

## Society of Women Writers NSW Inc.

### **DATES FOR YOUR DIARY 2017**

#### 8 March:

Workshop–Helen Scheuerer  
Guest Talk–Beverley George  
Keynote–Dr Bronwyn Carlson

#### 30 March:

**Evening workshop:**  
Virginia Gordon.  
For details go to  
[www.SWWLitFest.com](http://www.SWWLitFest.com)

#### 12 April:

Workshop–Dr Beth Yahp  
Guest Talk–Pam Bayfield  
Keynote–Dr Beth Yahp

#### 10 May:

Workshop–Cathie Tasker  
Guest Talk–Jan Conway  
Keynote–Alan Valentine

#### 14 June:

Workshop–Virginia Gordon  
AGM–Election of 2017-2018  
Committee  
Keynote–Maggie Joel

#### 15-17 September:

**SWW Writers' Retreat**  
'Spinning Straw to Story Gold'  
The Brahma Kumaris  
Centre for Spiritual Learning

### **President's Message**



Oh the joys of technology! The digitisation of communication and knowledge storage and retrieval has been a marvellous innovation, freeing up the need to carry heavy books and files when travelling, but when things go wrong...

This has been my recent experience so that the March *e-Newsletter* is a somewhat reduced document due to a generous dose of technological failure and a dash of human error.

As I wrote in my essay 'A Poetical Science' (in *A Fearsome Engine*, Zena Shapter ed, NBWG 2016), technological innovation might progress at an exponential rate, yet in evolutionary terms *Homo sapiens* operates with the same physiological and anatomical configuration it has done since the mists of time.

Moving from technology to our familiar world of literature and writing... The transition from the Dixson Room to the Gallery Room at the Mitchell Library for our February meeting was a smooth one thanks not only to Library staff but also to SWW members who worked to ensure that all present were satisfied with the arrangement.

At the 8 March meeting Dr Bronwyn Carlson will give the keynote speech on the theme of 'A not so uncommon story: a Conversation of Indigenous Life'. Bronwyn Carlson is an Associate Professor of Indigenous Studies at the University of Wollongong (UOW). Her research focuses on Aboriginal identity and community online, as well as Indigenous help-seeking patterns on social media. She has been recognised by the Academy of Social Sciences in Australia for her outstanding achievements. In 2016 she was nominated as one of UOW's women of impact.

The March meeting will also host the second workshop by Helen Scheuerer, 'The importance of editing and how to DIY', allowing participants to hone work done at the February workshop to perfection. Poet Beverley George will give the guest speaker talk, continuing our commitment to Australian women poets.

The aim of the Society is to promote the work of women writers so supporting the Australian Women Writers Challenge, which was set up to help overcome gender bias in the reviewing of books by Australian women, is a worthy initiative. You can choose to read and review, or read only. The 2017 AWW Challenge will run from 1 January – 31 December 2017 (latest date to sign up is 30 November 2017). Go to: <http://australianwomenwriters.com/sign-up/>

**Dr Susan Steggall, President SWW**

# NEXT LITERARY LUNCHEON

Wednesday 8 March 2017

Gallery Room, State Library of  
NSW Macquarie Street, Sydney

---

## 10.00 – 11.45am Workshop:

‘The Importance of Editing & How  
to DIY’

Helen Scheuerer

*Workshop Coordinator Robyn*

*McWilliam 0418 225 051*

## 12.00 – 12.20pm: Arrival & Registration

## 12.20 – 12.40pm: Luncheon

## 12.45 pm: Guest Speaker

‘Surprising Synergies: tanka at home  
and abroad’

Beverley George

## 1.00-1.30pm: Keynote Speaker

‘A not so uncommon story: a  
Conversation of Indigenous Life’

Dr Bronwyn Carlson

## REMINDER

Bookseller Janet Grundy will be coming  
to the SWW luncheon events to sell  
books by our Guest and Keynote  
Speakers. It’s a wonderful way to support  
your fellow writers.

## Price and Booking Information

### LUNCHEON 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:

Luncheon \$42 (ML) Workshop \$30

(MWS) Luncheon & Workshop \$65 (MLW)

**Non Members:** Luncheon \$47

(NML); Workshop \$40 (NMWS) Luncheon &  
Workshop \$80 (NMLW)

**Everyone must book with Lynda Calder  
BEFORE 10.00am on the MONDAY  
before the meeting.**

**NB: There is 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 or swwlunch and should  
contain: date, your name and phone number.

---

*For Direct Deposit please use the codes listed  
above The Society of Women Writers’ NSW  
Inc BSB: 062 018 A/C: 00950433*

## STOP PRESS

Additional catering charges will increase the  
lunch costs from the April meeting.

#### Members:

Luncheon \$45 (ML) Workshop \$30

(MWS) Luncheon & Workshop \$68 (MLW)

**Non Members:** Luncheon \$50

(NML) Workshop \$40 (NMWS) Luncheon &  
Workshop \$83 (NMLW)

## WORKSHOP

### The Importance of Editing & How To DIY

*Helen Scheuerer*

You might have finished writing your story, but you haven't reached the end of the road yet! Don't you want to know how to refine your work so it's ready for publication? Never underestimate the importance of editing your own work, even if you'll be working with an editor at a later stage. Run by publisher and editor, Helen Scheuerer, this workshop explores the different types of editing (structural editing, copyediting and proofreading).

The workshop will also delve into how to approach these types of edits yourself, and how to utilise beta readers, as well as the common mistakes writers make in their first drafts, how your chosen genre should affect your edit, and the things you can cut from your writing to sharpen your manuscript.

---

### GUEST SPEAKER

#### ***Surprising Synergies: tanka at home and abroad***

*Beverley George*

Originating in Japan in the Heian Era, these diminutive 5 phrase 'short songs' are shared and celebrated in diverse languages around the world. They address those concerns of heart and mind that persist unchanged from culture to culture and from millennium to millennium' (Jane Hirshfield).

Beverley George is the founding editor of *Eucalypt*: a tanka journal, which is currently

celebrating a 19-year milestone as editorship passes now to Julie Thorndyke. A commemorative anthology *A Temple Bell Sounds*, comprising 108 favourite tanka selected from issues 1-21; 2006-2016, was launched at The Children's Bookshop, Beecroft on Saturday, 18 February by celebrated poet and editor from Otsu, Japan, Ms. Kiyoko Ogawa.

### KEYNOTE SPEAKER

#### ***A not so uncommon story: a Conversation of Indigenous Life***

*Dr Bronwyn Carlson*

Bronwyn Carlson is an Associate Professor of Indigenous Studies at the University of Wollongong (UOW). She completed her PhD in 2012 and her thesis was awarded the prestigious W.E.H. Stanner Award administered by the Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies (AIATSIS) and was published in 2016 by Aboriginal Studies Press.

Bronwyn was the first Indigenous Australian at the University of Wollongong to be awarded an Australian Research Council (ARC) Discovery (Indigenous) grant in 2013 for her research on Aboriginal identity and community online on social media. Bronwyn was awarded a second ARC in 2016 for her research on Indigenous help-seeking on social media. She has been acknowledged by the Academy of Social Sciences in Australia for her outstanding achievements as an Early Career Researcher. In 2016 she was nominated as one of University of Wollongong's women of impact.

---

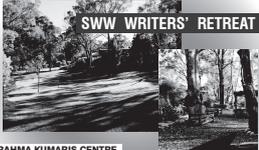
# MEMBER NEWS

All Society of Women Writers members welcome!

**A DOUBLE BOOK LAUNCH**  
**Saturday March 18 at 2 pm at The Children's Bookshop, Beecroft, Sydney**  
 for  
 my novel for young adults, *Jack of Spades*  
 (a historical thriller)  
 and  
 my picture-book *Once Upon An ABC*, (an ABC book based on figures from fairy tale, folk tale and legend from across the world.

Fellow author Pamela Freeman will be launching the novel, while bookseller extraordinaire Paul Macdonald will launch the picture-book.  
 Best wishes  
 Sophie Masson

## Treat Yourself to a Writers' Retreat!



**SWW WRITERS' RETREAT**

**Spinning Straw to Story Gold**  
Thanks to Libby Hathorn for title

**15-17 SEPTEMBER, 2017**

This year's writers retreat is the fourth retreat to be held by the Society of Women Writers NSW. The first retreat was held in 2009 and subsequent retreats have been held in 2011 and 2014.

Meet emerging and established writers, authors, poets and industry professionals. Share your writing projects, experiences, triumphs and challenges.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION**  
 contact Gwen Bitti, Retreat Director  
 gwen.swwretreat@bigpond.com OR mobile 0403 165 925

**BRAHMA KUMARIS CENTRE FOR SPIRITUAL LEARNING**  
 WILTON NSW

Meet Catherine Milne, Publisher, Harper Collins

The Society of Women Writers, founded in 1925, is the oldest literary association of women writers in Australia.

Entry forms are in this issue of *Women's Ink!*



## SOCIETY OF WOMEN WRITERS NSW Inc 2017 Writing Competitions

### ENTRIES NOW OPEN

All three Entry Forms are enclosed in this issue of *Women's Ink!*  
 The Society of Women Writers NSW will be running three National Writing Competitions in 2017.  
 These competitions are open to both members and non-members.  
 The Competitions are: National Poetry, National Short Story and National Non-Fiction.

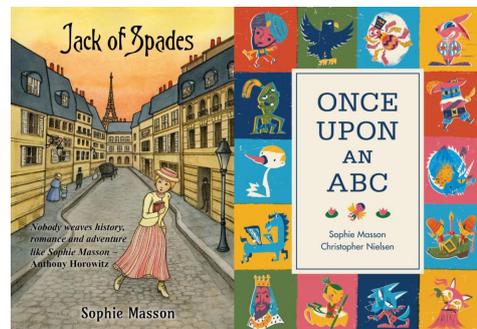
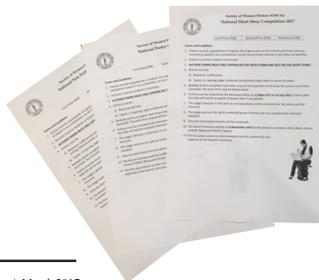
#### PLEASE NOTE:

- Each competition has a different closing date.
- Closing date for Poetry is **12 June 2017**
- Closing date for National Short Story is **10 July 2017**
- Closing date for Non-fiction is **7 August 2017**

You may submit multiple entries.

Winners will be announced on **November 8** at the Society's luncheon at the State Library of NSW.

For more information go to [www.WomenWritersNSW.org](http://www.WomenWritersNSW.org)



You are invited to come celebrate the launch of two fabulous new books!

*Jack of Spades*, a thrilling novel for older readers by Sophie Masson, with illustrations by Yvonne Low (Eagle Books)

To be launched by Pamela Freeman

*Once Upon An ABC*, a glorious picture-book romp through fairytale and folklore, by Sophie Masson and Christopher Nielsen (Little Hare)

To be launched by Paul Macdonald

When: **Saturday March 18, 2pm**

Where: **The Children's Bookshop, 6 Hannah St Beecroft, 2119**

Sophie Masson, Yvonne Low and Christopher Nielsen will be in attendance to sign books.

Hope to see you there!