



Society of Women Writers NSW

eNewsletter

May 2020
Issue 128

Dates for your Diary 2020 NEW!

VIRTUAL WORKSHOPS VIA ZOOM

**Free to Members and Non Members
for month of May. Try it out!**

13 May:
Member Speakers—**Newsbites**

**Now via Zoom meeting prior to
Keynote Speaker slot**

13 May:
Keynote Speaker—**Jan Latta**

20 May:
Virtual Workshop—**Libby Hathorn**

Important Notices

THE SOCIETY OF WOMEN WRITERS NSW INC
2020 MEMBERS' BOOK AWARDS
Closing date: 3 JULY 2020

Entry Form at the end of this May
eNewsletter or at www.womenwritersnsw.org

THE SOCIETY OF WOMEN WRITERS NSW INC
95th Anniversary Anthology
Call for Submissions

*Leaping into the future: Protecting
our wildlife through story*

Submission deadline: 31st May 2020
Details on page 5

THE SOCIETY OF WOMEN WRITERS NSW INC
Annual General Meeting
will be held on **8 August 2020**
with the possibility it may be virtual
Nomination form on page 7

THE SOCIETY OF WOMEN WRITERS NSW INC
95th Anniversary
16 September 2020
Jean Kittson to be Keynote Speaker

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



What a challenging time it is for all of us and one that is likely to remain so for the foreseeable future. How quickly we can think differently and adapt to new ways of doing things. When we last came together to enjoy our March literary luncheon who could have foretold that our meetings would be suspended till July and possibly for the rest of the year.

While the opportunity to meet face to face has closed temporarily, other exciting opportunities present themselves. Via the magic of Zoom and **free of charge** for this month, your May **Keynote Speaker, Jan Latta**, and **Member Newsbites** can be received directly into your home. **Libby Hathorn** will also Zoom a May **Workshop**. Full details on how to book for these May events are on page 2. Subsequent events will each incur a nominal charge of \$10 for members and \$15 for non members.

Under the banner **Isolated Thoughts**, you are invited to submit original stories and/or poems. Bridget McKern fuelled the idea by sending us her poem *Covid 19 Contemplation* – see page 4.

Submissions to **Leaping into the Future**, an anthology, and the **Members' Book Awards** are now open. If you're ready - submit now – don't leave your entries till the last minute—see page 5.

The Annual General Meeting will be held on 8 August 2020 with the possibility it may be virtual. Despite this extraordinary time in our history, and as the Society heads towards its centenary, it needs to plan for a dynamic future. Please consider joining the committee. Nominations for 2020-2021 are now open and the form can be found on page 6, or downloaded from the website <https://womenwritersnsw.org/> Please note that, due to the Covid-19 health risks, forms must be emailed and not returned via the GPO box.

I wish to thank Decima Wraxall for her invaluable contribution to the 2019-2020 committee and wish her well for the future. While Decima has resigned from the committee for personal reasons, she will continue to proofread both the eNewsletter and *Women's Ink!*

Your committee has continued to work during this time of enormous change brought about by the coronavirus and I thank them for their dedication. The interests of all members is our priority and I trust you will find something within these pages to inspire your writing.

You are the storyteller of your own life, and you can create your own legend, or not. Isabel Allende

I hope that everyone is taking the best care of themselves in these unusual times and I wish you well.

Jan Conway

Society of Women Writers NSW GOES VIRTUAL!

Online Workshops and Speakers

May 2020—Free for SWW Members and Non Members!

Conducted via Zoom meeting – details will be sent by email to all who register

Program

Please log on to Zoom using instructions provided on

Wednesday 13 May

12:40 - 1:00 pm

Member Newsbites Speakers

Five members have the opportunity to virtually share their writing news in 3 minutes

If you wish to tell us about your news, please register by emailing womenwritersnsw@gmail.com
The first five to be received will be our speakers.

1.00 – 1.40 pm

Keynote Speaker

JAN LATTA

Keynote Speaker: Jan Latta will tell us of her **Adventures in the Wild** followed by a Q & A. See page 3 for details.

Wednesday 20 May

10:00 – 11:30 am

Virtual Workshop

Libby Hathorn

Libby Hathorn will conduct a workshop on **Write with Flow! Through Poetry to Better Prose**. See [page 3](#) for details.

Please log on to Zoom using instructions provided when you book through trybooking.

Workshop Co-ordinator: Pippa Kay
Mobile: 0407725747

Speakers

Wednesday 13 May 2020

trybooking: <https://www.trybooking.com/BJKAD>

Workshop

Wednesday 20 May 2020

trybooking: <https://www.trybooking.com/BJKAL>

These two May events are **free of charge** but you **must book** for May 13, and May 20 **separately through trybooking – see links above**.

This will facilitate your joining the Member Newsbites and Keynote and subsequent Workshop. On the day of each session you will be emailed and invited to join the meeting.

THE SOCIETY OF WOMEN WRITERS NSW INC 2020 MEMBERS' BOOK AWARDS

Closing date: 3 JULY 2020

Entry Form at the end of this May eNewsletter.

www.womenwritersnsw.org

Society of Women Writers Inc

COPYRIGHT NOTICE

When contributing your work to our publications

- Please ensure you hold the publishing rights to your written work. Previously published stories need copyright clearance and may also
- need acknowledgement of prior publication.
- Contributors should add written permission to publish their work in the Society of Women Writers NSW eNewsletter.
- The Society of Women Writers NSW Inc requires a non exclusive licence to publish your work in the eNewsletter.
- Copyright remains with the author.
- Contributions of Fiction and Non fiction should be non-defamatory.

For more information please visit the Australian Copyright Council information sheets, at <https://www.copyright.org.au/ACC/>
Find an Answer/Browse by A-Z/ACC/Public Content/
Information Sheets A-Z.aspx?hkey=2ae237d3-8c57-4084-81cd-fc4c81619a65

MAY

Member Newsbite Speakers 13 May 12:40 - 1:00 pm

Five members have the opportunity to virtually share their writing news in 3 minutes

If you wish to tell us about your news, please register by emailing womenwritersnsw@gmail.com.

* The first five to be received will be our speakers.

Keynote Speaker 13 May 1.00 – 1.40 pm

Adventures in the Wild

JAN LATTA

Jan Latta is an author, wildlife photographer, and publisher of eighteen True to Life Books, educating children about endangered animals. To create her books she travelled to China, Costa Rica, Uganda, Borneo, India, Sri Lanka, and eleven times to Africa. Jan will talk about her close encounter with a mountain gorilla in Rwanda and how that changed her life and her career.

She will discuss the challenges of creating the books and how she conquered her fear with wild animals.

Jan's books are available through her website <http://www.truetolifebooks.com.au/order-a-signed-copy-from-jan-latta/>



Workshop 20 May 10:00 – 11:30 am

Write with Flow! Through Poetry to Better Prose

LIBBY HATHORN

Libby will engage with writers in a few short expressive exercises through poetry leading to fuller and more expressive prose writing.

Her books can be purchased through Hachette Australia Children's or Woollahra Bookshop Woollahra Bookshop shop@woollahrabookshop.com

Libby Hathorn is doing something magical and positive with poetry for kids under lockdown. You will find a series on poetry on Libby Hathorn's Facebook page called **Perfect Poetry** a series of 6 x 10 minute sessions for parents and kids alike. Some of the topics covered are the Five Senses, The Magic of Metaphor and the Power of Abstract Nouns!

<http://libbyhathorn.com/poetry/perfect-poetry-new-online-sessions-libby-hathorn/> Notes at: <http://libbyhathorn.com>



Isolated Thoughts

The Society of Women Writers NSW invites you to contribute to our monthly eNewsletter page and share your 'Plague Diary' entries or writing on New Beginnings -- poems, short non fiction prose, or short prose fiction. Maximum 400 words for prose and 40 lines for poetry, please send to SWWeditor@gmail.com

COVID 19 CONTEMPLATION**BRIDGET MCKERN**

The world is slowing down
 Can you feel it?
 Like a Tai Chi walker
 We are being asked to move
 Slowly.... quietly
 Deliberating
 Each step in balance with the next
 And the next....and the nextand the next

The Chinese word for CRISIS is the same word for OPPORTUNITY

Now is the time for us to notice,
 See things differently
 Re-calibrate the crazy pace of cluttered chaos
 Move aside from the maelstrom of madness
 Turn it around
 Live differently

Every aspect of human life is being turned upside down
 The earth is burning out the dross
 Greed and false power can no longer rule
 They have had their day

Now we have time
 To notice a bee landing on a dandelion

Smile at a passer by
 Keeping our respectful distance

Distancing does not need to be less kindness
 But as we learn to stand back from things
 The heart space opens up
 To see each other's needs
 To notice things that make a difference
 To acquire new ways of being in the world

At last!

This is the gift of deep inner knowing
 That we all have available.

This is our true vocation
 To be Carers – not Conquerors

**Society of Women Writers NSW
95th Anniversary Anthology
Call for Submissions**

Leaping into the Future: protecting our wildlife through story

To celebrate The SWW NSW 95th anniversary, we have an exciting writing project that looks outward and forward, not back.

It is an education project targeted to children, to raise awareness of climate change and its effects on our environment, celebrate our unique animals, and support our natural landscape.

Blinky Bill, Dot and the Kangaroo, Snugglepot and Cuddlepie, The Muddle-headed Wombat; Edward the Emu; Koala Lu; Diary of Wombat; Uhu and many more. . . so many books in the canon of Australia Literature celebrate our unique flora and fauna.

Are you worried that your children and grandchildren may know koalas, platypus and wombats (and many others) only as storybook characters, never seeing one in real life?

Recent bushfire damage to the environment has pushed our wildlife to the brink of extinction. It is time to protect our precious Australian flora and fauna, sources of inspiration for so many classic Australian children's stories.

Call for submissions:

- SWWNSW members are invited to submit stories, information articles and poems **written for children** to be included in an anthology
- Suggested topics/themes: Australian native creatures of all kinds; native landscapes; climate change; weather; bushfire, flood, cyclones; human and natural resilience; marine environment and reefs; forests and trees . . .
- Stories and articles up to 1,000 words
- Poems up to 30 lines
- Previously published work on the theme may be submitted
- There is no payment for work accepted, no contributor copies and no fee to submit
- One-off rights are requested: copyright remains with the creator
- Electronic submissions to leapingintothefuture@gmail.com
- Submit with full name of author and story title in a Word doc 12 pt. Times New Roman, stories/poems should be double-spaced, poems single-paced

Submission deadline: 31st May 2020

Invited guests may also be asked to contribute. A separate call for stories and illustrations by children will follow.

Target audience: primary school and early high school children, 8-12 yrs.

Copies of the anthology will be donated to fire-affected primary schools and sold to other readers. All proceeds from sales of the anthology to be donated to wildlife conservation.

Please join in this effort to celebrate and preserve Australia's unique wildlife!



eNewsbites

Please send your written eNewsbites to share in our eNewsletters

send to SWWeditor@gmail.com

Surviving Covid-19

DECIMA WRAXALL

To keep body and soul in harmony at this stressful time, I tap into the creative process. Write. Hone. Write. Two 40,000 word Historical Fiction novels are in progress. These stories are informed by determination, perseverance, friendship, loss and survival. A leitmotiv throughout are challenges for an RN [Registered Nurse], caring for the frail and elderly. My regrets at missing weekend family time. The difficulties faced at my old home. D.I.Y. for a woman. Interviewing Estate Agents to find the best. Driven away from Stacey Street by the pollution and thunder of a major road. Caring for elderly father. Sharing the joy of births in the UK. Holidays in the NT, France, Spain, Ireland... The exhilaration and difficulties of a new home. Grief at my father's death. Relationship ups and downs. The problems of short-staffing and mountains of paper-work at the NH. Literary success at last.

I'm doing a Masterclass by Billy Collins, former poet Laureate, at MasterClass.Com. Creating and re-writing lots of poems in the light of new insights. And I've been Longlisted in their Flash Fiction Memoir competition with RENDEZVOUS. One of my works has also been selected by Ginninderra Press for their Poems of Dissent Anthology.

Skimming the Surface

JAN CONWAY

Skimming the Surface, my account of the two years I spent with my family on the atoll of Tarawa, Kiribati, is being prepared for printing and expected in my hands by early June. This is my first book and as a self-publisher, I'm keen to feel and smell it as a real book. Hoping we're on the other side of the current pandemic, I plan to officially launch my story into the wide world on 5 December 2020; forty-one years to the day after we set off on our odyssey.

Island life was not without its challenges but as our family adapted to the reality of living remotely, we discovered a new way of observing the world around us – sometimes raw and confronting, at others so beautiful it took our breath away, like the time we watched a fairy tern leave the casuarina tree in our yard to fledge pure white against a lapis sky. The I-Kiribati welcomed us, we made lifelong friendships and developed a high regard for these island people and their culture.

In *Skimming the Surface*, I invite you to join me and my family on our journey as we discover another way of living.

THE SOCIETY OF WOMEN WRITERS NSW INC

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

8 AUGUST 2020

NOMINATION FORM ON PAGE 7

Please note that AGM may be a virtual meeting

Have you considered nominating for Committee?

The next few years will be exciting ones for The Society of Women Writers NSW with a focus on growing our membership, providing interesting and varied speakers and workshops and working towards our centenary.

Our members are a diverse group with a wide-range of ideas and skills. Your contribution will be welcomed. Nomination forms can be downloaded from our website.



**THE SOCIETY OF WOMEN WRITERS NSW INC
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

WEDNESDAY 12 August 2020

Election of Office Bearers and Committee Members

NOMINATION FORM

I, _____
being a financial member of the Society of Women Writers NSW Inc., wish to nominate

(Name of Nominee) _____

For the position of (Please tick desired position):

- President
- Vice President
- Secretary
- Treasurer
- Membership Secretary
- Committee Member

Signature of Proposer: _____

CONSENT OF CANDIDATE:

I, _____
agree to take on this role if elected to this position at the Society's 2020 Annual General Meeting.

Signature of candidate: _____ Date: _____

This completed nomination form must be received no later than 31 July 2020.

Please print, scan and return by email to:

Rita Shaw, Hon. Secretary, The Society of Women Writers NSW Inc, at: rhinoservices@inet.net.au

Should you require further information, please email: womenwritersnsw@gmail.com

Lifelong learning at State Library NSW

Bookings are essential for all programs and payment is required at the time of booking.

Please CHECK with the State Library of NSW Website for updated information regarding access during the Lockdown period.

www.sl.nsw.gov.au/learning/lifelong-learners

Wheelchair access Enquiries: learning.library@sl.nsw.gov.au or (02) 9273 1778

Launch into Library research

FAMILY HISTORY INSIGHTS Thu 6 Aug, 10 am to 3.45 pm. Meet in the Macquarie St foyer \$60 (bookings essential)
Know the basics and ready to take your research further? Join us for this new National Family History Month event.

USING MAPS FOR HISTORICAL RESEARCH Thu 15 Oct, 10 am to 4.30 pm. Meet in the Macquarie St foyer \$60 (bookings essential)
Maps can hold a wealth of information to enrich your history research or project.

LAND RECORDS IN NSW Thu 19 Nov, 10 am to 4.30 pm. Meet in the Macquarie St foyer \$60 (bookings essential)
Want to explore the history of a parcel of land in NSW since 1788? We'll show you how to get started through this series of practical sessions and presentations. Get a hands-on introduction to searching the online Historical Land Records Viewer (HLRV).

Online at the Library

ERESOURCES IN DEPTH: EBSCO & GALE Thu 2 Jul, 10.30 am to 12.30 pm. Meet in the Macquarie St foyer \$20 (bookings essential)
This hands-on workshop will help you get the most out of EBSCO and Gale databases, accessible from anywhere with your Library card. Intermediate computing skills are required.

ERESOURCES IN DEPTH: ONLINE NEWSPAPERS Thu 22 Oct, 10.30 am to 12.30 pm. Meet in the Macquarie St foyer \$20 (bookings essential)
Using the Library's substantial range of eresources, learn how to locate and use historical and current online newspapers from a variety of sources including Trove, ProQuest and Gale.

TREASURES OF TROVE Thu 24 Sep, 10.30 am to 12.30 pm. Meet in the Macquarie St foyer \$20 (bookings essential)
This hands-on workshop will introduce you to the unrivalled repository of Australian and online resources available from the Trove website. Search for books, images, maps, music, archives and more. Learn how to access digitised newspapers and local history information on Trove and how to sign up and add comments, edit text, and tag articles. Basic computer skills are required.

Family history

STARTING FAMILY RESEARCH AT THE STATE LIBRARY Thu 26 Nov, 10.30 am to 12 noon. Meet in the Macquarie St foyer \$20 (bookings essential). In this session librarians will introduce you to the State Library's diverse family history collections.

State Library NSW Online Activities and Book borrowing for members.....Website: <https://www.sl.nsw.gov.au/>

The Historical Novel Society Australasia (HNSA)

New \$30,000 Australasian literary prize celebrating historical fiction genre

Submissions open on 1 May and close on 30 June 2020.

Announcing a new major literary prize, set to award \$30,000 to an outstanding historical novelist. The new ARA Historical Novel Prize gives Australian and New Zealand historical novelists the chance to be recognised in a class of their own, with the most significant prize money for any genre-based prize in Australasia. Applications are open to all authors — whether traditionally or self-published — who are **residents or citizens of Australia or New Zealand, with books published between 1 January 2019 and 30 June 2020.**

Historical fiction will be defined as a novel written at least 50 years after the events described, or by an author not alive at the time of the events described, who therefore must approach those events only through research.

Entries may be submitted by authors, publishers, and agents. More information at www.hnsa.org.au/ara-historical-novel-prize

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 online (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

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

Regular feedback is given at mutually agreed deadlines. *Please note new bookings will be taken in 2021.*

Mentor Service includes:

- Working with an author or editor to **develop a narrative fiction or non fiction memoir**, incorporating input from author.
- Working with an author or editor on **Substantive/Structural Editing**.
- Clarifying or reorganising a manuscript for content and structure.
- Does **not** include research or 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

Maria McDougall

eNewsletter and *Women's Ink!* team:

eNewsletter Editor—Natasha Sommer

***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 swwlunchbooking@gmail.com

Workshop Co-ordinator—Pippa Kay

Prize Draw—Julie Thorndyke

Public Officer —Dr Hilarie Lindsay MBE OAM

Patron—Emerita Professor Di Yerbury AO

Please send copy for the eNewsletter to Sharon Rundle at SWWeditor@gmail.com

Deadline 1st of the month for the following issue, eg: 1st May for June issue.

Please format in:

MSWord

Calibri 11 pt Font

single line spacing.

Thank you.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Website: www.womenwritersnsw.org

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/The-Society-of-Women-Writers-NSW-Inc-1491708781046746/>



THE SOCIETY OF WOMEN WRITERS NSW INC

www.womenwritersnsw.org

Giving Women Writers a Voice

2020 MEMBERS' BOOK AWARDS

Closing date: 3 JULY 2020

CONDITIONS OF ENTRY

1. Entrants must be members of the Society of Women Writers NSW Inc.
2. A separate entry form must accompany each book.
3. All entries must be bound books. No e-books.
4. Self-published books will be accepted. No group anthologies.
5. Publication dates accepted for Books entered: **1 July 2018 to 30 June 2020**. Dates strictly observed.
6. No entries will be returned.
7. Prizes will be awarded as follows: Winner Trophy and Certificate; Two (2) Highly Commended Certificates; One (1) Commended Certificate.
8. The judge's decision will be final. **No** correspondence will be entered into.
9. The winners will be announced at the Society's Literary Luncheon Meeting in the Dixson Room of The State Library of NSW on **Wednesday, 14 October 2020**.
10. **No** entries postmarked after 3 July 2020, or received without payment, will be accepted or returned.
11. **Fee:** \$30.00 per entry.

Payment Methods:

EFT Preferred: Please **INCLUDE A COPY OF PAYMENT WITH YOUR ENTRY**.

THE SOCIETY OF WOMEN WRITERS NSW INC.

BSB 062-018 A/C NUMBER 00950433

For EFT payments Include the initial of your given name, last name and entry category code (refer below) eg Jane Smith, FICTION: JSmith FIC

Or: Cheques and money orders should be sent with your entry and made payable to:
THE SOCIETY OF WOMEN WRITERS NSW INC.

Send Entries to:

- **Receiving Officer for: FICTION (CODE: FIC) AND NON FICTION (CODE: NF) CATEGORIES**

Ms Julie Thorndyke
3 Forest Knoll
CASTLE HILL NSW 2154

- **Receiving Officer for: CHILDREN (CODE: CHILD) AND YOUNG ADULT (CODE: YA) CATEGORIES**

Ms Michele Bomford
18 William Street
BUNDANOON NSW 2578

- **Receiving Officer for: POETRY (CODE: POET)**

Ms Decima Wraxall
3 Hart Street
DUNDAS VALLEY NSW 2117



THE SOCIETY OF WOMEN WRITERS NSW INC

www.womenwritersnsw.org

Giving Women Writers a Voice

2020 MEMBERS' BOOK AWARDS

ENTRY FORM

Closing date: 3 JULY 2020

PLEASE PRINT

NAME OF AUTHOR(S):

NAME OF MEMBER (if different)

YOUR POSTAL ADDRESS:

EMAIL:

Tel: (H)MOBILE :.....

CATEGORY ENTERED: (Separate form for each book being entered)

CIRCLE ONE: **FICTION** NON FICTION **CHILDREN** YOUNG ADULT **POETRY**

BOOK TITLE:

PUBLISHER:

ISBN:

PLACE OF PUBLICATION:

DATE OF PUBLICATION:

I HAVE INCLUDED ALL INFORMATION AND PAYMENT OR PROOF OF EFT

I UNDERSTAND AND AGREE TO THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF ENTRY

Print Name:

Signature: Date: