



# Society of Women Writers NSW Inc.

## E-Newsletter

November 2018  
ISSUE No. 112



**Gwen Bitti, President**

### Dates for your Diary 2018

#### 14 November:

**Workshop**—Eleanor Limprecht  
**Keynote Speaker**—Eleanor Limprecht  
**Member Speaker**—Michele Bomford

#### 12 December: Christmas Luncheon

**Workshop**—Susanne Gervay OAM  
**Keynote Speaker**—Susie Smither

### Dates for your Diary 2019

#### 13 February:

**Workshop**—Roanna Gonsalves  
**Keynote Speaker**—Roanna Gonsalves  
**Di Yerbury Residency Award**

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The Gallery Room at the Mitchell Library was packed for the SWW NSW Book Awards Presentation luncheon. The ambience of the room was electric, in anticipation of the winning books being announced. Congratulations to all the Winners. All winning books have been listed on the SWW website and in the November issue of Women's INK!

The Committee is grateful for the many kind words received in appreciation of the awards and the way in which the ceremony itself was conducted.

With the arrival of my first granddaughter (and future woman writer!), Luna a few weeks ago and two very young grandsons, I am in the market for children's books for Christmas. Of course, with the number of talented children's authors in the Society, I am spoiled for choice and hope the more experienced in this area can offer me some suggestions.

The talk of books reminds me to ask: *Have you had a chance to visit the New Galleries at the Mitchell Library?* There are fabulous exhibitions, open spaces and the John B Fairfax Learning Centre.

Following the October luncheon meeting, members wrote in to say Emeritus Professor Elizabeth Webby's Keynote Speech was very interesting and how pleased they were to learn more about New Zealand short story writer, Katherine Mansfield.

In November, we welcome author of three novels, Eleanor Limprecht for her Keynote Address at the luncheon on Australian War Brides during WWII. In the morning, Eleanor will present the Workshop on Researching and Writing Historical Fiction.

I want to let you know in advance that there will be a Kris Kringle at the December luncheon. Bring a new or second hand book in any wrapping (newspaper, brown paper/bag, fabric etc.) for a fun exchange. All books must be wrapped. While there is no obligation to join in this amusement, it is a wonderful way to celebrate our love of writing and books.

*Keep writing!*

*Gwen*

## NEXT LITERARY LUNCHEON

Wednesday 14 November 2018

Gallery Room, State Library of  
NSW Macquarie Street, Sydney

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### Program

10.00–11.45am: Workshop:

**Researching and writing  
historical fiction**

ELEANOR LIMPRECHT

12.00 – 12.20pm: Arrival &  
Registration

12.20 – 12.45pm: Luncheon

12.50 pm: Member Speaker:  
**Secrets Locked in  
Hidden Drawers**

MICHELE BOMFORD

1.05–1.35pm: Keynote Speaker:

**Australian War Brides during  
World War II**

ELEANOR LIMPRECHT

*Workshop Coordinator: Pippa Kay  
0407725747*

### Luncheon and/or Workshop

Pay by direct deposit into the SWW bank account by 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 possible.

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.

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**12 DECEMBER**



### CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON

**Members: Christmas Luncheon includes a glass of wine (choice of red or white) for members and guests. Please note this means a \$5 increase.**

Luncheon \$50 (ML) Workshop \$30 (MWS)

Luncheon & Workshop \$73 (MLW)

**Non Members:** Luncheon \$55 (NML) Workshop \$40 (NMWS) Luncheon & Workshop \$88 (NMLW).

### A Kris Kringle in the spirit of giving

If you would like to participate in our planned Kris Kringle at the 12 December luncheon, please bring a book in any type of wrapping. We will swap books during the luncheon. Books can be new or second hand, they must be wrapped.

## Workshop

November

### Researching and writing historical fiction

ELEANOR LIMPRECHT

Eleanor will demonstrate how she uses the tools of journalism and investigation to research and write compelling historical fiction. The process of making an era come to life can take a great deal of research, but this workshop will address the conundrum of how to keep that research from weighing down the story. Different sources of inspiration will be examined, and the (necessary) separation of research from the process of creative writing.



## Keynote Speaker

### Presentation: Australian War Brides during World War II

ELEANOR LIMPRECHT

Eleanor Limprecht is the author of three novels – *What Was Left* (shortlisted for the 2014 ALS Gold Medal), *Long Bay* and *The Passengers*. *The Passengers* is based on the stories of Australian war brides who moved to the US after marrying American servicemen during WWII. More than 10,000 Australian women moved to the US on bride ships after marrying Americans, and they represent the largest ever mass migration of Australians abroad. These women had to give up their Australian citizenship in order to become American citizens, and they were met with hostility for their decision both here and abroad. Eleanor will discuss this rich history as a source of fictional inspiration.

## Member Speaker

### Secrets Locked in Hidden Drawers

MICHELE BOMFORD

I live in the Southern Highlands and work as an independent historian and writer with a passion for early Australian history, Australia's involvement in the First World War, and local and family history. *The Shepherd Prince: Samuel Sowden and the silent voices of the Castlereagh River* is my third book.

Samuel Sowden was a successful man, with an aspirational wife, a large family and a fine property on the Castlereagh River, near Coonabarabran. But beneath the smug respectability lay a secret past. My talk will reveal those secrets locked in hidden drawers, how I discovered them, and why I wrote the story.



## Hazel Rowley Literary Fellowship 2019

*The Hazel Rowley Fund is a not-for-profit fund that relies on donations.*

*The Hazel Rowley Literary Fellowship, valued at \$15,000, supports Australian writers working on biography projects. The Fellowship was established by the family and friends of Hazel Rowley, one of the world's leading biographers, to commemorate her life and writing legacy following her death in 2011. Hazel left behind [a legacy of great writing](#), a passion for words and for exploring the lives of exceptional men and women.*

We are pleased to announce that the 2019 Hazel Rowley Literary Fellowship opened on 1st October and will close on 16th November 2018. Writers are now invited to apply.

The shortlist will be announced in January 2019 and the announcement of the winner will be made at Adelaide Writers Week in March 2019. The judges for the 2019 Fellowship are Jenny Hocking, Jeff Sparrow, Lynn Buchanan and Della Rowley. We welcome Jeff to the team for the first time.

The Hazel Rowley Literary Fellowship supports Australian writers of biography, and extends to include a writer who is working on an aspect of cultural or social history. The Fellowship awards \$15,000 to assist with travel and research.

For information about the Fellowship and the Terms and Conditions, go to [www.hazelrowley.com](http://www.hazelrowley.com)

To apply, visit Writers Victoria website. [www.writersvictoria.org.au](http://www.writersvictoria.org.au) (from the Homepage click through to Support and Fellowships). If you have any queries, please contact Writers Victoria.

Email: [info@writersvictoria.org.au](mailto:info@writersvictoria.org.au)

Tel: 03 9094 7855

Please spread this email far and wide among your Australian writing friends.

Best regards,

Della Rowley, Lynn Buchanan & Irene Tomaszewski

[www.hazelrowley.com](http://www.hazelrowley.com)



## SWW 2018 Book Awards

Congratulations to the authors of all our winning,  
highly commended and commended entries for the  
SWW NSW Book Awards.

**Winner SWW Non Fiction Book Award  
Trophy**  
sponsored by **Robyn Elliott**

*Double Agent Celery: MI5's Crooked Hero*  
by **Carolinda Witt**

**Winner SWW Fiction Book Award**  
*Keeping it in the Family* by  
**Pippa Kay**

**Winner SWW Poetry Book Award**  
*Flute of Milk* by **Susan Fealy**

**SWW Young Adult Book Award**  
*Promising Azra* by **Helen Thurloe**

**Winner of SWW 2018 Hilarie Lindsay  
Children's Book Award Trophy**  
*Lizzie and Margaret Rose* by  
**Pamela Rushby**

*Thank you to our judges.*

**Highly Commended Fiction Book**  
*Do You Love Me Or What?* by **Sue Woolfe**;  
*Picnic at Mount Disappointment* by **Melissa Bruce**.

**Highly Commended Poetry Book**  
*Only in Silence* by **Beverley George**;  
*Fire on Water* by **Colleen Keating**

**Highly Commended Children's book**  
*Butterfly We're Expecting You* by **Libby Hathorn**;  
*World's Worst Pirate* by **Michelle Worthington**.

**Commended Fiction Book**  
*Black Mountain* by **Carol Chandler**

**Commended Poetry Book**  
*Green Point Bearings* by **Kathryn Fry**

**Commended Young Adult Book**  
*Angel Magic* by **Rosalind Sharbanee Meyer**

**Commended Children's Book**  
*Princess Parsley* by **Pamela Rushby**

Photos of presentation of SWW Book Awards  
In November *Women's INK!*

## The Alice Literary Award

Presented to **SALLY ODGERS**

**The Society of Women Writers has awarded the 2018 Alice Literary Award to author Sally Odgers from Tasmania. Congratulations!**

In conjunction with other state branches of the Society of Women Writers, this award is conferred every two years upon an Australian woman writer who, by her own written work, has made a distinguished and long-term contribution to Australian literature.

*The Alice is a prestigious award for any author as it is awarded by a jury of fellow writers. Previous winners have included major names in Australian literature like Dame Mary Durack, Judith Wright, Ruth Park, Kylie Tennant, Kate Grenville and Brenda Niall. The bronze statuette is awarded for 'an outstanding long-term contribution to Australian literature'.*

*- Sydney Morning Herald*

## The Society of Women Writers NSW Inc. Committee and Team for 2018 - 2019

### Committee:

Gwen Bitti—President  
Mary Ann Napper—Vice-President  
Amanda Mark—Treasurer  
Jan Conway—Secretary and Publicity  
Maria McDougall—Membership Secretary  
Vivienne Foster, Libby Hathorn, Lindsay Lewis  
and Decima Wraxall.

### eNewsletter team:

Dr Sharon Rundle—Editor  
Lindsay Lewis—Distributor  
Jan Conway and Decima Wraxall  
—Proof readers

**Website Manager:** Lindsay Lewis

**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

The November issue of  
*Women's INK!* is published  
Look out for it in your mailbox

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

**Beverley Young** has published her work in 2017  
and 2018 in an Anthology of Outback Stories.

### 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)

## MEMBER NEWS and SUBMISSIONS

Please email your Member News for the SWW  
eNewsletter to: [sharon.p.rundle@gmail.com](mailto:sharon.p.rundle@gmail.com)  
Attachments in MSWord document

## 2018 MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

<https://womenwritersnsw.org/membership>  
**NB:** On the form, you can choose to have your Name  
and/or Website displayed in the proposed

### Member Directory

on our Society of Women Writers NSW website.  
Add your details for inclusion and return your form  
with payment.

**Please note that Direct Debit is available.**

## CONTACT INFORMATION

### The Society of Women Writers NSW Inc.

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Facebook: [SWW NSW](https://www.facebook.com/SWWNSW)

