

E-Newsletter

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President's Message

Dr Maria Hill



April is our 'ANZAC' month and this year we are commemorating the Anzac Centenary. As many of you may know, last year I spent eight weeks researching and participating in a battlefield tour of the Salonika Front in Britain and in Northern Greece for the new book I am currently writing on the Anzacs in Salonika. Although Australian soldiers were not deployed in large numbers to Salonika or Thessaloniki, as it is called today, there were still around 500 Aussies involved in the Salonika Campaign of 1915-1918. They were mainly nurses who served in Macedonia in Northern Greece. One such nurse, Laura Grubb wrote in her diary, 'Sunday 12th (July 1917) arrived at Salonika Bay about midday. ... The city itself was nothing but very dirty only it was very interesting to see the different types of people – Russian, Italian, French, Greeks and all nationalities of soldiers.' Miles Franklin, a founding member of SWW stationed at the Scottish Women's hospital at 'Salonique' observed: 'Now we have exchanged the mountainsides ... for the deck of a steamer ... Salonique, with its conglomerate drama, its smells, its sins, its glamour, drops behind us.' So we are very fortunate indeed to have as our guest speaker this month Dr Ruth Rae who will be discussing her books on the experience of Australian Army Nurses in World War I. Also included in our April E-News is the poem, 'No Foe Shall Gather our Harvest' by our founding Vice-President Dame Mary Gilmore, who gave voice to the voiceless: women, children and indigenous Australians, as SWW celebrates 90 years of giving 'women a voice'. Please join me for an important 'Literary Morning Tea Meeting' followed by a fabulous workshop presented by Robyn McWilliam revealing the best writing techniques for authors to use.

Lest We Forget.



Planning Meeting of the Society of Women Writers, January 2015.

Your committee working hard planning another fabulous year of great events, writing competitions and speakers!

Annual General Meeting

Join the fabulous committee of the Society of Women Writers.

8 July 2015

Be part of literary history!

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 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.

NEXT
LITERARY MORNING TEA
Wednesday 8 April

State Library of NSW
Macquarie Street, Sydney

Arrival and Payment: 10.00 - 10.15am

President's welcome: 10.20am

10.25 - 10.45am: Member Talk

Born to Fly: Living with Autism
Mary Ann Napper

10.50 - 11.30am: Guest Speaker

Leading Australian Women in WWI:
the experience of the Australian Army
Nursing Service
Ruth Rae

**11.30 - 11.55am: Morning Tea
is served**

11.55am: Raffles

12.00pm: Short break

12.15pm - 2.00pm: Workshop

Best Techniques in Writing
Presenter: Robyn McWilliam

Workshop Bookings Essential

Workshop Coordinator:

Robyn McWilliam 0418 225 051

Please make workshop payments at the
front desk if you haven't paid prior to
coming.



Price and Booking Information

PAYMENT OPTIONS
FOR MORNING TEA AND/OR WORKSHOP

Pay by *direct deposit* into the SWW bank account by the **FRIDAY** before the meeting OR you can still pay on the day of the meeting.

Members:

Morning Tea \$35 (MMT)
Workshop \$30 (MWS)
Morning Tea & Workshop \$60 (MTW)

Non Members:

Morning Tea \$40 (MMT)
Workshop \$40 (MWS)
Morning Tea & Workshop \$75 (MTW)

For Direct Deposit please use the codes listed above
The Society of Women Writer's NSW Inc
BSB: 062 180 A/C: 0095 0433

Everyone must still book with Lynda Calder BEFORE 10am on the MONDAY before the meeting.

NB: There is still a permanent list for bookings if you wish to be on it.

Please book by email if you have access to a computer.

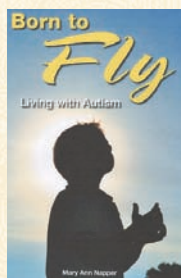
Contact Name: SWW Lunch Booking

Email address: swwlunchbooking@gmail.com

Mobile phone: Text message to 0403 177 208

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

Member Talk



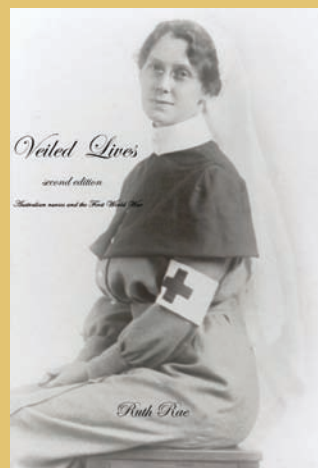
Born to Fly: Living with Autism Mary Ann Napper

Mary Ann Napper's debut novella was inspired by a true story outlined in a documented case study. A five year old boy, diagnosed with 'gross mental deficiency,' was removed from a mental asylum in 1951. Cath McCarthy, his nanny and a mothercraft nurse, pioneered treatment interventions before autism was widely accepted. Medical authorities failed to recognise her methods which are being used effectively today – she was a woman before her time and Mary Ann feels privileged to have known her. Set in Australia, this period drama portrays the determination and resilience of the human spirit.

Mary Ann, a registered nurse, spent thirty five years working in mental health. Writing *Born to Fly: Living with Autism* was a personal journey in her resolve to come to terms with her twin brother's profound autism and appreciate his uniqueness.

The novella was launched in April 2014. Since then its sales have raised \$5,000 for Autism Spectrum Australia.

Guest Speaker Presentation



Leading Australian Women in WWI: the experience of the Australian Army Nursing Service

Ruth Rae

Ruth Rae has been an independent researcher and writer for more than thirty years.

Initially, her interest in World War I was sparked by the diaries of her maternal grandfather Fred Tomlins (*The Price of Peace*). Her PhD thesis in 2001 addressed the absence of history about Australian nurses in the same conflict and she went on to write about their experiences in *Scarlet Poppies* (2004). Her third book on the subject *Veiled Lives: threading Australian nursing history into the fabric of the First World War* (2007) wove the social histories of more than thirty nurses. Dr Rae has also written numerous articles on topics relating to the impact of war.

Presently, Dr Rae is re-editing her thesis and the two previously published books on nursing in the First World War. The Australian College of Nursing will publish a boxed set commemorative trilogy this month.

Workshop Presentation

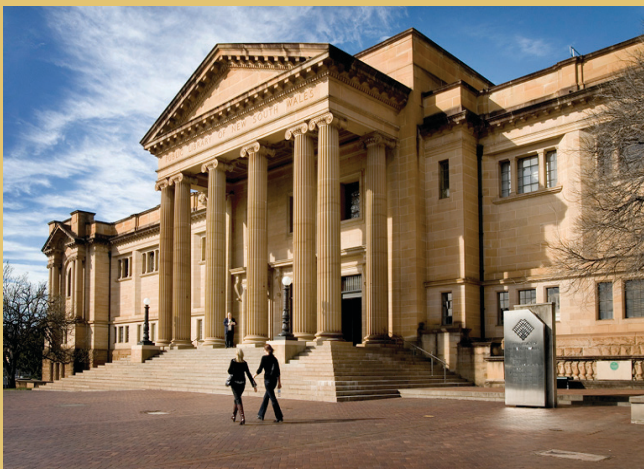
Best Techniques in Writing

Robyn McWilliam



Robyn has over 25 years' experience teaching Creative Writing following her Diploma in Book Editing and Publishing.

She has selected her favourite techniques to make your writing more vivid. Adapting mind mapping for writers, Robyn will show you how creative thinking is applied before writing. This also provides structure. The process of visualising is developed with practice. She will incorporate how to improve your creativity and tips to assist you with self-editing. This is an interactive fun workshop to make your writing shine.



Welcome to New Members

Joan Lane
Sophie Masson
Alexandra Plim
Saba Vasefi

Member News

MY RETIREMENT GAP YEAR



DR FRANCES BLACK

Dr Fran Black would like to invite SWW members to the launch of her book *My Retirement Gap Year* on **Thursday 23 April at 6.30pm.**

Venue: Waterfront Cafe
McCarrs Creek Rd, Church Point.

A la Carte dining options available or enjoy a \$20 Special of Pizza & Beer or Wine.

RSVP: Dr Fran Black - fran@blacks.id.au

All proceeds from the sale of books will be donated to Alzheimer's Australia Research.

No foe shall gather our harvest by Mary Gilmore

Sons of the mountains of Scotland,
Welshmen of coomb and defile,
Breed of the moors of England,
Children of Erin's green isle,
We stand four square to the tempest,
Whatever the battering hail—
*No foe shall gather our harvest,
Or sit on our stockyard rail.*

Our women shall walk in honour,
Our children shall know no chain,
This land, that is ours forever,
The invader shall strike at in vain.
Anzac!...Bapaume!...and the Marnel!...
Could ever the old blood fail?
*No foe shall gather our harvest,
Or sit on our stockyard rail.*

So hail-fellow-met we muster,
And hail-fellow-met fall in,
Wherever the guns may thunder,
Or the rocketing "air-mail" spin!
Born of the soil and the whirlwind,
Though death itself be the gale—
*No foe shall gather our harvest
Or sit on our stockyard rail.*

We are the sons of Australia,
of the men who fashioned the land;
We are the sons of the women
Who walked with them hand in hand;
And we swear by the dead who bore us,
By the heroes who blazed the trail,
*No foe shall gather our harvest,
Or sit on our stockyard rail.*



At 75, Australian poet and writer Mary Gilmore, Dame of the British Empire, has written one of the finest Australian songs of the war. It appears above. "I'm too old to do many of the things I would like to do to win the war," she said, "but I can still write. Here is a song for the men and women of Australia." The inspiring note in the song is so vividly Australian that The Women's Weekly is proud to present it to readers.

Appeared in The Women's Weekly - Saturday 29 June 1940 on page 5.
SOURCE : <http://trove.nla.gov.au/ndp/del/article/51271905>

Watch Kath Buckell performing 'No Foe Shall Gather our Harvest' with her band at The Knitting Factory in Brooklyn , USA
[CLICK HERE](#)

Lest We Forget



Left: A portrait of Society of Women Writers member **Stella Miles Franklin** who served at Salonika.

Below: a photo taken at the commemoration ceremony for the Salonika Campaign at Polycastro in Northern Greece.



NEWS FLASH



**Jessica Rowe confirmed as
Guest Speaker
for 90th anniversary luncheon**

Jessica Rowe, an inspiring woman and speaker, will be keynote for celebrations of the 90th year of the SWW.

A loved media personality and author of two books including *The Best Of Times. The Worst of Times - growing up with a mum who has bipolar.*

Jessica is a beautiful author, who shares her heart and soul with all women, to promote understanding of mother-daughter relationships, mental illness and kids.

She is patron on Mental Health Council of Australia, ambassador for Beyond Blue and advocates for women and children.

It will be a celebration to remember.



*‘Giving Women a
Voice’*

**Society of Women Writers NSW
90th Anniversary Luncheon**

will be held on

9 September 2015

at the

State Library of NSW

**Don't miss your chance to be part of
this historic event.**

Bookings Open 8 April

Details Coming Soon



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

Society of Women Writers NSW

90th Anniversary National Writing Competitions

'Giving Women a Voice'

ENTRIES ARE NOW OPEN

The Society of Women Writers NSW is running three national writing competitions in 2015. **National Short Story, Poetry and Non Fiction** submissions must all be written to the theme 'Giving Women a Voice' in honour of the SWW NSW 90th anniversary celebrations.

All prize winning entries will be published in a special 90th anniversary commemorative publication *Ink 3*.

COMPETITION DETAILS

National Short Story Competition

First prize: \$500
Second prize: \$250
Third prize: \$100

Word Limit: 3,000

Theme: Giving Women a Voice

Cost: \$25 per entry
(SWW members)

\$35 per entry
(SWW non-members)

Multiple Entries accepted.

National Poetry Competition

First prize: \$300
Second prize: \$200
Third prize: \$100

Word Limit: maximum 80 lines

Theme: Giving Women a Voice

Cost: \$10 per poem or
\$40 for 5 poems (SWW members)

\$15 per poem or
\$60 for 5 poems (SWW non-members)

Multiple Entries accepted.

National Non Fiction Competition

First prize: \$500
Second prize: \$250
Third prize: \$100

Word Limit: 3,000

Theme: Giving Women a Voice

Cost: \$25 per entry
(SWW members)

\$35 per entry
(SWW non-members)

Multiple Entries accepted.



Entries Due by 5.00pm EST, 9 June 2015

For more details go to
www.WomenWritersNSW.org/competitions

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 Gervey | **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.

Other Writing Competitions

The 2015 Bruce Dawe National Poetry Prize

Australian culture is shaped by your contribution as a poet.

Entries are now open.

This annual \$2500 prize has been generously endowed by Emeritus Professor Bruce Dawe AO. As one of Australia's most acclaimed contemporary poets,



Closing Date: Friday 29 May 2015

Click here for more information.

ABR Elizabeth Jolley Short Story Prize

Short story 2,000 to 5,000 words.

Prizes: 1st \$5,000; 2nd \$2,000; 3rd \$1,000.

Entry fee \$20 (\$15 for ABR subscribers).

Due Date: 1 May 2015

Click here for more details and entry forms

For competition other opportunities go to
www.austwriters.com/AWRfiles/competitions.htm or www.competitionsforwriters.com

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

