

# E-Newsletter

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## Co-President's Message

By all accounts February's meeting was very successful with a satisfying roll up of guests and interesting and challenging speakers. As we settle into 2016 there will be much more of the same! In March, historian and author Susannah Fullerton, our Keynote Speaker will be talking about 'Living a Literary Life in Sydney'. All who have signed up to Susannah's monthly Notes from a Book Addict will recognise her contributions to that literary life. Susannah is also conducting the March workshop on the subject of 'The Challenge of the First Line', inviting participants to better those famous opening words from *Pride and Prejudice*.

I will be introducing March's Guest Speakers, Zoya Nojin and Kristin Prescott, two colleagues from the Northern Beaches Writers' Group. 'Write a Book in a Day? You bet we can!' With such a tight deadline, they developed a new, collaborative approach to writing.

All forthcoming SWW events are comprehensively covered in the March *Women's INK!* However I would like to highlight the Di Yerbury Residency – the perfect opportunity to focus on your writing. Deadline for submission is 9 March, 5 pm.

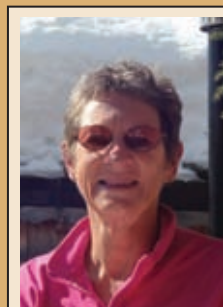
In 2016 the Society will hold the SWW Book Awards for books published from July 2013 to June 2016. A flyer with entry details, categories (Fiction, Non-Fiction, Children, Young Adults, Poetry), and contact details will be on the website (see page 5). A copy of the flyer is also in the March *Women's INK!*

The Society's AGM is on 8 June. Nominations for the Committee are now open. You will be emailed a nomination form for the 2016-2017 Committee or you can download it from the SWW website at [www.womenwritersnsw.org](http://www.womenwritersnsw.org). Being part of the SWW Committee is a rewarding and stimulating experience. As treasurer for the Society under the presidencies of Elizabeth Stead, Dr Patricia Gaut, Lesley Walter and Dr Jennifer Rumsey I remember committee meetings as occasions of collegiality among like-minded women writers of all persuasions – novelists, historians and poets.

### DIARY DATES:

- **Wednesday 9 March: 7 pm.** A Conversation Club (<http://conversationclubsydney.weebly.com/>) Susanne Gervay will be in conversation with Room to Read's Jennie Orchard.
- **Tuesday 15 March: 6pm to 8pm.** The inaugural Evening Workshop Series with award-winning poet and author Libby Hathorn at the Women's Club, Level 4, 179 Elizabeth Street, Sydney. Credit Cards accepted

Dr Susan Steggall



Dr Susan Steggall



Susanne Gervay OAM

## SWW GENERAL ENQUIRIES

0490 363 778

*For more information about our events.*

If you wish to contribute any member notices, 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 March

*State Library of NSW  
Macquarie Street, Sydney*

**10.00 - 11.45am: Workshop**

The Challenge of the First Line  
Susannah Fullerton

*Workshop Coordinator:*

*Robyn McWilliam 0418 225 051*

**12.00pm - 12.20pm: Luncheon****Arrival and Registration****12.20 - 1pm: Luncheon****1pm - 1.15pm: Guest Speaker**

Write a Book in a Day? You bet  
we can!

Zoya Nojin, Kristin Prescott, Dr Susan  
Steggall

**1.20pm - 2pm: Keynote Presentation**

Living a Literary Life in Sydney  
Susannah Fullerton

**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)

*For Direct Deposit please use the codes listed above  
The Society of Women Writer's NSW Inc  
BSB: 062 018 A/C: 0095 0433*

**Everyone must book with Lynda Calder BEFORE 10am on the MONDAY before the meeting.**

**NB: There is still 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](mailto:swwlunchbooking@gmail.com)

Mobile phone: Text message to 0403 177 208

Your text message should be addressed to [swwlunchbooking](mailto:swwlunchbooking@gmail.com) or  
[swwlunch](mailto:swwlunch) and should contain: date, your name and number.



## Workshop Presentation

### **The Challenge of the First Line**

**Susannah Fullerton**

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

Susannah writes a literary monthly blog, 'Notes from a Book Addict' and leads literary tours abroad.

Her workshop will investigate the power and challenge of writing an opening sentence for a novel or short story. How does the opening sentence set the tone, intrigue the reader and create a desire to continue with the story? How does it introduce irony, give a sense of place or simply entertain or amuse? Famous opening sentences from literature will be discussed and analysed to see how to achieve these effects.

Participants will also take part in a writing exercise.



## Keynote Speaker Presentation

### **Living a Literary Life in Sydney**

**Susannah Fullerton**

Author, literary tour leader, President of the Jane Austen Society of Australia and Patron of the Kipling Society of Australia, Susannah Fullerton talks about the wonderful opportunities for leading a very literary life in Sydney.

Discover what vibrant literary societies exist and what they do. Susannah will also share the challenges and experiences on her journey to become a published author, leader of very popular literary tours in the UK, France, USA, Italy and Ireland, and how she became Sydney's best known lecturer on dead writers and their works.



## Guest Speakers



### Write a Book in a Day? You bet we can!

**Zoya Nojin, Kristin Prescott  
& Dr Susan Steggall**

Write and illustrate a 10,000 word book for nine to fourteen year olds in twelve hours. Sounds impossible and perhaps a little crazy? Well that's the challenge we took on with fellow authors from the Northern Beaches Writers' Group – not once, but three years in a row. And to our delight we have won the national competition every year. That's three more books to entertain the sick kids at Westmead Children's Hospital and three more quirky and intriguing stories to add to the richness of Australian children's literature.

Our motivation was to raise money for The Kids Cancer Project, but we didn't anticipate the benefits we would all experience as writers.

With such a tight deadline, the tasks of character development, plotting, writing and editing were turned on their heads. We will share with you the experience of collaborating on a project such as this one and what it taught us about new ways to approach writing.

## EVENING WORKSHOP SERIES

Join us for the inaugural workshop with award-winning poet and author, Libby Hathorn.

**Tuesday 15 March  
6pm to 8pm**

**Women's Club**

**Level 4, 179 Elizabeth Street, Sydney**

**More details: [www.womenwritersnsw.org](http://www.womenwritersnsw.org)**

## Nominate now for the 2016-2017 committee

### The Society will hold its 2016 AGM on 8 June.



You will be emailed a link to the nomination form for the 2016-2017 Committee or it can be downloaded from the SWW website at [www.womenwritersnsw.org](http://www.womenwritersnsw.org).

The AGM is an important occasion for the Society which celebrates the voice of women writers.

Participation in the SWW Committee is an enriching one where members embrace the literary life. Some of Australia's most important writers have been on the Society's committee including Dame Mary Gilmore, Ethel Turner, Blanche d'Alpuget, Dorothea Mackellar, Elizabeth Stead, Wilda Moxham, Libby Hathorn and many other eminent writers.

Nominations for the Committee are now open.

Dr Susan Steggall

# 2016 SWW Book Awards ENTRIES NOW OPEN

**Closing Date: 30 June 2016**

The Society of Women Writers NSW Inc. will be holding the prestigious SWW Book Awards again in 2016.

A flyer with entry details, categories, receiving officers and contact details will be on the website and the e-Newsletter. A copy has been inserted in this issue of *Women's INK!*

The awards are for books published from July 2013 to June 2016 and will be evaluated by judges who are experts in their respective fields.

Place getters in each category will be authorised to attach a Book Award sticker.

## **Requirements:**

- Only Members of the SWW are permitted to submit.
- One copy of the book to be posted to the receiving officer. Entries will not be returned.
- Entry fee for administration costs: \$25.00 per entry.

## **Receiving Officer for: FICTION AND NON FICTION CATEGORIES**

Dr Susan Steggall

10/14 Eustace Street, Manly NSW 2095

## **Receiving Officer for: CHILDREN AND YOUNG ADULT CATEGORIES**

Ms Maria McDougall

128 Bannockburn Road, Turramurra NSW 2074

## **Receiving Officer for: POETRY**

Ms Yvonne Jarman

15 Leverton Close, St Ives NSW 2095

For queries, contact: Dr Susan Steggall at the above address or by email: [swal1@bigpond.net.au](mailto:swal1@bigpond.net.au)

## **PAST BOOK AWARD RECEIPIENTS**

Carol Baxter	Yve Louis
Clio Calodoukas	Yvonne Louis
Dr Penelope Cottier	Mary-Ellen Mullane
Susanne Gervay	Felicity Pulman
Libby Hathorn	Cynthia Rowe
Dr Maria Hill	Brenda Saunders
Lindsay Lewis	Dr Susan Steggall
& Sharyn Killens	Winifred Weir

# Di Yerbury UK Writer's Residency

**Hurry, hurry!  
Applications closing soon!**

For those of you writing a novel based in the UK or in Europe, this is the perfect opportunity to focus on your writing, with a room of your own in close proximity to places that you may need to research.

**PLEASE NOTE: submissions  
must be received by the deadline  
of 9 March, no later than 5 pm.**

You'll find information regarding submission requirements in the December issue of *Women's Ink!* along with further information about the residency in Felicity Pulman's article on her wonderful writing experience in Devon.

You can also go to the SWW NSW website: [www.womenwritersnsw.org](http://www.womenwritersnsw.org).





Come and see **Susanne Gervay OAM** in conversation with Australian Room to Read leader Jennie Orchard on *Why the pen is still mightier than the AK47 (or how storytelling creates a better world for all)*.

#### Conversation Club

**9 March 2016, 7 for 7.30pm**

**The Imperial Hotel, Paddington**

Attendance is free. Please donate \$10 on the night to Room to Read.

RSVP at [www.conversationclubsydney.weebly.com](http://www.conversationclubsydney.weebly.com)



Jo Oliver is launching her latest children's picture book.

**19 & 20 March, 11am - 5pm**  
**Clifton School of Arts**

She will also be displaying original illustrations from her books.

*The Dreaming Tree* is a collection of poems illustrated in large format picture book form. They celebrate the joy and freedom of being a child in the Australia landscape.

**Sophie Masson on behalf of Eagle Books and Christmas Press** invite you to the launch of Jules Verne's *Mikhail Strogoff*, translated by Stephanie Smee and illustrated by David Allan.

The book will be launched by Monsieur Nicolas Crozier, Consul-General of France in Sydney.

**Wednesday 13 April at 12.30pm**

**Alliance Francaise Sydney**  
**257 Clarence St, Sydney**

Stephanie Smee and David Allan will be in attendance to sign books. Light refreshments available.

[www.eaglebooksadventure.com](http://www.eaglebooksadventure.com)



## Share your writing news and celebrate with the SWW!

Members of the SWW NSW are invited to share their writing news and achievements for inclusion in the monthly e-newsletter and *Women's INK!*.

This is a fantastic opportunity to have your milestones recognised within this supportive group of fellow writers. You also have access to a large group of like-minded people within which to promote your upcoming events!

### Submission Deadlines

**E-news - upcoming events only**

Due by the 20th of each month.

**Women's INK! - news and achievements**

For July: due 10 June

For November: due 10 October

**NB: Any information received after the deadline will be held for the next available publication**



### STAY CONECTED!

Keep up with what's happening at the SWW NSW on Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIN.

Just search for

'The Society of Women Writers NSW Inc'.



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

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

**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**

