



President's Message

Dr Susan Steggall

The issue of what constitutes an emerging writer – and the perception that emerging equals 'young' – was the theme of the forum 'Emerging at Any Age' in which I took part – an event of the Emerging Writers' Festival (EWF) held in Melbourne in June. I'd like to share some of the points in the manifesto that came out of the discussion:



Dr Susan Steggall

1. Remove the word 'young' from written and verbal references to emerging writers and include age diversity in promotional materials and photos of emerging writers.
2. Encourage writers of all ages to apply for mentorships, internships, competitions and opportunities that are open to emerging writers.
3. Create more support (especially mentoring) opportunities aimed at older writers and provide opportunities for women writers who are also the sole carers for dependent relatives.
4. Initiate cultural change at events like the EWF to encourage writers at all ages and stages of their careers by having a variety of ages among ambassadors and panelists.
5. Stop asking for applicants' age for competition entries, event bookings and mentorship program applications.

See also Krissy Kneen's interview with Michael Cathcart (21 July 2016) on the same topic: <http://www.abc.net.au/radionational/programs/booksandarts/krissy-kneen>

Sue Woolfe will be presenting the August workshop on the theme of 'Remembering your creativity'. We are all creative as children but as we grow up that creativity often disappears. Sue will show participants in the workshop how to overcome this. Her fascination with the workings of the creative mind led to her doctorate: 'The Mystery of the Cleaning Lady: a Writer Looks at Creativity and Neuroscience'. As Guest Speaker Sue Woolfe's talk entitled, 'The War Between Research and Creativity', will draw on the thirty years of experience that has gone into novels such as *Leaning Towards Infinity*.

In 'Making Ends Meet: Colonial Women in Business', Keynote Speaker, historian Dr Catherine Bishop, will talk about her research into nineteenth-century Sydney business women – milliners, publicans, ironmongers, schoolteachers, umbrella makers, pawnbrokers and dealers – and invite us to reconsider women's roles in Sydney's past.

Colonial women were writers and poets too. I think of Louisa Anne Meredith who arrived in New South Wales in 1839. The drive to succeed in life and the desire to record our lives is in us all. Among the poems in Lesley Walter's *Life Drawings* (Walleah Press 2014) I am particularly drawn to "Why write?" the sceptics ask, "and what's more – poetry?!" Lesley begins the poem by listing mundane reasons for writing – from using up Christmas present notepaper or as an alternative to shopping and cooking – but the genesis of her writing is much more than that. I quote:

I write because few things bring me a greater sense of satisfaction.

I write because every piece of writing's a surprise, a revelation ...

I write as a celebration.

I write so I won't forget.

I write to make something concrete and lasting out of the fleeting,
the intangible and the ever changing.

I write in an attempt to wrest something perfect from imperfection,
to harvest a grain of what can't be contained.

I write to make sense in the face of absurdity,
order of coherence,
art of the everyday.

I write to uncover truths...





NEXT LITERARY LUNCHEON

Wednesday 10 August 2016

State Library of NSW
Macquarie Street, Sydney

10.00 - 11.45am: Workshop

Remembering Your Creativity

Sue Woolfe

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

The War Between Research and
Creativity

Sue Woolfe

1.20pm - 2pm: Keynote Speaker

Making Ends Meet: Colonial Women
in Business

Dr Catherine Bishop

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.

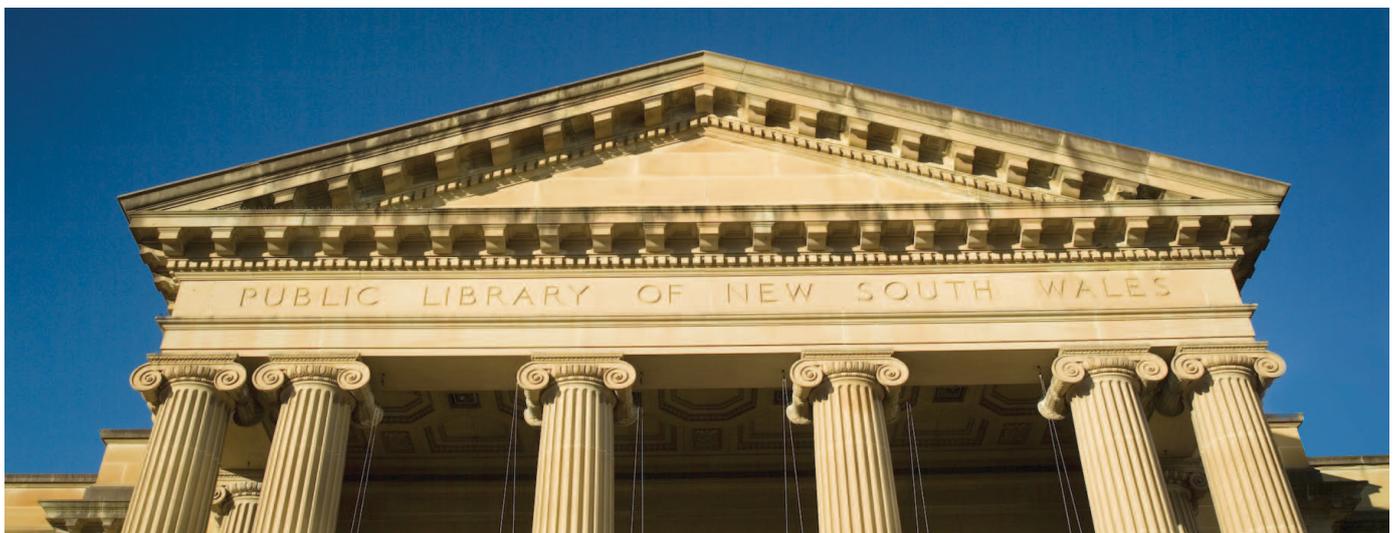
Please book by email if you have access to a computer.

Contact Name: SWW Lunch Booking

Email address: swwlunchbooking@gmail.com

Mobile phone: Text message to 0403 177 208

Your text message should be addressed to swwlunchbooking or swwlunch and should contain: date, your name and number.





Workshop & Guest Speaker



Workshop

Remembering Your Creativity

Research shows that we were all creative when we were children. As adults we all have intimations of it, but only creative people know to treasure this. It's possible by a simple technique to re-discover our creativity, and then write from there. Sue Woolfe shows you how to start.

Guest Speaker

The War Between Research and Creativity

Many people, who want to write, ask should they do research first, or second? Sue, drawing on 30 years of researching novels way outside her comfort zone gives a heavily-researched but very personal answer.

About Sue Woolfe

Sue Woolfe is the best-selling award-winning author of four novels, *Painted Woman*, *Leaning Towards Infinity*, *The Secret Cure* and *The Oldest Song in the World*. She has adapted two of these to the stage. With Australia Council funding, she is adapting *The Secret Cure* to an opera - her first libretto. She has just finished a short story collection.

Her fascination with how the creating mind works led to her doctorate – *The Mystery of the Cleaning Lady: A Writer Looks at Creativity and Neuroscience*, and she has taught this at Sydney University and now at The National Institute of Dramatic Art (NIDA) .

Keynote Speaker

Making Ends Meet: Colonial Women in Business

We generally remember nineteenth century Australian women as wives and mothers and domestic servants, with the occasional prostitute thrown in. The reality is somewhat different. This talk introduces the female milliners, publicans, ironmongers, schoolteachers, umbrella makers, pawnbrokers and dealers of Sydney. It explodes the myth of nineteenth century female domesticity and invites us to reconsider women's roles in Sydney's past.

About Dr Catherine Bishop

Dr Catherine Bishop is the author of *Minding Her Own Business: Colonial Businesswomen in Sydney* and is currently writing a companion volume about New Zealand, a biography of missionary Annie Lock, and researching the International Federation of Business and Professional Women.





Society News

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.

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.

For application details [CLICK HERE](#).

The winner will be announced at our meeting on 8 February 2017.



INK 3

Coming Soon

INK 3, the SWW anthology of prize-winning entries in the 90th anniversary writing competitions will be launched at the **9 November lunch** meeting by well-known author Di Morrissey.

All members will receive a complimentary copy of **INK 3** but additional copies can be purchased for \$10 per copy. These can be collected on the day of the launch or you can arrange to have them posted to you.

Postage costs are:

- \$3 for 1 copy
- \$8 for 2 copies
- \$10 for 3-5 copies.

Additional quantities will be calculated on an ad hoc basis.

Just in time for the festive season, **INK 3** will make a great Christmas gift and some fascinating summer reading.



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.



Member News

Libby Hathorn was invited to read her latest picture storybooks, *Incredibilia* and *Outside in the Bowen Library*, to Maroubra Junction Primary Kids (K-2). Seventy or more kids came dressed in their PJ's and clutching a teddy and a torch. One of the readings was by torchlight!

Libby has also launched *A Soldier a Dog and a Boy* in the Illawarra, including a talk in Wollongong.



Society of Women Writers Tasmania Hosts the 2016 Alice Award

This biennial award is made to an Australian woman, who by her writing work, has made a distinguished and long-term contribution to Australian Literature.

BE PART OF THIS HISTORIC EVENT

Society of Women Writers members across Australia, their families and friends are warmly invited to attend the prestigious Alice Award Presentation.

WHERE?

Launceston Tasmania

WHEN?

Friday, Saturday, Sunday 5-7th August 2016

WHAT'S HAPPENING?

Gala Presentation 3 course dinner

The Boat House Launceston – Saturday August 6th

Famous Australian Author as guest speaker. Shhhhhh! More about her later.

ALICE AWARD PRESENTED BY SWWT PATRON, THE GOVERNOR OF TASMANIA,

HER EXCELLENCY PROFESSOR THE HONOURABLE KATE WARNER.

\$75 per head. Earlybird (before 5/7/16) \$65

Meet and Greet Cocktail Party

Sails by the River Launceston - Friday August 5th

Informal get together for lunch

Venue - one of Launceston's very pleasant cafes - Sunday August 7th

RSVP NOW for GALA DINNER &/or COCKTAIL PARTY TO:
wendylaing02@gmail.com

Further information: swwtas@gmail.com



WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Arna Radovich & Cathie Tasker

*** REMINDER ***

Annual membership fees were due 1st July 2016.

Please return with payment the blue renewal form which was included in the March edition of Women's Ink!

A form and payment details may also be downloaded from the SWW website.

[CLICK HERE FOR MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM](#)

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 2016-17

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 | 0490 363 778
