

# E-Newsletter

ISSN 2203-3106

## President's Message

Dr Maria Hill



Have you written something for 90th Anniversary Writing Competitions? This year we have provided the theme, 'Giving Women a Voice' in honour of our 90th birthday and we hope it has challenged and inspired your writing. So do not delay, as there are only five weeks remaining to complete your entry because all three writing competitions close on the 9 June 2015, the day before our June monthly meeting. The winners and runners up will be presented with certificates and prize money. As this year is our 90th birthday we are also presenting the 'First Prize' winners of each competitions with a beautiful crystal glass trophy. Bookings are now open for our exciting 90th anniversary luncheon on 9th September where the winners of the writing competitions will be announced. The judges will be in attendance with the amazing Jessica Rowe AM, as guest speaker. Most importantly, everyone needs to fill out a booking form and pay for the 90th anniversary luncheon in advance, including those members on the 'permanent list'. The 90th anniversary booking form is available to be downloaded from our website. You can either fill it in online and email it to Lynda Calder or you can post the booking form with payment to our GPO address, listed on the form. On this special occasion the committee decided to forgo our regular workshop so we can fit in all the special 'additional' awards we will be presenting, as part of this celebration.

This month, we have a great line-up of speakers. For those of you who are interested in travel writing, we have the very talented Claire Scobie, running the workshop and our guest speaker this month is Joanna Nicholls, one of the finest writers of historical fiction. So don't miss out - book now!

## 'Giving Women a Voice'

The Society of Women Writers NSW 90th Anniversary Luncheon will be held on **9 September 2015**

With special guest Prof Di Yerbury OA and keynote speaker Jessica Rowe AM

**[BOOKINGS OPEN NOW - Click here for a Booking Form](#)**



**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 held for the following month.**

**NEXT**  
**LITERARY MORNING TEA**  
**Wednesday 13 May**

*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**

*The Doug Nolan Story: A Navigator in Catalinas in WWII*  
 Pam Bayfield

**10.45 - 11.15am: Morning Tea is served**

**11.15 - 11.55am: Guest Speaker**

*Confessions of a Tight Rope Dancer*  
 Johanna Nicholls

**11.55am: Raffles**

**12.00pm: Short break**

**12.15pm - 2.00pm: Workshop**

*Travel Writing*  
 Presenter: Claire Scobie

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**

**NEW PAYMENT OPTION  
 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](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](mailto:swwlunch) and should contain: date, your name and number.

## Guest Speaker Presentation

### Workshop Presentation

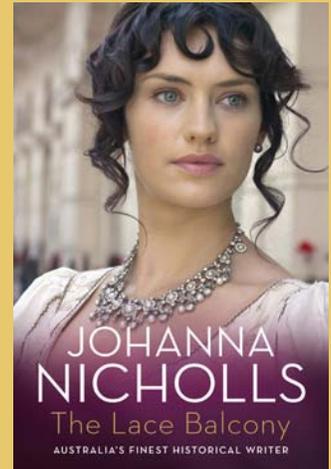


#### Travel Writing Claire Scobie

Claire Scobie is the award-winning author of *Last Seen in Lhasa* and *The Pagoda Tree*, chosen by Good Reading magazine as one of their Best Fiction Reads 2013. She has lived and worked in the UK, India and now Sydney. Claire mentors writers and runs creative writing workshops across Australia and retreats in Italy. She has appeared as a panellist on ABC TV's First Tuesday Book Club in a travel-writing special and is a regular guest at international writers' festivals. She is a member of the British Guild of Travel Writers and her Tibet memoir won the 2007 Dolman Best Travel Book Award, the only UK travel-writing prize.

Claire writes for numerous publications, including London's Daily Telegraph, DestinAsian, Sunday Life and contributes to the Sydney Morning Herald.

In 2013 she completed a Doctor of Creative Arts at the University of Western Sydney.  
[www.clairescobie.com](http://www.clairescobie.com)



#### Confessions of a Tightrope Dancer Johanna Nicholls

Johanna Nicholls's third Australian historical novel *The Lace Balcony*, following *Ironbark* and *Ghost Gum Valley*, places her in the ranks of Australia's finest writers of historical fiction. Her warts-and-all talk explores the challenges, dilemmas and serendipity experienced in creating 19th-century fictional characters who interact with famous and notorious real-life characters as they see them – not coloured by historians' hindsight or modern political correctness.

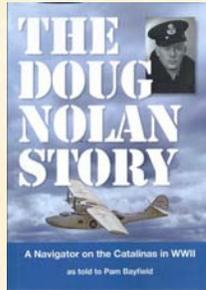
Johanna comes from a theatrical family. A magazine feature writer in Sydney, Melbourne and London, she worked as a researcher/writer and Head Script Editor of TV Drama at the Australian Broadcasting Corporation.

She is currently writing her fourth Australian historical novel and researching her fifth. All three of her novels have been translated and published in Germany.

## Member Talk

### *The Doug Nolan Story: A Navigator in Catalinas in WWII*

Pam Bayfield



Pam Bayfield is a self published author who has written 10 books over 15 years. The books include biographies, her autobiography, a faction (fiction based on fact), fiction novels and a book about her new knee operation. She has also released a hard cover book about her actress aunt called *A Leading Lady*. She most enjoyed writing her historical fiction novel *For the Love of Grace*, set in the 1850s and beyond in old Sydney Town and Manly. She is working on a sequel at the moment. Her latest offering is another biography, *The Doug Nolan Story: A Navigator on the Catalinas in WWII*.

Writing has played a big part in Pam's life and she has sold most of her books through book launches and talks. Pam has been the President of the Society of Women Writers and then the Treasurer; a keen supporter of the Society for many years.

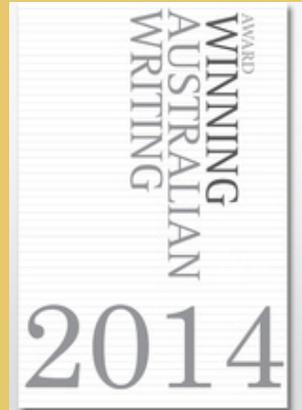
### Award Winning Australian Writing

*The Best Winning Writing from  
Short Story & Poetry  
Competitions Nationally*

Submissions are open for the 2015 edition of *Award Winning Australian Writing (AWAW)*.

**Due: 7 June 2015**

For eligibility and submission information [CLICK HERE](#)



### Competition Websites

[www.austwriters.com/AWRfiles/competitions.htm](http://www.austwriters.com/AWRfiles/competitions.htm)

[www.competitionsforwriters.com](http://www.competitionsforwriters.com)

### Australian Love Letters

Inkerman and Blunt are seeking love letters up to 2,500 words to publish in a collection. Must be your own work, unpublished. Winners will be published in the collection, be paid \$100 and receive a copy of the book. Postal submissions only. Any queries contact: [info@inkermanandblunt.com](mailto:info@inkermanandblunt.com)

**Due Date: 29 May 2015**

For guidelines [CLICK HERE](#)

### Scribes Poetic License Poetry Competition

Category A: Traditional Verse. B: Free Verse.

Prizes: 1st \$200; runner-up \$100.

**Due Date: 30 June 2015**

[CLICK HERE](#) for entry details.



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

## Writing To A Theme

Sometimes when a topic seems challenging, we surprise ourselves by writing something quite different from what we normally would.

Let's consider the theme of our writing competitions, 'Giving Women a Voice'.

Challenging the word 'giving' could be one avenue. Women who didn't wait to be 'given' but who 'took' a voice; found a way to express themselves, against the odds, against societal restrictions.

There are poets and songwriters; authors and journalists; stay at home mums who fought their way back into the workforce; who defended others; all who spoke up for themselves and were alert for opportunities to be granted a voice, within a family, and within a nation.

Different decades have brought their own challenges; and their own solutions, borne on the voices of women.

A voice need not be strident to be effective or life changing, to make a difference. The soft words of mothers and friends can help someone else to find their own voice, and keep it.

So embrace the theme and enjoy where it leads you in your writing.

Good luck!

## HAVE YOU ENTERED YET?

### Society of Women Writers NSW 90th Anniversary National Writing Competitions 'Giving Women a Voice'

#### COMPETITION DETAILS

#### National Short Story Competition      National Non Fiction Competition

First prize: \$500

Second prize: \$250

Third prize: \$100

Word Limit: 3,000

First prize: \$500

Second prize: \$250

Third prize: \$100

Word Limit: 3,000

#### National Poetry Competition

First prize: \$300

Second prize: \$200

Third prize: \$100

Word Limit: maximum 80 lines



**Submissions in all categories must follow the theme:  
Giving Women a Voice**

Multiple Entries accepted in all categories.

**Entries Due by 5.00pm EST, 9 June 2015**

**For more details go to  
[www.WomenWritersNSW.org/competitions](http://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 Gervay | **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.

# NEW MEMBERS

Catherine Biddle, Jesse Blackadder & Louise Owens  
Welcome back: Susan Adams



New SWW member **Sophie Masson** is proud to announce the upcoming release of her new book *Hunter's Moon*.

The book is described as Snow White re-imagined and is being published by Random House in print and as an e-book.

**Release Date: 1 June, 2015**

# MEMBER NEWS

Don't forget to send your member news to [kris@kristinprescott.com](mailto:kris@kristinprescott.com) Please specify if you would like it included in the e-news or *Women's Ink!*

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

