABOUT THE FAW**

The aims of the FAW are:

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

## **Branch Meetings**

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

## **MOOCOBOOLA FAW**

**3rd Thursday – 1.30 pm**

Gladesville Library  
Pittwater Road, Gladesville.

*Enquiries:* Vicki Harrold 9878 3005

PO Box 318, Hunters Hill 2110

or John Egan 9799 3077 or

4464 1719

## **MUDGE VALLEY FAW**

**2nd Tuesday – 12 Noon**

Club Mudgee,  
Mortimer Street, Mudgee.

*Enquiries:*

Colleen O'Sullivan 6379 6902

PO BOX 356, Mudgee 2850

## **NORTH ARM COVE FAW**

**3rd Thursday – 7.00 pm**

Community Centre, The Ridgeway,  
North Arm Cove.

*Enquiries:* Maureen Kelly 4997 3237

22 Promontory Way,

North Arm Cove NSW 2324

<[northarmcovefaw@live.com](http://northarmcovefaw@live.com)>

## **NORTH SHORE FAW**

[FAWNS]

**3rd Sunday – 1.00 pm**

Willow Park Community Centre,  
25 Edgeworth David Ave, Hornsby.

*Enquiries:*

Maria Encarnacao (Pres.),

35 Eyre St, Smithfield NSW 2164 or

Richard Brookton (VP) 9744 1567

<fawnorthshore@gmail.com>

Web: <[sites.google.com/site/fawnorthshorerregional/](http://sites.google.com/site/fawnorthshorerregional/)>

## **PARRAMATTA FAW**

**2nd Saturday – 12.30 pm**

Top Floor, Parramatta Library,  
Darug Room, Civic Place,  
Parramatta.

*Enquiries:*

Lyn Leerson (Sec.) 9639 8394

<[lynlew@optusnet.com.au](mailto:lynlew@optusnet.com.au)>

## 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:

Rachel Palmer (Pres) 6586 1080  
or Kerry Buchanan 6582 1226  
PO Box 67 Port Macquarie NSW 2444

## PORT STEPHENS FAW 3rd Thursday – 10.00 am

Tomaree Library, Salamander Bay

Enquiries:

Christine Gregory (Pres.) 4982 2004  
<gregorywrite@bigpond.com>

## SHOALHAVEN FAW

2nd Saturday – 10.00 am

Meeting Room, Arts Centre  
Berry St, Nowra (next to Library).

Enquiries: Liz Carter

PO Box 154, Nowra NSW 2541  
<info@fawnswshoalhaven.org.au>  
<www.fawnswshoalhaven.org.au>

## SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS

3rd Saturday – 1.00 pm

The Henrietta Rose Room,  
Library, Bowral.

Enquiries:

Margaret Symonds (Pres.)  
<margsym@gmail.com>  
<www.writershighlands.com>

## STROUD WRITERS

Fortnightly Thursdays

9.00 am to noon

Stroud Library,  
Church Lane, Stroud.

Enquiries:

Dianne Foster 4994 5727  
PO Box 4, Stroud NSW 2425  
<stroudwriters@gmail.com>

## SUTHERLAND SHIRE FAW

Last Saturday – 12.30 pm

Sutherland Library, Meeting Room  
(Ground Floor)  
30-36 Belmont Street, Sutherland.

Enquiries:

Helen Armstrong (Pres) 9527 1525  
PO Box 602, Sutherland 1499  
<sutherlandshirefaw@gmail.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: Narelle Noppert (Pres.)  
0438 678 679 or Olivia Mulligan  
(Sec.) 0402 091 903

<wollondillybranch.faw@  
gmail.com>

## WYONG WRITERS

4th Saturday – 1.30pm

Wyong RSL Club,  
Cnr. Margaret St and Anzac Ave.  
Wyong.

Enquiries:

Mei-Ling Venning (Pres.) 4333 7489  
85 Oaks Road, Shelly Beach 2261  
<meilingvenning@hotmail.com>  
Web: <www.wyongwriters.org>

## The Fellowship of Australian Writers

### INTERSTATE BRANCHES

#### Victoria:

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

#### Tasmania:

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

#### Queensland:

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

## FAW ISOLATED WRITERS BRANCH

### MEMBERSHIP ENQUIRIES:

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

### MEMBERS' ACHIEVEMENTS:

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

### AFFILIATION FEES:

FAW NSW Affiliation Fees are due 31 December each year.

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

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

### ROUND ROBIN:

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

Please limit your submissions to:

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

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

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

#### Round Robin Closing Dates

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

#### Round Robin Submissions

POSTAL:

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

Electronic Round Robin (ERR):

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

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

# FAW Members' Bookshelf

MARY ANN NAPPER

*Born to Fly—Living with Autism*

Self-published by Mary Ann Napper, this novella is a fictionalised version of a true story. Set in Australia in the 1940s and 50s, when autism was unheard of, it gives an account of a child's journey from a state of feral wilderness into a world of communication. The author focuses on treatment interventions which she hopes will inspire people with autism, their families and perhaps health services to question their approaches to helping individuals with autism relate to their environment. It is a story of determination, courage and great warmth. ISBN: 978-0-9923174-0-9. \$23 (inc postage). 25% of sales donated to Autism Spectrum Australia (Aspect) Can be purchased online at: <[www.bornstofly-livingwithautism.com.au](http://www.bornstofly-livingwithautism.com.au)>.

VICTORIA NORTON

*purple. emerald. gold*

This collection of short stories showcases Victoria's love of writing. Winning awards for her writing has encouraged her to write stories from the heart, full of truth and written with the aim to take the reader's imagination to another place. From this mix of stories, such as a teddy bear's life as Victoria's lifelong companion, one woman's attachment to her native ducks and to a rendez-vous in a French Café—you will find a story for everyone. Currently studying a Degree in Creative Writing, Victoria wants to put her High School English teacher on notice... Mrs. K, the novel is on its way! 156 pages. Available from <[Amazon.com](http://Amazon.com)> \$11.99

BRIAN TOLAGSON

*Evocative Verse*

This is the first collection of rhyming verse from a new poet who started by writing songs in 1961. It is locally acclaimed and includes several competition placegetters. 72 pages. Contact the author (02) 6583 4384 or by e-mail <[brian.tolagson@gmail.com](mailto:brian.tolagson@gmail.com)>.

HEATHER BIRD

*I Hear you*

The story begins in the early 1950s with the lead-up to the writer becoming ill with tuberculosis. As a young woman sent from home to be isolated for two and a half years in three hospitals, the last two in the then Princess Juliana Hospital in Turrumurra, NSW. Heather takes the reader into the unusual world of living with an illness that made her 'a danger to the community' and therefore excluded from life with her family at home until she had recovered. ISBN 9781922050120. Cost \$18 includes postage. Available from Heather Bird, 4a Royal Street, Chatswood NSW 2067.

MIKE ROBINSON

*The Maryborough Matches*

It has all been forgotten now, but it did happen. The City of Maryborough, Queensland was chosen to host an International Cricket match that would highlight the sporting prowess of the Wide Bay region. This is the real story of this important match, based on factual reports recorded in the Maryborough Chronicle in 1883, by the journalists of the time, who had never before written any cricket reports, but were more used to writing farming, domestic, political and fashion columns. This book tells how the game was organised and presented, how an English team of International Cricket Representatives found itself 17 runs for 5 wickets down against an Aussie pub team. It also tells how an English cricketer found his way, in romantic fashion, to influencing the future life of a wartime family in Tropical Queensland... maybe.

104 pages. \$15.00. Available from the author/editor Mike Robinson <[mikerobo@hotmail.com](mailto:mikerobo@hotmail.com)> or through Eurobodalla branch of the FAW.

JEREMY GADD

*Selected Poems*

These *Selected Poems* are representative of a lifetime crafting and coaxing words into poems. They capture the optimism and humour associated with young adulthood, the poignant truths and observations that become apparent in maturity and reflect on the transitoriness of existence. Published by Arcadia, paperback, 108 pages. ISBN 9781925003291. \$19.95. Purchase online at <[www.scholarly.info/book/357/](http://www.scholarly.info/book/357/)>

MIKE ROBINSON

*Don't Wake the Kids*

The author was unwittingly given the task of being Father Christmas in the Batemans Bay region over the Christmas season of 2010. The result was that he had the most enchanting Christmas ever and this is his story. 42 pages. \$10.00. Available from the author Mike Robinson <[mikerobo@hotmail.com](mailto:mikerobo@hotmail.com)> or through Eurobodalla branch of the FAW.

## RECENTLY PUBLISHED BOOKS FOR SALE

Please send details for inclusion in this section to:

Editor, Writers' Voice,

65 Barbara Boulevard, Seven Hills NSW 2147

The FAW Bookshelf web page address is:

<[www.fawns.org.au/bookshelf.html](http://www.fawns.org.au/bookshelf.html)>

KAY ANDOS

*Rocky Mountain Spirit*

A social history of Kandos, NSW. This very large, hard covered book has 448 pages and 600 photos of life in a small country town. The stories are relative to everyone who lived in Australia, in a small country industrial town during the Twentieth Century. It is told by the descendants of original settlers and New Australian's stories before and after WWII. It also contains 146 genealogy trees of the 150 people interviewed for this book which celebrates the Kandos Centenary. Price \$70 plus \$15 postage. Available from Pamela O'Connor, 28 Russell Rd, Kandos NSW 2848. Phone 02 6379 4613.

IRENE WILKIE

*Extravagance*

This is Irene Wilkie's second collection of poems. Throughout the 67 pages she demonstrates a delight in the natural and human world. She treats, often with a wry humour, the more serious aspects of growing older, loss and environmental concerns. There is a strong enquiry with empathy into the dilemma of humankind in the face of a vast and mindless universe, a question lightened by colour in the visual and aural image. She says, 'In the mornings, familiar, light-washed, wind-tipped things change. I walk with dawn birds, searching for the difference'. Extravagance has a very attractive cover by Lea Hawkins. Cost: \$22 plus postage, from Ginninderra Press, or \$24 (inc postage), from Irene Wilkie PO Box 3268 Nth Nowra 2541

PETER J. UREN

*The Old Mechanic*

*The Old Mechanic* is Peter Uren's debut novel. It tells the story of an old motorcycle mechanic who takes on an apprentice and, together, they restore a classic 1959 Norton 500cc ES2. The story takes the reader right through the process of restoring an old classic motorcycle, from rebuilding the engine to getting the bike on the road. Along the way, they maintain, repair and service many classic old British motorbikes. The book is available for sale by the author for \$14.99 plus \$8.00 postage within Australia. Contact the author on <[theoldmechanic1@yahoo.com.au](mailto:theoldmechanic1@yahoo.com.au)>. It is also available as an eBook on Kindle Reader through the Amazon website for USD\$4.99.

JOIE BLACK

*Stories of Matilda Mouse*

A small A5 size colour illustrated story book for children from five upward. It is a story of Matilda Mouse, her life in Australian pioneer times and Charlie her boy friend who tells of his adventures as a seafaring *ship's cook* mouse. Written and Illustrated by Joie Black, it is a fun, colourful 24 page story book which is also educational with colouring in pages at the back. ISBN 978-1922050-17-3. \$6 plus postage, obtainable from the author, phone [02] 6585 3520, or email enquires to <[joie10@bigpond.com](mailto:joie10@bigpond.com)>

MARTYNA PARSONS

*Through the Eyes of a Child*

Sitting down with her childhood diaries and notes scribbled before, during and after World War II, Martyna has created a faithful account of the war years in Poland for an ordinary family. It is beautifully descriptive and sometimes magical as she describes her eventual escape to Italy to be reunited with her father. A captivating read. ISBN 9780646570532. Cost \$20 plus postage. Email <[martynawrites@y7mail.com](mailto:martynawrites@y7mail.com)>.



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