



Society of Women Writers NSW Inc.

# E-Newsletter

April 2019  
ISSUE No. 116



**Gwen Bitti, President**

## Dates for your Diary 2019

### 10 April:

Workshop—Patti Miller  
Keynote Speaker—Patti Miller  
Member Speaker—Libby Hathorn

### 8 May:

Workshop—Sharon Rundle  
Keynote Speaker—Caroline Baum  
Member Speaker—Newsbites

### 12 June:

Workshop—Jackey Coyle  
Keynote Speaker—Jackey Coyle  
Member Speaker—Sharon Rundle

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

One of the ways of making a Society successful is by all members becoming involved in any or all events. You may be unable to participate in all events or volunteer your time to give a hand in organising or running one, but you can always spread the word.

It is not up to us to decide which women will be interested in attending an SWW event or not. Willingly share the information and leave it up to them to decide.

Recently, I attended an author talk at my local library. A man sat beside me, we struck up a conversation. I casually mentioned that I belonged to the Society of Women Writers, slipped in that we hold our Literary Luncheon Meetings every second Wednesday of the month at the State Library of NSW. Filled with enthusiasm, his eyes almost popping out of their sockets he said, "...the State Library." He went on to tell me that Lauren, his partner was a writer and gave me a card. I rattled off SWW website, [womenwritersnsw.org](http://womenwritersnsw.org) - It is such an easy one to remember. I then sent her a link to the website. I don't know if Lauren will ever show up, but I took the opportunity to spread the word. I try never to miss an opportunity to promote, promote, promote.

I must admit I am more than a little excited that Patti Miller is Keynote Speaker and Workshop presenter in April. Coupled with Libby Hathorn as Member Speaker, I can hardly wait.

An entry form for the 2019 National Writing Competitions was included in your March issue of Women's Ink! I hope we are inundated with entries. Remember to mark 13 November in your diary for the announcement of winners.

Keep Writing!  
Gwen Bitti

## NEXT LITERARY LUNCHEON

Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> of April 2019

Dixon Room, State Library of NSW Macquarie Street, Sydney

### Program

**10.00 – 11.45 am:**

#### Workshop

**How to write the truth and keep your friends and family intact?**

PATTI MILLER

**12.00 – 12.20 pm:** Arrival & Registration

**12.20 – 12.45 pm:** Luncheon

**12.50 pm:**

Member Speaker  
**The birth of a book/the celebration of an Icon**  
LIBBY HATHORN

**1.05 – 1.35 pm:**

**Keynote Speaker**  
Writing practice and taking a ‘writing retreat’  
PATTI MILLER

*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 10.00 am 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 and should contain: date, your name and phone number.

### SWW Members Alert

You have the opportunity to register your name and website on our Member Directory for display on our public website. Please complete your details on your

**2019 Membership Renewal**  
inside **March Women's Ink**.

### Welcome New Members

**Wendy Frew** is a journalist and has published in a wide variety of topics in non fiction.

**Ann Beaumont** also a journalist, writes historical fiction, and is interested in memoir.

**Roslyn McFarland** has published short stories and a novella. Her novel is to be released later this year.

**Lorraine Punch** writes technical reports. She is interested in short story and fiction.

# Workshop

## Memoir: How to write the truth and keep your friends and family intact?

PATTI MILLER



Patti Miller: author of *The Last One Who Remembers*, *Whatever The Gods Do*, *The Mind of a Thief*, (also on VCE curriculum), *Ransacking Paris*, *Child*, (A&U) and best-selling texts, *Writing Your Life*, *The Memoir Book* and *Writing True Stories*. Her latest, '*The Joy of High Places*' will be published in August.

Patti is published in newspapers and journals, including SMH, Melbourne Age, The Australian, Island, Southerly, Meanjin. She teaches writing at universities, Faber Academy (Sydney and London), Writers' Centres and in Paris.

The Difficulties of Truth-Telling will offer examples, discussion and solution to the memoirist's dilemma: How to write the truth and keep your friends and family intact?

# Keynote Speaker

## Writing practice and taking a 'writing retreat'

PATTI MILLER

Patti Miller: author of *The Last One Who Remembers*, *Whatever The Gods Do*, *The Mind of a Thief*, (also on VCE curriculum), *Ransacking Paris*, *Child*, (A&U) and best-selling texts, *Writing Your Life*, *The Memoir Book* and *Writing True Stories*. Her latest, '*The Joy of High Places*' will be published in August.

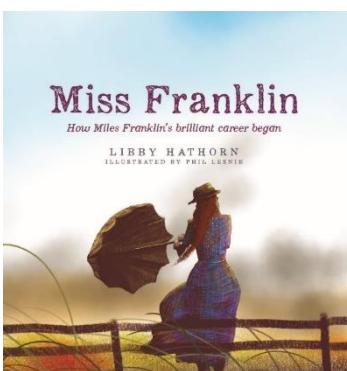
Patti is published in newspapers and journals, including SMH, Melbourne Age, The Australian, Island, Southerly, Meanjin. She teaches writing at universities, Faber Academy (Sydney and London), Writers' Centres and in Paris.

Part of her writing practice is taking a 'writing retreat', that is, leaving home to write. She will talk about the creative benefit of total devotion to writing away from home.

# Member Speaker

## The Birth of a Book/The Celebration of an Icon

LIBBY HATHORN



Libby will talk about the inspiration, development and publication of her latest picture story book *Miss Franklin* with Hachette, based on iconic Australian writer Stella Miles Franklin. Libby chose Stella's governessing stint as the moment of her inspiration for a children's picture book. Our major literary awards the Miles Franklin celebrates quality Australian literature; whilst the Stella celebrates the best of Australian women's writing.

## All Day Workshop

**Saturday 30 March 2019 at The Women's Club**

# The essential art of editing your manuscript

CAROLYN BEAUMONT

**A one-day workshop: 9.30am to 3.30 pm**

(with breaks for morning tea and lunch).

**Cost** (includes tea/coffee. Bring your own lunch)  
Members \$95; Non Members \$125. Limited spaces,  
please book early to avoid disappointment at

<http://swwevent.com/>

**Venue:** **The Women's Club**, Level 4,  
179 Elizabeth Street, Sydney.



### Preparing your written work for publication. What you can learn today

- How to structurally and copy edit your manuscript (fiction – checking plots, themes, settings, characters, dialogue, protecting your writing style; non fiction – checking chapter orders, structural content, images content and references, online links, indexes and glossaries).
- Why publishers require you to conform to Australian style: includes workshop exercises in editing text in Australian style with examples of common mistakes to avoid.
- How to most efficiently reference the official Australian style guide, *Style Manual for Authors, Editors and Printers* (Wiley), for checking of grammar, punctuation, titles, headings and so on: includes your grammar questions answered from the *Style Manual*.
- Why familiarity with traditional proofreading is the best way to prepare to proofread your manuscript online: includes an introduction to Australian proofreading symbols.

This is a fun and informative workshop that relies on learner input and completion of workshop activities. Workshop notes will be provided for future reference.

Trainer: Carolyn Beaumont, manuscript/website publisher, editor and proofreader. Bachelor of Arts (English major), The University of Sydney. Certificate IV, Training and Assessment, Department of Education and Training, The Commonwealth Government of Australia.

## SOCIETY OF WOMEN WRITERS NSW INC.

Takes great pleasure in introducing you to our NEW  
**Mentor Service for Authors, Writers and Editors.**

<https://womenwritersnsw.org/>

### Mentoring for writing and editing

#### Carolyn Beaumont

A mentor is a supporter of writers but never a dictator.

With quiet encouragement and gentle suggestion, a mentor can assist a writer to complete a poem, short story, novel, play, family history or biography.

A mentor can assist with mental blocks. There are solutions.

A mentor can discuss characters, dialogues, plots, settings and themes.

A mentor can be a sounding wall for a writer to bounce off ideas, sentence structures, chapter sequences, legal and ethical issues.

The corporate or self-publishing processes require manuscripts to be thoroughly edited and then proofread at printing stage.

A mentor can offer an objective view of structural balance and a fresh eye on line (or copy) editing of the text.

A mentor can advise on communications between authors and publishers/printers and discuss changes that may be advised.

A mentor can guide an author through the proofreading stage to final publication.

An effective mentor knows that the final decision must always be the author's decision.

Please contact me via the **Society of Women Writers NSW Inc website** for more information, fees and bookings. Please use the Contact Form at <https://womenwritersnsw.org/contact/>

### Sharon Rundle Book Doctor

#### Mentor Service for writing and editing

[www.sharonrundle.com](http://www.sharonrundle.com) Books

A limited number of manuscripts are accepted, so your service is personalised.  
Regular feedback is given at mutually agreed deadlines.

Mentor Service includes:

Working with an author or editor to **develop a narrative fiction or non fiction memoir**, incorporating input from author.

Does **not** include the following

- budgeting
- design supervision
- production co-ordination

Working with an author or editor on **Substantive/Structural Editing**.

Clarifying or reorganising a manuscript for content and structure.

Does **not** include the following: •research •writing original material.

Please contact me via the **Society of Women Writers NSW Inc website** for more information, fees and bookings. Please use the Contact Form at <https://womenwritersnsw.org/contact/>

14-26 OCTOBER 2019

# WRITING RETREAT IN TUSCANY

2 weeks from AUD 5650 per person



**ONLY 2 PLACES LEFT !!!!!**

We have two places left in this life-changing and renewing Writers' Retreat in beautiful Tuscany in October, 2019.

**WHY YOU NEED THIS:** What Sue Woolfe teaches has been shown, in recent university tests, to crack open your creativity so it pours out as never before. Scientists found that your originality can increase by as much as 64%, and the flexibility of how you think by 36% under Sue's studied guidance.

**WHY YOU CAN AFFORD THIS:** Stay in a beautiful villa in rural Tuscany with all meals, breakfast lunch and dinner, for only \$5650 pp (twin share) or \$6770 (single). Included is the teaching by Sue Woolfe, the friendship of like-minded people, and three excursions into the stunning Garfagnana region which surrounds the villa, including the picturesque town of Lucca. The only extras will be the cost of your airfares and travel to Lucca.

Going fast... Register now.  
[www.writingretreats.net](http://www.writingretreats.net)

**2 WEEKS IN A PRIVATE TUSCAN VILLA**

with renowned Australian author and NIDA teacher, Sue Woolfe



# THE SOCIETY OF WOMEN WRITERS NSW INC

[www.womenwritersnsw.org](http://www.womenwritersnsw.org)

*Giving Women Writers a Voice*

## 2019 NATIONAL WRITING COMPETITION

**Closing date: 6.00 pm EST on 30 June 2019**  
**ENTRY FORM INSIDE MARCH ISSUE OF**  
***Women's Ink!***

## THE STATE LIBRARY OF NSW SHORTSTACKS FILM COMPETITION.

Entries close 5 pm, Monday 29 April 2019.

The State Library of NSW has today announced the launch of its inaugural short film competition Shortstacks with a total of \$20,000 on offer across 2 categories:

Shortstacks is open to established, emerging and first-time filmmakers of all ages, but there's a catch ... each short film entered must reference one or more items pre-selected from the State Library's extraordinary collection.

All genres will be considered – fictional, documentary, animation or experimental (e.g. timelapse, hyperlapse and drone), and can be produced on any device including mobile phones.

Our judges will select the 10 most engaging, imaginative and innovative entries to be showcased in the Shortstacks Short Film Festival at the Library in June. The winners will be announced on the night by Australian film industry royalty and Shortstacks Judge Margaret Pomeranz.

Before you get started, please read the Guidelines (LINK) carefully  
If you have any questions please contact the Senior Project Officer, Awards  
at [awards@sl.nsw.gov.au](mailto:awards@sl.nsw.gov.au) or on (02) 9273 1582 or (02) 9273 1605.

ENTER NOW – <https://www.sl.nsw.gov.au/about-library/awards/shortstacks>

**Seniors' Stories**  
Volume 5

Are you passionate about expressing creativity in writing?  
Would you like to share your story?

The Seniors' Stories Volume 5 writing competition is now open and the theme is 'Love Your Life'.  
The 100 best entries will be published and the authors will receive an invitation to the book launch at the NSW State Parliament.  
Submissions open on 1 March and close on 22 May 2019.  
Seniors Card members are encouraged to enter.  
There will be six short story writing workshops held in:

- 19 March Dubbo
- 20 March Tamworth
- 12 April Shoalhaven/Nowra
- 16 April Wagga Wagga
- 29 April Gosford
- 2 April Sydney

For more information or to register for a workshop, please visit the Fellowship of Australian Writers website at [www.fawnsw.org.au](http://www.fawnsw.org.au) or call 0417 403 720.



Sources: thanks to SWW NSW Public Officer Dr Hilarie Lindsay MBE OAM, who knew Wilda Moxham personally and served with her on Committees. Hilarie has kindly contributed to the information published here. Wilda's son John generously provided his Eulogy from which I draw this Tribute.

*Pictures courtesy the Moxham family collection;  
<https://womenwritersnsw.org/history>*

## WILDA AUDREY MOXHAM

11/1/1917 - 10/3/2019

**Society of Women Writers President in 1950s, 1970 - 1971 and 1994 – 1996;**  
**Treasurer circa 1955**

Wilda had three books published, all with a horse racing background.

The last one, *The Apprentice* was re-printed three times and short-listed for the Miles Franklin Award. Wilda was also a founding committee member of the Australian Society of Authors and Secretary of the Sydney branch of PEN for which she was awarded Life Membership. Hilarie Lindsay tells us that Wilda was an asset to the Society.

Wilda loved committee work from her early days at *The Guardian*. When she was at school, Wilda displayed an aptitude for essay writing so a career in journalism was obvious. She would have loved to attend University but there were never enough funds.

Her Canadian father, Will Leonard, ran the mill in Boonah SE Qld. The owners of that mill also owned the local newspaper, *The Fassifern Guardian*, named after the Fassifern Valley. After completing High School, Wilda took a job at *The Fassifern Guardian*, as a cadet journalist.

Some time after she began as cadet, the Editor left under a cloud and Wilda, at the age of eighteen years, was appointed Editor. She spent time attending meetings of various organisations around town, reporting district doings and Court proceedings. It was a big job because the paper had its own linotype printing press which apart from the paper printed brochures, catalogues etc.

At that time a couple of murders took place when murder was uncommon. The trials became quite prominent with crime reporters arriving from the big papers in Brisbane to report on them. First port of call for the reporters was *The Fassifern Guardian*, to glean background information for the trials. The hard-bitten crime reporters weren't backward in offering pretty Wilda Leonard a lift to the Court House and afterwards helping her with her copy. Wilda enjoyed her time with '*The Guardian*'.

She married in 1939. Her son John was born in 1940, and second son Rod in 1944. Pic Moxham, her husband, was accepted as a volunteer for the American Light Ship Brigade and given the rank of 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant. He embarked from Sydney on a Dutch cattle boat called the "Schwaatenhort" bound for Milne Bay, New Guinea. Wilda moved to Townsville. After the war, the family settled in Sydney. Wilda began writing in earnest. She wrote short stories that were published in daily newspapers and began writing under contract to publishers for the pulp market. These were classified "Light Romance" and she churned them out monthly for a few years. They sold in newsagents, railway stations etc for the princely sum of 6d and later 8d. They were not high literature, but they demonstrated structure, plot and characterisation.

In the early 1950s, Wilda was appointed Publicity and Appeals Officer for NSW Red Cross. After Red Cross, Wilda had a similar position with NSW Crippled Children Society. On her second day on the job, an article appeared on the front page of the *Sydney Morning Herald* detailing the great work of the Society. She knew how to get things done. A major work that remains un-published, *The Top End Affair* embraced uranium mining, a female geologist, cattle stations, Aboriginal people and International big business.

Wilda Moxham will be sadly missed by many. Condolences to the family.

## 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  
 Nina Rundle—Sub editor  
 Jan Conway—Proof reader  
 Lindsay Lewis—Distributor

**Website Manager**—Lindsay Lewis  
**Face Book Manager**—Susanne Gervay OAM  
**SWW Front Desk**—Lynda Calder  
**Workshop Convenor**—Pippa Kay  
**Book Review Editor**—Judith O'Connor  
**Photographer**—Joy Williams

**Public Officer:** Dr Hilarie Lindsay MBE OAM  
**Patron:** Emerita Professor Di Yerbury AO

## Women's Ink!

includes a  
**SWW 2019 Membership Form**  
**ON BLUE PAPER**

Please note that Direct Debit is available.

When you join or renew Membership  
**You have the opportunity to register your  
 name and website on our Member  
 Directory for display on our public website.**

### Get well message

Very best wishes to **Joy Williams** for a speedy recovery.

## The SWW NSW Inc.

## National Writing Competition 2019

will be held in **November**.  
 Full details and **competition entry form**  
 in the March edition of *Women's Ink!*

### Memo to Members

A reminder 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)



### 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)

Facebook: [SWWNSW](#)