

New Year = New Vision



Welcome back! The staff at SA Writers' Centre hope our members (old and new) had a great Christmas break and are enjoying the beginnings of a new year. In 2009 the SAWC will be looking to consolidate the best of its services to members and, towards this end, the Board has recently revised the mission statement and vision of the Centre.

Our mission statement is now:

- To foster South Australian writing, by raising the profile of authors and offering opportunities for writers through a program of professional development, support and community association.

Our vision:

- To be an organisation which is integral to the creative lives of writers and which engages with the community in ways which support community development. The SAWC will:
 - Help a vibrant community of members succeed in an increasingly competitive market.
 - Have significant working relationships with a number of major partners — local, regional and interstate, and
 - Be involved in projects which add value to a broad spectrum of the community, from youth to aged, and from the city to regional areas of the State.

We look forward to doing all of the above!

Publishing Moves

HarperCollinsPublishers Australia has announced it has entered into a new commercial partnership to publish and distribute **ABC Books**. The Director of ABC Commercial, Lynley Marshall, said HarperCollins provided the ideal expertise that ABC Commercial has been seeking. 'HarperCollins is perfectly placed to partner the ABC in the fostering and development of new Australian literary talent,' she said. The partnership will commence with the new title programme from 1 May 2009.

In local publishing, UniSA's **Hawke Research Institute for Sustainable Societies** has formed a partnership with **Wakefield Press** to establish an imprint (the *Hawke Intersections* imprint or series of books) which aims to publish books that foster the social sustainability and social justice goals of the institute, while raising the public and academic profile of the institute's research activities.

World-class cooking with words

Two best-selling books by South Australian writers have been chosen to represent Australia in the 2008 Gourmand World Cookbook Awards. *The Blue Ribbon Cookbook* by Adelaide Hills author and SAWC member **Liz Harfull** has been selected from a record number of entries to be named Australian winner in the Best Easy Recipes Book category.

One Magic Square: Grow your own food on one square metre by **Lolo Houbein**, another SAWC member, is the 2008 Australian Winner Gourmand World Cookbook Awards in the category of Best

Innovative Cookbook. Both books will now compete against finalists from other countries for the Best in the World award, due to be announced at a gala dinner in May 2009. Both books were published by Wakefield Press.

The Gourmand World Cookbook Awards aim to honour people who 'cook with words', and to find the best out of some 26,000 food and wine books produced around the world every year. The awards were founded in 1995 by Edouard Cointreau, a member of the family behind Cointreau liqueur, which has owned vineyards in France since the 13th century.



Liz Harfull



Lolo Houbein

Congratulations to Wakefield Press, Liz and Lolo. Members can look forward to the workshop Lolo will be running for the SAWC in June.



Centre Information

Contributions

Thanks to the following people and organisations who donated books to the Centre:

Elaine Barker, *The Day Lit By Memory*, Ginninderra Press, 2008.

Stefanie Bennett, *Symphony for Heart and Stone*, Cochon Collective, 2009 and *The Hermit in Translation*, Cochon Publishing, 1998.

BlueDog, vol.7, no.14, December 2008.

Wendy Burge and Michelle Rush, *Lucky Luke*, Australian Breastfeeding Association, 2008.

Hazel Edwards for Hazel Edwards and Jean Roberts, *Committee-itis*, Choice, 2003; Hazel Edwards and Goldie Alexander, *The Business of Writing for Young People*, Hale & Iremonger, 1998; Hazel Edwards and Pam Chessell, *Being Your Own Boss*, Penguin, 1984.

Steve Evans and Kate Deller-Evans, *Best of Friends: The First Thirty Years of the Friendly Street Poets*, Wakefield Press, 2008.

Frank Gemignani, *Take Nothing For Granted 4001-4100*, December 2008.

FreeXpression, vol. XVI, iss. 1, January 2009.

Katrina Germein and Sascha Hutchinson, *Baby Gets Dressed*, Working Title Press, 2009.

Going Down Swinging, no. 27, 2008.

Goulburn Valley Writers' Group, *Tamba: A Selection of Poetry and Prose*, Spring/Summer 2008.

Jeff Guess, *Two Schools of Thought: Student Poetry from Pembroke School, 2008 and The Silent Classroom: The Pembroke Poems*, 2008.

Office for Women, *Anthology of South Australian Young Women Writers*, 2008 International Women's Day.

Offset, no.8, 2008.

Page Seventeen, iss. 6, 2008.

Ioana Petrescu for Ioana Petrescu, Cameron Fuller and Gill Ratcliff. Ed. *Poems in Perspex: Max Harris Poetry Award 2007*, Lythrum Press, 2008.

Susanne Richards, *Missing Alive or Dead*, 2008.

Rocky River Rriters, *A Mixed Bag*, 2008.

Taipei Chinese Pen, Autumn 2009.

Wakefield Press for Christina Slade, *A Tale of Two Women* and Josephine Laffin, *Matthew Beovich: A Biography*,

Wakefield Press, 2008.

Amelia Walker, *Just Your Everyday Apocalypse (Poems)*, 2008.

Gwenneth Walton, *Children of the Earth*, Seaview Press, 2007.

Wet Ink, iss. 13, Summer 2008.

Georgia Xenophou, *"People": Short Stories*, 2008.

SA Writers' Centre Life Members

•Max Fatchen

•Gillian Rubinstein/Lian Hearn

Our Thanks

Thanks to Barbara Brockhoff, Betty Collins, Jo Dey, John and Coie Dikkenberg, David C O'Donnell, Hakim Oerton, Joel Shayer, Peggy Spry and Ken Vincent for their assistance in mailing the December newsletter to all our members.

Disclaimer

The information in this publication is presented in good faith as a service to SA Writers' Centre members. While the information is believed to be correct, the Centre takes no responsibility for its accuracy. No liability is accepted for any statements of opinion or any error or omission. Advertising material is accepted for this newsletter but such acceptance does not imply endorsement by the Centre.

Wheelchair/Lift Access to SAWC

Wheelchair access is available at the 26 York Street rear entrance.

Alternatively, come in from Rundle Street via Caffè Brunelli to reach the lift.



Thanks to SAWC sponsor:



Copy deadline:

15 February 2009
(for March issue)

Email to The Editor,
comms@sawc.org.au or post
to PO Box 43 Rundle Mall
Adelaide 5000



Upcoming Workshops



Ian Bone

Design Your Own Free Website and Blog

Saturday 14 March, 10am-1pm

Ever wanted to build a website but didn't know where to start? Want a website that won't cost you money? This workshop

takes you through the practical, step-by-step process of planning and building your own website/blog in Word Press (a free blog development tool on the internet). We'll discover how to make the site look attractive and how to make it perform the functions you want it to perform. It's time to show off your writing, books and creativity to the world!

Ian Bone writes for all ages, from picture books through to young adult novels, and is published in the USA, UK, Germany and Korea. His older novel, *The Song of an Innocent Bystander*, has been shortlisted for both the Children's Book Council's Book of the Year Award, and the SA Festival Awards for Literature. It is being adapted by a major Australian director into a motion picture. *Tin Soldiers* was shortlisted for the NSW Premiers' Award and he has had two titles shortlisted for the Ned Kelly Awards for crime fiction. *Sleep Rough Tonight*, for middle to upper Primary readers, was recently released in the US. He teaches writing and works as a video producer and e-learning developer in his spare time!



Renata Provenzano

Getting Your Travel Writing Published

Saturday 14 March, 10am-1pm

Learn how to get your travel writing published with international journalist and

passionate travel writer Renata Provenzano. Finetune your writing skills from reviews to experientials, overviews and feature articles. Discover ways to target magazines; approach editors or source photos. Get insider tips on travel writing assistance through to the pros and cons of travel writing as work. Embrace your desire to journey the world or just your home town and learn how to interview just about anybody!

Renata Provenzano has worked as an international freelance journalist and lectures and tutors at UniSA in journalism. She has written for *Australian Senior Traveller*, *Better Health*, *Good Medicine*, *Holiday Asia*, *Holidays for Couples*, *Next Generation*, *Outback Magazine*, *Qantas Club*, *SA Life*, *Sightseeing SA* and *The Australian*, among others. Her published works include *KAI – Ocean Wisdom from Hawai'i* (Watermark Publishing, USA, 2007), *A Little Book of Aloha – Spirit of Healing* (Mutual Publishing, USA, 2003) and *A Little Book of Aloha* (Mutual Publishing, USA, 2001).



Katharine England

Getting Lay, Lain and Laid: Tackling Basic Grammar

Saturday 14 March, 2pm-5pm

Are you among the hundreds of writers and editors who have trouble with this

confusing suite of verbs – or with the correct use of 'I' and 'me', with misrelated participles, with words like 'effect' and 'affect'? Mistakes in grammar, punctuation and spelling stop your readers in their tracks and interrupt the flow you have worked so hard to achieve. This workshop will shed light on these problem areas and show you how easy it is to be both confident and competent, grammatically speaking.

Katharine England has spent the last 40 years teaching English as a Second Language at TAFE, reviewing fiction for the *Adelaide Advertiser* and other publications and reading adult and young people's fiction on various judging panels. By day she is involved in explaining English grammar and spelling to newly-arrived migrants; reading fiction at night she is constantly bemused by the grammatical solecisms perpetrated by some of our highest profile writers and apparently not picked up by their editors. This workshop brings her two lives together in one small attempt to address the problem.



Anne Bartlett

Whose Point of View?

Saturday 14 March, 2pm-5pm

How many ways can you tell a story? Once you sort out voice and point of view, the rest seems to flow. Sometimes you get them right straight away, but what if you don't? Learn

the advantages and limitations of first, second and third person points of view, how to develop your narrative voice and the elements that constitute tone. Please send the first page of your work-in-progress to the SAWC in advance of the workshop (to comms@sawc.org.au) or post to PO Box 43 Rundle Mall Adelaide 5000 by Wednesday 11 March.

Anne Bartlett has worked as editor, ghostwriter, humour columnist, biographer, feature writer and children's writer. She has been writer-in-residence at various schools and has taught creative writing at university. She has an MA and PhD in Creative Writing from the University of Adelaide. Her novel *Knitting* was long-listed for the Miles Franklin Award and published in the USA and the UK. She is a Visiting Research Fellow at the University of Adelaide.

Booking a Workshop

Cost: \$55 for SA Writers' Centre members or \$77 for non-members
Bookings on 08 8223 7662, sawriters@sawc.org.au or through www.sawc.org.au

February Workshops

Sally Heinrich Writing Children's Picture Books

Saturday February 28, 10am-1pm

Picture books are an exciting world where words and images merge to tell the whole story, and sometimes more. Bring along a picture book that has captured your imagination, either a contemporary one or one from your own childhood.

Sally Heinrich has written and illustrated four picture books of her own, a junior novel and a series of information and activity books on different Asian countries.

Annie Fox Develop Your Creativity

Saturday February 28, 10am-1pm

Flex your creative muscles and get your imaginative juices flowing in this playful creativity workshop. Annie will guide you on a journey using writing, drawing, interactive character development and story-making exercises.

Annie Fox is a multi-award winning screenwriter, script editor and consultant.

Les Wicks

Poetry: plan to be published

Saturday February 28, 2pm-5pm

This workshop will have an emphasis on the nuts and bolts of establishing a poetry audience. A key component of the day will be traditional workshopping where one of each participant's poems is discussed. Everyone who wishes will have their poems published in an established internet magazine.

Les Wicks is widely published both in Australia and overseas, an accessible poet with eight collections to his name.

Booking a Workshop

Cost: \$55 for SA Writers' Centre members or \$77 for non-members Bookings on 08 8223 7662, sawriters@sawc.org.au or through www.sawc.org.au

Parallel Importation: An Update

As many of our members should now be aware, the Productivity Commission of the Federal Government has been asked to report on the current provisions of the Copyright Act 1968 that restrict the parallel importation of books, and provide advice on the potential for reform in this area.

The Commission intends to release its draft report by early March 2009. It will then hold a series of Roundtables to elicit feedback on the draft report from interested parties. The Commission must provide its final report to the Government in May 2009.

The Commission received 72 submissions which are able to be read at www.pc.gov.au. The submissions were from writers including Kate Grenville, Thomas Keneally, Thomas Shapcott, Tim Flannery, Sean Williams and Shaun Tan as well as numerous publishers and the Australian Society of Authors (supported by the NZ and UK Society of Authors) and the Children's Book Council. Of

these named, all were opposed to changes to the current copyright regulations. The current regulations mean that Australian authors can sell their copyright into different 'territories' (the UK, the US, Asia etc.) Parallel importation restrictions (PIR) mean overseas publishers must produce their own edition of an Australian book and are unable to sell these editions into the Australian market. Being able to negotiate these rights with overseas territories is vital for an Australian author's income.

As Kate Grenville writes: 'Changes to the current regulations to erode our copyright territories will have a devastating impact. Because of our small population, few Australian writers – even well-known and celebrated ones – make anything more than an extremely modest income from sales. Anything that will further reduce our income will see many of us forced to stop writing.' She further explains: 'Overseas

editions of our books freely available here would erode our income in a number of ways. On those books we will either get 'export royalties' (usually 5% or 6% rather than 10% or 12%, and frequently on receipts rather than on Recommended Retail Price), or no royalties at all (if they're declared 'remainders' by the overseas publishers). In addition, policing the difference between remainders and current stock will be effectively impossible, so there will be no way of writers knowing what we are entitled to or asserting our rights as creators.'

One of the arguments put forward has been that bringing an end to PIR will result in cheaper books. Thomas Keneally writes:

Changes to the current regulations to erode our copyright territories will have a devastating impact

'I respect those booksellers who have a sincere desire to reduce book prices ... I believe, however, that they are mistaken in their belief that abolishing PIR will reduce prices in a sufficiently significant way'. It is interesting to note that both the UK and the US maintain parallel importation restrictions.

Dyan Blacklock, Publisher and General Manager of Omnibus Books, in her response to Bob Carr's support of the abolition of PIR, makes the point that 'it has taken many years and the benefit of copyright protection to develop a strong Australian publishing industry ... exchange of literature is made possible by the publishing relationships forged at international book fairs where territorial copyright is the protection required to buy and sell titles ... publishing employs hundreds of thousands of Australians either directly or indirectly through bookstores, printers, editors, typesetters, designers, illustrators and others. Many of these people stand to lose their jobs if this change to the current Copyright Act occurs.'

Keep up to date by visiting the ASA website: www.asaauthors.org

Board's Eye View



As the new 'writing' year begins, Board member **Mag Merrilees** finds an analogy between writing and slashing the fields.

Last spring I spent three months on a farm in the southwest of WA. Outside the window, while I wrote every day, the wild radish and turnip grew into a gorgeous waist-high mass of yellow and white flowers stretching in every direction across the paddocks. A sight like this does not bring gladness to a farmer's heart, and eventually I was driven outside to do something about it. For various reasons the usual arrangements for paddock slashing had fallen through, leaving only one person, me.

The tractor and I have both aged thirty years since our last encounter, so it took some time, and advice from a neighbour (put the ratio lever in neutral – duh), to get it started at all, and even longer to get the slasher, a huge brute of a thing, coupled up. I achieved all that and I was prouder, chugging along the track, than I have been of anything for a long time.

The farm is hilly, as in steep. From the highest paddock you look down to karris in the valley (and karris aren't small trees). You may have heard the old adage 'never use the tractor brakes on a hill', puzzling, since you don't need them anywhere else. Nevertheless it would be reassuring to have them. But even thirty years ago this tractor's brakes wouldn't have passed a road test.

I reaccustomed myself to the terror that comes with perching precariously on a tractor at the top of a hill with a vast expanse of weeds hiding every rabbit hole. My route would never have won me a 'straight furrow' competition, unless the judges were on something. Every circuit I chose a different path depending on what felt safest, picking my way around the dips and drop-aways and going out through the open gate at the bottom of the paddock each time so that I could turn on the flat area beyond. Slowly the weeds began to vanish and the underlying clover to reappear in narrow green stripes, curving and crisscrossing, up and down the hill.

Needless to say, my slashing methods would make even the wimpiest local farmer laugh. But I felt safe and began to enjoy myself in a meditative sort of way. The machinery roars and vibrates and all you have to do is keep your bottom on the seat and steer.

There is an analogy here with writing. It's the same 'keep the bum on the seat' requirement, and the same satisfaction as the narrow stripes start to run into each other and form bigger areas of smoothness, green oases in the undergrowth. There is the same sensation of grinding along in low gear, crawling up the hill, feeling that your progress is so agonisingly slow as to be non-existent. But then there are moments

of sheer joyous inspiration: a breeze comes up and cools your sweaty body; you chug over the brow of the hill and see the forest stretching away to the horizon; an insect-man passes overhead in a minute motorised glider, sun glinting on his wings.

And gradually, gradually, the stripes become wide ribbons, the ribbons join at more and more points, the paddock becomes more green than yellow.

Finally you arrive at the point where you can count the remaining weeds individually. A bit more polishing and editing and you must make the decision to stop. After all those hours it's a harder decision than you could have imagined at the beginning, when you just wanted the job to be over. Now the temptation is to go around just once more, for the sake of the six plants still nodding their flowers beside the fence. And then you see another three on the other side of the paddock.

But you must stop. Fossil fuel will run out, and human judgment functions better for the occasional break. You can always take a hoe back later and knock the stragglers off by hand. You lever yourself off the tractor seat and make your stiffened legs carry you back to the house. Have a cuppa, have a shower, relax, you've earned it. Here's my New Year wish for all you word farmers: happy slashing!

AWG SCREENWRITERS FRINGE

Aspiring SA screenwriters have a chance to tap into some major talent by registering to attend this month's inaugural **AWG Screenwriters Fringe 09**. Joining the program are Australia's multi-AFI award-winning screenwriter Elissa Down (*The Black Balloon*) and UK-born TV writer Mike Bullen (*Cold Feet; Tripping Over*). The

program already includes American animation screenwriter David Weiss (*Shrek 2, Rugrats in Paris: The Movie*) and Australia's Andrew Bovell (*Lantana, Head On*) and Tim Pye (*Water Rats, Wildside*).

The Screenwriters Fringe will be held at the Mercury Cinema from 24 to 25 February, 2009.

With a theme of 'Where To Next? The Screenwriter's Journey', the two-day program includes forum-style sessions where participants can get 'up close and personal' with the speakers and a dedicated screening program. The cost is \$100 per person or \$80 for AWG, MRC and SA Writers' Centre members. Registration includes two-day forum and screening program, opening night drinks and entry to the rehearsed public script reading of the winning screenplay in the INSITE Unproduced Screenplay Competition.

For more information or to register, call the MRC on 08 8410 0979. Visit www.mrc.org.au for program updates.

The Writing Life: Grants

Writing grants provide time and relief from penury concerns for writers to do what they want to do most: write. The Australia Council and ArtsSA are the most obvious sources for artistic endeavours, though not everyone knows about them, and there are also private and philanthropic funds to tap into for scholarships and fellowships.

The Australia Council



The Australia Council for the Arts is the Australian Government's arts funding and advisory body. The Australia Council has seven art-

form boards (dance, inter-arts, literature, major performing arts, music, theatre and visual arts) and two committees (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Arts and Community Partnerships). Most boards have seven members and all have a chairperson, appointed by the Minister for the Arts.

The literature board is a major source of funding for professional writers. The current Chair is Imre Salusinszky and the members of the board are Jack Hibberd, Peter Holbrook, Gail Jones, Nicholas Jose, Margo Lanagan and Fay Zwicky. At the most recent meeting in September 2008, the board was joined by participating advisers: Ian Britain, Mary Anne Butler, David Metzenthen, Jane Palfreyman and Ruth Starke.

To be eligible for an Australia Council New Work Grant (that is, a grant to develop a new piece of writing) you must be writing fiction, literary nonfiction (defined by the literature board as autobiography, biography, essays, histories, literary criticism or analytical prose), children's and young adult literature, poetry or writing for performance or new media. Furthermore you must fall into one of three categories: emerging, developing or established. The details of eligibility for these are on the website and require minimum numbers of publications. The Australia Council also offers residencies and fellowships.

The best way to get information is to attend one of their briefing sessions when staff from the Literature Board will provide information on the Board's grant programs

and initiatives and will be available to answer questions. The next Australia Council briefing session held in Adelaide will be on **Monday 6 April 2009** from 6pm-8pm at the SA Writers' Centre. Australia Council staff will also be available on **Tuesday 7 April** for one-on-one client meetings. Appointments can be made by contacting the Writers' Centre.

Closing dates for Australia Council grant categories in 2009:

16 March: Publishing and Promotion, Residencies

15 May: New Work and Fellowships

1 October: Publishing and Promotion, Program Grants

Further information at www.austliacouncil.gov.au or call (toll free)

1800 226 912.

ArtsSA & Country Arts SA



ArtsSA is a division of the Department of the Premier and Cabinet and is the South Australian Government's arts and cultural agency. It manages the State Government's funding assistance to artists and arts organizations. There are five different categories under which you can apply for funding: Community arts development, Contemporary music, Independent makers and presenters, Richard Llewellyn Arts and Disability Trust and Public art and design. Most writers will fall under the 'Independent makers and presenters' category and within this there are a number of different kinds of support available: professional development, project grants, artists in residence and fellowships. Briefing sessions are regularly held for those interested. The next of these will be on **Thursday 5 February** from 7pm at the SA Writers' Centre. For more info go to www.arts.sa.gov.au.

For those in the regions **Country Arts SA** is the best source of support. Go to www.countryarts.org.au.

The Ian Potter Cultural Trust

The Ian Potter Cultural Trust seeks to encourage the diversity and excellence of emerging artists in Australia. The Trust makes grants of up to \$7,000 to early career artists practising in a wide range of disciplines within the arts, including the performing and visual arts, crafts, music, film, television, radio, literature, Indigenous art, design, community arts and other areas. The Trust was established by The Ian Potter Foundation in 1993 to enable individual artists of exceptional talent to be given support to undertake professional development overseas, including postgraduate study.

Closing dates:

Monday, 2 February 2009 (for project/travel after 15 May)

Monday, 1 June 2009 (for project/travel after 4 September)

Thursday, 1 October 2009 (for project/travel after 18 December)

Go to www.ianpotter.org.au or call 03 9650 3188.

The Winston Churchill Memorial Trust Churchill Fellowships

A Churchill Fellowship provides an opportunity, through the provision of financial support, to enable Australian citizens from all walks of life to travel overseas to undertake an analysis, study or investigation of a project or an issue that cannot be readily undertaken in Australia. Currently the average Fellowship cost is \$25,000. In 2009 The Winston Churchill Memorial Trust is offering the Phyllis Primrose Whyte Churchill Fellowship for the study of a project regarding education and/or literature, available to South Australian residents only.

Closing date:

28 February 2009 (travel can begin from 1 September 2009). Go to www.churchilltrust.com.au or call 1800 777 231.

D.J. O'Hearn Memorial Fellowship

Established in 1994, the DJ (Dinny) O'Hearn Memorial Fellowship is a biennial award that offers a residency at the Australian Centre, University of Melbourne, to emerging Australian writers. The Fellowship also has a current value of \$5,000, and is awarded to a writer of fiction, poetry or drama. You must apply with a sample of writing and the next fellow will be awarded in 2009. Go to www.australian.unimelb.edu.au/public/awards/ohearn.html or call 03 8344 4154.

Peter Blazey Fellowship

The Peter Blazey Fellowship is awarded annually to writers in the nonfiction fields of biography, autobiography and life writing and is intended to further a work-in-progress. Applications are judged on literary merit, and the winner will be supported in his or her work by a cash prize of \$15 000, and a one-month writer-in-residency at The Australian Centre. Go to www.australian.unimelb.edu.au/public/awards/blazey.html or call 03 8344 4154.

Marten Bequest Travelling Scholarships

The Marten Bequest Travelling Scholarships are awarded each year for study, maintenance and travel either in Australia or overseas. John Chisholm Marten (1908 – 1966), who established these scholarships through his estate, had a lifelong interest in the arts and literature. The scholarships commenced in 1967. Scholarships are offered every second year in poetry and prose and the next round is in 2010. To be eligible for this award, you must be a native-born Australian aged between 21-35 at the closing date of entries. As a guide, recipients of the 12 scholarships to be awarded in 2009 will receive \$25,000 each.

Closing date:

30 October 2009

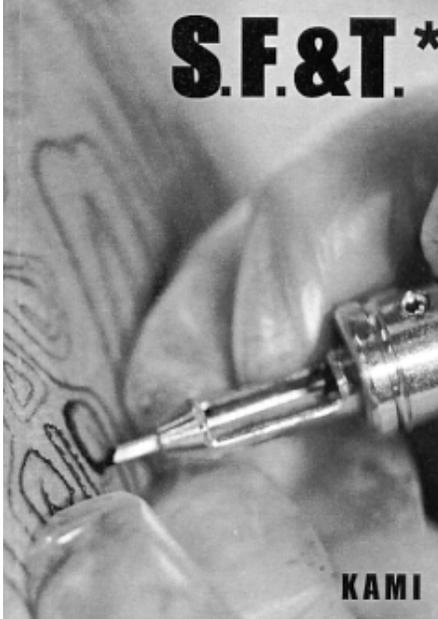
Go to www.trust.com.au/philanthropy/awards/marten_bequest/

Basic Tips for applying for grants ...

- 1. Triple-check your eligibility.**
Given grant applications are a big commitment of time, it is best to make sure you are actually eligible.
- 2. Talk to those administering the grant.**
Grant officers are usually more than willing to discuss your project. They will not be able to tell you, obviously, if you will or will not get the grant but they can advise on eligibility, budgets and the feasibility of your application.
- 3. Use jargon-free language.**
When writing a grant application there is no point trying to put in 'buzz' words for the sake of it. Be honest and confident about yourself and your project.
- 4. Don't go over the page limits.**
Always stay within the parameters of the grant requirements: that is, if they only ask for one page, only write one page. Remember that the assessors will be reading a great deal of material and any attempts to 'squeeze in' just a little bit more will probably work against you rather than help you.
- 5. Address the criteria.**
Stick to the funding guidelines and make sure you have referred to all points in the criteria.
- 6. Make sure the figures add up.**
Remember that, if required to submit a budget, it must be clear that expenditure and income balance. That is, there is no point asking for \$5000 and then submitting a budget where the cost of the project is, in fact, \$7000. Or, even worse, \$3000. If you have difficulties, always seek help from the appropriate people.
- 7. Submit relevant writing samples.**
If required to give samples of your writing ensure your work is appropriate to the project you're applying for. For example, if applying for a fantasy-writing project, it would make sense to submit a piece

of writing in that genre. You can always include a list of publications to show the scope of your writing abilities (if within the guidelines).

- 8. Be professional.**
Do not attempt to be amusing — unless this fits the style of the project — and ensure your application is mistake-free and easy to follow.
- 9. Don't leave it until the last minute.**
There are often references to get, writing samples to print, biographies to update and a number of other time-consuming documents to rustle up. Doing these under the stress of a looming deadline will make it harder to keep your application error-free and maintain professionalism. Both the Australia Council and ArtsSA release their deadlines at the beginning of each year so there is no excuse for not knowing when applications are due and planning accordingly.
- 10. Attend the information sessions.**
The more information you have about applying for grants, the better.



S.F.&T.*

KAMI

Friday 20th February
from 7 p.m. - book launch & spoken word

TUXEDO CAT
Rooftop 15-19 Synagogue Place
off East Rundle St, Adelaide

PAROXYSM
P R E S S

free entry

What's on in Adelaide

Tuesday 3 Feb: Friendly St Poets

Friendly St. Poetry reading at the SA Writers' Centre from 7pm until late.

It's open mic, with the only limit being 4 minutes of time (which includes introductions). Guest Reader is Helen Lindstrom. Cost of entry is \$5 /\$4 concession with free wine, juices and ice cold water.

Tuesday 3 Feb: Peter Singer

The Adelaide Festival of Ideas is delighted to present Peter Singer talking about his new book *The Life You Can Save: Acting Now to End World Poverty* at The Grainger Studio, 91 Hindley Street Adelaide from 6pm to 7.30pm. Cost is \$10 with bookings essential. Tickets from Imprints 08 8231 4454 or email books@imprints.com.au.

Wednesday 4 Feb: DIRC Information Session

Come along to the Disability Information & Resource Centre (DIRC) for an information session about the Centre, its resources and the Richard Llewellyn Grant. From 2.30 to 4.30pm at 195 Gilles St, Adelaide. Parking available behind the building.

Thursday 5 Feb: Applying for a Grant Forum

From 7pm at the SA Writers' Centre, Sandra Naulty from ArtsSA will be outlining the requirements for grant applications. Joined by Jill Jones, poet and former manager at the Australia Council for the Arts and Ruth Starke, author and recent adviser to the Literature Board, the forum will explore the highs and lows of applying for grants. Cost is \$5 (payable on the night).

Thursday 5 Feb: Books and Coffee at Mostly Books

Meet Emma McEwin, author of *Antarctic Affair*, a biography of Antarctic explorer Sir Douglas Mawson. From 7.30pm at Mostly Books, Mitcham Square, 119 Belair Road, Torrens Park. Phone 08 8373 5190 for more information.

Sunday 8 Feb: Hills Poets

The next meeting of the Hills Poets will be at 3.30 pm at the Bridgewater Inn, Mt

Barker Road, Bridgewater. The meeting will be in the dining room in the cellar of the hotel. The car park on the bottom side of the hotel is easiest access. For information please ring Jill Gower on 08 8339 5119.

Wednesday 11 Feb: Alexander McCall Smith Meets the Wurlitzer

The highly entertaining, and internationally acclaimed author of over 60 books, will be in Adelaide for just one appearance at the Capri Theatre on Goodwood Road. The 10th book in the *No.1 Ladies' Detective Agency* (released at the end of January 2009) will be on the agenda. Doors open at 5.30pm, the Wurlitzer pops up at 6pm and author commences at 6.30pm. Tickets are \$8 and available from Angus & Robertson Unley or North Adelaide, and Unley Civic Library. Phone 08 8271 0988.

Saturday 14 Feb: Book Launch

You are invited to attend the launch of SA-born writer Greg Ross's *Radio Stores Battery Station* at the SA Writers' Centre, 2nd Floor, 187 Rundle Street. The book will be launched by ABC Radio announcer Peter Goers from 6pm to 8.30pm. Free admission with drinks and nibbles for the purchase of the book for \$10.

Wednesday 18 Feb: Book Launch

In Due Season, a book of poems of love and loss by Valerie Volk, will be launched by Dr Paul Kilvert at Mostly Books, Mitcham, from 6pm. MC will be Kevin Richardson, Principal of Immanuel College. Drinks provided by Alfred James Funeral Homes.

Thursday 19 Feb: Book Launch

Margaret Fensom's multimedia CD Rom (E-book), *Trains*, the story of her travels in the UK and Europe in 1996, will be launched at the SA Writers' Centre from 6pm. The book is prose interspersed with poems and photographs and has been Beta published by L @ R Hartley Publishers. RSVP (helpful but not essential) to 08 8362 7007 or mdingle@chariot.net.au.

Friday 20 Feb: Writing Workshops

Short Story Writing workshops presented by Sue Fleming. Workshops commence on Friday 20 February, 10.30am to 12.30pm and continue each Friday for four weeks

until 13 March 2009. Cost is \$20 per person. To be held at the Marion Cultural Centre Library, Diagonal Road, Oaklands Park 5046. Booking is essential. Phone Jenny Newman on 08 8375 6737.

Friday 20 Feb: Re-Launch

Paroxysm Press is proud to relaunch the out of print novella from Kami, *S.F.&T** - Shotgun fiction. Re-released as two novellas in one, also containing Kami's second book, *Bunk Beds & Chilli Vodka*. Plus live recording of a set from Recyclopath to be released in the Paroxysm Radio-Demo series later this year. Plus spoken word from Kerryn Tredrea, Matthew Smith, Heather Taylor-Johnson and Jenny Toune. At the Tuxedo Cat, Rooftop 15-19 Synagogue Place, off East Rundle Street, Adelaide. Doors open 7pm for 8pm start. Free entry.

Thursday 26 Feb: Double Book Launch

Just Your Everyday Apocalypse by Amelia Walker, to be launched by Poetica's Mike Ladd and *The Hieronymus Bosch Shopping Mall* and *Wagtail 84* by Graham Catt to be launched by Kate Deller-Evans from 6pm at The Jade Monkey, 29a Twin Street, Adelaide.

Thursday 26 Feb: Meet the author

Spend an evening at Burnside Library and meet Erica Reed, author of *A-Z of Intelligent Conversation*. Champagne supper will be provided. Cost is \$5.50 with bookings essential by calling the library on 08 8366 4280.

Saturday 28 Feb: Poetry at the Pub

'Poets Brawl' (meal and event) to be held as part of the Adelaide Fringe Festival, which is part of the 'Poetry at the Pub' day to be held at The Alma Hotel, Willunga. Cost is \$31.00. Free events during the day include 'Pub Wall Scrawl': vote for your favourite poem posted on the wall of The Alma Hotel and 'Poetry on the Verandah': performance of Australian Bush Poetry. Also a short workshop running from 4pm on 'How to write Australian Bush Poetry' (\$10). Tickets via Horse SA 0402 488 306 or the Fringe www.adelaidefringe.com.au

Opportunities

New e-journal

verb-ate-him is a new quarterly e-journal that publishes literary works in the forms of poetry, short story and micro-fiction along with art works (comic, photography, painting) and sound and video art. Submissions are now open for the first issue which is due to be launched in April. Send your submissions (no more than three pieces at a time please) along with a short biography to: submissions.verbatehim@gmail.com.

QLD Poetry Festival

The 2009 Queensland Poetry Festival (QPF) invites proposals from poets and other performers and artists interested in being part of the 13th Annual Queensland Poetry Festival: 'spoken in one strange word', to be staged at The Judith Wright Centre of Contemporary Arts, 21-23 August. For full submission guidelines visit www.queenslandpoetryfestival.com. Expressions of interest must be received by close of business Friday 27 February 2009. If you have any questions regarding your submission please contact Festival Director, Julie Beveridge at julesbev@yahoo.com.au

PressPress Chapbook Award 2009

After a successful Award in 2008 the PressPress Chapbook Award will run again in 2009. The Award is for an unpublished chapbook length manuscript of poems. The winning manuscript will receive \$500 and chapbook publication with PressPress. The closing date is 31 May 2009. Go to www.presspress.com.au for guidelines.

'Green' Arts Writer's Award

Art Monthly Australia invites entries to their inaugural *Art Monthly Australia* Emerging Arts Writer's Award/ Mentorships. 'Green', i.e. 'emerging', arts writers from around the country are invited to submit an article in response to the theme of 'visual arts and environmental sustainability'. Prizes are Open: \$2000 (for articles of 1000 to 1500 words) and for Senior Secondary School students: \$500 plus \$500 in art supplies for their school (for articles of 500 to 1000 words). Plus publishing and mentoring opportunities for other outstanding entries. Deadline is 27

February 2009. For competition guidelines please contact AMA's editor Maurice O'Riordan via email art.monthly@anu.edu.au or phone 02 6125 3988.

PLR and ELR deadlines

The Public Lending Right (PLR) scheme makes payments to eligible Australian creators and publishers whose books are held in public lending libraries. The Education Lending Right (ELR) scheme makes similar payments for books held in educational libraries. If you are a book publisher or creator-author, compiler, editor, illustrator or a translator, you may be eligible for a payment. The PLR and ELR closing date is 31 March 2009 and title claims for the 2009-10 program are now being accepted. More information including eligibility criteria, forms and guidelines are available on the website: http://www.arts.gov.au/books/lending_rights

Emerging Writers/Illustrators Initiative

In 2009, the Australia Council's support for emerging writers will be administered by the ASA. The program will be known as 'The Australia Council's Emerging Writers/Illustrators' Initiative managed by the Australian Society of Authors'. The ASA will assess applications and disburse emerging writer and illustrator grants for a total of \$175,000. Go to www.asauthors.org for more details.

WriteBitch

Teri Louise Kelly (published author) is seeking interest from women interested in joining a group (WriteBitch) to meet on a regular basis to read works, discuss literature and generally support, nurture and encourage women's writing across all genres, whether published or novice, in a congenial atmosphere. Contact Teri at: atta-girl@hotmail.com if you would be interested in participating or call 0434 952 337.

Animal Anthology

A US writer and editor (Northampton, Massachusetts) is compiling a proposal for an anthology of international writing titled 'Animals Speak Every Language: Writers Around the World Celebrate Their Pets

and Other Animal Companions'. If you are interested in submitting new writing on your relationship with an animal, the deadline for initial submissions (those that will accompany the proposal) is 14 February 2009 but submissions will be read until the collection is actually complete. Maximum 3,000 words. Payment is subject to acceptance by a publisher. If interested please contact Elissa Alford at elissa.alford@comcast.net

Fringe Reviewers

See yourself as a budding arts critic? *Express Media* is offering reviewers between the age of 18 and 30 the chance to see the Adelaide Fringe (27 February - 22 March 2009) show of their choice, write a review and see it published on the Buzzcuts website. The best reviews will have the opportunity to also be published in *Rip it Up* or *The Adelaide Fix*. Applications close on Thursday 12 February. Details can be found at http://www.expressmedia.org.au/events.php?content_id=487

At your Peril

'Fashion Fetish' is the theme for *Peril* Issue 7. Write, create, draw, compose, collaborate! They accept submissions of any kind of text, sound or visual art, as long as it can be presented online (eg. essays, blog entries, reflections, poetry, fiction, memoir, spoken word tracks, photos, etc.). Text limit is 1000 words, preferably submitted in .txt format. The deadline is 31 March 2009, to be published online by May 2009. This issue will be launched at the Sydney Writers' Festival. Please send your submissions and queries to peril@asianaustrian.org or go to www.peril.com.au

Poetrix Submissions

Submissions are invited for Issue 32 of *Poetrix* from women poets around Australia and New Zealand. Closing date is 28 February 2009. Please send up to six poems, unpublished and not under offer elsewhere, and a return envelope. Guidelines are at www.sherrylclark.com - click on Poetrix. Selections will be notified by mid-April. Send to PO Box 532, Altona North VIC 3025.

Murray Alfredson's poem 'Waters rest' was published in *Poets' ink review* October 2008; 'Agnus dei' Poets' in *Poets' ink review* November 2008; and 'When Elohim through Moses', 'Forest night', 'Ch'an music II' in *Studio*, 111, November 2008.

Elaine Barker's poem 'Blue Ribbons' was published in the October edition of *Valley Micropress* (New Zealand). Her poem 'Frederick Franklin's Photograph' was published in *Poems in Perspex: Max Harris Poetry Awards 2007* and 'Sandalwood' appeared in *Culture is ... Australian Stories Across Cultures* which was launched in November 2008.

Graham Catt has had two chapbooks published by Picaro Press: *The Hieronymus Bosch Shopping Mall* and *Wagtail 84*. He has also self-published his own mini-chapbook entitled *Travelling Backwards - Lost in New Zealand*, which is available for download from his website (<http://www.users.on.net/~grahamcatt>) in PDF form at no cost.

Ross Duffy's short stories 'Deft Counselling' and 'Vanessa's Choice' were published in the anthology of the Scribblers Writing Group of Mandurah, WA.

Shirley Dunn's poem 'The Moon's a Toe Nail' was published in the November issue of *Positive Words* and 'A God Who Smiles' in the summer issue of *Footprints*.

Jill Gloyne's poem 'Scar', was published in the December 2008 issue of *Wet Ink*.

Molly Holding won the Reynella Writers short story competition for her story 'Belinda's Well'.

Deb Matthews-Zott's poems 'Night Meditation' and 'Road Poem' were recently published in *creatix*, poetry e-journal, issue 3. It is now online at www.wapoets.net.au/Pages/creatixissue3.html.

Jacqui Merckenschlager's 'So, So Young' received second place in the nonfiction section of the Gum Leaves publishing opportunity and competition. The successful entries are published at <http://scribbligum.com/>

Max Merckenschlager's poem 'Snowy' is among five finalists for the 2009 Bush Poem of the Year in the Australian Bush Laureate Awards (Tamworth).

Graham Rowlands's poems 'The Return of Debbie Does Dallas' and 'In praise of Shane Warne' were published in *Famous Reporter* and *Poetry Monash* respectively.

Alice Shore's poems 'The Flat Time' and 'It was better the second time' were published in the *2008 Anthology of Gawler Poetry*.

Lidija Šimkut's publications include: in English: one poem in *The Shop* (summer issue, Ireland); essay 'Living in Two Cultures: Poetry's Mysterious Source' in *Vilnius Review* (spring/summer, 2008). In Lithuanian: four poems in *North Athens* (June), six poems in *Nemunas* (No.30), five poems in *Literature and Art* (October); in Anthologies: two poems in *From Vilnius to Vilnius*; four poems in *June Garden* (Lithuania); essay 'Memories of Perestroika' in *Draugas* (Oct 18 and 25, USA). Poetry reviews and interviews in various newspapers and magazines in Lithuania, Australia, USA and Canada. In Polish: ten poems (translated by Leszek Engelking) in *The Arts Highway* (2008, Cracow, Poland).

Jeanette Squires won first prize in the 2008 Salisbury Writing Festival Adult Short Story competition with 'Watching The Power Bill' and was highly commended in the NEW Inc's writers' competition in the Adult Poetry section with 'An Intensifying Blueness'.

Jewels Smith's poem 'Aurora Australis' was published in the December 2008 edition of *Positive Words*.

Daniel G. Taylor had an essay 'Wellness Begins Here' published in *Mastering Bipolar Disorder* published by Allen & Unwin.

Zenda Vecchio's short story 'The Lady of Shalott' was published in *Page Seventeen*, Issue 6.

Valerie Volk was awarded the runner-up prize in Studio's 2008 poetry competition for 'In Due Season', the title poem of her forthcoming book. Her work will be published in the next issue of *Studio*.

Amelia Walker's poems 'Astrocytoma' and 'Onion Man' were republished in the anthology *Herding Kites* and her short story 'The Truth About Mermaids' won

second prize in the Feast Short Story competition (see www.lesbian-ebooks.com.au). Her second collection of poetry, *Just Your Everyday Apocalypse*, will be launched this month.

Daniel Watson has written the scripts for two educational comic books: *Tyson and Lucy* and *Our Place*. Both were published by the Office of the Guardian for Children and Young People, Government of SA.

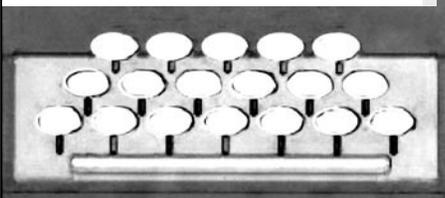
Fraud Alert

A member of the Queensland Writers' Centre has recently stumbled across a fraudulent literary agency/publisher going under various names: the 'Writers' Literary Agency' (www.wlwritersagency.com), the 'Writers Book Publishing Agency' (www.writersbookpublishingagency.com) and the Strategic Publishing Company (www.StrategicBookPublishing.com), all based in the US. Another website to watch out for is: www.AEGauthorsEdge.com. As well as showing interest in work individually, they also 'refer' your work to each other (even though they are all tied in together). They are known to US officials and should be avoided!

reference texts
edit guides
fact books
dictionaries
thesauruses...

for **writers**

sportswriter.com.au
63a broadway, glenelg
8294 9083...
sportswriter@mcavaney.com



always on sale
+ 10% members discount

February 14: Eaglehawk Dahlia and Arts Literary Competition ☞●

Three categories: 1. Short story, max 3000 words, 1st prize \$200, 2nd \$50. 2. Poetry, limit 30 lines, 1st prize \$200, 2nd \$50. 3. Bush Verse, limit 52 lines, 1st prize \$100. For entry forms send SSAE to Ruth Claridge, 99 Victoria St, Eaglehawk 3556 or phone 03 5446 8240 or go to <http://dahlia.bendigo.net.au>

February 20: Laura Literary Awards ★☞●

The Flinders News Prose Awards with three sections: 1. Open: short story, max 1500 words, prize \$200; 2. YA (13-18): max 1000 words, prize \$50 and 3. Junior (under 13): max 500 words, prize \$25. The C.J. Dennis Poetry Awards for poems up to 60 lines. Open prize: \$200. Young adult (13-18) prize: \$50. Junior (under 13) prize: \$25. Fee for open sections \$10 per entry. All student entries free. Guidelines and entry forms at www.laurafolkfair.com

February 20: Alan Marshall Short Story Award ★☞

For short stories, open theme. Open section: \$2000 first prize, \$1000 second prize, stories up to 2500 words. Local Writers section: \$1000 for writers who live in the Shire of Nillumbik, stories up to 2500 words. Young Writers section: \$400 for writers aged between 15 and 19 years for stories up to 1000 words. Judge is Sophie Cunningham. For more information contact Catherine Dinkelmann on 03 9433 3126 or email artsinfo@nillumbik.vic.gov.au

February 20: Community Press Short Story Competition ☺☞

The story must be between 1500 and 3500 words on any theme and must be previously unpublished. First Prize \$250.00; Runners Up (2) \$75.00 each. Prize winning stories will also be published in a one-off magazine, 500 copies, which will be distributed throughout Victoria. The competition is open to Australian citizens, residents and those seeking residency (eg refugees, immigrants etc.) Cost is \$5 per entry. Multiple entries allowed. All entries must be accompanied by an entry form.

February 28: FreeXpression Literary Competition ☞

Five sections: short story, traditional rhyming poetry, free verse, article/essay and haiku. \$5 per entry (\$25 for 6 entries), accompanied by entry form. First prizes range from \$100 to \$250. More information from PO Box 4, West Hoxton, NSW, 2171.

February 28: Charlotte Duncan Award for Children's Writing ☺●

Celapene Press invites entries for the Charlotte Duncan Award for a short story for young readers aged 9-12 years. This award has been established in the memory of Charlotte Duncan to raise funds for the neo-natal unit at Melbourne's Royal Children's Hospital. Entry fee is \$8 per story. 1st prize is \$75, 2nd prize is \$50, 3rd prize is \$25. Winning and commended entries will be published on the Celapene Press website. For entry form and guidelines see www.celapenepress.com.au or send SSAE to 2 Bonview Crt, Knoxfield, VIC, 3180.

March 6: Youth Week Burnside Library Short Fantasy/Science Fiction Story Writing Competition ☺★☞●

For 12-15 year olds and 16-25 year olds. Stories between 1000 and 3000 words in length. 1st prize: JB Hifi voucher valued at \$200, a year's full membership with the SA Writers' Centre valued at \$65, book vouchers valued at \$50 and a double movie pass to a Wallis Cinema. 2nd prize: \$100 worth of book vouchers and a double movie pass to a Wallis Cinema. All entries must be mailed to or dropped in to: Burnside Library, 401 Greenhill Road, Tasmore SA 5065 by 6 pm. Entry forms can be downloaded from www.burnside.sa.gov.au/goto/library

March 31: Kernewek Lowender Writers' Competition ★☞

Theme is 'A Voice from the Grave'. Entry fee is \$5 for first entry, \$2.50 each for subsequent entries. Adult short story up to 2500 words and adult poetry up to 50 lines. Prize money \$100 each. Young Writers: 12-18 yrs,

max 2500 words. (\$50 prize) Under 12, 1000 words (\$25). Young Poets: 12-18 yrs, to 50 lines (\$50). Under 12, to 30 lines (\$25).

March 31: The Best of Times short story competition #7 ☺

For humorous short stories (any theme) up to 2500 words. Cash prizes for first, second and third place (amounts depend on number of entries received.) Stories that have won a prize or certificate in previous Best of Times or Winter Surprise competitions are ineligible for entry. No entry form is required. Include a cover sheet with your name and address, story title and word count. Entry fee is \$5 per story. Send a cheque or money order made out to Chris Broadribb or pay through PayPal: cabbook-7@yahoo.com.au. Post your entry to Chris Broadribb, PO Box 55, Blaxcell NSW 2142 or email cabbook-7@yahoo.com.au. Competition webpage: www.geocities.com/spiky_one/comp7.html

March 31: Bristol Short Story Prize ☺●

For short stories on any theme or subject. Entries must be previously unpublished with a maximum length of 3000 words. Entry fee: £7 per story. 1st Prize: £500 plus £150 Waterstone's gift card. 2nd Prize: £350 plus £100 Waterstone's gift card. 3rd Prize: £200 plus £100 Waterstone's gift card. Winner also published in Bristol Review of Books magazine. To enter visit www.bristolprize.co.uk

April 10: Woorilla Annual Poetry Prize ☺★

Judged by Judith Rodriguez. Open Section: Prize \$1000; Youth Section: Prize \$100. Poem by Yarra Ranges / Cardinia Shire residents: Prize: stay in Melbourne. Entry fee: \$5 (\$3 youth) per poem or (\$20/\$10 for 5 poems). Conditions of entry: poems must be typed and on A4 paper, one poem to a sheet; poems 50 lines or fewer -- neither published nor won a prize; coversheet attached with name, address, tel. no. and section entered; do not put name on poems; include a SSAE for notification. Send entries and fee to: Woorilla Magazine, 255 Macclesfield Rd. Macclesfield, Vic 3782.

May 29: Bush Lantern Award 2009 ☺☞

For bush verse: each poem must have good rhyme and rhythm and an Australian theme. Maximum 100 lines. 1st prize: Bush Lantern Award Trophy and \$200; 2nd prize: Certificate and \$100; 3rd prize: Certificate and \$75. Entry fee is \$6 per poem or \$15 for three poems. Entry form and appropriate fee in a suitable envelope to: Bush Lantern Award, Bundaberg Poets' Society Inc., PO Box 4281 Bundaberg South 4670. Cheque or money order to be made payable to 'Bundaberg Poets' Society Inc.' Email lees@fastel.com.au for further details.

Please note: competitions are listed in order of closing date
★ For more youth competitions go to www.wordbox.bravehost.com

Key

- ☺ competition listed for the first time
- ★ competition with sections for young writers
- ☞ SA Writers' Centre holds the entry forms
- the entry form is available on the Internet

Entry Forms

The SAWC holds some entry forms and guidelines for members. Call in and collect copies for 20c each or send one business-sized stamped self-addressed envelope, plus one loose 50c stamp for every TWO competitions requested.

