

# Weekend Romance: A Fair to Remember

## Sat 14 and Sun 15 June 2014

SA Writers Centre | Malcolm Reid Building Level 2, 187 Rundle St, Adelaide, 5000  
For bookings please go to [sawriters.org.au](http://sawriters.org.au) or phone reception on 8223 7662

### Saturday 14 June 9.00 am – 5.00 pm Panel discussions

**9.00 Registration and welcome**

**9.30 From the heart: my publication journey**  
featuring Fiona McIntosh

**9.45 Who is that hero? Writing characters**  
with Helene Young

Your characters are comprised of thousands of little stories, complexities and idiosyncrasies. With your words, you create a whole identity with a life and dynamic of its own. In this session, we will mine the hearts of your beloved characters, excavating the jewels that make them unique and unforgettable.

**10.45 Morning tea**

**11.15 From the heart: my publication journey**  
featuring Keri Arthur

**11.40 Location, location, location: setting your stories**  
featuring Helene Young, Fiona McIntosh, Trish Morey, Victoria Purman, Tricia Stringer and Keri Arthur. **Chair:** Eleni Konstantine

Six authors discuss the importance of their six vastly different settings. They will share their wisdom and guide you towards creating a realistic and charismatic setting that will have your readers bewitched.

**12.30 Lunch**

**1.30 Romance subgenres: from historical to comedy**  
featuring Elizabeth Rolls, Keri Arthur, Trish Morey, Robert Moore, Kyoko Church, Helene Young, Tricia Stringer, Carla Caruso and Tamara Gill. **Chair:** Bronwyn Stuart

The romance genre is multifaceted and covers a broad range of subgenres. How do you know which subgenre to focus on? Learn from the experts as they discuss their attraction to certain areas of the expansive topic of romance.

**2.15 Break-out groups: talking sub genre**

Historical romance (Elizabeth Rolls, Bronwyn Stuart)  
 Speculative fiction romance (Keri Arthur, Tamara Gill)  
 Contemporary/category romance (Trish Morey)  
 Erotic/gay romance (Kyoko Church and Robert Moore)  
 Romantic suspense (Helene Young)  
 Rural/coastal romance (Tricia Stringer)  
 Romantic comedy (Carla Caruso)

**2.45 Afternoon tea**

**3.15 From the Heart: my publication journey**

featuring Tricia Stringer

**3.30 Slow it down, baby!**

with Anne Clark and Cassandra Dean

Learning how to slow down the action, focus on the emotion and hone character reactions will inject a tension so palpable, your reader– and editor– will be desperate to turn the next page.

As writers, in key scenes where plot and story are established, tension builds or romance blossoms, we need to slow things down to keep your readers wanting more. Let your characters linger on the emotion, draw out every ounce of tension and enthrall your reader, prolonging that emotional beat just a little longer...

**4.30 From the Heart: my publication journey**

featuring Helene Young

**4.45 Closing conversation**

**5.00 Day one conclusion**

**7.00 It's A Literary Love Quiz**

Whether you are a shaman of the affairs of the heart or just a Mr. Darcy fan-girl, this charming love quiz will leave you gasping in delight. Create a team of eight to ten people and come along for a night of swooning fancy and beguiling fun. Tickets are included in a weekend registration for the Romance Fair or \$20 per/head at the door. Cash bar | BYO food | Friendly atmosphere!

## Sunday 15 June 9.00 am – 5.30 pm Workshops

9.00 Registration and welcome

9.30 **From the heart: my publication journey**  
featuring Trish Morey

10.00 Morning workshops

### STREAM ONE

beginners/early career

**So you want to write a romance?**  
with Trish Morey (full day)

So you want to write romance... then you have come to the right place. Bestselling award-winning author, Trish Morey, shows you how to take your hero and heroine from a great beginning, through the trials and tribulations of their relationship and that perilous black moment, to find their happy ever after. Touching on three-dimensional characters, point of view, romantic hero and heroine archetypes, dialogue, conflict, and much, much more, Trish will steer you through the vital ingredients you need to write a romance that sings. Come prepared to work!

1.00 Lunch

### STREAM TWO

advanced/mid career

**Point of view masterclass**  
with Amy T Matthews (1.5 hours)

Point of view is one of the first choices we make for our manuscripts but often one we do not fully comprehend. In this workshop we will unpack the complexities of narrative point of view and explore how simple choices create radically different effects. We will look at the vast range of choices for first and third person point of view and look at how they are employed. We will also touch briefly on the rare and transgressive second person point of view and explore how it unsettles and destabilises the reader.

**Show, Don't Tell**  
with Elizabeth Rolls (1.5 hours)

Understand how showing your readers what is going on in your characters' heads and lives, rather than telling them, engages your readers fully. Know when to show, when to tell, and how to do it.

Preparation: Read C.S Lewis's *Prince Caspian*, bring a notepad, a pen and your sense of humour.

## 2.00 Afternoon workshops

### STREAM ONE

beginners/early career

**So you want to write a romance?**  
with Trish Morey (full day)

see description above

### STREAM TWO

advanced/mid career

**The author's online shuffle**  
with Helen Katsinis (1.5 hours)

The online world might seem big and mysterious for many authors, yet it is now an integral part of our business. This workshop will look at the pros and cons of websites, blogging, and social media sites like Twitter, Facebook and Goodreads. It is a guide to navigating your way through the online shuffle and making you feel more comfortable with creating your online author self.

**You, your writing and the media: make it a love story**

with Victoria Purman (1.25 hours)

So, you have written a book. Perhaps it has even been published. How do you go about getting attention in the media and raising awareness of you and your writing? Victoria will answer the following questions:

- what is this thing called “the media”?
- understanding journalists and why it is important
- why journalists ask “dumb” questions
- what NOT to do when dealing with journalists.

5.00 **From the heart: my publication journey**  
featuring Victoria Purman

5.15 **Closing conversation**

5.30 **Day ends**

## About the Presenters

**Fiona McIntosh** has written 23 adult novels and six for children. Her books sell throughout English-speaking markets and are translated into various languages. Although she built her reputation on fantasy, she is now known for her lush, meticulously researched, historical adventure-romances set in exotic landscapes from India to Istanbul. She lives in Adelaide but spends much of her writing time in Tasmania and is in demand as a travel columnist for newspapers nationally. Fiona admits she has come full circle, having left the travel industry to pursue writing books, she now travels overseas regularly in the pursuit of story ideas/locations.

Multi-award-winning author and airline pilot, **Helene Young** is a Check Captain with Australia's largest regional airline. Her fast-paced suspense novels star feisty women and sexy men. When she is not writing or flying Helene sails the seas with Capt G and Zeus, aboard their catamaran Roo Bin Esque. Helene has twice been awarded the RWA Romantic Book of the Year in 2011 and 2012. She was voted Most Popular Romantic Suspense Author by the Australian Romance Readers Association in 2010, 2011 and 2013. She was also shortlisted for the Prestigious Daphne du Maurier awards in 2013.

**Keri Arthur**, author of the New York Times bestselling Riley Jenson Guardian series, has now written more than 28 novels. She has received several nominations in the Best Contemporary Paranormal category of the Romantic Times Reviewers Choice Awards and has won RT's Career Achievement Award for urban fantasy. She lives with her daughter in Melbourne, Australia.

**Tricia Stringer** grew up on a farm in country South Australia and has spent most of her life in rural communities. It was writing stories to bring history alive for children that fuelled her love of writing. She completed a Diploma in Children's Writing from the Australian College of Journalism in 2000 and hasn't stopped writing and learning since. Tricia is now the author of several published books (some via POD). In 2013 her first book under Harlequin Australia's Mira label, *Queen of the Road* won the RWA's Romantic Book of the Year Award and also made the Get Reading '50 Books You Can't Put Down' list. Her second book with Harlequin is *Right as Rain* and her third, *Riverboat Point*, will be released in December 2014.

Adelaide writer **Victoria Purman's** novels *Nobody But Him* and *Someone Like You* are published by Harlequin Australia. She is contracted for three more books, to be released in 2014 and 2015. Victoria writes "coastal romance": contemporary romance fiction set on the beaches of South Australia. She has appeared at the 2014 Adelaide Writers Festival; the SA Readers and Writers Festival; been a Writer in Residence at the SA Writers Centre; was named a finalist as Favourite New Author 2013 by the Australian Romance Readers Association; and made the long list for Booktopia's poll, Favourite Australian Novelist 2014.

USA Today Bestselling Author, **Trish Morey's** 30 titles for Harlequin Presents have sold more than five million copies in more than 25 languages in 40 countries worldwide including Japanese Manga graphic/comic format. A Chartered Accountant by trade, Trish is two times winner of RWA's Romantic Book of the Year Award and a 2012 Romance Writers of America RITA nominee. Trish is now also writing flirty romance novellas for Tule Publishing and Single Title contemporary women's fiction for Pan Macmillan. Trish lives with her family in the gorgeous Adelaide Hills.

**Amy T. Matthews** is an academic and novelist. She is the author of *End of the Night Girl* and *Navigating the Kingdom of Night* and has published short stories in collections including *Best Australian Stories*. She is the winner of the 2010 Adelaide Festival Unpublished Manuscript Award, and has been shortlisted for the Nita B Kibble Dobbie Award and the Colin Roderick Award, and been longlisted for the *Australian/Vogel* Literary Award. She writes historical romance under the name Tess LeSue and was the winner of the 2009 Anna Campbell Award. She teaches Creative Writing at Flinders University.

**Anne Lucy Clark** is an international, multi-published author of over 60 romance novels with almost 20 years industry experience. She holds a Master of Arts (Writing & Literature) and has recently been appointed as an Assistant Editor with Entangled Publishing. Anne has conducted workshops and tutorials at both state and national levels. She has been awarded the Chapter Service award from Romance Writers of America and been shortlisted for the coveted R\*BY award.

**Bronwyn Stuart's** love of reading all things romantic got her into trouble at a very young age. Starting with Mills and Boon 'borrowed' from her mother and then progressing to meaty historicals and sweeping sagas, it is only fair that romance pays her back with unique ideas for her own novels. She now writes gritty Regency romance that occasionally borders on the edge of noir. Her treehouse in the Adelaide Hills is filled with the laughter of her young kids, the meows of two white, fluffy cats, and a bad boy (now husband) of her very own. Visit Bronwyn at [bronwynstuart.com](http://bronwynstuart.com)

**Carla Caruso** is an Adelaide romantic comedy author. Previously, she worked as a newspaper and magazine journalist and fashion stylist. Her books include *Catch of the Day*, *Second Chance* and *Cityglitter* (Penguin's Destiny Romance) and *Mommy Blogger* (Eternal Press). She made the top 21 in Mills & Boon's international *New Voices* competition and the long-list of the QWC/Hachette Manuscript Development Program. Plus, *Catch of the Day* tied for first in the Romance Writers of Australia 'Book Cover Contest' (2013). Visit [www.carlacaruso.com.au](http://www.carlacaruso.com.au).

**Cassandra Dean** is an international, multi-published author in a variety of genres, including historical romance and erotic romance. Cassandra has recently accepted an appointment as an Editor with Decadent Publishing. She holds a Bachelor of Arts (Communication Studies & Professional Writing), has previously presented workshops at various State based conferences and lectures regularly at the SA Writers Centre.

**Eleni Konstantine** is Fantasy and Paranormal fiction writer, with a number of shorts published. Her stories range from flash fiction to novels. She blames/thanks her mother for her writing bug because as a child she was gifted with many books, including illustrated fairytales. With that and a love of Greek mythology, Eleni was destined to become a writer. Eleni lives in Adelaide, Australia, with her family and feisty American Staffy. You can find Eleni at her website [elenikonstantine.com](http://elenikonstantine.com).

**Helen Katsinis** (of HelzKat Designs) designs book covers and banners for writers. She is currently studying graphic design (illustration) at TAFE. As both herself and her alter ego, Eleni Konstantine (Fantasy and Paranormal fiction writer), she has set up a number of blogs/websites and has given talks on the subject of blogging and navigating in the online world. Visit Helen's website at [helzkatdesigns.com](http://helzkatdesigns.com)

**Kyoko Church** discovered the power of the erotic word when she was 16 years old and penned an explicit missive to her boyfriend. When he received it, boyfriend was impressed. When he found it, father was not. From then on, she hid her naughty thoughts in shame ... until they surfaced as smutty fiction. Her work has been published by Black Lace, Xcite Books, HarperCollins Mischief Books, Sweetmeats Press, Cleis Press and the Mammoth Book of Best New Erotica 12. Canadian by birth, she has recently made her home the Adelaide Hills. She is currently learning to drive on the left and say G'day convincingly. Website: [kyokochurch.blogspot.com](http://kyokochurch.blogspot.com)

**Robert Moore** is an author of children's picture and chapter books besides two gay romance novels. In 2012 MLR Press published *Pecking Disorder* and *Hard Pressed*. Robert was invited to the Gay Romance Literature Conference in Albuquerque for the launch of these books. His play *Brewing* which deals with gay romance and HIV was presented as a play reading with CentrStage and the University of Tasmania during TasPride 2013. His short story *Mother Tongue* is being filmed by ACArts Film and Television Department. A picture book, *Noelene Knows Best*, will be released in the US soon. Robert plans further gay romance stories featuring the protagonist from *Pecking Disorder*.

**Tamara Gill** is an Australian author who grew up in an old mining town in country South Australia, where her love of history was founded. So much so, she made her husband travel to the UK for their honeymoon, where she dragged him from one historical monument and castle to another. Three children and a part-time job keep her busy in the real world, but whenever she gets a moment's peace she loves to write romance novels in an array of genres, including regency, medieval and paranormal.

**Elizabeth Rolls** lives in the Adelaide Hills with her husband and two sons. She has too many books, two cats and three dogs. She has a third dog rather than a third child because puppies don't argue, play sport, or train five nights a week. Elizabeth has won the HOLT Medallion twice, and the Laurel Wreath, and been short-listed



for the RNA Romance Prize, RWAustralia's R\*BY, and Romance Writers of America's Rita Award. She writes historical romance because the difference between blu-ray and DVD players eludes her, but she can spot an 18th century nutmeg grater at twenty paces, and loves happy endings. Visit Elizabeth at [elizabethrolls.com](http://elizabethrolls.com)