



Society of Women Writers NSW

eNewsletter

March 2020

Issue 126

Dates for your Diary 2020

March:

Workshop—**Felicity Pulman**

Abbie Clancy Award 2020 winner announced. Judge Emeritus Professor Elizabeth Webby AM FAHA

Keynote Speaker—**Jessica North**

April:

Workshop—**Cathleen Ross**
and **Kandy Shepherd**

Member Speaker—**Christine Sykes**

Keynote Speakers— **Libby Hathorn**
and **Lisa Hathorn**

May:

Workshop—**Roslyn Mcfarland**

Member Speaker—**Newsbites**

Keynote Speakers— **Jan Latta**

SWW 95th Anniversary

16th September 2020

watch this space for a special announcement!

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Our first literary luncheon event of the year was well attended and we all shared Cindy Broadbent's delight in hearing her name announced by Emerita Professor Di Yerbury as winner of the 2020 residency. With the help of images, Helen Thurloe, the 2019 residency winner, told us of the people she met and the wide-ranging experiences she enjoyed during her stay in Barnstaple. Dr Sukhmani Khorana, in her Keynote and workshop, took us into the realms of food and service and its importance to refugees in preserving

their dignity and providing a means of connecting with the wider community.

Our March programme detailed on page 2 promises to be just as fulfilling. Joining us at lunch will be Emerita Professor Elizabeth Webby and Dr Hilarie Lindsay to announce and present The Abbie Clancy Award for 2020.

International Women's Day is celebrated during March. In the spirit of the day, why not invite a friend to join you for our March workshop and literary lunch event. Encourage someone to become a member before 30 June 2020 and when they sign up, you'll **receive a free workshop voucher*** to be redeemed by 9 December 2020. (*excludes full day workshops).

The 2020 Book Award competition is now open.

Entry forms are in the March *Women's Ink!* or can be downloaded from our website.

Over the past few years, the Society's running costs have increased across the board. Where possible, SWW has absorbed them but the reality is we can no longer do so and remain viable ... and offer the quality product we all desire. This year we celebrate our **95th year**, 2025 is our Centenary—we need to plan for the future. Consequently, the price of membership and our monthly literary events will rise from March. Additionally, the caterers have applied a surcharge for special dietary requirements. A gluten-free, dairy-free, vegetarian wrap has been added to the buffet at no additional charge. This may, for some, mitigate the need to pay the surcharge. Workshop and literary luncheon prices are on the Booking page of this e-news and on the website. The membership renewal form reflecting the increase for 2020/2021 can be found in the March *Women's Ink!* and on the website.

The Society is constantly evolving. A new concession category for regional women has been introduced. All bookings and payments can now be made through swwlunchbookings@gmail.com with Direct Debit, or Cash on the day (Members only) or through Trybooking which also allows for payment by **credit card or Paypal**. The decision to increase prices is a challenging one for Committee. There is a perception that we pay only for a sandwich. The sandwich is just one component of putting on our literary event. The use of the beautiful Dixon Room, set-up and catering service, the food and drink, our workshop presenters and Keynote speakers, the lucky door and table prizes all have a cost. In this month's *Women's Ink!* magazine I invite reflection on what it is that membership of such a unique Society as ours means. It's your on-going support that makes The Society of Women Writers NSW so amazing—thank you all—keep coming—enjoy the diversity of presenters—the competition opportunities—the company—and keep enjoying your writing.

Jan Conway

Literary Luncheon

Wednesday 11 March 2020

Dixon Room State Library of NSW Macquarie Street, Sydney

Program

10.00–11.45 am:

Workshop

Who's Telling this Story?

FELICITY PULMAN

12.00–12.20 pm: Arrival & Registration

12.20–12.45 pm: Luncheon

Abbie Clancy Award 2020 winner announced by Judge Emeritus Professor Elizabeth Webby AM FAHA

12.50 pm:

Keynote Speaker

First Fleet Convict to First Lady
JESSICA NORTH

Workshop Co-ordinator: Pippa Kay
Mobile: 0407725747

Our Monthly Luncheons are now

**shown on: What's On City of Sydney:
Sydney Talks and Facebook.**

Welcome to New Members

Natasha Sommer is our new ENewsletter Editor, proficient in Microsoft Office and Adobe Creative Cloud.

Katie Little has written a black humour memoir of growing up with her mother, Jeanne Little.

Louise Pocock writes children's picture books, and award-winning children's poetry.

Nicole Alexander draws on her rural background writing history and romance of the Australian landscape.

Luncheon and/or Workshop

DON'T MISS OUT - BOOK EARLY:
Email swwlunchbooking@gmail.com

IMPORTANT MESSAGE:
BOOKING DEADLINE is **Monday**
prior to luncheon before 10am please.

Preferred payment method must be made
by **FRIDAY** prior to meeting.

- 1) **Direct Deposit:**
The Society of Women Writers' NSW Inc
BSB: 062 018 A/C: 00950433
- 2) **Credit Card or PayPal:**
<https://www.trybooking.com/BIECZ>
- 3) **Cash** (Members only)
Payment made on arrival

Members:	Non Members/Guests:
Luncheon \$50 (ML)	Luncheon \$60 (NML)
Workshop \$35 (MWS)	Workshop \$45 (NMWS)
Luncheon & Workshop \$75 (MLW)	Luncheon & Workshop \$90 (NMLW)
Evening Workshop \$35 (MWS)	Evening Workshop \$45 (NMWS)

Note: Special dietary requirement surcharge of \$3 applies.

Cancellation Policy: Literary Luncheon: Cancellations must be received no later than 10 am on the Monday prior to the event. Cancellation after this deadline will require payment in full. Workshop pre-payment: If you are unable to attend on the day, a credit will be held for future use. Other Events: Cancellations must be received 48 hours prior to the event. Cancellations after this deadline will require payment in full

■ March

Workshop

Who's Telling this Story?

FELICITY PULMAN

What if Jane Austen had written *Pride and Prejudice* from Mr Darcy's point of view? What if *To Kill a Mockingbird* was written as a legal whodunnit starring Atticus Finch? In this workshop Felicity Pullman will look at building characters, point of view and voice to help you decide the most effective way of telling your story.



ABBIE CLANCY AWARD 2020 WINNER ANNOUNCED

Judge Emeritus Professor Elizabeth Webby AM FAH
and the Award Winner's Response.

Keynote Speaker

First Fleet Convict to First Lady

JESSICA NORTH

Jessica is Director of the Habitat Stepping Stones program at Macquarie University and founding Director of the online Senior Services Guide. She has also written articles, lifestyle books and business guides, and co-wrote a chapter for the United Nations book *Tomorrow Today*.

Using beautiful images, Jessica will describe her 10 years of research to uncover the true story of Esther Abrahams, a first fleet convict girl who became First Lady of New South Wales. Esther was also influential in the early Jewish community and was the first woman in Australia to manage a large agricultural estate.



Di Yerbury Residency 2020



Acceptance speech from Cindy Broadbent writing as Cindy Davies author of *The Afghan Wife* and *The Revolutionary's Cousin*.

Thank you Professor Yerbury—Di—for your generosity in establishing the residency. It will give me the research space and time I need. My thanks also to Dr Sharon Rundle and Colleen Keating, for volunteering your time to judge the entries. This is the second time I've entered the Di Yerbury residency competition and I'm thrilled to be selected.

I actually visited Barnstaple in 1966 with my husband, Harvey, when we were holidaying on the North Devon coast. He played guitar as a guest performer at the Barnstaple folk club—I wonder if it's still there...

The novel I'll be researching and writing while I'm in Barnstaple is entitled *Unaccompanied Baggage*.

It's a contemporary novel set in Australia and the UK during the turbulent times following the Brexit referendum, 2016—2020. It concerns a recently divorced woman who returns to her home town in the UK after having lived in Australia for over twenty years. She finds everything has changed and her family members are torn apart by the Brexit debate. I've included a mysterious Frenchman and a people-smuggling racket to keep the readers on edge.

Most of the novel takes place in the county of Devon of the UK but I'll also be travelling to the North of England and London for research. In addition, I plan to spend a short time in France.

I was born in the UK, but I've lived in Australia for forty-five years. I'm thrilled to have the opportunity to return to Britain for an extended period of time. Once again thank you to the New South Wales Society of Women Writers and to Professor Yerbury for this wonderful opportunity.

Di Yerbury Residency 2020 Judges' Report in March *Women's Ink!*

SOCIETY OF WOMEN WRITERS NSW INC. Mentor Service for Authors, Writers and Editors.

Please book at <https://womenwritersnsw.org/>

Mentoring for writing and editing

Carolyn Beaumont

A mentor is a supporter of writers but never a dictator.

With quiet encouragement and gentle suggestion, a mentor can assist a writer to complete a poem, short story, novel, play, family history or biography.

A mentor can assist with mental blocks. There are solutions.

A mentor can discuss characters, dialogues, plots, settings and themes.

A mentor can be a sounding wall for a writer to bounce off ideas, sentence structures, chapter sequences, legal and ethical issues.

The corporate or self-publishing processes require manuscripts to be thoroughly edited and then proofread at printing stage.

A mentor can offer an objective view of structural balance and a fresh eye on line (or copy) editing of the text.

A mentor can advise on communications between authors and publishers/printers and discuss changes that may be advised.

A mentor can guide an author through the proofreading stage to final publication.
An effective mentor knows that the final decision must always be the author's decision.

Please contact me via the **Society of Women Writers NSW Inc website** for more information, fees and bookings. Please use the Contact Form at <https://womenwritersnsw.org/contact/>

Sharon Rundle Book Doctor

Mentor Service for writing and editing

www.sharonrundle.com

A limited number of manuscripts are accepted, so your service is personalised.

Regular feedback is given at mutually agreed deadlines. *Please note bookings are now full until June 2020.*

Mentor Service includes:

Working with an author or editor to **develop a narrative fiction or non fiction memoir**, incorporating input from author.

Does **not** include the following

- budgeting
- design supervision
- production co-ordination

Working with an author or editor on **Substantive/Structural Editing**.

Clarifying or reorganising a manuscript for content and structure.

Does **not** include the following:

- research
- writing original material.

Please contact me via the **Society of Women Writers NSW Inc website** for more information, fees, and bookings. Please use the Contact Form at <https://womenwritersnsw.org/contact/>

Committee and Team for 2019 – 2020

Executive Committee:

Jan Conway—**President**

Kylie Day—**Vice President**

Amanda Mark—**Treasurer**

Rita Shaw—**Secretary**

Michele Bomford—**Membership Secretary**

Julie Thorndyke—**Publicity**

Committee members

Decima Wraxall.

eNewsletter and *Women's Ink!* team:

eNewsletter Editor—

Natasha Sommer SWWnatasha@gmail.com

***Women's Ink!* Editor—**Sharon Rundle SWWEditor@gmail.com

***Women's Ink!* Co-editor** Natasha Sommer

Book Review Editor—Judith O'Connor

Photographers—Rita Shaw and Meg Dunn

Proofreader—Decima Wraxall

***Women's Ink!* Mail out—**Valerie Pybus

Printer—Ace Print & Design

eNewsletter Distributor—Lindsay Lewis

Website Manager and Marketing—Lindsay Lewis

Facebook Manager—Susanne Gervay OAM

Front Desk/Lunch Booking Officer—Gwen Wilson

Workshop Co-ordinator—Pippa Kay

Prize Draw—Julie Thorndyke

Public Officer —Dr Hilarie Lindsay MBE OAM

Patron—Emerita Professor Di Yerbury AO

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