

# E-Newsletter

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## Co-President's Message

Women writers are vibrant voices for ideas that engender discussion, creative and intellectual thought and positive engagement with a diverse and changing world. Dr Sue Steggall, writer, author, art historian has joined me as co-President for 2015. We follow the dynamic President Maria Hill, who gave her talents so generously to the Society and is still very much part of the SWW. The eminent literary author Sue Woolfe who had hoped to become the next President has been unable to take up that role. However she is committed to the Society and will be bringing her ideas and expertise to the events program.

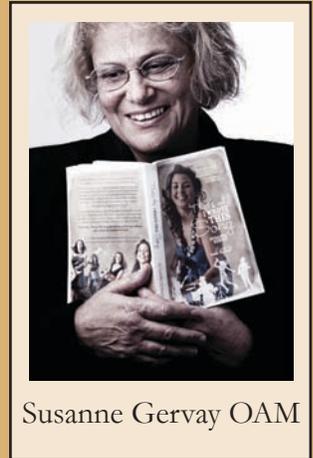
The 90-year celebrations of the SWW in September is a remarkable validation of the SWW as a literary association. It is also an opportunity to recognise outstanding members; those who have continued in the creative life of the Society for decades; past Presidents and future writers. Jessica Rowe AM the keynote speaker for the 90th anniversary encapsulates the ideals of the SWW as an author, mother, media personality who engages in the relevant issues of our time, and as an advocate for mental health and issues impacting women and families.

Giving women a voice is core to the Society and is the ethos of the 90th anniversary. This year's short story, poetry and non-fiction competitions reflect this. The judges are eminent literary writers – the internationally recognised and award winning poet Beverley George; acclaimed and also award winning science fiction writer, editor, graphic designer and publisher Catriona Sparks; and one of Australia's foremost commentators on social and consumer trends, author, the Executive Director of *The Mind & Mood Report*, Dr Rebecca Huntley. The award announcements will be made on 11 November at the SWW luncheon in the Dixson Room.

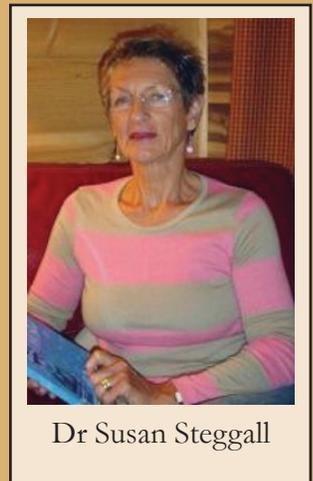
The Society wishes to invite more women writers to enjoy the life of the SWW. There will be a stand at the literary festival, *Writers in the Park* in Centennial Park on Sunday 27 September. Come along to hear outstanding speakers, join the stand, participate in the day with family and friends. It is at the Paddington gates Oxford Street. [CLICK HERE](#) for details.

The 90th year of the Society of Women Writers in our historic home in the gracious Dixson Room, Mitchell Library, is a wonderful time to celebrate women writers.

Susanne Gervay  
www.sgervay.com



Susanne Gervay OAM



Dr Susan Steggall

## 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 LUNCHEON**  
**Wednesday 9 September**  
**Celebrating the**  
**90th Anniversary**  
**of the**  
**Society of Women Writers**  
**NSW**  
*State Library of NSW*  
*Macquarie Street, Sydney*



**90th Anniversary Keynote Speaker**  
**Jessica Rowe AM**

The Society of Women Writers' 90th anniversary event is now SOLD OUT.

It is going to be a luncheon to remember!

**Lunch will be a lovely crispy skin salmon fillet with salad of rocket and roasted cherry tomatoes and roasted potatoes plus a mini tart for dessert.**

**\*\* REMEMBER \*\***

**You must notify Lynda Calder of any dietary requirements NOW.**

It will not be possible to make special menu requests on the day of the luncheon

**Please email:**  
**[swwlunchbooking@gmail.com](mailto:swwlunchbooking@gmail.com)**



Jessica Rowe, an inspiring woman and speaker, is the keynote for celebrations of the 90th year of the SWW.

A loved media personality and author of two books including *The Best Of Times*, *The Worst of Times - growing up with a mum who has bipolar*.

Jessica is a beautiful author, who shares her heart and soul with all women, to promote understanding of mother-daughter relationships, mental illness and kids.

She is patron on Mental Health Council of Australia, ambassador for Beyond Blue and advocates for women and children.

It will be a celebration to remember.



Along with a keynote speech by Jessica Rowe AM, there will be presentations and gifts to past Presidents and authors who have been members for over 30 or 40 years. We will also be recognising those who have made significant contributions to the Society.

Other honoured guests include:

Professor Di Yerbury  
*SWW Patron*

The Hon. Leslie Gladys Williams  
*Minister for Early Childhood Education, Minister for  
Aboriginal Affairs, and Assistant Minister for Education*

Professor Elizabeth Webby

Zoe Rodriguez  
*Copyright Agency Limited*

Linda Funnell  
*Chair, NSW Writers' Centre*

Susannah Fullerton  
*President, Jane Austen Society*

Trevar Langlands  
*Fellowship of Australian Writers*

Fiona Inglis  
*Managing Director, Curtis Brown Australia*

Jozefa Sobski  
*Chair, Jessie Street National Women's Library*

Nola Barkl  
*President, National Council of Women NSW*

Cassie Mercer - *Editor & Publisher, Inside  
History Magazine*

Selwa Anthony  
*Selwa Anthony Author Management*



## Don't miss your chance to own a piece of SWW History

### *The 90th Anniversary Silent Auction*

Seventeen figurines of a woman reading a book have been made as a special table décor for the 90th Anniversary Luncheon of The Society of Women Writers.

The Art Deco style design was inspired by the elegant black motif of a girl reading a book (a bookstand) on the invitations.

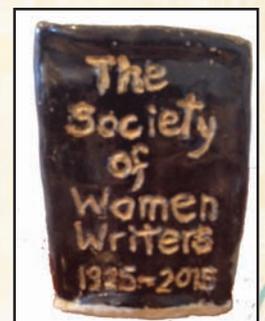
It has been my great pleasure and privilege to do this for the Society and I hope that the members enjoy having these with the little clay books as a memento.

We will have one on each table at the Anniversary lunch and they will be auctioned on the day.

Bridget McKern

*The sculptor / potter - September 2015*

*President 2010 – 2013.*



**Libby Hathorn** has had a busy couple of months. In July, she twice gave a closing plenary for PETAA in July at the Grace Hotel, Sydney and another at Novotel at Parramatta on the topic of *Literature, Libraries and Love*. There were several hundred attendees.

In August, Libby was part of the 99th Commemoration Service at St Columba's with Rev Brian Jago presiding. Lt Gen Caligari, First Battalion Association, RSL representatives and representative from the French Consulate and Woollahra Council took part. She read from a chapter set at Pozieres from my novel, *Eventual Poppy Day*. See [libby-hathorn.blogspot.com](http://libby-hathorn.blogspot.com)

**Pauline Cash Cumming** has had two of her children's picture books accepted for publication.

*The Adventures of Beeflat in The Sydney Opera House* and *How Gecko Got His Knob Tail* will be published by Boorlaring Press in Brisbane.

**Kristin Prescott** has successfully completed her third Write-a-Book-in-a-Day in support of The Kids Cancer Project.

Her team from the Northern Beaches Writers' Group had to write, illustrate and bind a 12,000 word picture book in just 12 hours.

She hopes *Rider and the Hummingbird* will bring adventure and joy to the kids fighting cancer at Westmead Children's Hospital.



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

## Coming up in your next edition of *Women's Ink!* ...

In September I have prepared a special souvenir edition of *Women's Ink!* to celebrate and honour 90 years of this fabulous literary organisation.

Inside you will be taken on a journey through the history of the SWW and further explore our relationship with the State Library of NSW. Most importantly, you will also hear from many of the wonderful women who have made this Society what it is today. They share fascinating stories about their years with the SWW as well as how the Society has helped carry them on a journey through their writing lives.

I would like to say thank you to all those who have helped bring the publication together and taken the time to contribute.

In December, *Women's Ink!* will return to its normal format and will be a bumper issue containing all the reports from the previous six months.

I hope you enjoy the publication!

Kristin Prescott  
*Women's Ink!* Editor

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Helen Gerondis, Carolyn Nock & Karen Throssell

## The Society of Women Writers NSW Committee and Team for 2015-16

**Committee:** *Susanne Gervay – Co-President, Dr Susan Steggall – Co-President & Sub-Editor, Amanda Mark – Treasurer, Maria McDougall – Membership Secretary, Yvonne Jarman – Publicity Officer, Sandra Davis, Vivienne Foster, Libby Hathorn, Lindsay Lewis, Mary Ann Napper, Judith O'Connor.*

**E-Newsletter team** – *Kristin Prescott (editor) & 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 Susan Steggall (Sub-Editor), Sandra Davis, Judith O'Connor (Book Editor), Joy Williams.*

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

