



# Write Turn

A publication of the NT Writers' Centre

Vol.17 No.1 June 2009

## EYE OF THE STORM



Linda Jaivin



Jen Mills, Sandra Thibodeaux & Kaye Aldenhoven



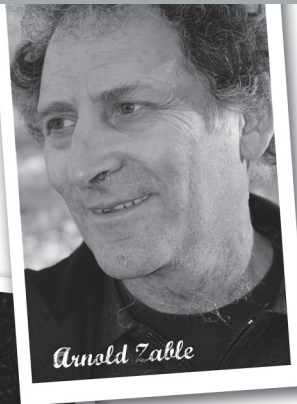
Jen Mills & Jennifer Byrne



Andrew McMillan & Sammy Butcher



Kate Grenville



Arnold Zable

What a glorious four days! The elements were on our side as Alice Springs/Mparntwe played host to some of the most talented, generous and inspiring writers in the country. Highlights? There were so many ... The *1001 Nights Afghan Feast* was a spicy sensation, with Arnold Zable reading a poignant piece about a drowning and Najaf Mazari sharing his journey from war-torn Iraq to Villawood Detention Centre to freedom in Melbourne. The perennially entertaining Linda Jaivin also enticed the crowds with excerpts from *A Most Immoral Woman* while Jo Dutton provided political bite and Kenny Laughton, unquestionably, put the cream on the evening.

More wallet-friendly were the events staged at the Todd Tavern and the Town Council Lawns. The Todd was the venue for the Desert Poetry Slam where Wire MC and Choo Choo hosted an eclectic evening of all-in entertainment, while the Lawns saw the best in NT Indigenous music and performance with featured artists Shellie Morris, Steve Gumerungi Hodder, Ali Cobby-Eckermann, South East and Tjupi Band keeping the crowds jumping. The book launches were also free and gave us a chance to show off our fabulous NT talent. Ali Cobby-Eckermann and Jennifer Mills launched their debut books and the NT Indigenous Anthology was given a sneak preview.

*Closing Night Crime* featuring Shane Maloney and Jennifer Byrne had us all rolling in the aisles, the breakfasts and literary lunch were sumptuous, and the screening of *Samson and Delilah* had double the impact, given its Alice Springs setting. However, anyone who attended the *Words in the Dust* event at Simpsons Gap will testify that, indeed, this was the gem in the festival crown. To quote ASA's Jeremy Fisher: 'I doubt anyone who was there will forget the Sunday evening reading by Arnold Zable at Simpsons Gap. We sat or lay on the sand of the dry river, listening to Arnold's words. Roos came up behind us in the dusk to listen, too. Overhead, the stars sparked in a clear sky. Words were the only sound echoing from the rocks.' (<http://drjeremyfisher.blogspot.com/>)



## Greetings from Sandra

Hi Writers,

The literary world is still buzzing about our *Eye of the Storm* festival. Held in Alice Springs in May, the festival was a sell-out success with both audiences and guest writers raving about the events, the content, the locations and the talent. Only two days ago, Arnold Zable reported 'Alice is still in my mind' while Jeremy Fisher continued to glow in his blog: <http://drjeremyfisher.blogspot.com/>



While there are many people who could be thanked for the success of the festival, I'd like to highlight the great volunteers of Alice Springs who were so calm and competent, and often went 'the extra mile' to assist. I'd also like to acknowledge the tremendous efforts of Michael Giacometti who did such a brilliant job on production, site and volunteer management, transport and ticket sales. He has lately been having a well-deserved rest, and will return to the office in early June. I will be taking my time-off-in-lieu over the month of July, while Andy is flying the coop altogether for another sojourn in Bali. I'd like to thank Andy once again for his fantastic work in the Darwin office where he has worked mostly on general publicity, the *Eye of the Storm* and *Territory Read*. Also on personnel, our regular technician in Darwin, Colin Simpson, has recently had a stroke and a heart attack. It would be hard to estimate the dollar value on all that Colin has provided for the NTWC over the years on *Off the Page*, *WordStorm* and *Eye of the Storm* (Katherine). Colin has been so generous, keeping his labour costs minimal and providing equipment free-of-charge in order to save our budget. There will be a benefit gig for Colin in Darwin on June 13 at Brown's Mart. Please attend and/or make a donation to assist him at this difficult time. The NT Writers' Centre is making a donation in acknowledgement of all he has done over the years.

I'd like to let members know that the Literature Board of the Australia Council has revised its Key Organisations category. They are looking to support organisations that can demonstrate that they are national centres for excellence. Whilst the NT Writers' Centre can demonstrate it achieves outcomes on a national level, we will need to review and revise our focus and funding objectives. The Committee and staff are currently working on this, and will be making an Expression of Interest to the Australia Council in October. Regardless of which direction we move towards and how this will be funded, we will retain our commitment to the development and promotion of Northern Territory writers and literature. In this regard, our programs, festivals and initiatives will remain largely unchanged. Coming up over the next few months we have: the Rhonda Whitton workshop series in Darwin (27-29 June); the Jan Cornall masterclass in Alice Springs (5 July) which will be invaluable to those working on major projects; the Harry Laing workshops in Darwin (11 July); Darwin Festival events in August; theatre productions/readings in August; and the popular *Meet the Publisher* in Alice and Darwin (4-7) September. See inside for more details on these activities.

See you around. Best, Sandra

## NTWC Members' News

- Ali Cobby Eckermann, Jennifer Mills and Andrew McMillan appeared at the Sydney Writers Festival to great acclaim
- Jennifer Mills book, *The Diamond Anchor*, was launched at Eye of the Storm.
- Michael Giacometti and Natalie Sprite had work accepted by Meanjin Literary Magazine.
- Rosemary Sullivan's picture book *Tom Tom*, published by Working Title Press, has been shortlisted in the Childrens Book Council of Australia Awards
- A narrative poem, titled "The Prisoner", by Alice Springs writer Kieran Finnane, will be read on Radio National's Airplay, Sunday, April 26, 3pm, repeated the following Thursday, 7pm.

Got any news? Email us. We love promoting NT Writers success stories!

## Write Turn

Newsletter of the  
NT WRITERS' CENTRE

Editors:  
Sandra Thibodeaux  
& Natalie Sprite  
Production & Layout:  
Natalie Sprite

## advertising

1/8 page = \$40  
1/2 page = \$100  
Inserts = \$30 per 100

Please note, specific  
regions can be targeted.

Deadlines for advertising  
bookings is the middle of the  
month or by arrangement.  
Adverts in electronic  
form are preferred.  
Please provide as  
300dpi tiff or jpg files.

## new members

Dennis McIntosh  
Richard Dickenson  
Lisa Leo  
Rita Riedel  
Linda Rive  
Maryanne Bohr  
Ray Zanos  
Katherine Stubbs  
Gitanjali Maksay  
Margot Rijanders  
Kerry Sims  
Julie Ruth  
Deidre Frances Hooker

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in this publication is  
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for any statement of  
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omission.

# Barkly Round-up

## Lynette Lewis



*Shellie Morris and Lynette Lewis at Eye of the Storm*

April 2008 marked the beginning of my time as a project officer for the Barkly region for NTWC, and the following month we had a workshop held for all writers of the Tennant Creek and surrounding regions with Amber Hammill from IAD press, Ali Cobby Eckermann and Terry Whitebeach. This workshoped the works all writers were submitting to the upcoming IAD and NT Writers' joint publication of "This Country, Anytime, Anywhere"- the anthology of new Indigenous writing from the Northern Territory. It was a thoughtful and very personal time for all involved in that workshop.

We also had Sandra Thibodeaux come up in October last year for a writers' performance night which was well attended at the Nyinkka Nyunyu Aboriginal Art and Culture Centre in Tennant Creek. We had a mixture of Indigenous and non-Indigenous people read their work, including Maureen O'Keefe and Valerie Nelson from Ali Curung. Zaddock Johnson from the local Winanjikari Music Centre and myself

played a few tunes to keep the writers entertained. After that, we had Sophie Cunningham of Meanjin come to Tennant to speak with all the writers about their work and all aspects involved. I personally found Sophie to be very engaging and helpful when it came to talking about writing as an artform and profession. She was lively and totally with us the whole time and when I looked around the room at the people that turned up, I gathered I was not the only one who got a lot out of her workshop.

We had our "Eye Of The Storm" Writers' festival in Alice this year, and I thought it to be a successful activity-filled few days. The Anthology people read their work at the Olive Pink Botanic Gardens to an appreciative audience. There was the Poetry Slam at the Todd Tavern and the concert night, just to name a few of the things we got up to. Overall, the festival was booked out most of the time and everyone who attended workshops and events got their money's worth.

The Barkly writers that I know of and have worked with, such as Rosemary Plummer, Maureen O'Keefe, Valerie Nelson, David Curtis and myself haven't had so much activity in the writing sense as we have had the past year, and the proof of that is in the upcoming anthology. There is a chunk of Barkly talent featured in it, and I think it will be well worth the read. We always had a strong voice ... we just haven't had the opportunity for it to be heard as it has been this past year. So, thank you, Writers' Centre NT, and keep it coming.

Lynette Lewis

## GIVING: Rachel Tumminello

What is Philanthropy? Philanthropy is giving for no commercial gain. Are you familiar with Red Cross doorknock appeals or direct debit regular payments to your favourite charity? Also, think of those medium-large donations by wealthy individuals. The Giving Manager looks after this aspect of the organization, including applying to foundations and trusts and such. As Giving Manager for the NT Writers' Centre, I believe that this kind of support is invaluable to delivering our diverse range of activities and events.

Giving opportunities for individuals can be program-specific. You might think one of our activities is really worthwhile and you want to assist with its delivery. Or perhaps you know someone else who would really value the outcomes we aim for.

We are in the process of strengthening our Giving Program. Please don't hesitate to call or e-mail with any questions or ideas you may have.

Cheers, Rachel Tumminello, Giving Manager, NTWC



# Rhonda Whitton Workshops

Rhonda Whitton is coming to Darwin to present three workshops including the very popular, *A Decent Proposal*, for writers who want to be published.

Writing can be a self-absorbing process and emerging authors often overlook the importance of presenting their book to a publisher in a concise, convincing and professional way. Based on the authors' own experiences and an industry-wide survey, *A Decent Proposal* features step-by-step instructions for developing a winning book proposal package.

Rhonda Whitton is a qualified journalist and experienced teacher. She is the author of *A Decent Proposal: how to sell your work to an Australian Publisher*. Rhonda conducts workshops at Australian Writers Centres, teaches specialist writing short courses and corporate training in various aspects of business writing. She teaches professional writing at the Gordon Institute of TAFE in Geelong. She also teaches as part of the short course program at various writers' centres, universities, TAFEs and the CAE. Rhonda is also well known to writers as the editor of the invaluable, *The Writer's Marketplace*.

In addition to *A Decent Proposal*, she will also be offering a workshop on freelance journalism. Don't miss this chance to get tips from an expert about the world of journalism, writing and publishing.

On Monday, Rhonda will be presenting *Waffle free Writing* - how to write clearly and concisely. This one-day workshop is targeting at those writing in corporate and government sectors, although it will have relevance for writers in any field.



*A Decent Proposal* is on Sat 27 June, 10am-4pm. Cost: Full \$140 / Concession \$80/ Members \$100 / Member Concession \$60

*Freelance journalism* will be held on Sun 28 June, 1pm - 4pm. Cost: Full \$50 / Concession \$40 / members \$30 / concession member \$25

*Waffle-free Writing* is on Mon 29 Jun 09, 9am-4pm. Cost: Full \$150 / conc. \$80 member \$110 /concession member \$60.

All workshops will be held in the Conference Room at Frogs Hollow Centre for the Arts, 56 McMinn St.

NB: *A Decent Proposal* is essential preparation for the Meet the Publisher Forum (see pg 10)



## Get Well, Simmo

As you may have heard, Colin Simpson has been flown to Adelaide for heart surgery after suffering a stroke last Thursday. He has recovered from the stroke but will still need to have heart surgery.

A benefit has been arranged by Happy Yess and supported by a range of arts organisations, including the NT Writers' Centre. The gig is to give support to Simmo, who has given so much to Darwin over the past 30 years.

The benefit is on Saturday 13th June, 4pm - 1am at Brown's Mart. 15 Bands, 2 Stages and an amazing line-up, including Horse Trank, Roy Mackonkey, Drum Drum, EmDee, Jigsaw, Greedy Stout, Blastcorp, Semi-shigure, Burrfoot, Murmers, The Secret Game (CD Launch), En-Rhonda, Snow in Cities, Robbie Mills and the Collective, The Lookarounds and more!

\$10 Entry - Donations also accepted. All proceeds to Colin Simpson. For more info or to help out, contact: [happyessmanager@gmail.com](mailto:happyessmanager@gmail.com)

# Off the Page ... June 19 @ The Groove



## Mary Anne Butler

‘innovative and clever, a dry Territorian wit.’ Peter Matheson

## Sandra Thibodeaux

‘sensual and sexy.’ Kaye Aldenhoven

## Leah Flanagan

Best Emerging Artist - NT Indigenous Music Awards

## Ella Watson-Russell

‘a luminous new talent’

MC'd by the whimsical **Matthew Haubrick**

6.30 pm start and open mic registration.

Cost: \$6 NTWC Members/Concession \$10 Non-members. Open mic performers free.  
Book @ the Groove, 8948 2773, or just roll up

## Fantasy Writing Tips

RICHARD HARLAND, multi-award-winning Australian fantasy author, has just completed a labour of love. *Good Writing Habits* is a 145-PAGE WEBSITE OF TIPS for fantasy, speculative fiction and genre writers. The website deals with the practicalities of planning, writing routine, getting feedback and revising. In *Elements*, there's a section on Action, a section on Setting, a section on Dialogue and a section on presenting Inner Thought. *Characters* covers how to create characters, how to describe them and how to follow a character's point of view. *Story* is about beginnings, middles, climaxes and sequels, along with techniques for maintaining momentum and the art of pacing. *Topics under Language* include style, titles, inventing names, first-person narrators and more. Last but not least, there's *Getting Published*, which explains how the publishing system works, how to break into it, what to submit, plus valuable information on contracts, promotion, etc. Richard says, "www.writingtips.com.au covers everything I've ever learned, from basic to advanced. Why did I do it? I don't know, just because I could. I had writer's block for 25 years, so now I feel very lucky to have fifteen published novels to my name. I've been thinking about the processes of writing for a long time—the analytical side of my head sits out and watches what the creative side is doing. I'm hoping for good karma by using that to help other writers!" Richard's latest book is the steampunk/Victoriana fantasy, *Worldshaker*, published by Allen & Unwin. For more info, visit [www.writingtips.com.au](http://www.writingtips.com.au)

# Opportunities... Awards ...

## **AUSTRALIAN SOCIETY OF AUTHORS NEW WORKS GRANTS**

**Closing date: 30 June 2009**

New work grants assist in the creation of new work by emerging Australian writers and picture book illustrators.

New work funding is available for living allowances (including childcare) and/or assistance with travel and research costs associated with the preparation and writing of nominated projects.

Emerging writers and illustrators should apply to the emerging writers' and illustrators' initiative. This initiative will be managed by the Australian Society of Authors. W:[www.asauthors.org/](http://www.asauthors.org/)

Applications will be accepted in the following genres only:

Fiction, literary non-fiction (defined by the literature board as autobiography, biography, essays, histories, literary criticism or analytical prose), children's and young adult literature, poetry, writing for performance (theatre, radio) or new media (digital, interactive, cross-media). Multiple and hybrid genre projects are accepted.

## **VAL VALLIS AWARD FOR UNPUBLISHED POETRY Deadline: 6 July 2009**

Named in honour of a distinguished Queensland poet, the Arts Queensland Val Vallis Award for Unpublished Poetry is committed to encouraging emerging poets throughout Australia.

1st Prize \$3,000      2nd Prize \$750      3rd Prize \$250

Visit: <http://www.qwc.asn.au> for more information and to download entry forms.

## **2009 ABR REVIEWING COMPETITION Deadline: 31 July**

First prize: \$1000 and publication of the review in ABR and at least two future commissions

Second prize: \$250 plus publication

Third prize: the Short Oxford English Dictionary, Deluxe Edition, courtesy of Oxford University Press

All categories of books are eligible, including fiction, non-fiction, poetry, children's and young adult books. Reviews should be 800 words. The book being reviewed must have been published since January 2007.

For further information, e-mail: [abradmin@vicnet.net.au](mailto:abradmin@vicnet.net.au); telephone (03) 9429 6700 or visit the ABR website: [www.australianbookreview.com.au](http://www.australianbookreview.com.au)

## **QWC/HACHETTE AUSTRALIA MANUSCRIPT DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM FOR FICTION WRITERS Deadline: 24 July 2009**

Queensland Writers Centre (QWC) and Hachette Australia are proud to announce an exciting new national program for fiction writers. This program has been created for emerging Australian authors of fiction who are either unpublished or have no more than one significant work commercially published. Up to 10 emerging fiction writers will work with publishers from Hachette Australia to develop high-quality fiction manuscripts.

The program is open to applicants Australia-wide who are Australian citizens or permanently reside in Australia. There is a \$50 application fee per submission. Download full guidelines and application forms at [www.qwc.asn.au](http://www.qwc.asn.au). The manuscript development retreat will run in southeast Queensland from 20-25 November 2009.

## **VARUNA'S NEW PARTNERSHIPS WITH PUBLISHERS**

Varuna – The Writers' House is thrilled to announce two new major programs presented in partnership with Australian publishers – Publisher-Supported Professional Development Residencies, and Varuna Publisher Fellowships.

Scribe, Allen and Unwin, Random and Pan Macmillan will present the first Publisher-Supported Professional Development Residencies at Varuna from August to November.

Peter Bishop will be the resident tutor. A publisher from the publishing house will discuss the publishing industry with the resident writers, and the writers will give a prepared reading. The publisher will have one-on-one consultations with each of the writers.

The Varuna Publisher Fellowships offer a one-week residency, with applications selected by publishers.

LITERARY FICTION	ALLEN&UNWIN
COMMERCIAL FICTION	PAN MACMILLAN
YOUNG ADULT FICTION	SCRIBE
ESSAYS	GRIFFITH REVIEW
NON-FICTION	RANDOM HOUSE
DIFFERENT VOICES	TEXT
POETRY AND SHORT FICTION	TO BE ANNOUNCED

Applications for Publisher-Supported Professional Development Residencies are open now. The deadline for the Varuna Publisher Fellowships is August 31. All information is at [www.varuna.com.au](http://www.varuna.com.au)

## **CRICKET POETRY AWARD: 2009 Deadline: 25th September**

Poets are invited to submit a poem celebrating an aspect of life in and around the game and sport of cricket. Poets will be asked to use cricket as the vehicle to unsettle preconceptions, generate new ideas and consider our contemporary culture.

The winner will be announced at the inaugural Cricket Art Prize opening event at the Members Pavilion of the SCG on Thursday 8th Oct 2009. There is a \$20 fee to enter and a first prize of \$2,000.

Entries open 1st September and close 25th September.

For further information please visit <http://www.publisherscup.org.au/cricket-poetry-award>.

## **NEW AWG SCRIPT ASSESSMENT SERVICE**

The Australian Writers' Guild is proud to announce the launch of their enhanced Script Assessment service for film and theatre.

For further information, please call on 02 9319 0339.

[www.ntwriters.com.au](http://www.ntwriters.com.au)

# Competitions

## THE BRUCE DAWE NATIONAL POETRY PRIZE

**Closing date: 14 August 2009**

The Bruce Dawe National Poetry Prize has been endowed by Bruce Dawe, one of Australia's best-loved and most widely read poets, as an annual \$1500 award to encourage poets throughout Australia. The endowment is held in trust by the University of Southern Queensland, Toowoomba, and administered by the Faculty of Arts. The prize is judged by the English Literature staff of the Faculty, chaired by Associate Professor Chris Lee.

The competition opens on 1 March and closes on 14 August 2009. The winner is contacted personally and announced on this website in the first week of October.

For more information email: [daweprize@usq.edu.au](mailto:daweprize@usq.edu.au)

## BEST AUSTRALIAN ESSAYS, STORIES & POEMS

**Deadline: 1 August**

Submissions are now being taken for the best Australian essays, stories and poems. Judges this year are Robyn Davidson, Delia Falconer and Robert Adamson. Please send recent work only, published or unpublished. Previously published work must have been published after 1 August 2008.

For more information contact [www.blackincbooks.com](http://www.blackincbooks.com)

## SOCIETY OF WOMEN WRITERS POETRY COMPETITION

**Deadline: 12 August**

Entry fee \$5. Maximum of 40 lines. Entries must be unpublished and in English. Each entry must be on a separate form. 1st prize, \$300. 2nd Prize \$200. 3rd Prize, \$100. Send entries to Ms Beverley Earnshaw, 15 Hamer Street, Kogarah Bay, NSW 2217.

For more information contact: [www.womenwritersnsw.org](http://www.womenwritersnsw.org)

## THE TEXT PRIZE FOR YOUNG ADULT AND CHILDREN'S WRITING

**Deadline 31st July 2009**

Judged by a panel of editors from Text publishing, the winning unpublished manuscript for young adults or younger readers will receive a publishing contract and a \$10,000 advance against royalties.

Go to [www.textpublishing.com.au](http://www.textpublishing.com.au) for details and conditions

## PENDULUM ANTHOLOGY

**Deadline 30th June**

*pendulum* is an imprint of Wishbone press which compiles an annual literary anthology of short stories, poetry and photographs.

For more details, email [pendulum@nims.chisholm.vic.edu.au](mailto:pendulum@nims.chisholm.vic.edu.au)

# JAN CORNALL

## Masterclass



### MASTERCLASS WITH JAN CORNALL

A recharge session for writers of all genres, this workshop will help you re-engage with the essence of your writing project. Whether you are at the beginning, stuck in the middle or facing the difficult end, you can use this workshop to clarify and reset writing goals while trouble shooting areas of resistance. Revising the elements of good writing as we go, we will use meditative writing techniques to go deep into sense memory to find new inspiration for our work.

Bring drafts, notebook, pens. This class is designed for people with major writing projects in-progress. As such, participants need to register and submit their drafts by Friday June 19.

Register: [alice@ntwriters.com.au](mailto:alice@ntwriters.com.au) or 89523810

**What to Expect:** Jan Cornall is known for motivating and supporting writers in all genres through the complex process of creating written work. Challenging published and non-published writers alike to get their voices out there, Jan uses meditative writing techniques to take them deep into sense memory, where structure, plot, character and content arise effortlessly in an evocative exploration of the creative subconscious.

Jan Cornall has written over ten produced plays and musicals, a feature film, a novel and three CD's of songs. Jan teaches writing at the University of Western Sydney, leads writing retreats in international locations and collaborates often with Indonesian writers, artists and musicians.

**Sunday July 5, 10 am - 5 pm,  
Storylines, 2 Sturt Tce, Alice Springs  
\$120 full/80 members/  
60 concession/50conc. member**

[www.ntwriters.com.au](http://www.ntwriters.com.au)

# A Most Immoral Evening

Step back in time with the vivacious Linda Jaivin, author of *A Most Immoral Woman*, in a perfect culinary and colonial setting as she recounts some of her fascinating life, and reads from her latest book.

*A Most Immoral Woman*, set in early 20th Century China, traces the love affair between influential journalist George Morrison and a seductive heiress.

Hosted by the ABC's Leon Compton at Char Restaurant, Admiralty House, 70 The Esplanade on Thursday 20th August, 6:30-9:30 pm. Tickets are \$80 and includes sensational 3-course meal and glass of champagne upon arrival. Bookings Essential: [info@ntwriters.com.au](mailto:info@ntwriters.com.au) or 89412651



## Workshops with Linda Jaivin

After her immense popularity in Alice Springs, we're bringing Linda Jaivin back to the NT for a series of workshops in partnership with the Darwin Festival and Darwin City Council Libraries.

### Seniors workshop : Friday 21st August - all day

In celebration of Seniors Month, Linda Jaivin presents a free, full day's workshop for aspiring writers of historical fiction. Casuarina Library, Friday 21 August. For more information and to book, phone Barbara on 8920 0216.

### Writing Historical Fiction : Saturday 22nd August 10am - 1pm

Rip that bodice, sink that warship, fight the Civil War (any civil war), throw the Christians to the lions if you like – but do it in style. This three-hour workshop on historical fiction will show you how to craft great fiction from historical fact. Topics covered will include how to find the right story, how to research it, knowing when to close the source books, the creation of credible characters and the literary and ethical challenges posed by basing a story on real people and events. Cost: \$50(waged)/\$40(member)/\$30(conc.)/\$25(conc.member)

### Come to your Senses : Saturday 22nd August 2pm - 5pm

The Art of Sensory Writing: The smell of sun-warmed skin, a lipstick smudge on a glass, the cottony softness of melaleuca – evocative writing is sensual writing. It draws on and appeals to all our senses. This workshop, taught with a lively mix of discussion and short writing exercises, is for anyone who wants to learn how to write with their eyes, ears, skin, nose and tongue. But do bring a pen and paper.

Prices and bookings as 'Writing Historical Fiction'. Do both workshops and receive a 20% discount on total cost of workshops. Bookings essential: [info@ntwriters.com.au](mailto:info@ntwriters.com.au) or 89412651

Linda Jaivin is an internationally published author of fiction and non-fiction (*The Monkey and the Dragon*, *Confessions of an S&M Virgin*), a translator from Chinese and a playwright. Her six novels include the comic-erotic cult classic *Eat Me* and *The Infernal Optimist* (short-listed for the 2007 ASL Gold Medal). Her newest book is *A Most Immoral Woman*, a tale of sexual and other obsessions set in China and Japan in 1904.

## TELLER OF TRUTHS

EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST are sought from local writers who are interested in being part of our 'Teller of Truths' installation at the old Commonwealth Bank.

The 'Teller of Truths' will be a part of the 'FaB: Fringe @ The Bank' project that is a part of both Darwin and Fringe festivals. It will be staged around close-of-business hours, Wednesday to Friday in the weeks 12-14 August and 19-21 August. Participating writers will sit in the teller booths, armed with their laptops (or borrowed laptops) and printers. 'Customers' will queue to withdraw or deposit 'truths' or pieces of text. In terms of withdrawals, writers may either print out a section of their material-in-progress, write and print out something new that the customer requests or read from their current works. In downtimes, writers may keep working on their own projects. The 'Teller of Truths' may also allow for some cross-artform collaboration, as well. Participating writers will be paid a fee for their services. Interested writers should e-mail [executive@ntwriters.com.au](mailto:executive@ntwriters.com.au) for an application form.



Darwin City Council



## POETRY ALIVE WORKSHOP WITH **HARRY LAING**

**Sat 11th July 10am-1pm**  
**PoetryAlive with Harry Laing**

An intense experience of poetry often acts as a springboard for participants' own creativity which can be expressed in writing poetry or writing in other forms such as story, journal, monologue.

Because poetry often taps a deeper vein – of experience, feelings, a wondering about the universe – it can be a catalyst for creative expression, stimulating an inventive use of words as well as encouraging experimentation with different shapes and styles of writing.

The workshop will include:

- following the impulse to write
- writing games
- hearing poetry from around the world
- learning to trust your own responses

DARWIN ONLY

\$50 waged non-member

\$40 waged member

\$30 concession

\$25 conc member

Book now! [info@ntwriters.com.au](mailto:info@ntwriters.com.au)

## **A CONFIDENT VOICE** PERFORMANCE SKILLS FOR WRITERS

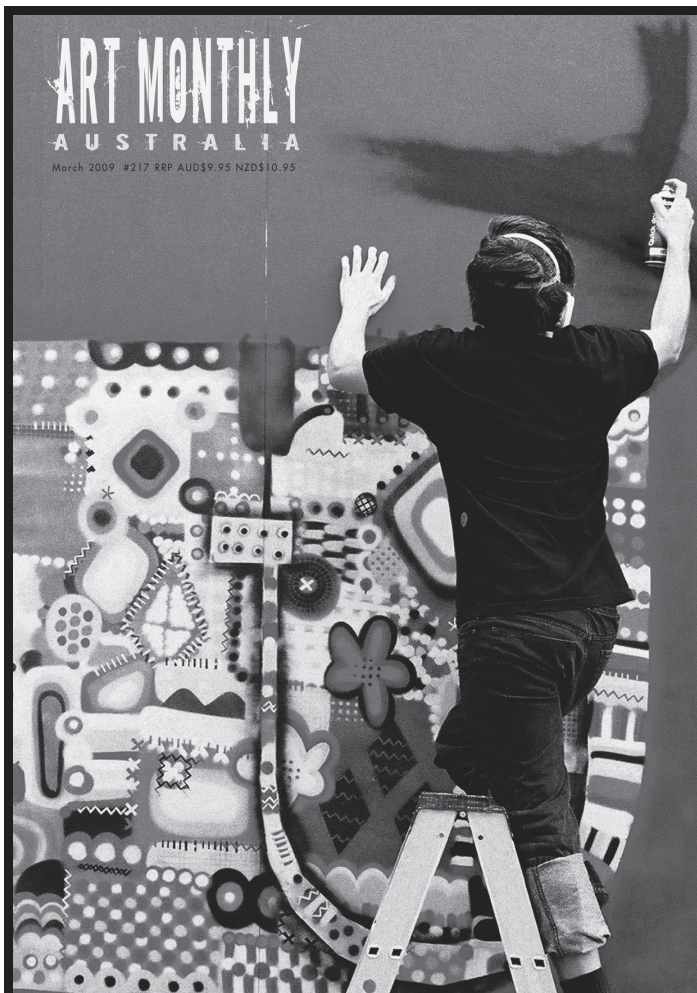
**Sat 11th July 2-5 pm:**  
**A Confident Voice with Harry Laing**

A workshop to highlight the spoken word and help writers develop confidence in reading and performing their work. Participants can practise on a wide range of material: excerpts from dramatic monologues, comic pieces and poems. This workshop would suit anyone who wants to 'stand and deliver', whether they're beginners or practised readers, rappers or sonneteers. There'll be voice-freeing exercises and techniques to help the body relax and resonate, tips on microphone technique and time for individual work. This workshop will focus on each participant's particular vocal style and qualities.

Harry Laing is a writer, performer and poetry educator. Mark O'Connor has called him 'perhaps Australia's finest reader of poetry'. He has taught many workshops, both in schools and for adults, including weekends and longer courses under the 'PoetryAlive' banner. He was a Poet On Wheels in 2006. He has written and performed in 5 one-man comedy shows. His second series of pieces for radio, 'Tales Of A Tree Changer' was aired on ABC RN in 2006. His second poetry collection, 'Backbone' is due out in 2009.

For more information about *PoetryAlive* see the website:  
W: [www.poetryalive.com.au](http://www.poetryalive.com.au)

Prices and bookings as 'Poetry Alive'.  
Participants for both workshops receive a 20% discount.



## Art Monthly Australia (AMA)

*Streetwise, critical and sometimes controversial*

To submit:

AMA welcomes article proposals from emerging and established arts writers. Please send your article ideas to the Editor:  
[art.monthly@anu.edu.au](mailto:art.monthly@anu.edu.au)

To subscribe:

10 issues per year: March – Summer

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# 2009 : A Year of Play

Playwrights up and down the Stuart Highway have been involved in some serious play over the last few months. Workshops on writing short plays with dramaturg Peter Matheson were conducted in both Alice Springs and Darwin over March and April. From that, 20 short plays were submitted for consideration for further development and production with Bite-Sized Theatre in Alice Springs and the Darwin Festival in Darwin. The ten plays that were selected were:

## **Alice Springs:**

*The Consultation* Terence Howison

*Dead Ringer* Danielle Loy

*Drew's Seizure* Chris Raja

*Margin Walker* Luke Scholes

*On a Hot Tin Roof* Michael Watts

## **Darwin:**

*The Sound of Waiting* Mary Anne Butler

*Rapid Creek* Marian Davis

*Possess* Matt Haubrick

*Smidgen of Silence* Tania Lieman

## **Tennant Creek:**

*Gambada and Wardangarri* Lynette Lewis

In Darwin, the plays will have a moved reading at the old Commonwealth Bank under the banner title of *Investment*, while in Alice Springs, they will receive a full production by Red Dust Theatre.

## **Alice Springs: Bite Sized Theatre @ Araluen**

Saturday 1st August; doors open at 7:00pm for dinner and drinks; show starts at 8:00pm

Full: \$22.00 Araluen Member/ Concession: \$18.00

For more information: [projects@reddusttheatre.com](mailto:projects@reddusttheatre.com)

## **Darwin: Investment - Performed Readings of 10 New Territory Plays at Fringe @ The Bank**

*Love in a time of loss, loss in a time of greed, your baby or a shard of glass in the body of the woman you love.*

A moved reading of ten powerful new works by some of the NT's leading playwrights in unexpected and suggestive spaces within the old Commonwealth Bank. Smith Street, Darwin Saturday 15th and Sunday 16th August, 2-4 pm, FREE: Bookings Essential (due to capacity issues): [info@ntwriters.com.au](mailto:info@ntwriters.com.au) or 89412651

# Meet the Publisher

WHAT does it take to win the ear of a publisher? What gives one manuscript the edge over another? In the competitive world of publishing, with more and more writers clamouring to be heard, the process of getting into print can seem more daunting than the actual writing.

Following on from our inaugural *Meet the Publisher* (2007), the NT Writers' Centre once again brings together representatives from some of Australia's most respected publishing houses for a weekend of professional development in both Alice Springs and Darwin. Workshops and face-to-face consultations will let you in on some enduring tricks and emerging trends of the trade.

This year, participating publishers include: IAD Press, Text Publishing, Penguin, Niblock Publishing and Harper Collins Publishers. Representatives from these houses will cover the genres of non-fiction, fiction, children's/young adult fiction and poetry, while other genres may also be covered at participants' requests.

You don't need a finished manuscript to participate in the weekend. However, in terms of the consultations, priority will be given to those with manuscripts that are at an advanced stage.

The *Meet the Publisher* weekend will happen in Alice Springs/Darwin September 4 – 7, 2009. Bookings essential – limited consultation times available. Cost (includes one-on-one consultation): \$150 waged; \$120 waged members; \$80 concession; \$60 concession members

For enquiries/bookings, please contact the NT Writers' Centre – t: 89412651, e: [info@ntwriters.com.au](mailto:info@ntwriters.com.au) or visit [www.ntwriters.com.au](http://www.ntwriters.com.au)

# NT WRITING GROUPS

## DARWIN/PALMERSTON

### DAGS

The Darwin Authors' Group is an informal network of Darwin-based writers with a common interest in sharing and discussing the craft and business of writing. Writers of all genres welcome. The group generally meets at the Frog Hollow Centre for the Arts Conference Room on the second Thursday of each month. All welcome.

For further information contact Bronwyn Mehan:

E: [b\\_mehan@bigpond.com](mailto:b_mehan@bigpond.com)

### POW

Palmerston Own Writers meet at the Community Room, Palmerston Library, on the first Wednesday of every month from 5:30-7pm. All welcome. Contact Sandra Parker on [t]: 8988 2172 or [e]: [sandra@parkershous.net](mailto:sandra@parkershous.net).

### AUSTRALIAN SOCIETY OF AUTHORS

The Darwin ASA contact is Helen Pavlin [t]: 0402 482 384.

### FELLOWSHIP OF AUSTRALIAN WRITERS

Contact Ted Kilpatrick on [t]: 8948 1216. Darwin: PO Box 37512, Winnellie, NT 0821. The FAW meets on the first Saturday of the month at the Millner Electorate Office, Rapid Creek Shopping Centre, 2-5pm.

## R E G I O N A L

### A NEW GROUP FOR ARNHEM LAND

A new group of writers is now meeting in Nhulunbuy. For more information, contact Ian Maclean on E: [ian@nightsskysecrets.com](mailto:ian@nightsskysecrets.com)

### KATHERINE REGION OF WRITERS

Contact Jill Pettigrew

E: [wjip@clearnet.com.au](mailto:wjip@clearnet.com.au) for more information.

### ALICE WRITERS' GROUP

Currently the group is meeting at 5.30pm @ redHOT Arts on the first Tuesday of the month.

Contact Michael Giacometti at NTWC's Alice Springs office.

Phone 8952 3810. E: [alice@ntwriters.com.au](mailto:alice@ntwriters.com.au)

## NT SUPPORT NETWORKS

### SOCIETY OF EDITORS (NT)

The society welcomes editors and writers interested in networking and sharing information.

Contact: NT Society of Editors. E: [editors\\_nt@yahoo.com.au](mailto:editors_nt@yahoo.com.au).

### THE NORTHERN TERRITORY FILM OFFICE

Supports the development of the NT film, television and new media industry. The Film Office provides expert advice on locations, policy, industry contacts and production matters, and offers support to the Territory through annual grants programs. Guidelines can be downloaded from the Arts NT website: W:[www.arts.nt.gov.au](http://www.arts.nt.gov.au).

T: 8951 1162. E: [film.office@nt.gov.au](mailto:film.office@nt.gov.au)

### AUSTRALIAN WRITERS' GUILD

The peak national organisation for performance writers working within the screen, theatre, radio and performance industries. Find out about the costs and categories of membership at [w]: [www.awg.com.au](http://www.awg.com.au).

If you know of local writers' groups open to new members, please let us know!

# YOUTH

The **National Young Writers' Festival** is Australia's premier event for emerging writers, publishers, performers and trouble-makers. Several thousand of the country's most challenging and original young minds will descend upon Newcastle for a five day creative bender. Far from the seas of white hair, book signings and celebrity author worship you might expect, the NYWF is a DIY, hands-on conversation between equals.

Join us in bogan stubby-holder poetry, radical new forms of decentred publishing, hyper-nerdy discussion of plot & character development, passionate debates on the cultural and political futures of the country, and some of the best parties you've stumbled across in a long while. Check the full program of entirely free events here.

The NYWF takes place as part of the This Is Not Art (TiNA) festival which adds independent musicians, journalists, artists, performers, activists, nerds and lovers-of-ginger-beer to the mix. It's a combination of cutting-edge performances, panels, collaborations, experiments, workshops and parties. It's unique. It's free. You should come and be part of it. 1st-5th October!!

### Call for Entries. PNAN Youth Arts Festival

Creative Writing is one of the most democratic artistic mediums as all you require is a pen, paper and an idea. The Festival is into supporting free, creative and innovative writing that pushes the boundaries of the form and takes readers to places they have never been before.

**Submissions due 31st July 2009**

[www.pnan.com.au](http://www.pnan.com.au)



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# Write Turn

A publication of the NT Writers' Centre

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