



November 2019

Issue No. 123



Jan Conway President

## Dates for your Diary 2019

### 13 November:

Workshop—**Sarah Luke**

Keynote and Member speaker spots—

**NATIONAL WRITING COMPETITION**

**Winning and Placed Entries**

**Announced Judges' Reports and**

**Winners' Responses**

### 11 December: Christmas Luncheon

Workshop—**Susanne Gervay OAM**

Member Speaker—**Ramah Juta**

Keynote Speaker—**Katie Little**

### 12 February:

Workshop—**Dr Sukhmani Khorana**

**Di Yerbury Residency 2020 Award  
announced.**

Keynote Speaker—**Dr Sukhmani Khorana**

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Annabet Ousback has reluctantly tendered her resignation as Co-President in order to focus on the earlier than expected release of her first book. I thank Annabet for her support and wish her well as *Red Herrings for Breakfast* comes to the bookshop tables. I am happy to continue as President.

Possibly because of school holidays and the need to be on grandmother duties, coupled with the long weekend, the attendances at our October workshop and lunch were lower than usual.

During Manisha Amin's workshop, the attendees gained valuable insights into the issues and problems that can be encountered when writing for multicultural audiences.

Susan Ramage shared her journey with editor and illustrator which resulted in the publication of her delightful children's book, *The Urban Escapees*. The ABC's 'Gardening Australia' will feature Susan's book in their November magazine. Congratulations, Susan.

Cathy Perkins, an editor with the SLNSW, first took us into the bowels of the library where she discovered Zora Cross. What followed was a fascinating exploration of Zora's extensive writing career, her associations with the publishers, Angus & Robertson, Dame Mary Gilmore, Norman Lindsay and many others. Cathy found that Zora Cross featured in the very first *Women's Ink!* Cathy's biography, *The Shelf Life of Zora Cross*, will be released in November.

The National Writing Competition presentation ceremony will be held on 13 November during the luncheon meeting. The shortlisted entries are announced on page 3. This is an important date in the SWW NSW calendar with our fifteen shortlisted entrants invited to join us. As this is a national competition, we will have non member guests so please come along to celebrate and support your fellow women writers, hear what the judges have to say and the responses of the 2019 winners. Don't forget, you can always invite a guest.

A fascinating look at the lives of the patients of Callan Park and the staff that cared for them is the subject of Sarah Luke's November workshop.

I encourage all members to join us for the monthly workshops and luncheons. Writing can be a solitary affair so come and share your stories and be supported by each other.

Enjoy your writing.  
*Jan Conway*

## Literary Luncheon Wednesday 13 November 2019

Dixon Room State Library of NSW Macquarie Street, Sydney

### Program

10.00–11.45 am:

### Workshop

Noticing the tiny birdcage in the far corner of the photograph

SARAH LUKE

12.00–12.20 pm: Arrival & Registration

12.20–12.45 pm: Luncheon

12.50 pm:

## SWW NSW NATIONAL WRITING COMPETITION

Winning and Placed Entries Announced.

Judges' Reports and Winners' Responses.

Workshop Co-ordinator: Pippa Kay  
Mobile: 0407725747

Our Monthly Luncheons are now

shown on: [What's On City of Sydney](#);  
[Sydney Talks](#) and [Facebook](#).

### Welcome to New Members

Cathy Perkins is the author of the biography  
*The Shelf Life of Zora Cross*.

### Luncheon and/or Workshop

**DON'T MISS OUT - BOOK EARLY:**

Email [swwlunchbooking@gmail.com](mailto:swwlunchbooking@gmail.com)  
or [CLICK HERE for more details](#)

**IMPORTANT MESSAGE:**

**BOOKING DEADLINE is Monday prior to luncheon** before 10am please.

Pay by **DIRECT DEPOSIT** into the SWW bank account by **FRIDAY prior to meeting**.

For Direct Deposit please use the **codes** listed **BELOW** in Description for online deposits

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

<p><b>Members:</b> Luncheon \$45 (ML) Workshop \$30 (MWS) Luncheon &amp; Workshop \$68 (MLW)</p>	<p><b>Non Members/Guests:</b> Luncheon \$50 (NML) Workshop \$40 (NMWS) Luncheon &amp; Workshop \$83 (NMLW)</p>
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### 11 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 \$60 (NML) Workshop \$40 (NMWS) Luncheon & Workshop \$90 (NMLW)

### [A Kris Kringle in the spirit of giving](#)

If you would like to participate in our planned Kris Kringle in the spirit of giving and sharing words at the 11 December luncheon, please bring a wrapped book. We will swap books during the luncheon. Books can be pre-loved or new.

## November

### Workshop

Noticing the tiny birdcage in the far corner of the photograph: the joy of integrating archival sources into fiction and non fiction

SARAH LUKE

In this workshop Sarah will take participants through her process of piecing together the daily routine and lives of the mentally-ill patients of Callan Park and the staff who cared for them. Some archival sources from the 1800s will be provided for a writing workshop focusing on developing observational skills. Sarah Luke is the author of *Callan Park, Hospital for the Insane* (Australian Scholarly Publishing 2018), a history of the Lilyfield lunatic asylum described by the *Sydney Morning Herald* as 'a fascinating history'. An English and History teacher during the week and a historian on weekends, Sarah is currently writing a book on the industrial school ships for destitute and delinquent boys which were docked at Cockatoo Island in Sydney Harbour from 1867 to 1911.



[sarah-luke.com](http://sarah-luke.com)

### Keynote and Member speaker spots

## SWW NATIONAL WRITING COMPETITION 2019

Announcement of Winning and Placed Entries and Judges' Reports.

Short list will also be published in November *Women's Ink!* Winners will be published in March 2020 *Women's Ink!*

### Short List

The Society of Women Writers NSW Inc has pleasure in announcing the fifteen entries that have been shortlisted for the National Writing Competition 2019.

Please join us at **the Award luncheon on 13 November 2019** and welcome our writers, both members and non members. Please ensure you book prior to 10.00am Monday 11 November.

Entrant	Title
Rosemary Allan	Embedded in the 7 o'clock News
Anna Bay	The Tamarillo Tree
Carmel Bendon	The Gift of a Book
Anne Carson	What if the lake..
Jan Dean	Released
Jean Flynn	Forty
Paulette Gittens	The Companionship of Hens
Libby Hathorn	I Wish It Were Summer
Nicole Lenoir-Jordan	Frothing
Denise O'Hagan	Blessed To Be Here
Kathy Prokhovnik	A Day at the Beach
Margaret Ruckett	Unconformity
Joanne Ruppin	Night Reunion
Dorothy Simmons	Night Sky
Susan Steggall	Re-Carving An Identity

### Thank you to our generous 2019 SWW National Writing Competition Sponsors

**Ginninderra Press** sponsor Winner – *Poetry*. **Robyn Elliott** sponsor Highly Commended – *Poetry*. **Decima Wraxall** sponsor Commended – *Poetry*. **Dr Susan Steggall** sponsor Highly Commended – *Fiction*. **Libby Hathorn** sponsor Commended – *Fiction*. **Caroline Baum** sponsor Commended – *Non Fiction*.

## Members Bookshelf

by SWW NSW Members

### The Collaborator

Diane Armstrong  
Harlequin/HarperCollins



It's 1944 in Budapest, and Miklos Nagy has the audacity to negotiate with the dreaded Adolf Eichmann to rescue over 1500 Jews from certain death. So why is he later accused of being a collaborator?

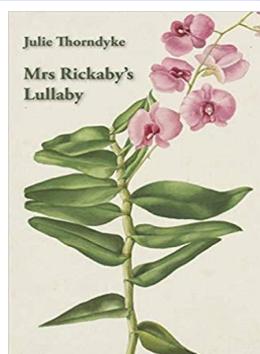
It's 2005 in Sydney, and Annika Barnett sets off across the world to discover the truth about the mysterious man who rescued her grandmother. So why does she refuse to talk about him?

Based on an extraordinary true story, *The Collaborator* explores the complexities of life in wartime, and its moral ambiguities. It's also a story of doomed love, vengeance and betrayal, and of the secret that has poisoned the lives of three generations of women.

Diane Armstrong won the SWW Biennial Fiction Award in 2018 for her novel *Nocturne*.

### Mrs Rickaby's Lullaby

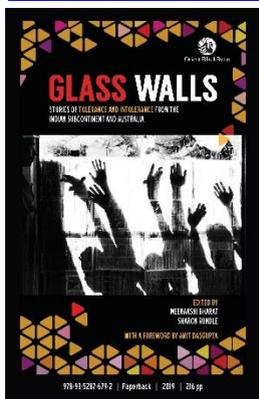
Julie Thorndyke  
[Ginninderra Press, 2019.](#)



Mrs Eileen Rickaby, a semi-retired botanical illustrator and Orchid Society member with a penchant for Mozart, lives a quiet ordered life with Missy, her cat. Her tranquility is disturbed when close friend and neighbour Irene brings home a twice-widowed younger man of dubious character, and introduces him as her future husband. Petty theft, vandalism and violence disrupt the peaceful retirement village. How can Mrs Rickaby protect her friend from this con-man lover? *Mrs Rickaby's Lullaby* is an engaging novel of haunting lyricism and gentle humour, exploring the timeless themes of love, loss and widowhood, friendship and belonging. ISBN 9781760417093 \$27.50

### Glass Walls: Stories of Tolerance and Intolerance

Sharon Rundle & Meenakshi Bharat (Eds.)  
[Orient BlackSwan 2019](#)



'*Glass Walls* challenges readers to look deeply into their own prejudices and reveals how small intimacies of intolerance become the bedrock of world tragedies that tear humanity apart. A powerful anthology.' Susanne Gervay OAM

In this vibrant collection of short fiction, editors Meenakshi Bharat and Sharon Rundle bring together a diverse group of writers from the Indian subcontinent and Australia to explore the themes of tolerance and intolerance. Their stories are compelling, urgent and thought-provoking. They trace the lives of those affected by the metaphorical and literal walls erected by society to offer a glimpse of a divided world, but one that is by no means devoid of compassion. Launched by Her Excellency, The High Commissioner of Australia to India, Ms Harinder Sidhu.

Contributing authors: Anu Kumar, Bruce Pascoe, David Malouf, Debra Adelaide, Elizabeth Jolley, Janhavi Acharekar, Joginder Paul, Julia Mackay-Koelen, Julie Simpson, Kamala Wijeratne, Keki N. Daruwalla, Libby Sommer, Meenakshi Bharat, Nandini C. Sen,

Neelum Saran Gour, Roanna Gonsalves, Rupleena Bose, Sharon Rundle, Sue Parker, Sujata Sankranti, Trilok Chand Ghai, and Vashti Farrer. Foreword by Amit Dasgupta. [Glass Walls Amazon.com](#)

SWW NSW eNewsletter is searchable on the internet. To include your new book. Please send to [swweditor@gmail.com](mailto:swweditor@gmail.com) in the following format. Email heading: **SWW New Books**. In the body of the email, please include: **Book Title, Author's Name, Publisher + 1 paragraph synopsis and book cover image.**

## SOCIETY OF WOMEN WRITERS NSW INC.

### Mentor Service for Authors, Writers and Editors.

Please book at <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. *Please note bookings are now full until June 2020.*

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/>

## Committee and Team for 2019–2020

### Committee:

Jan Conway—**President**  
 Kylie Day—**Vice President**  
 Amanda Mark—**Treasurer**  
 Rita Shaw—**Secretary**  
 Maria McDougall—**Membership Secretary**  
 Julie Thorndyke—**Publicity**  
 Decima Wraxall, Michele Bomford—**Committee members**

### eNewsletter and *Women's Ink!* team:

**Editor**—Dr Sharon Rundle [SWWEditor@gmail.com](mailto:SWWEditor@gmail.com)  
**Book Review Editor**—Judith O'Connor  
**Photographers**—Rita Shaw and Meg Dunn  
**Proof reader**—Decima Wraxall  
***Women's Ink!* Mail out**—Valerie Pybus  
**Printer**—Ace Print & Design  
**eNewsletter Distributor**—Lindsay Lewis

**Website Manager and Marketing**—Lindsay Lewis  
**Facebook Manager**—Susanne Gervay OAM  
**Front Desk/Lunch Booking Officer**—Gwen Wilson  
**Workshop Co-ordinator**—Pippa Kay  
**Prize Draw**—Julie Thorndyke  
**Public Officer**—Dr Hilarie Lindsay MBE OAM  
**Patron**—Emerita Professor Di Yerbury AO

## Tribute to **STEPHANIE MEDER**

16 Sept 1923 – 13 Aug



Christiane Bradshaw has given us the sad news of the passing of Stephanie Meder, who was a longstanding member of the Society of Women Writers. Stephanie had a long and dedicated writing career. Christiane and Stephanie featured in the SWW 90th Anniversary magazine.

After Stephanie retired from teaching in 1975, she joined the Society of Women Writers NSW and writing again became her focus. She published three fiction novels in English: *Legacy of Love*, *Before the Tide* and *Shades of Gold*. She also had of short stories and poems published in anthologies and magazines.

The full Tribute that Christiane has shared with us, is published in November *Women's Ink!*

## CONTACT INFORMATION

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