



# E-Newsletter



**Gwen Bitti**  
**President**

## Dates for your Diary 2018

### 11 April:

Workshop—Dr Rae Luckie

Keynote—Dr Rae Luckie

Guest Speaker—Libby Hathorn

### 9 May:

Workshop—Professor Sue Turnbull

Keynote—Professor Sue Turnbull

Newsbites – from our members who will speak about a recently created project, a work-in-progress or a big idea that's in development.

### 13 June:

Workshop—Amanda Hampson

Keynote—Amanda Hampson

Guest Speaker—Valentine Bingham-Hall

## President's Message

At the last General Committee meeting an experienced committee member, Mary Ann Napper filled a vacant seat as a second Vice President. A big welcome is extended to Mary Ann in her new role.

At a recent committee meeting it was decided to write to various Sydney based literary societies reminding them of our Society's long history and expressing an interest in a representative from our organisation being invited to their major events. In return, our society will extend an invitation to their organisation for similar events. To date, we have received several warm responses and one invitation to the Launch of Sydney Writers' Festival. It is the intention of the committee to strengthen the Society's connections in the literary world.

In 'Giving Women Writers a Voice,' our Society brings together women who write. Regardless of age, race or stage of a writing journey, an opportunity exists for women to meet monthly (except January) at The State Library of NSW, to connect and celebrate. You can attend the morning workshop, and join us at our literary luncheon. Members can book into a guest speaker time slot to tell us of their new project or success. Relax with friends, fellow writers and listen to a keynote address. Afterwards, we have time to schmooze, share stories, buy books and have a chance to win a prize. We hold annual literary competitions. Member only benefits include the availability to register for publicity within the SWW (NSW) network, free automatic subscription to receive annually, eleven issues of e-News directly into your inbox and a free copy of our magazine *Women's Ink!* delivered to you in March, July and November.

At the March literary luncheon, Guest Speaker, Louise Evans took us on an emotional journey, showing us many wonderful photographs from when she traced her grandmother's footsteps. Our Keynote Speaker, the dynamic Sulari Gentill, in addressing us on maintaining our love of writing, expressed her own love and passion on writing which flooded through the audience.

I hope to see you in April, for a workshop and a keynote address from Dr Rae Luckie, and the empathy poem project with our very own Libby Hathorn.

Keep writing!

*Gwen Bitti*

# NEXT LITERARY LUNCHEON

Wednesday 11 APRIL 2018

Gallery Room, State Library of NSW  
Macquarie Street, Sydney

## Program

10.00 – 11.45am Workshop:  
Memories of Place—Writing  
through the senses.

Dr Rae Luckie

12.00 – 12.20pm: Arrival &  
Registration

12.20 – 12.45pm: Luncheon

12.50 pm: Guest Speaker

Empathy poem project  
Libby Hathorn

1.05-1.35pm: Keynote Speaker:

‘Oh the places you’ll go!’ The  
pleasures and perils of life writing.  
Dr Rae Luckie

*Workshop Coordinator: Pippa Kay*  
*0407725747*

## Luncheon and/or Workshop

Pay by direct deposit into the SWW bank account  
by the FRIDAY before the meeting OR you can  
pay on the day of the meeting.

Luncheon \$45 (ML) Workshop \$30 (MWS) Luncheon &  
Workshop \$68 (MLW)

Non Members: Luncheon \$50 (NML) Workshop \$40  
(NMWS) Luncheon & Workshop \$83 (NMLW)

For Direct Deposit please use the codes  
listed above.

The Society of Women Writers’ NSW Inc  
BSB: 062 018 A/C: 00950433

Everyone must book with Lynda Calder BEFORE  
10.00am on the MONDAY before the meeting.

NB: There is 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 or swwlunch and should  
contain: date, your name and phone number.

## Memo to Members

A reminder that we offer an opportunity for SWW members who cannot attend the monthly  
lunch meetings to discuss their work.

**Waratah Prose Group**

Contact Lynda Calder for information.

[alcalder@optusnet.com.au](mailto:alcalder@optusnet.com.au)

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## Workshop

### Memories of Place—Writing through the senses.

#### Dr Rae Luckie

While we focus on character and events in life story writing, place is sometimes neglected. Place is not just a physical location—places are imbued with memories. Rae draws on David Malouf's book *12 Edmondstone Street*, which combines autobiography with the ways objects and places build up our ideas of reality and shape our fabrications. Places, personal objects, family treasures and souvenirs hold memories, and there is often a story behind these. In this workshop, you can explore how sensory details can create settings that will evoke the era and mood to enhance your life stories.

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## Keynote Speaker

### 'Oh the places you'll go!' The pleasures and perils of life writing.

#### Dr Rae Luckie

The term life writing (generally called creative non fiction in the US) encompasses the writing of one's own or another's life, and includes memoir, biography, autobiography, family history—and can include diaries, journals, letters and other items of ephemera. Mentoring life writers and judging the biennial Walter Stone Award for life writing since 2010 has given me a unique insight into the 'state of the art' of life writing in Australia. Researching and writing can provide great pleasure, but one needs to consider the perils of publishing without considering legal and ethical issues.

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## Guest Speaker

### Empathy poem project

#### Libby Hathorn

Writer and Associate Professor Debra Adelaide has contacted our society about contributions for her **Empathy Website**. Libby will take us through the guidelines for writing Empathy poems for the website. Attendees will be invited to write empathy poems.



Please see page 4.

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## Empathy Poems Project

I am looking forward to the April Guest Speaker Spot to discuss empathy poems with all at the luncheon.

Writer and academic, Dr Debra Adelaide informed the SWW of her empathy poem website project established to mark in some way the refugee situation world-wide and has invited our members to take part.

I'd like to take the opportunity at our luncheon to run a short workshop where members will be invited to write a 'haiku' type poem - and where we, as a writers' society, can submit to this worthwhile endeavour with our poems, something that has not been done in this way before, as far as we know. Also to post our efforts on our own website.

Libby Hathorn

## WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS

**Christine Sykes** has completed two novels and numerous children's stories.

**Chrissie Mlos** has written two historical fiction sagas.

**Annette Johnson** was a winner in SWW short story competition in 2011. She has completed a novel and is working on another. We welcome her SWW rejoin.

We welcome **Julie Thorndyke's** SWW rejoin.

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## Sydney Writers Festival

30 April – 6 May 2018

Festival Program and bookings at

<https://www.swf.org.au/festivals/festival-2018/>

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## MEMBER NEWS

### Beverley George

***Drawing God & Other Pastimes*** [poetry] first published by Picaro Press, republished by Ginninderra Press.

**"Sequence in the Footsteps of Basho"** written with fellow travellers, first published in *The Tanka Journal* #38 2011 [Japan] then translated into Japanese by Aya Yuhki for inclusion in ***Only in Silence: Tanka by Beverley George Translated by Aya Yuhki***. Pearl Beach, Kenilworth Road 2017; isbn: 978-0-9943670-0-6. Now also published in "Poems About Haiku" section of Michael Dylan Welch's website:

<http://www.graceguts.com/poems-about-haiku>.

**Rengay "Grand Arcade"** with Simon Hanson which won 1<sup>st</sup> place in Haiku Poets of North America competition 2016 published in *Mariposa* 37 2017 [US].

**Two tanka** published in *Eucalypt* 23, 2017.

**Three tanka** published in "The Right Touch of Sun", TSA Members' Anthology 2017 [USA].

**Rengay 'Wavelength'** with David Terelinck published *Skylark* 5 (2) 2017 [UK].

**Haiku sequence *Wings*** with Simon Hanson published *Presence* #59 2017 70-71[UK].

**Tanka** published *Presence* #59 2017 [UK].

**Tanka** sequence published and a single tanka translated and published in *International Tanka* No, 2 2017 [Japan].

**Haiku** on Australian Haiku Society web-site for Summer Solstice Haiku String 2017.

**Haiku** featured on Charlotte di Gregorio's Daily Haiku January 2018 [US].

**Two tanka** published in "Red Lights" 14 (1) January 2018 [US].

**Haiku** published in 'Blithe Spirit' 28 (1) 2018 [UK]. Convened White Pebbles Haiku Group ginko and meeting Edogawa Gardens March 10<sup>th</sup>.

### Sharon Rundle

**"The Art of Sharing Stories and Bridging Cultures"**, in *FemAsia, Asian Women's Journal*.

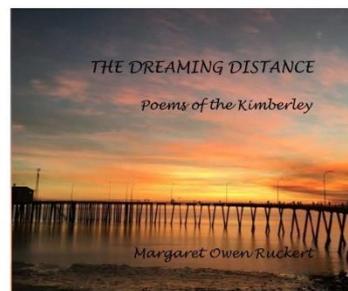
<http://femasiamagazine.com/art-sharing-stories/>

### Margaret Owen Ruckert

***The Dreaming Distance***. Launch date: 27<sup>th</sup> May.

You are invited to the launch of

### ***THE DREAMING DISTANCE***



Tanka by

**Margaret Owen Ruckert**

to be launched by

**Cynthia Rowe**

on Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> May, 2:30pm

Miles Franklin Room, Hurstville Library  
cnr Queens Road and Dora St, Hurstville

Refreshments provided.

Contact 0401 614 159 [omargo@optusnet.com.au](mailto:omargo@optusnet.com.au)

## The Society of Women Writers NSW Committee and Team for 2018

### Committee:

Gwen Bitti – President  
Yvonne Jarman – Vice-President  
Mary Ann Napper – Vice-President  
Amanda Mark – Treasurer  
Jan Conway - Secretary  
Maria McDougall – Membership  
Secretary Vivienne Foster, Libby  
Hathorn, Lindsay Lewis.

### E-Newsletter team:

Dr Sharon Rundle – Editor  
Lindsay Lewis – Distributor  
Jan Conway– Proofreader

**Website Manager:** Lindsay Lewis

**LinkedIn Group Manager:** Dr Maria Hill

**Face Book Manager:** Susanne Gervay OAM

**SWW Front Desk:** Lynda Calder

**Workshop Convenor:** Pippa Kay

**'Women's INK!' Book Review Editor:**

Judith O'Connor

**Photographer:** Joy Williams

**Public Officer:** Dr Hilarie Lindsay MBE OAM

**Patron – Emerita Professor Di Yerbury AO**



[Society of Women Writers NSW Face Book page](#)

## Society of Women Writers **BOOK AWARDS 2018**

**Now Open**

**ENTRY FORM INSIDE**

**MARCH WOMEN'S INK!**

**Closing date: 30 JUNE 2018**

- ◆ Publication Dates accepted for Books entered: **1 July 2016 to 30 June 2018**. Dates strictly observed.
- ◆ A separate entry form must accompany each book.
- ◆ No entries will be returned.

## MEMBER NEWS SUBMISSIONS

Please send your **Member News** in an email with attached MSWord document to:

Sharon Rundle

**Email:** [sharon.p.rundle@gmail.com](mailto:sharon.p.rundle@gmail.com)



## CONTACT INFORMATION

The Society of Women Writers NSW Inc.

Correspondence: Secretary, Society of Women Writers NSW Inc.

GPO Box 1388, Sydney, NSW, 2001

Email: [womenwritersnsw@gmail.com](mailto:womenwritersnsw@gmail.com)

Website: [www.WomenWritersNSW.org](http://www.WomenWritersNSW.org)

Face Book: [www.facebook.com/The-Society-of-Women-Writers-NSW-Inc-1491708781046746/](https://www.facebook.com/The-Society-of-Women-Writers-NSW-Inc-1491708781046746/)