

E-Newsletter

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President's Message

Did you know that our Annual General Meeting is on 9 July? Consider nominating for the committee as it is a great honour to be involved in an organisation with a history that dates back nearly 90 years. As a committee member you have the opportunity to make a contribution to this important literary organisation. The professional experience you gain from your participation is enormous which is why the committee is considering developing an internship program with SWW for young women at university. If you are interested in being involved with this project, please let us know as we are seeking a coordinator to oversee its implementation. We already offer a bursary to Sydney university students in the form of the Abbie Clancy Award. On the advice of its Trustee and the Administrator it will now be open to female university students in NSW. More information on this will be provided shortly. Remember if you are writing a book set in the UK and a member, you are eligible to enter the Di Yerbury Women Writers Residency in the UK - closing date is our AGM in July. We also have our inaugural manuscript award (listed below) kindly offered by Rosalind Meyer that closes next month, so don't miss out on submitting your work. Our 'Non-Fiction Competition for Essays and Articles' is an opportunity for budding travel writers and newspaper journalists amongst you to submit your work for this new award. May is our fantasy writing month and who better than the very talented Kate Forsyth to present the workshop and be the guest speaker. Our member talk is to be given by yet another gifted fantasy writer, Felicity Pulman, on the book that won the 2013 SWW Biennial book award for Junior/YA fiction. So you are in for a treat! Be there! Cheers Maria.

Dr Maria Hill



GET YOUR ENTRIES IN!

NEW SWW Non-Fiction Competition for essays and articles

First Prize \$500, Second Prize a\$250, Third Prize \$100

- Non-Fiction Essay or Article
- Maximum 3,000 words
- Author's name to only appear on the entry form

Entry Fee SWW members: \$25 (per story)

Non-members: \$35 (per story)

For membership information call

Sandra Davis on 0417 280 444



DUE DATE: 11 June 2014 (no later than 5pm)

Download an entry form and submission information from www.womenwritersnsw.org

SWW GENERAL ENQUIRIES
0490 363 778

For more information about our events.

If you wish to contribute an article or photograph or tell us about your book launch or book award or the talk you are giving or workshop you are presenting, please email your text in Word format and the image as a jpeg file to: womenwritersnsw@gmail.com with "ATTN: SWW E-News editor" in subject heading.

14 May Monthly Meeting

**Dixson Room, Mitchell Wing
State Library of NSW, Macquarie Street
Sydney**

Workshop: 10.00 – 11.45am - *Bookings Essential*

'Building Castles in the Air'

Presenter: Kate Forsyth

Workshop Coordinator: **Bea Yell 9452 2299**

Literary Lunch: 12.15 – 1.00pm

Member Talk: 1.00 – 1.20pm

Felicity Pulman

A Ring Through Time

Guest Speaker: 1.20 - 2pm

Kate Forsyth

Bitter Greens

Cost: \$50 for members or **\$55** non-members. *Workshop only: \$20* members or **\$30.00** non-members. **Special workshop & luncheon price: \$65** members and **\$80** non-members.

Membership forms available on our website:

<http://www.womenwritersnsw.org>

Bookings required before 10am MON 12 May

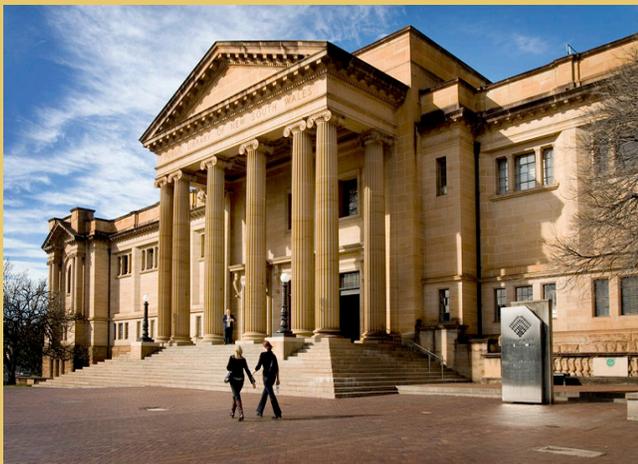
PLEASE BOOK BY EMAIL IF YOU HAVE ACCESS TO A COMPUTER

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.

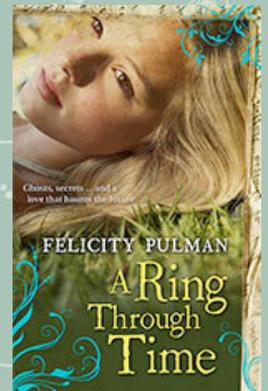


Member Speaker



Felicity Pulman *A Ring Through Time*

Felicity's historical romance, *A Ring Through Time*, is set on Norfolk Island with a flashback to its brutal convict past. Felicity will talk about the voices and visions that inspired the novel and how she went about researching and writing it. *A Ring Through Time* won the SWW biennial book award for junior/YA fiction in 2013. Felicity writes books, short stories and articles for adults and children of all ages. She has many years' experience talking to students, teachers and librarians, and at writers' festivals in NSW and interstate.



GUEST SPEAKER

Kate Forsyth

Kate Forsyth wrote her first novel at the age of seven, and is now the bestselling, award-winning author of twenty-six books, published in fifteen countries. She has been voted one of Australia's Favourite twenty Novelists. *The Wild Girl* tells the story of star-crossed lovers Dortchen Wild and Wilhelm Grimm, who told many of the most world's most famous fairy-tales. *Bitter Greens*, her retelling of 'Rapunzel', was called 'the best fairy tale retelling since Angela Carter'. Kate's books for children include *The Gypsy Crown* and *The Puzzle Ring*, lauded as 'a richly told tale of history, magic and intrigue by a wonderful storyteller.' Kate has spoken at conferences and festivals around the world, including at Oxford University, and has taught writing in the UK, the US, Fiji, Greece, Singapore and Australia. She recently finished her doctorate of creative arts in fairy tale retellings. Her website is www.kateforsyth.com.au

**WORKSHOP**
Kate Forsyth
Building Castles in the Air

When we write a story, we are opening a door into a fictional world – a castle in the air. We want that fictional construct to feel real to readers. We want them to be totally absorbed in the story we have created. But what tools do we need to create such a vivid and believable world? What are our building materials? In a lively and interactive workshop, Kate Forsyth will share some of the secrets learned in her years as an internationally bestselling author. Together Kate and her students will learn about the writer's toolbox and the key building blocks of narrative, and then they will build a story together. Students will need lots of paper and a pen, plus a willingness to play, experiment, talk, laugh, and imagine.

Students will learn:

- * The key narrative components
- * Simple ways to plan a story
- * The five-point story structure and how to use it
- * How to build a story together, or alone

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Megan Brown, Rosalind Bradley, Lorna Brennan, Tina Faulk, Terri-Anne Green,
Amanda Mark, Fiona Martin, Jennifer Neil, Gill Shaddick.

CONGRATULATIONS**Susan McCreery**

SWW member Susan McCreery has been awarded an Australian Society of Authors (ASA Mentorship and a Varuna Publisher Introduction Program (PIP) Fellowship in 2014 to further develop her short story manuscript.

What an amazing achievement!

CONGRATULATIONS**Valerie Pybus**

We would also like to congratulate Valerie Pybus for her recent appointment as Honorary Treasurer of the Rockdale Opera Company. The next production, Gilbert and Sullivan's 'Pirates of Penzance' is set to sail across the boards in June 2014.

SWW member **Margaret Ruckert** would like to share her latest project with fellow members.

The Hurstville Discovery Writers Group (HDWG) has compiled a book of creative writings, poems, stories, and articles, on significant landmarks and features in Hurstville. Each text was inspired by a winning photograph.

If you are interested in a copy (only \$10), email Margaret at omargo@optusnet.com.au



SWW Literary Festival: *Dare to be an Author!*



Saturday 18 October 2014
The State Library of NSW

The founding of the Society of Women Writers in 1925 marked a turning point for female writers in Australia and established a tradition of sharing work that is still vibrant today. Join us as some outstanding contemporary women writers, publishers, editors and theatre directors share their experiences at the inaugural SWW Literary Festival. Blanche d'Alpuget and Bettina Arndt will bookend a day of conversations and panel discussions.

The Festival theme, *Dare to be an Author*, is appropriated from Jane Austen's description of herself as one 'who dares to be an authoress'.

Enquiries: SWW Publicity Officer, Yvonne Louis 0490 363 778

SWW Festival Director: Dr Wendy Michaels 0419 432 653 or wendy.michaels@newcastle.edu.au

BECOME A FRIEND OF THE STATE LIBRARY OF NSW!

State Library Friends enjoy a closer involvement with the life of our world class Library – literary, history and cultural talks and events; exhibitions and more.

For more information: Email: friends@sl.nsw.gov.au | Tel: 9273 1593

Web: <http://www.sl.nsw.gov.au/about/support/friends>





The Blake Poetry Prize

Entries to the 2014 Blake Poetry Prize are now open.

The **\$5,000** poetry prize is named after visionary artist and poet William Blake and was established to give Australian poets new possibilities to explore region and spirituality in the twenty-first century.

Poets can submit a new work up to 100 lines.

2014 judges: Martin Harrison, Astrid Lorange and Peter Boyle

For information and an entry form:

<http://www.nswwc.org.au/whats-on/competitions/blake-poetry-prize-2/>

Deadline: 4 July 2014

The Bruce Dawe National Poetry Prize 2014

This annual **\$2500** award has been endowed by Emeritus Professor Bruce Dawe, one of Australia's most acclaimed contemporary poets.

The competition is for original, unpublished poem not exceeding 50 lines. There are no generic or thematic constraints.

Entrants may submit up to three poems for consideration.

Entry Fee: \$6.00 per poem

Visit website for details:

usq.edu.au/bruce-dawe-prize

Deadline: 31 July 2014

Information taken from websites - please check and confirm deadline dates and entry conditions.

Rosalind Sharbanee Meyer Encouragement Award



The Society of Women Writers NSW is offering an encouragement award of \$1,000 for an unpublished manuscript on any subject.

This award has been generously donated by SWW Life Member Rosalind Meyer, in memory of her son.

- Fiction or non-fiction
- Any genre
- Minimum 40,000 words

Entry Fee SWW members: \$35
Non-members are welcome to enter after becoming members.
For information call Sandra Davis on 0417 280 444

DEADLINE: 11 June 2014 (no later than 5pm)

For submission information or download an entry form, go to www.womenwritersnsw.org

CAUL-ASA FELLOWSHIP

Applications are now open for the 2014 CAUL and ASA Fellowships.

CAUL and the ASA expect to award one fellow shop with a value of **\$10,000** in 2014. These are designed to showcase university libraries' special collections by providing artists, authors, scholars and researchers with an opportunity to work on projects that will benefit from concentrated access to these collections.

The Fellowships have been made possible through the Copyright Agency Cultural Fund.

For details or to apply go to www.caul.edu.au

The Society of Women Writers NSW Inc.

- ✿ **Committee 2013-14** - Dr Maria Hill – President, Lindsay Lewis – Vice President & Minutes Secretary, Vivienne Foster – Secretary, Pam Bayfield – Treasurer, Sandra Davis – Membership Secretary, Yvonne Louis – Publicity Officer, Dr Sue Steggall – Sub-Editor.
- E-Newsletter team** - Kristin Prescott (editor), Dr Maria Hill & Lindsay Lewis | **Website Manager** - Lindsay Lewis
- SWW LinkedIN Group Manager:** Dr Maria Hill | **SWW Face Book Manager** - Lindsay Lewis.
- SWW Front Desk-** Lynda Calder | **Workshop Convenor** - Beatrice Yell.
- Women's Ink Team** Kristin Prescott (editor), Dr Sue Steggall (Sub-Editor), Sandra Davis, Judith O'Connor (Book Editor), Joy Williams.

A Women Writers' Residency



*Are you writing a book set in the United Kingdom?
Then you are eligible to apply for the Society of Women Writers' Residency in the UK.*

DUE DATE: 10 July 2014

Entry Cost: \$35.00 (SWW members only)

For details and an entry form: <http://www.womenwritersnsw.org/women-writers-uk-residency/>

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

