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Welcome to the July issue of *Women's Ink!* We have some wonderful reading to curl up with on a cold winter's night.

This is loosely speaking an historical issue, hence the whirl of typewriters on the cover, recalling a time when our fingers couldn't keep up with our brains! Inside we have information on the inaugural HNSA (Historical Novel Society of Australia) Conference in Melbourne - SWW members will be taking part in discussion panels and workshops.

You may also notice a focus in this issue on our personal histories as the basis for fact/fiction novels and memoirs. Ruby Langford Ginibi is our featured Australian woman writer for July - a strong and feisty Indigenous lady who pursued life with an uncompromising will to survive and succeed.

We are also proud to announce entries are now open for the 2018 Di Yerbury Residency in the UK.

A special treat I have saved till last to tell you - we have an interview with an amazingly inventive Australian writer who last year was the recipient of the Patrick White Award: Carmel Bird shares her thoughts on her writing process with reference to her new novel *Family Skeleton* - great inspiration for us all as we finish off our entries for the SWW National Writing Competitions.

Best wishes to Gwen Bitti and our new committee as we look forward to continuing to share our enthusiasm for writing.

I wish you all a warmer winter and an early spring.

Women's Ink! Editor

Margaret Zanardo

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