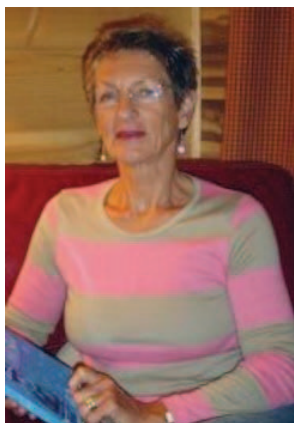




President's Message

Dr Susan Steggall



Dr Susan Steggall

Before beginning the adventure of working with a new SWW committee I would like to thank my Co-President, Susanne Gervay, for the enthusiasm and commitment with which she not only took on the role of Co-President last year, but also chaired the committee overseeing the 90th Anniversary celebrations. I also thank all members of the outgoing committee for their sterling work over the year: Vice President Lindsay Lewis for her wise advice, Treasurer Amanda Mark and the publicity team of Yvonne Jarman and Wendy Searle, and Vivienne Foster. A special 'thank you' to Lynda Calder for her efficiency at the front desk. We will miss Sandra Davis' quiet presence at meetings but are delighted to have found a worthy replacement Membership Secretary in Maria McDougall. Mary Ann Napper has done a great job in organising the raffles. Charo Devery and Gwen Bitti will be taking on greater responsibilities. I also thank our Patron, Emeritus Professor Di Yerbury, not only for her support of SWW but also for her generous endowment of the annual Di Yerbury Residency.

Working with a new SWW committee of dedicated women of high achievement will make 2016-2017 a year filled with literary excellence and collegiality.

I have enjoyed the company of many SWW members at functions over twenty years and we know each other's stories. I look forward to talking to newer members, not only to find out about their writing aspirations but also for feedback about future initiatives for the Society. As Patricia Gaut used to say, it's conversation around the lunch table that is so important for women who have chosen the solitary pursuit of writing.

We start our 'new' year in July with Felicity Pulman who will be conducting a workshop on 'Writing the Landscape, Setting the Scene' – a look at how top-selling authors create setting and mood in their books, and the effect of the landscape on their characters. Our Guest Speaker will be Ann Howard who has two publications on little known – or at least little talked about – aspects of the consequences of WW II, in particular the 24,000 women who joined up as Australian Women's Army Servicewomen. Our Keynote Speaker will be Susanne Gervay in conversation with Lisa Berryman. from HarperCollins. about the publishing process.

We have a solid program for the year to come: the announcement of the Book Awards in October and the launch of the anthology *INK 3* in November. There will also be high quality speakers and workshop presenters and the 2017 writing competitions. An application form for the 2017 Di Yerbury Residency will be included with the July issue of *Women's INK*!

As Hilarie Lindsay writes in her introduction to *INK No.2* (1977): 'The history of any society is reflected in its members. It is their enthusiasm and abilities that keep it alive.' Now in its tenth decade, the SWW has found new energy with an abundance of ability to keep it very much alive.



If you wish to contribute any member notices, please email your text and image as a jpeg file to: 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 13 July 2016

State Library of NSW
Macquarie Street, Sydney

10.00 - 11.45am: Workshop

Writing the Landscape, Setting the Scene

Felicity Pulman

Workshop Coordinator:

Robyn McWilliam 0418 225 051

12.00pm - 12.20pm: Luncheon

Arrival and Registration

12.20 - 1pm: Luncheon

1.00pm - 1.15pm: Guest Speaker

You'll Be Sorry

Ann Howard

1.20pm - 2pm: Keynote Speaker

Author and Publisher: What is the Process?

Susanne Gervay & Lisa Berryman (HarperCollins)

In Conversation

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

Mobile phone: Text message to 0403 177 208

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

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!





Workshop

Writing the Landscape, Setting the Scene

Felicity Pulman



In a series of fun exercises Felicity will look at how top-selling authors create setting and mood in their books, and the effect of the landscape on their characters.

Participants will also practice crafting settings of our own, using childhood and/or holiday memories, a special place in the present, and creating a believable

setting from a photograph (as we sometimes need to do.)

Felicity's novels include *Ghost Boy*, the Janna Chronicles, *A Ring Through Time*, the Shalott Trilogy, and her latest novels, *I, Morgana* and *The Once and Future Camelot*.

Her books have settings as diverse as the Quarantine Station in Manly, past and present; medieval England; the Second Penal Colony at Norfolk Island; and the imaginative 'Otherworld' of Arthurian legend. To ensure authenticity, Felicity walked in the footsteps of all her characters to see what they might have seen, and to capture those telling details that help to make a setting memorable.

Keynote Speaker

Author and Publisher: What is the Process?

Susanne Gervay and Lisa Berryman
(HarperCollins): In Conversation

Susanne Gervay and Lisa Berryman will be in conversation about the publishing industry, how the author-publisher relationship develops, the obstacles and successes, the opportunities, the importance of editing and craft, and achieving publication.

Lisa Berryman

Lisa Berryman has been the children's publisher at HarperCollins Publishers Australia for sixteen years and is responsible for publishing a wide range of titles from picture books to young adult titles. Lisa has also worked in children's television at the Australian Children's Television Foundation and taught Editing and Publishing at RMIT in Melbourne.

Her authors include award-winning author Jackie French, who with illustrator Bruce Whatley has created many internationally renowned, best-selling picture books including *Diary of a Wombat*, *Josephine Wants to Dance* and *Pete the Sheep*.

Other Australian authors and illustrators include Alexandra Adornetto, Jesse Blackadder, Rod Clement, Tara Eglington, Sue deGennaro, Susanne Gervay, Alison Goodman, Tiffany Hall, Rosanne Hawke, Kate Knapp, Rebecca Lim, PJ Tierney, James Moloney, Pamela Rushby, Jen Storer, Mitch Vane and Gabrielle Tozer. International authors include Julie Berry, Alexandra Bracken, Claudia Gray, Stephanie Oakes, Nicholas Gannon and John Green. Lisa is interested in all genres, and her authors, illustrators and list reflects the breadth of her taste.



Susanne Gervay

Awarded the Lifetime Social Justice Literature Award for her body of work by the International Literacy Association and an Order of Australia, Susanne Gervay is an award winning children's author who is recognized for her youth literature and writing on social justice.

Susanne's young adult novel *Butterflies* is recognised as Outstanding Youth Literature on Disability, while her children and picture books are recognised for their engagement with disability, inclusion, multiculturalism and peace.

The *I Am Jack* books have become rite-of-passage on school bullying adapted into an acclaimed play by Monkey Baa Theatre, which continues to tour Australian and US theatres.

An award winning short story writer, her stories sit alongside David Malouf and Thomas Keneally. Susanne is committed to literacy as a Writer Ambassador for Room to Read which has reached 10 million women and children, a role model for Books in Homes and an anti bullying advocate.

www.sgervay.com



Guest Speaker

You'll Be Sorry

Ann Howard

Popular author Ann Howard is presenting her new book *You'll Be Sorry!* about the 24,000 women who joined up as Australian Women's Army Servicewomen in World War II.

Women struggled to be accepted. They were told they couldn't drive, keep secrets, learn Morse code and do maths, but they did all of them. The army soon appreciated their woman power. 'You'll be sorry!' called civilians as they queued to join up.

The women became a sisterhood, friendships formed in dangerous times. They loved the idea of a book full of humorous, sad, and remarkable stories with original photographs, to show children and grandchildren.

Ann is a very successful author, of 20 books. She has travelled extensively and loves life. She likes single malts, dogs, books, her partner and grandchildren in different orders and gets in her garden on the Hawkesbury River whenever she can.



Congratulations SWW Committee 2016/17



President

Dr Susan Steggall

Secretary

Charo Devery

Vice-President

Yvonne Jarman

Treasurer

Amanda Mark

Committee

Gwen Bitti, Vivienne Foster, Libby Hathorn, Lindsay Lewis, Maria McDougall (Membership Secretary), Mary Ann Napper, Wendy Searle

Tribute to Jenny Blackman

It is with sadness we mark the passing of Society of Women Writers NSW member Jenny Blackman. She passed away suddenly at her home on 15 June.

During her life Jenny was a librarian, author, did speaking engagements at schools and was involved in children's literary circles. She was also involved in the Cancer Council, on the board of the Historic Houses Trust and she was a volunteer at Jessie Street Library.

Jenny had overcome breast cancer many years ago and more recently was diagnosed with Alzheimer's Disease.

Friends have remembered her as a quiet lady, but also a devoted wife, mother and grandmother.





CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS

2017 Di Yerbury/ SWW Writers' Residency

Applications close 5pm, 31 November 2016

It's time to get those creative juices flowing once more in preparation for the 2017 writers' residency in the UK.

As the inaugural winner, I can testify that being within easy reach of potential research sites in the UK while having quiet solitude in which to write can be a wonderfully productive time, so please don't miss out on this incredible opportunity to further your writing, thanks to the generosity of our patron, Professor Di Yerbury.

If you have a writing project in mind, please remember that you need to submit your application before 5 pm on 31 November 2016.

You'll find all the details regarding application on the enclosed forms and on our website: www.womenwritersnsw.org. The lucky winner will be announced at our meeting on 8 February 2017.

Felicity Pulman



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: Dr Susan Steggall – President, Yvonne Jarman – Vice-President, Amanda Mark – Treasurer, Charo Devery – Secretary, Maria McDougall – Membership Secretary, Gwen Bitti, Vivienne Foster, Libby Hathorn, Lindsay Lewis, Mary Ann Napper, Wendy Searle

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.

www.WomenWritersNSW.org | womenwriters@gmail.com

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