

# E-Newsletter

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## President's Message

Dr Maria Hill



What a wonderful year it has been for the Society of Women Writers (NSW) with our member, Libby Hathorn, being awarded the prestigious Alice Award on 18 November in Perth, the launch of our fabulous Women Writers Residency in the UK and the introduction of our manuscript encouragement award. As well as these new awards we also held our amazing Women Writers Weekend on 14-16 March, "Women Making History". Our very popular, biennial retreat consisted of an outstanding array of speakers that included publishers and literary agents. Our ambitious program of events did not cease with the retreat but was further enhanced by the introduction of our one day Women Writers Festival on Saturday 18 October, making it accessible to members and writers who are unable to attend our monthly meeting during the week. Our literary lunches, offering eleven high profile authors, were well attended as were our 'great value' workshops. Not only our events but also our publications were taken to a higher level this year with the introduction of our new look magazine *Women's Ink!* and the new format for our monthly electronic newsletter. Both have been very popular with our membership. To maintain and improve these services to our members requires a remarkable commitment from the SWW committee, so I would like to thank the committee and SWW Team who have been with me on this journey for last seventeen months. We are hosting a very exciting Christmas meeting with journalist Annabel Crabb launching the 2015 Abbie Clancy Award, guest speaker Dr Jeannine Baker discussing women journalists in WWII and Anna Cater presenting a workshop on writing a screen documentary. So do join us to celebrate Christmas together with a festive meal and a glass of wine.

Merry Christmas to you all, Maria

Libby Hathorn, Sydney writer and poet, has been awarded the Alice Award. SWW President Maria Hill attended the award ceremony, held in Western Australia, on 18th November at the Anzac Club, Perth. Read more about Libby's award on p4.



## SWW GENERAL ENQUIRIES

0490 363 778

*For more information about our events.*

If you wish to contribute any member news, please email your text and image as a jpeg file to: [kris@kristinprescott.com](mailto:kris@kristinprescott.com) with "ATTN: SWW E-News editor" in subject heading. **The deadline for submissions is the 20th of each month.** Any late submissions will be help for the following month.

# 10 December Monthly Meeting

State Library of NSW  
Macquarie Street, Sydney

**Workshop: 10.00 – 11.45am** - Bookings Essential  
*Writing the Screen Documentary*

Presenter: Anna Cater

Workshop Coordinator: **Robyn McWilliam 9918 3356**

**Literary Lunch: 12.15 - 1pm**

**2015 ABBIE CLANCY LAUNCH: 1.00 – 1.20pm**  
with special guest **Annabel Crabb**

**Guest Speaker: 1.20 - 2pm**

*Women in the Kingdom of Ink*

Dr Jeannine Baker

## **Christmas Luncheon Cost:**

**\$55** for members or **\$60** non-members.

*Workshop only:* **\$20** members or **\$30** non-members.

Special workshop & luncheon price: **\$70** members and **\$85** non-members.

Membership forms available on our website:

[www.womenwritersnsw.org](http://www.womenwritersnsw.org)

Bookings required before 10am, Monday 8 December

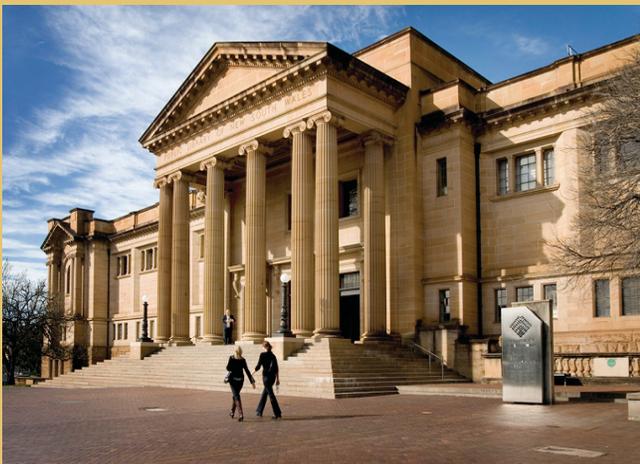
**PLEASE BOOK BY EMAIL IF YOU HAVE ACCESS  
TO A COMPUTER**

Contact Name: SWW Lunch Booking

Email address: [swwlunchbooking@gmail.com](mailto:swwlunchbooking@gmail.com)

Mobile phone: Text message to 0403 177 208

Your text message should be addressed to [swwlunchbooking@gmail.com](mailto:swwlunchbooking@gmail.com) or [swwlunch@gmail.com](mailto:swwlunch@gmail.com) and should contain: date, your name and number.



## CHRISTMAS MENU

### MAINS

*Turkey breast and cranberry pie  
Smoked salmon, fennel, cucumber  
ribbons and dill*

### SALAD

*Salad of vine ripened tomatoes,  
buffalo mozzarella, micro basil and  
aged balsamic glaze*

### DESSERT

*Fruit mince pie*

*lunch includes  
one glass of wine per person  
(white or red)*



## Workshop

Writing the Screen  
Documentary  
**Anna Cater**

Anna began her career as a print journalist and has written for newspapers and magazines around the world, as well as working for the ABC's *Background Briefing* and *Four Corners* programs. After graduating with an MA in Documentary at AFTRS in 1997, she established her production company Mitra Films, producing many documentaries for Australian and international broadcasters.

Her credits include the award-winning films *Dick Smith's Population Puzzle* (ABC) – the highest rating documentary on the ABC in 2010; *Frank Hurley – the Man Who Made History* (BBC, ABC) – recently selected as a prescribed text for HSC English; *Outsourced!* (PBS, SBS); and *Honeybee Blues* (SBS, Nat Geo). She has worked for Oxfam in the UK and Australia and ACOSS, and has recently produced the feature film *Rites of Passage*.

## Luncheon Speakers

## Guest Speaker



## Women in the Kingdom of Ink

Dr Jeannine Baker

Women journalists were granted equal pay for equal work in 1917 – several decades before the 1970s federal equal pay cases. But until the 1960s most women journalists were confined to lower status work on the women's pages of daily newspapers with limited opportunities for advancement. Historian Jeannine Baker introduces us to the talented and fascinating women who wrote for the women's pages – and beyond – in the 'Kingdom of Ink'.

Historian Dr Jeannine Baker is a postdoctoral research fellow at the Department of Media, Music, Communication and Cultural Studies at Macquarie University. She has produced documentaries for ABC Radio National, and wrote and directed the television documentary *Our Drowned Town*. She has been awarded the Dennis-Wettenhall Prize for her doctoral thesis, 'Beyond the "Woman's Angle": Australian Women War Reporters During World War II'.

## LAUNCH

### 2015 Abbie Clancy Award with Annabel Crabb



Annabel Crabb is the Chief Online Political Writer at the Australian Broadcasting Corporation and writes about politics for *The Drum*.

She has worked extensively in print journalism including in Adelaide for *The Advertiser*, in Melbourne for *The Age* and in Sydney for *The Sydney Morning Herald*. She has also hosted the popular television show *Kitchen Cabinet*.

Annabel has won two Logie Awards and a Walkley Award in 2009 for her Quarterly Essay *Stop at Nothing: The Life and Adventures of Malcolm Turnbull*. Her books include *Losing it: The Inside Story of the Labor Party in Opposition* (2005), *Rise of the Ruddbot: Observations from the Gallery* (2010) and *The Wife Drought* (2014).

#### Abbie Clancy Award

*Abigail Mary Clancy (1898-1984), the first woman reporter regularly assigned to the NSW Legislative Assembly Press Gallery from 1923 to 1930 was one of the founders of SWW. The Award is in honour of her contributions to Australian women's writing. Valued at \$1000 it is made annually to a female Honours or Research Higher Degree student in an Australian literature, history, communications or creative writing course in a NSW university.*

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Patricia Clifton and Kaye Moore

## Lament for Lost Newsprint by Janet West

No longer will the rolled up news  
Thud upon the wet grass of morning.  
No gift for the beaming dog to bring us,  
No daily crossword to bemuse us,  
Nor funeral notice to inform us.  
No Moorehead, May or Cardus to  
enthrall us.  
Naught but the chill wink of the instant net.  
The cyber world dictates; the message sent.

### Congratulations

**Judy O'Connor** has had her story *War is Not Suitable for Children* long-listed for the 2014 Margaret River Short Story Writing Competition.



Keep up with what's happening at the SWW NSW at our Facebook page. So login to Facebook, [CLICK HERE](#) and 'LIKE' us!

Photos taken at the Alice Award ceremony held at the Anzac Club, Perth on 18 November 2014



## Libby Hathorn 2014 Alice Award Winner

Congratulations to SWW member Libby Hathorn who has been awarded the 2014 Alice Award.

*The Alice is awarded to an Australian woman who by her written work has made a distinguished and long-term contribution to Australian literature.*

Former winners include a host of wonderful writers including Judith Wright, Elizabeth Jolley, Ruth Park, Kylie Tennant, Eleanor Dark, Dame Mary Durack, Rosemary Dobson and more recently Brenda Niall, Mem Fox and Kate Grenville.

In her acceptance speech Libby talked of early influences on her writing especially relatives who read poetry out loud and summed up in this way: "Accepting with humility and gratitude this incredible honour of the Alice Award, which allows me to move into the finest of the fine writerly company, I thank you for valuing what I offer which of course, as with any writer, seems never enough. With or without you, I will go on with my writing as I have since childhood, however, I want to say this. Allowing me this award for the body of my work is one of the greatest compliments a writer can have- to know that someone is hearing you and is reading your heart."

**Books**  
**Books**  
**Books**



**Would you like to be a Book Reviewer or have your book reviewed?**

The SWW is including book reviews in each edition of *Women's Ink!*

If you are interested please email the Book Review Editor, Judy O'Connor at [judithoc@bigpond.net.au](mailto:judithoc@bigpond.net.au)

**The Society of Women Writers NSW Inc.**

**Committee 2014-15** - *Dr Maria Hill – President, Lindsay Lewis - Vice-President, Dr Wendy Michaels - Vice-President, Christine Beattie - Secretary & SWW General Enquiries, Amanda Marks – Treasurer, Sandra Davis - Membership Secretary, Yvonne Louis - Publicity Officer, Dr Sue Steggall, Vivienne Foster, Judy O'Connor, Yvonne Jarman, Maria McDougall.*

**E-Newsletter team** - *Kristin Prescott (editor), Dr Maria Hill & Lindsay Lewis* | **Website Manager** - *Lindsay Lewis*

**SWW LinkedIN Group Manager:** *Dr Maria Hill* | **SWW Face Book Manager** - *Susanne Gervay & Nancy Louka* |

**SWW Front Desk-** *Lynda Calder* | **Workshop Convenor** - *Robyn McWilliam.*

**Women's Ink Team** - *Kristin Prescott (Editor), Dr Sue Steggall (Sub-Editor), Sandra Davis, Judith O'Connor (Book Editor), Joy Williams.*

**Correspondence: Secretary - Society of Women Writers NSW Inc., GPO Box 1388 Sydney NSW 2001**

