

# E-Newsletter

ISSN 2203-3106

## President's Message

**Dr Maria Hill**



I would like to warmly welcome the new team of very talented people to the SWW committee for 2014-2015. I look forward to working with them to celebrate a very important milestone for the society next year - its 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary. We are also very fortunate to have on our new committee two very capable Vice-Presidents, Lindsay Lewis and Wendy Michaels. They will be taking my place as President over the next two months, while I am overseas conducting research in Britain, Northern Greece and Cyprus for my new book on World War One. Even Presidents have to take time out from their duties to write - especially in a society such as ours, which aims to encourage women's writing. However I look forward to returning in time for our fabulous festival that was recently featured in the *Sydney Morning Herald*. I urge you not to delay booking a seat at the festival to ensure you do not miss out. It is very exciting to have as our August guest speaker, Susannah Fullerton - expert on everything 'Jane Austen'. I have to confess that I have had a fascination with *Pride and Prejudice* since the age of 8 when I first read the novel, so I am eager to hear what Susannah will reveal about its significance. Our membership secretary Sandra Davis will also entertain us with a member talk on her children's book and Isolde Martyn will conduct an engaging workshop on the realities of writing romantic fiction. So join us for another riveting program.

Best wishes, Maria

Dare To Be An Author  
*A Literary Festival*

Saturday 18 October 2014

Society of Women Writers NSW & NSW State Library

Bookings now open at [www.SWWLitFest.com](http://www.SWWLitFest.com) - DON'T MISS OUT!

**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 20<sup>th</sup> of each month. Any late submissions will be held for the following month.

## 13 August Monthly Meeting

State Library of NSW  
Macquarie Street, Sydney

**Workshop: 10.00 – 11.45am - Bookings Essential**

**Love, Generally: Balancing Romance with Reality**

**Presenter:** Isolde Martyn

Workshop Coordinator: **Bea Yell 9452 2299**

**Literary Lunch: 12.15 - 1pm**

**Member Talk: 1.00 – 1.20pm**

Sandra Davis

*Kenny the Scared Kookaburra*

**Guest Speaker: 1.20 - 2pm**

Susannah Fullerton

*Happily Ever After: Celebrating Jane Austen's Pride and Prejudice*

**Cost: \$50** for members or **\$55** non-members. *Workshop only: \$20* members or **\$30.00** non-members. **Special workshop & luncheon price: \$65** members and **\$80** non-members.

Membership forms available on our website:

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

Bookings required before **10am, Monday 11 August**

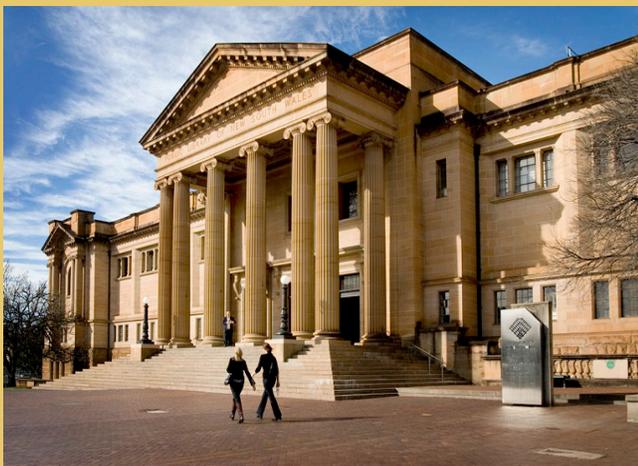
**PLEASE BOOK BY EMAIL IF YOU HAVE ACCESS TO A COMPUTER**

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 or swwlunch and should contain: date, your name and number.



### Workshop Presenter



### Love, Generally: Balancing Romance with Reality Isolde Martyn

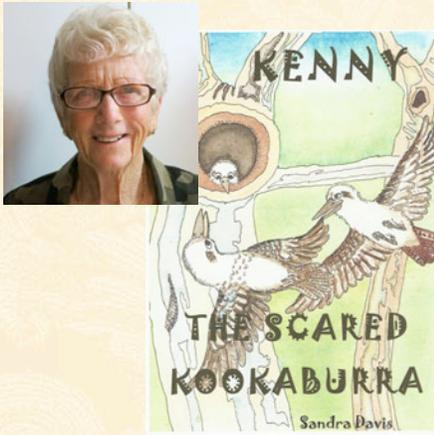
Isolde enjoys using turbulent historical events as the backdrop of her stories. In 2000, her debut novel, *The Maiden and the Unicorn*, was the first novel by an Australian to win the prestigious Rita award for 'Best First Novel' from Romance Writers of America and her first two books have won the mainstream 'Romantic Book of the Year Award' in Australia. Her recent novels *Mistress to the Crown* and *The Devil in Ermine* are centred on real people.

She has a history honours degree from Exeter University and was lured to these shores after meeting a rather dishy geologist at a bus stop. She has worked in academia and was a senior book editor with Readers Digest General Books. She was glad when she got a publishing contract because *How to Fix Just About Anything* was a challenge for someone dangerous with a feather duster.

Sharing history has always been her passion and she is a former Chair of the Sydney Richard III Society and co-founder and Vice-chair of the Plantagenet Society of Australia.

## Luncheon Speakers

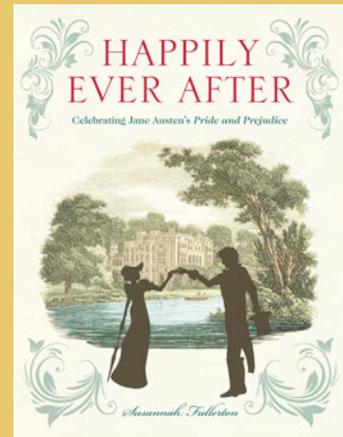
### Member Talk



#### *Kenny The Scared Kookaburra* **Sandra Davis**

Sandra Davis ranked herself an absolute writing novice when she began writing *Kenny the Scared Kookaburra*, her story for 4 to 9 year-olds. Publishing it was a rewarding experience and the book's success has been far beyond her wildest dreams. Sandra will tell how the storyline was born following a chance encounter with a young kookaburra soon after she retired in 2007. She'll share her six year journey, describing how her original plan of 'just home-printing some copies to give to family and friends' became a desire to see the book professionally printed. She'll talk of her good fortune at finding such a talented illustrator; the rewrites; the support of fellow SWW members; the ease of obtaining an ISBN; and her trip through the self-publishing maze – all things that contributed to the joy and satisfaction of producing her first book.

### Guest Speaker



#### *Happily Ever After: Celebrating Jane Austen's Pride and Prejudice* **Susannah Fullerton**

Susannah Fullerton has been President of the Jane Austen Society of Australia for the past 20 years. She is the author of *Jane Austen and Crime*, *Brief Encounters: Literary Travellers in Australia*, *A Dance with Jane Austen* and *Happily Ever After: Celebrating Jane Austen's Pride and Prejudice*.

Susannah is a well-known speaker on famous writers and their works and regularly gives talks at the State Library, the Art Gallery of NSW, at schools, conferences and clubs. She leads literary tours to the UK, France and the USA for Australians Studying Abroad.

You can read more about Susannah at  
[www.susannahfullerton.com.au](http://www.susannahfullerton.com.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 Mark - 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** - Lindsay Lewis | **SWW Front Desk** - Lynda Calder  
**Workshop Convenor** - Beatrice Yell.

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



## Introducing your NSW Society of Women Writers' Committee for 2014/2015

*Front Row (L-R):*

Yvonne Louis

Yvonne Jarman

Amanda Mark (Treasurer)

Maria Hill (President)

Sandra Davis

*Back Row (L-R):*

Vivienne Foster

Judy O'Connor

Lindsay Lewis (Vice-President)

Maria McDougall

Christine Beattie (Secretary)

Absent:

Wendy Michaels (Vice-President)

Susan Steggall

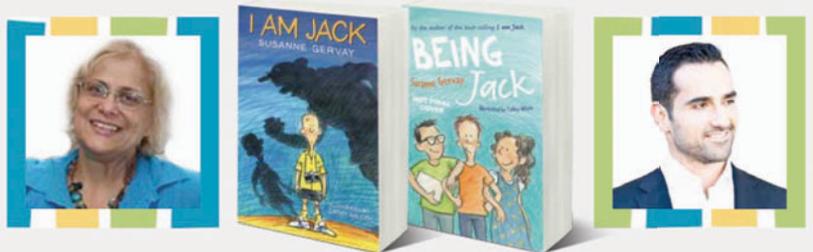
# WINNING AGAINST BULLYING

## BOOK LAUNCH AND PERFORMANCE OF 'I AM JACK'

Saturday 23rd August 2014, 5 – 7pm, Lend Lease Theatre,  
Darling Quarter, Harbour Street, Sydney

TICKETS: Adult, \$30; Child, \$20; 1 Adult + 2 Children, \$60; 2 adults + 2 children, \$80

BOOKINGS: [monkeybaa.com.au/show/jack-room-read-fundraiser/](http://monkeybaa.com.au/show/jack-room-read-fundraiser/)



Join Susanne Gervay OAM, author, and writer ambassador for Room to Read and Christian Marchegiani, superstar boxing coach for the Sydney Swans and founder of the Anti-Bullying 'Underdogs' for a special benefit performance of Monkey Baa Theatre's award-winning production of 'I Am Jack' and the launch of the fourth title in Susanne's acclaimed anti-bullying series, *Being Jack*.

Champagne reception after the performance • Raffle • Book sales and signing

All proceeds to Room to Read

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

Enquiries: Wendy Rapee

[Australia@roomtoread.org](mailto:Australia@roomtoread.org)



HarperCollins Children's Books

Don't forget to send your member news and achievements directly to [kris@kristinprescott.com](mailto:kris@kristinprescott.com) by the 20<sup>th</sup> of each month!

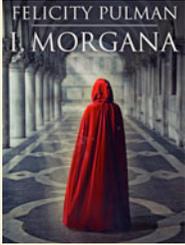
## WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

Christine Jennett (Life Member)

Fran Black, Averil Bones, Sheenagh Dabbagh, Sharyn Munro,

Geanina Serban, Carolyn Swindell

## CONGRATULATIONS



Felicity Pulman's first novel for adults has now been published by Momentum (Pan Macmillan) Australia both as an e-book and print on demand. *I, Morgana* tells the story of one of the most reviled – but fascinating – characters in Arthurian legend, and looks at the woman behind the myth. *I, Morgana* is available from all e-book retailers. For the print version, go to [www.momentumbooks.com.au](http://www.momentumbooks.com.au). Read an extract from *I, Morgana* on <http://bit.ly/1qLy0wW>.



## The Mitchell Library By Janet West

Set above lawns and waving palms  
And dancing waters of Farm Cove,  
A mellow sandstone pile appears.  
Ionic columns grace her steps,  
Carved memories of a golden age,  
When knowledge, art and poetry arose.  
Will Shakespeare broods upon his plinth,  
Oblivious of the traffic below.  
“We are such stuff as dreams are made on,  
And our little life is rounded with a sleep.”  
Here coffered ceilings look down on books  
Which furnish memory, feed the soul.  
Heads bow before the flickering screen,  
Strange deity of our transient age.  
A temple of knowledge for seekers all:  
Marble her walls and lucent her glass  
Enshrining her parchments and musings past.

## SWW FESTIVAL IN THE NEWS!

### No feud with publisher, says d'Alpuget

July 18, 2014



Susan Wyndham  
Literary Editor, The Sydney Morning Herald  
View more articles from Susan Wyndham  
Follow Susan on Twitter

Women Writers' inaugural literary festival, to be held at the State Library of NSW on October 18. In her keynote address, it said, "d'Alpuget is taking a swing at publishers, claiming her recent experience was so difficult she has withdrawn from her contract and self-published the second book in her 'young lion' series, which will be launched at the festival." There was a suggestion of an "old feud under way" between d'Alpuget and Anna Waldinger, a publisher with HarperCollins who will speak at the festival about the "trials, tribulations, triumphs" of publishing women's writing. Fascinating stuff, so I called d'Alpuget (pictured), who wanted to tone down this somewhat heat-up account of her split with



*"The announcement of Blanche d'Alpuget's next novel came in a lively press release beaded "Sparks will fly..." for the Society of Women Writers' inaugural literary festival ..."*

To read the whole article go to:

<http://www.smh.com.au/entertainment/books/no-feud-with-publisher-says-dalpuget-20140716-ztcia.html#ixzz37tSird64>



Keep up with what's happening at the SWW NSW between lunch meetings at our Facebook page.

So login to Facebook, go to <http://tinyurl.com/negm72u> and 'LIKE' us!

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

