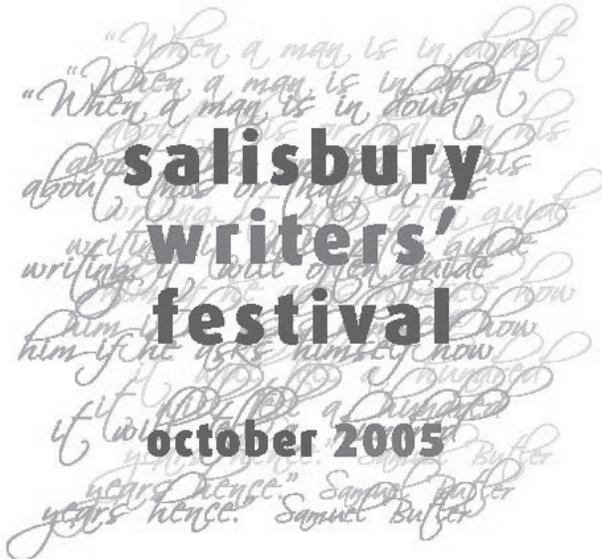


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write

Newsletter of the SA Writers' Centre Inc

October 2005



Festival Highlights ...

Sunday 16 October

Squid Ink and Periwinkles: Is Writing an Unnatural Act? Why do we become so absorbed, thrilled and fascinated with written words? **Elizabeth Mansutti**, an experienced writer, educator and storyteller, will take you on a journey of 30 years of writing. *The Mawson Centre, 2-8 Main Street, Mawson Lakes, 10am-12 noon. Cost: Free.*

Friday 21 October

Launch & Awards Presentation Evening with **Ashley Mallett**. Known to cricket lovers all over the world as 'Rowdy', one of the world's finest off-spin bowlers will share with us some of the dramatic, forbidding and hilarious moments in international cricket. He played Test cricket for Australia, 1968-1980, toured England four times and represented Australia in New Zealand, India and South Africa. Ashley is an experienced journalist and writer. His latest book, *Chappelli Speaks Out* was on the shelves for a week and became the fastest selling book in Australia. *John Harvey Gallery, 12 James St, Salisbury, 6pm. Cost: Free.*

Sunday 23 October

Poetry Brunch with **Graham Catt** and **Cathy Young**. Join a gathering of poets for a sumptuous feast of creative writing with open readings from guest poets. *The Mawson Centre, 2-8 Main Street, Mawson Lakes, 10am-12 noon. Cost: \$15.*

Other sessions include:

Writing Novels with Stephen Orr, Writing Short Stories with Bill Marsh Writing for Children with Christine Harris, Writing Family/Community Histories with David Harris, Getting Published with Michael Bollen, Dyan Blacklock & Steve Lewis, The Freelance Writer with Trevor Gill and Writing for Film & TV with Annie Fox.

One Book, One Salisbury, 2005

The Salisbury Writers' Festival invites everyone to read *Knitting* by Anne Bartlett or *Soraya the Storyteller* by Rosanne Hawke and join this city wide bookclub. For more information and session times call 8406 8311 or check out the library website: www.salisburylibrary.sa.gov.au

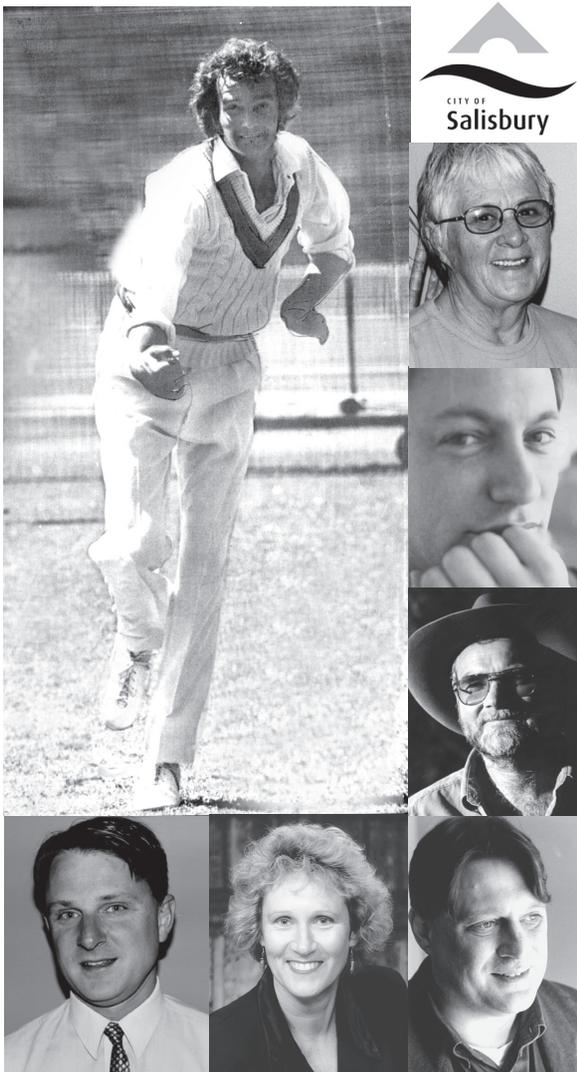
Northern Young Authors' Night

Wednesday 26 October

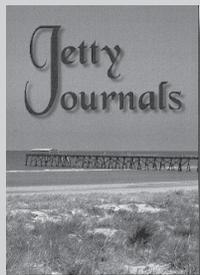
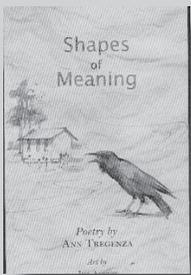
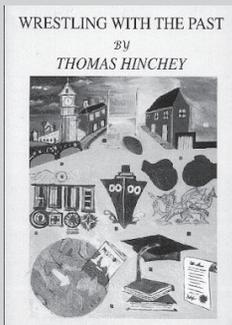
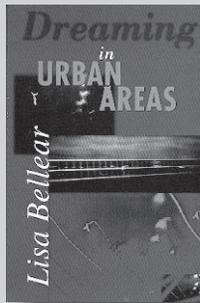
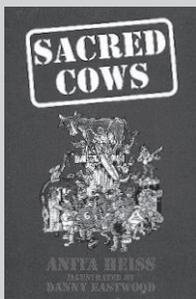
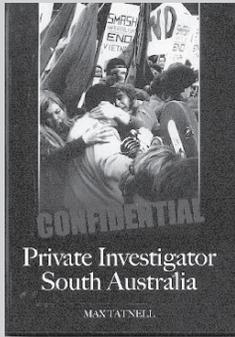
Young Writers from years 5-7 are invited to read their creative writing in groups led by fifteen of SA's best children's authors.

Tyndale Christian School, London Drive, Salisbury, 7.15-9.30pm.

See the festival program in the last newsletter mailout or contact the SA Writers' Centre for details.



Centre Information...



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. Although advertising material is accepted for this newsletter, such acceptance does not imply endorsement by the Centre.

So Very Resourceful

Many thanks to writers, groups and publishers who donated books to our Resource Library this month.

Author Donations

Lisa Belleair, *Dreaming in Urban Areas*, UQP 1996.

Henley Scribblers, *Jetty Journals: Stories and poems by the Henley Scribblers* compiled by Angie Roberston, 2005.

Anita Heiss, *Sacred Cows*, Magabala Books, 1996.

Thomas Hinchey, *Wrestling with the Past*, 2003.

Euan Mitchell, *Self-Publishing made Simple: The Ultimate Australian Guide*, Overdog Press, 2005.

National Library of Australia, *Ray Mathew: An Australian for Life*, compiled by Sarah Gleeson-White, Canberra, 2005.

Petra Rankin, *Fast Track your Success and Happiness: 50 of the Best Techniques for Changing how you Think, Feel and Act*, Brief Books, 2005.

Max Tatnell, *Private Investigator South Australia*, Confidential, 2005.

Ann Tregenza, *Shapes of Meaning*, Temple House, 2005 & *Orestes: From Greece to Australia*, Temple House, 2004.

Wakefield Press, *Beyond Belief, The British Bomb Tests: Australia's Veterans Speak Out*, Roger Cross and Avon Hudson.

Jill Wherry, *Not Shakespeare*, 2004.

Accommodation Required

I would very much like to visit Adelaide. It would be great to get to know the place and also meet with other writers - perhaps find inspiration for my next novel. My last YA book was short-listed in the New Zealand Post Children's Book Awards (2003) and I have published a considerable body of work including 6 children's books. I am willing to house-sit (have references) or pay a reasonable rent for a peaceful, safe place. Please contact Vivienne on vjoseph@paradise.net.nz or write to 17 Napier Grove, Waikanae Beach, Kapiti Coast, NZ. Telephone: 042931895. Mobile: 0212 813 528.

Newsletter Folders

Thank you to the following folders who helped with the August newsletter: Betty Collins, John & Coie Dikkenberg, Graeme Rickard, Jo Dey, Catherine Jones, Lyn Brooks, Cailean Darkwater, Tim Earl, Helen De Gay, Jo-Anne Moretti, Janos Pogony and Lindy Warrell.

THE WRITTEN WORD EDITING SERVICE

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LOOKING FOR A PUBLISHER?

SID HARTA PUBLISHERS not only offers a full manuscript assessment service but publishes titles in the traditional sense, and also offers Partnership Publishing.

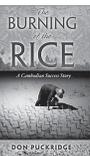
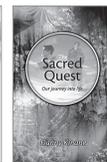
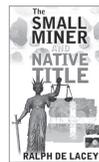
Unlike Self Publishing, Partnership Publishing provides the distribution network, manages the project from line editing, typesetting, proofing, printing, book design, often co-funds production, provides promotional support including a personalized page for the author's work and a short biography. Sid Harta can arrange for author launches/talks to promote their title.

There are many problems with the alternative, Self Publishing, which places the onus for the above entirely on the author and, in consequence, most fail.

This is NOT Vanity Press. SHP only publish works that have merit.

Contact SHP at: author@sidharta.com.au or visit our website for submission details at:

<http://www.publisher-guidelines.com> and <http://www.sidharta.com.au>



Postal: SHP, PO Box 1042, Toorak Road, Hartwell, Victoria 3124.

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



Alternatively, come in from Rundle Street via Buongiorno's Caffe to reach the lift.

Eight(een) Mile

by Tim Sinclair

Eighteen miles of books. That's a lot of books. I walked around Strand today, a New York bookstore institution since 1927. Mostly second hand books. 28,962 metres of books, in my language. That's a lot of books. I did that thing I always do and searched out the poetry section (stacked way up into the stepladdered gloom) and sat there browsing for hours. Then spent a good hour just walking the aisles of the rest of the store. Left feeling completely overwhelmed.

There's too many words out there. Too many writers. Who do I think I am to put yet another book on the pile? It's like the way I've been feeling about New York. What can anyone possibly write about this place that hasn't been written before? There is definitely nothing new under the smog.

There's a lot of ego in my upset, and I'll tell you two reasons why. Reason one, I'm in the fraught process of trying to get a handle on 'book two'. Reason two, John Updike. Probably one of New York's biggest names, and he had just one of those many metres devoted to him. It looked impressive. It was. But this from the man who's had a long and distinguished career of over 40 years. What chance do I have? What right do I have?

I recently had a friend tell me that she was impressed at the way I'd followed through with the manuscript of my first novel. Working and reworking the (damned) thing until it was ready, until someone with a cheque book thought it was too. Thinking about this comment later, I realised that I'd never seriously doubted that it was worth the work. I believed in it, right from the first draft.

So why this naive faith, and where can I get me some more of it? I've proved I can do it, so I should be able to do it again, right? I think what I'm hung up on at the moment is all those finished books. Forgetting that my finished one began as nothing. That all finished ones began that way. I've got lots of ideas, but I've forgotten the basic rule that until you actually write that book you've got in your head, it's just an idea. Dime a dozen. (And that's not a cliché, that's me investing new life in a cliché by experiencing those annoying little buggers for the first time. Dimes, that is.)

I guess the point I'm trying to make is that what I'm (painfully) learning here is that every step brings a new challenge. Actually finishing my first poem was hard. Rewriting it was hard. Submitting it, getting it rejected, redrafting it and finally getting



it published were all steps that had their difficulties. At the beginning of this year I went through the process of the final (major) edit of my first novel manuscript, working with my editor at Penguin. The number of times I'd thought I was done with redrafting, and here I was again, working at it. I announced to the world that the 'book' was finished five years ago, after I'd finished draft number four. Another part of the process...

In conclusion? There may be nothing new, but write your take on in. Write it again, better. Whatever you're doing, keep at it. Challenge yourself. Hell, challenge your elf. Write books so good that they never even end up in that 18 mile maze...

Tim Sinclair's verse novel Nine Hours North will be published by Penguin in February 2006. Don't ask him about the second one... www.timsinclair.org

2006 Festival Awards for Literature

The following awards and fellowships recognise the important contribution emerging writers make in creating a vibrant and stimulating literary culture and are of particular significance to SA writers. Winners will be announced at Adelaide Writers' Week 2006:

- Jill Blewett playwright's award for the creative development of a play script by SA emerging writer \$10,000
- Award for an unpublished manuscript by SA emerging writer to be published by Wakefield Press \$10,000
- Barbara Hanrahan fellowship* \$15,000
- Carclew fellowship** \$15,000

Awards are also offered nationally in these categories:

- Children's literature (\$15,000)
- Fiction (\$15,000)
- Innovation in writing (\$10,000)
- Nonfiction (\$15,000)
- John Bray poetry award (\$15,000)
- Premier's award (\$10,000)

Entrants are advised to speak to the awards program manager prior to submitting their entry. Enquiries and applications to Ms Gail Kovatseff, Arts SA tel : 08 8463 5423, Kovatseff.gail@saugov.sa.gov.au or go to www.arts.sa.gov.au 110 Hindley Street, Adelaide, SA 5000

*The Barbara Hanrahan Fellowship was created in 1993 in honour of the distinguished SA writer, Barbara Hanrahan, who died in 1991. It is open to writers working in the areas of fiction, poetry, drama, scriptwriting, autobiography, essays, major histories, literary criticism or other expository or analytical prose.

**Established in 1988, the Carclew Fellowship is open to writers for young people working in the genres of fiction, drama, poetry or screenwriting. Both fellowships provide six-month living allowances for SA writers.

Deadline: 5pm Friday 11 November

The Little Big Book Club

The State Government, in partnership with *The Advertiser* and the Public Libraries of South Australia, has announced the formation and a four-year funding commitment for the *The Little Big Book Club*: an early intervention family literacy campaign aimed at encouraging parents to read to their children from birth. Its purpose is to promote positive influences for children in their first four years of life.

The Little Big Book Club is an important extension to the existing Big Book Club which was established in May 2003 to promote reading and develop a forum for literary debate across South Australia. The Big Book Club Inc. will manage the project linking reading from birth to adulthood.

South Australian based publishers and writers are invited to submit manuscripts suitable for babies of 0 to 12 months.

Each year for the next four years, a manuscript will be chosen to be published and distributed throughout South Australia. Both the author and illustrator must be residents of South Australia.

A panel of specialists selected by The Big Book Club Inc. will select the manuscript to be published.

How it works:

- From January/February 2006, The Advertiser and an extensive network of outlets across South Australia will offer parents of every baby born the opportunity to receive a free reading pack. This will contain a new book written, illustrated and published by South Australians plus supporting material from the Public Libraries of South Australia.

- Each month, The Advertiser will promote a range of books selected by an expert panel that are based on the developmental stages of babies and toddlers.

- The State Library through its Public Library Services division (Plain Central Services) will support the Public Libraries network in continuing to offer support for parents by way of advice and information, access to their existing children's collections and regular storytelling sessions.

- An ongoing and extensive media and public relations campaign will continue to raise awareness.

Getting involved

There are two major ways in which publishers; writers and illustrators can be involved in the Little Big Book Club.

New work: To be selected for the initial free book that will be published and distributed at the beginning of each year. A minimum of 17,500 books will be printed of the one selected title per year.

- A negotiated up front royalty will be offered to the publishers, authors and illustrators.

- The book selected will be exclusively published for the Little Big Book Club in the first 12 months of release and will be offered free as part of a reading pack distributed throughout South Australia. After this 12-month period, the publisher will be free to reprint for release into the trade at their cost and under their contractual arrangements with the author and illustrator.

- A minimum of 2 copies will be distributed to each of the 138 public libraries in South Australia.

- The unit cost must be under \$5 (inclusive of GST) per book. The cost must include publisher, author and illustrator fees, printing, freight and all other associated charges.

Monthly titles: existing or new releases which will provide a guide as to what to read to children under the age of 4 years. Publishers will be invited on a regular basis to submit existing titles to the selection committee for consideration.

Conclusion

Many literacy programs have been tried over the years with varying success. One of the major stumbling blocks has and continues to be the consistency, sustainability and top of mind awareness with parents. This is particularly true for those parents who, for whatever reason, have not had books in their own lives.

With the long-term commitment of the State Government, *The Advertiser* and the Public Libraries of South Australia, The Little Big Book Club will be a high profiled and multi-pronged approach to encouraging parents to read to their children.

The Little Big Book Club offers South Australian publishers, authors and illustrators unique opportunities to increase sales and promotion of their work.



**South Australia
Reads Together**

Dear Writers,

Some of you may already be aware that a scheme has begun in South Australia to distribute books to new families in South Australia. I am attaching the expression of interest that was used this year for your further information.

Omnibus Books won the tender in this first round to create the book and we are pleased and proud that local writer, Phil Cummings and local illustrator Greg Holfeld were chosen by the committee to create the title, *Baby Baby*.

We are now in the final stages of production and the book is looking wonderful.

The committee is now seeking expressions of interest for the book to be published in 2007 and therefore I would like to propose that any creator interested in submitting a manuscript to Omnibus for this project should consider this now. We are aware that what the committee look for is text suitable for 0-1 age children and their parents, which is a very difficult picture book to create! Simple text that focuses on the baby, the family and their Australian or South Australian environment is considered suitable.

If you'd like to chat with me about this please do. The tender is open only to South Australian writers and Illustrators so the field is quite narrow.

I'd love to see anything you'd like to submit, as soon as possible.

Best wishes

Dyan Blacklock

Publisher/General Manager

Omnibus Books

335 Unley Road Malvern SA 5061

ph: (08) 84258300

Youth Biz ...

The Program ...

in partnership with the ABC's national youth network, triple j have collaborated on a special initiative to establish the J Arts Crew. Contact SA's Lachlan Tetlow-Stuart: lachlan@theprogram.net.au if you have any upcoming events that might be of interest. More info at www.theprogram.net.au/

Poet in Residence

Vibewire is offering poets between the ages of 15 and 30 the opportunity to have your work read by one of Australia's preeminent poets, Michael Farrell, and featured online for one month as our next Poet in Residence! All you have to do is send us a selection of three of your best unpublished poems to create@vibewire.net, along with a brief biographical note (100 words maximum). Please attach all submissions as Word documents (.doc) or Rich Text Format (.rtf) documents, and put "Poet in Residence Submission" in your email subject line. More info at www.vibewire.net Deadline: 27 October.

Australian Young Poets Fellowship

An opportunity for outstanding young poets to make their work known and to further their skills by working with experienced mentors. Entrants must be 18–30 years (on 31 December 2005). Winners receive:

- a 6-month mentorship, Jan–July 2006,
- publication in *Five Bells*, the national Poets Union journal of poetry,
- accommodation and travel assistance for the Wollongong Poetry Workshops held 12–19 January, 2006;
- publication & reading at the the Australian Poetry Festival (Sydney).

Submit a poetry manuscript of 150 lines or less. It may be a single long poem or a series of shorter poems that can stand alone or be thematically linked. Entry fee \$10. Deadline: 11 November, 2005. Call (02) 9818 5366 or email info@poetsunion.com

Expressmedia

Got your own writing exercise that's a sure way to literary brilliance? Send it in and if it rocks Newsletter Editor Sarah Murphy's world, then you could win yourself a neat little publication in the next Writing Exercise section of the Express Media newsletter! For info email: generalmanager@expressmedia.org.au or go to www.expressmedia.org.au/

Tribal Rites Literary Fiction Award

A competition for edgy authors who have found no outlet for their particular style. The editors are dedicated to the promotion and publication of post-modern & cutting-edge writing, created as a vehicle that takes otherwise rejected and neglected ideas to a worldwide readership tired of the conventional and humdrum. Open to emerging and unpublished* authors, urban, youth or any subculture—whether above or underground—will find its niche here. Stories should be no more than 3000 words. 1st prize \$500, and ten of the most conceptual entries will showcase in *Stagefrite* magazine to be circulated amongst local and overseas literary agents. Entry fee: \$15. Deadline: 30 November. For more information email: tribalritespublishing@yahoo.co.uk
*unpublished means no payment has been received for work, e.g. submissions to zines, magazines and other electronic format.

Western Union Young Writers Writing Competition

Submit stories and poems in the following categories: 10 years and under (max. 1000 words); 11–14 years (max 2000 words); 15–18 years (max. 3000 words). First prize \$50, 2nd prize \$20. Entry fee \$2. An Imagination Creation trophy for the best class/school collection of stories/poems is also available. Deadline: 31 December. Guidelines available at the SA Writers' Centre. For more info contact Margaret Campbell (03) 9741 3577 or email margaretc@optusnet.co.au

Noise ...

is a medi-based arts initiative that profiles artists under 25 years. Submit art of all forms, all year round for the opportunity to be exhibited across TV, radio, in print, online and more. Categories include: Music, words (spoken or written), photography, industrial/object/fashion design, pictures, moving pictures etc. To get involved complete a submission form (available at the SAWC or via www.noise.net). Attach a portrait image of yourself (photo, drawing, scribble). Include samples of your art (either hard copy or digital versions on CD). Send to Noise, GPO Box 2227, Sydney, NSW, 2001 or via the website. For more info call 1800 080 826 (toll free for land lines), email info@noise.net or go to www.noise.net

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Introduction to Screenwriting

with Chris Tugwell
& industry guest speakers
5th–6th November
at the SA Writers' Centre

A self-contained weekend course
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members \$125
non members \$250



Seaview Press Interviews

Susan Rintoul or Bill Phippard
of Seaview Press

will be available on the first Friday
of the month: 7th October, 4th
November and 1st December to
talk to authors personally about
their manuscripts—specifically
book production and/or editing
and indexing. Seaview Press acts
only for self-publishers. Appoint-
ments at the SAWC of up to an
hour will be free but bookings are
essential.

Please ring 8235 1535 to book or
email susan@seaviewpress.com.au

Opportunities...

NSW Literary Awards

The 2006 nominations are sought for the following awards: Christina Stead (\$20,000) fiction; UTS Award for New Writing (\$5000); Douglas Stewart Prize (\$20,000) nonfiction; Kenneth Slessor Prize (\$15,000) poetry; Patricia Wrightson Prize (\$15,000) children; Ethel Turner Prize (\$15,000) young people; Play Award (\$15,000); Script Writing Award (\$15,000) Screenplay; Prize for Literary Scholarship (\$15,000); Gleebooks Prize (\$10,000) critical writing and the Community Relations Commission for a Multicultural NSW Award (\$15,000). Nomination forms can be downloaded at www.arts.nsw.gov.au or call (02) 9228 5533 email ministry@arts.nsw.gov.au

Bright Light Multimedia Writing Competition

Based on the theme 'True Love', submit articles and short stories (300-800 words) or poems (to 50 lines). First prize \$100 + Bright Light product. All finalists will be published on the website and considered for future commercial product release. Entry fee \$5. Deadline: 31 December. Guidelines at www.brightlightmultimedia.com

Bright Light Café

A free online entertainment portal where writers can submit unpublished work for possible showcasing and inclusion in future commercial projects. Submitted material must be ultimately positive and heartwarming. Submission guidelines at www.brightlightmultimedia.com/BLCafe

Graduate Diploma in Community Cultural Development

Community-based arts practice for artists, project managers, local government, Youth & Community Service Workers & educators. Develop the skills and knowledge to work as a community artist or coordinator of community cultural development programs. Distance learning is available. Entry is not restricted by formal education. Deadline for applications 18 November 2005. Enquiries to Community Arts Network SA Inc.
234a Sturt Street Adelaide, SA 5000
Phone (08) 8231 0900,
SA Country Freecall 1800 245 678,
Email: training@cansa.net.au
Website: www.cansa.net.au

David T K Wong Writing Fellowship

provides £25,000 to enable a fiction writer who wants to write in English about the Far East to spend a year in the UK, at the University of East Anglia in Norwich. Deadline: 31 January 2006. Entry fee £10 (sterling). For all details and an application form please visit www.uea.ac.uk/eas/fellowships/wong/wong.shtml

David T K Wong Prize For Short Fiction

Unpublished stories are welcome from writers world-wide but must incorporate one or more of International PEN's ideals as set out in its Charter. The prize also hopes to help raise funds for individual centres. Entries should be submitted via the entrant's local PEN Centre. First prize is £7,500. Further details at www.internationalpen.org.uk

Wild & Woolley Prize For Best Self-Published Book 2005

Deadline: 28 October. Prize of \$500 will be awarded to the best book self-published between 1 September 2004 and 31 August 2005 by an Australian writer in each of the following categories: Fiction, Poetry, Biography/Autobiography/Memoir/Family History, Children's/Young Adult, Nonfiction General, History/Local History. For entry forms, call (02) 9555 9757 or go to www.nswwriterscentre.org.au.

Birds of the Adelaide Plains Poetry Competition

Deadline: 15 January. Winners will be announced during the Adelaide Plains Cup Festival, March 2006 and included in an anthology. Entry is open to everyone. Categories include: adults; over 12-15 years and up to 12 years. Entry fee \$10 for the first entry (includes membership of Adelaide Plains Poets), \$3 for subsequent entries. Guidelines and entry forms are available from Carolyn Cordon 85272412, gracar@twpo.com.au

Wanted:

A writer interested in listening to and typing/editing some audio tapes of a life-story. This very interesting story is by an 84-year old woman who emigrated from Hungary in the 1950s. Suit retired writer. Call the SAWC 8223 7662.

Writer for Women's Erotica Website

Writers are required for a proposed website focusing on romantic and erotic fiction aimed at women. The editors want a broad spectrum of material catering to as many styles, tastes and subjects as possible within the scope of positive erotica for women. All applicants must be 18+, and stories should be original, not previously published and no longer than 2000 words. Writers will receive a 3 day subscription to The Erotic Woman and \$5 per story. The website will be subscription based, with the aim of creating an online community of women who can share, express and explore their sensual and sexual sides. The launch date is set for the 1st of November, but there will be an ongoing need for writers. Email stories to: theeroticwoman@psyberlounge.com

Writer(s) Wanted ...

for New Online Project which treats human sexuality, in all of its manifestations, in a mature and intelligent manner. The editor is looking for someone who is genuinely interested in the subject matter, can produce entertaining and informative copy quickly, would like to be fairly heavily committed to the project for the next few months, and then, less intensively, on a continuing basis thereafter. For more information on this position and rates of pay email WarrenBlock@bigpond.com.au

Pixel Papers Submissions

Contributions of verse, short stories, first chapters, articles, reviews, news and views, letters and articles on stage and screen are welcome for PP33. Send them in the body of an e-mail—no attachments, please. Graphics such as poem, story or book cover illustrations are also welcome. More info at www.iinet.net.au/~pixpress/

IP Picks 2006

An annual national competition is seeking unpublished manuscripts. In addition to royalty publication contracts for the winners in Best Fiction, Creative Nonfiction and Poetry, a fourth category—Best First Book—will be offered this year. Deadline: 1 December, 2005. Further info available at www.ipoz.biz/ip/ip_picks.htm, or send an SASE to IP, Treetop Studio, 9 Kuhler Court, Carindale 4152.

Patrick White Playwrights' Award

\$20,000 prize is offered for a full-length unproduced play written by an Australian playwright of 20 years of age or over. The winner will be announced during the Sydney Writers' Festival in May 2006, when the winning play will be given a public reading at STC. Entry forms available at 02 9250 1700 or email bwhite@sydneytheatre.com.au Deadline: 21 November, 2005.

Prose and Poetry Prizes 2005

sponsored by The New Writer magazine, is one of the major annual international competitions for short stories, novellas, single poems, poetry collections, essays and articles; offers cash prizes as well as publication for the prize-winning writers in The Collection. Deadline: 31 October 2005. Further info at www.thenewwriter.com/prizes.htm

Positive Words ...

is seeking submissions of poetry and short stories. The theme for December is 'Curiosity'. For further info send SSAE to the Editor to the Editor, Sandra Lynn Evans, 466 Old Melbourne Road, Traralgon 3844, Victoria.

Writers' Raffle For Victims Of Katrina.

Raffle prizes—seeking donations of manuscript appraisals by qualified writers, books etc. Proceeds go to the US Red Cross (to help the human victims) and the Humane Society of the US (to help the animal victims). Tickets cost \$5 each and entries close 1 November 2005. For more info email asti8@bigpond.com

Call for Poems

Damn good coffee. Who killed Laura Palmer? The owls are not what they seem. Seeking poems that relive the weirdness and wonder of David Lynch's Twin Peaks for an exciting chapbook anthology. Deadline: 30 November, 2005. Published contributors will receive a copy of the chapbook as payment. Guidelines and online contribution form at <http://zoo.f2s.com/privatepress>



Australian Script Centre ...

is calling for unpublished contemporary performance scripts to promote in 2006/7 through their website, subscribers and the upcoming publication Collection #6. Deadline: 11 November, 2005. More info at www.ozscript.org or call 03 6223 4675

Writer Wanted For Teen Fiction Opportunity

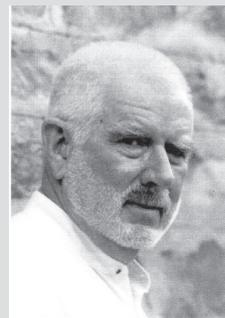
About 10 years ago I designed and wrote a computer game named Azrael's Tear, which was subsequently published in the US, Europe and Australasia. I have the rights to do a book based on the game, which I see as being re-worked as a teen adventure story. I would therefore welcome any genuine expressions of interest from writers previously published in this area. In return, the successful applicant would benefit from an intriguing, well-researched and highly evolved storyline plus an attractive royalty percentage once the book is published. Please contact Ken Haywood at clikcreative@teegee.com.au in the first instance, citing any credentials and previously published material. A search of the Web for information on the Azrael's Tear storyline is recommended before responding.

Cordite Submissions

2005 marks the 62nd anniversary of the death of The Great Dromedary of Australian poetry, Ern Malley. To commemorate this momentous occasion Cordite would like to invite Malley's progeny to submit poems for The Children of Ern Malley edition. Dedicated to celebrating 'No-Man's Language', the Malley edition will feature poems published under noms de Malley (for instance Vivian Malley, Aloysius Malley or plain old Bert Malley). It is worth remembering that Cordite has a preference for poetry that tries to split the infinite. Beyond is anything. Further info at www.cordite.org.au

Queen of Crime Awards

Enter these awards, in honour of Agatha Christie, and you could win \$250 and a perpetual trophy. Submit crime or mystery stories, max. 3000 words by 31 October. Entry fee \$7. Call Meg Hayes for guidelines (02) 9982 2066 or contact the SA Writers' Centre.



Obituary for Ray Stuart

A member of the SA Writers' Centre, Friendly Street Poets and First Draft Writers' Group for over a decade, Ray Stuart was a well-respected poet, and good friend to many. He passed away on September 20, at the age of 66.

Ray was born in Sydney and spent most of his working life in the army, including some years in New Guinea. Since moving to Adelaide in the 1990's, he set up an equestrian centre and a horticultural business. For many years he wrote a monthly column on horticulture.

Although Ray worked hard, he always had time for people, poetry and pleasure. He was convenor of Friendly Street Poets and co-edited their 24th anthology. Ray enjoyed reading his poetry to an audience and could recite poems from memory. He also had a skill for writing 'occasional poems' on demand. Ray liked to share a joke and was well-known for his Viking helmet which he often wore on a night out. Ray's poetry has been widely published. He won the Satura Prize for his poem 'Duty Call' in 1999, and published a collection of poems: *To Fly Again* in 2001.

This month, Ray was due to launch his second book: *High Mountainous Country: No Reliable Information*, a collection of poems, photographs and maps relating to his time spent in New Guinea. Ray's great sense of humour came through in his poetry, especially in poems such as 'Art Critic' and 'The Ultimate Bio'.

The staff and volunteers at the SA Writers' Centre express their condolences to Ray's wife Heather and Ray's children Nicole and Andree and to Heather's children James and Jessica. Ray's visits to the centre always brightened our day. In Ray's honour, we have installed 'The Ray Stuart Poetry Board', a place for poetry to be displayed at the SAWC.

What's On...

Poetica October

Radio National, 729AM, Saturday at 3.05pm and repeated 9.05pm, Thursday.

1st When the Stranger Comes: the poetry of Yannis Ritsos.

8th Selected poems by Janet Frame read by Kerry Fox.

15th August Kleinzahler, one of the leading contemporary poets of San Francisco.

22nd Touched by Winterlight: a feature on Irish poet Susan Connolly.

29th The Earthbound Spirit: a musical interpretation of the Sufi poets, Rumi and Hafiz.

For further details contact Mike Ladd (08) 8343 4928 or visit www.abc.net.au/rn/arts/poetica/

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'Explore our library of ideas, literature and language. You can listen to book readings, poetry and short stories or join Australia's biggest book club and share your thoughts, views and opinions with other literature lovers. Tune into Adelaide 729AM.'

Big Book Club

The Weather Makers by Tim Flannery Text Publishing, was released 26 Sept 2005. The last 10,000 years have been humanity's day in the sun: we planted the first crops, domesticated animals, and built the first civilisations. But all that is about to change. In this groundbreaking and essential new book, Tim Flannery argues passionately for the need to address – now – the implications of a global change that is damaging all life on earth and endangering our very survival. Touring dates: 24–26 October 2005. Events to be confirmed.

Multicultural Writers Association of Australia Inc.

Open Readings: Are you a poet? Do you write short stories? Do you want to share your culture and language? Want to meet new people in a relaxed and casual setting? Come and join us—just for a visit or become a member. First Wednesday of every month: 7–9pm. The next dates are 5 October, 2 November, 7 December. Call 0413 127 211 for more details.

Australian Society of Editors

National conference runs 13–15 October in Melbourne. For more info go to www.socedvic.org/editingincontext

The Hills Poets ...

meet every second Sunday of the month from 3.30 to 5.30 pm at the Crafers Inn, Crafers. The next meeting will be on Sunday 9 October. New poets are always welcome to come and join us and read their work, or if they prefer, to just listen. For enquiries please ring Jill Gower on 8339 5119.

Lizard Lounge

Basement 9-11 Hindley Street Adelaide. Poetry & Spoken Word Evening. Last Thursday of Every Month. All Welcome. Open Mike. Great Atmosphere. Guest Poets to be announced. Call Lauren on (08) 8212 0620 for details or to get involved.

Wednesdays at One

Judy Dally will speak about the books in her life, 2 November, at the Institute Building, corner of North Tce and Kintore Ave from 1pm. A former teacher and member of the SAWC board, she has been a regular reader at Friendly Street for the last 16 years. She has tutored children with learning difficulties, become a member of the Tutti Ensemble Choir and is currently working for the Tutti Arts Centre. She has published three collections of poetry.

Adelaide Plains Poets Inc

We are a new group of people gathered together to further the growth of poetry and filling a gap for those in the Northern Adelaide Plains Region wanting to explore poetry without travelling too many kilometers. We will meet on a monthly basis at a variety of locations in the Northern Adelaide Plains – Mallala & Wakefield Districts. We will be having workshops, critique groups and guest speakers, as well as a 'Poem of the Month' in Mallala's Crossroad Chronicle and possibly a monthly newsletter for members. We will also be running a poetry competition – winners will be announced during the Adelaide Plains Cup Festival. Contact Carolyn Cordon for more info on 85272412; email gracar@twpo.com.au

Malden Folk Festival

28–31 October, Victoria. Events include spoken word, performance and theatre, song writing competition, workshops and kid's stuff. More info at www.maldonfolkfestival.com

Sturt Summer School

3–8 January 2006, Mittagong, NSW. Courses for adults and children including Creative Writing with Susan Varga and Anne Coombs, authors of the journal/travelogue, *Broometime*, who will help you to put words on the page whether your interest is fiction, memoir or creative nonfiction. Other workshops include illustration, bookbinding, poetry, calligraphy and much more. Bookings and enquiries call 02 4860 2083 or go to www.sturt.new.edu.au

Convergence 2,

the 46th Australian National SF&F Convention, will be held in Melbourne, 8–11 June 2007. Guests of Honour Isobelle Carmody and Margaret Mahy will explore the convention's theme, 'The Person Books Built'. Focusing on Young Adult genre literature, professionals working within the genre as well as fans are sure to find something to suit their interests. Featuring the Ditmar Awards, the Australian SF Achievement Awards. Cost: AUD\$153. Concessional, student and supporting rates available. Credit card facilities available. More information at www.natcon.org.au/2007 or contact convergence@natcon.org.au

Book Launches

Gwenda Harslett Jeffrey's

book for young children,
illustrated by Alan Williamson and
produced by Seaview Press,
will be launched by Ralph Hood
at Waverley Homestead, Willunga
(near the golf course)
11am Monday 3 October, Labour Day

...

An invitation to attend the launch of

Janice Madden's

latest book,
Just a Girl From Crewe
2pm, Saturday 22 October
Migration Museum
82 Kintore Ave, Adelaide.
Guest speaker, Kim Hebenstreit,
Principal Thebarton Senior College.

Congratulations...

Fabienne Bayet-Charlton's book, *Watershed*, was launched by Kate Grenville at the Age Melbourne Writers' Festival in August.

Aidan Coleman's collection of poems, *Avenues and Runways*, was published by Brandl & Schlesinger and launched last month at the SAWC.

David Cookson has had the following short stories, 'Henry' and 'In the Wind' and a poem, 'Raptor' broadcast on Queensland Radio 93.1FM. His short stories 'Snapper' and 'The Gate' have appeared online in *Skive* and the short story, 'Caravanserai' won second prize in a recent Positive Words comp.

Mike Dumbleton was a recipient of a 2005 Minister's Award for Outstanding Contribution to Improving Literacy. The award ceremony was at the Art Gallery of New South Wales during National Literacy and Numeracy Week, and incorporated recognition of Mike's children's books and educational publications in addition to his work as a teacher and curriculum developer over an extended period of time.

M.L. Emmett's poems, 'War', 'You', 'Past Idyll', 'A Poet of Form was Lynette' and 'One Winter inside by the Heater', were published in *Yellow Moon* #17. 'We are such Stuff...' and 'Only a Sentence' were published in *Mozzie*, August.

Yaritji Green appeared on the following panels at the National Young Writers' Festival, Newcastle: Cultural Misappropriation, Hybrid Australia; Creative Writing in Institutions; It was all just a dream... The End. and Sci Fi and Fantasy: why the taboo?

Richard Inwood's story, 'Yabbies', won the Southern Write Short Story Competition.

Erica Jolly's poem, 'Flower for Friendship', from her collection *Pomegranates*, Lythrum Press, has been included in *Australian Artists and Writers for Peace* published online by The Thylazine Foundation for Arts, Ethics and Literature at www.thylazine.org/peace/ Her poem, 'Responses to a Bilateral Arthroscopy', has been included in 'Journeys to Here', (#6, 8/05) of *The Other Side*, edited by Sarah Berry in Melbourne. Her article, 'Poetry and Science in Education', was printed in *Five Bells*, Winter 2005.

Jane Jolly's children's story, *66 Letters less Spaces*, was a Finalist in 'The Winnies', Children's Literature Competition 2005.

Adeeb Kamal Ad-Deen's piece, 'Theft', will be published in *Southerly* (1,06)

David Mortimer's poem, 'Cappuccino Motivation', was published in *The Peninsula*, Sept 05, and his letter, 'The Lungs of Cheltenham' was printed in the *Adelaide Review*, 2-15 Sept 05. His collection of poems, *Red in the Morning*, has been published by Bookends Books and will be launched by Ioana Petrescu in November.

Norman MacLucas received two 1st prizes for his poems, 'Sun's a Paint Brush' and 'One Hour'; 2nd prize for 'Album Cemetery' and a Highly Commended for his poem, 'The Lonely'.

Alma Iris Ramirez's short story, 'Lozar', appeared in *Bonzer* (Sept) and her column, 'In Other Words', begins next month at www.bonzer.org.au Her short story, 'The Phenomenon', has been published on the University of Texas website 12 September, 2005.

Graham Rowlands's poems, 'S' and 'The Reddish Brick Flats' were published in *Kalimat* (Sept) and his poem, 'With' was published in *The Mozzie* (13,8). He judged the poetry sections of the CJ Dennis Literary Awards 2005.

Alice Shore's poem, 'It's all in the mind, you know', was awarded a merit certificate in the 2005 Memorial Competition section of the Leeton Eisteddfod.

Anne-Marie Smith's nonfiction article, 'Metropolitan, moi ...?' was accepted by *skivemagazine.com* for its online October publication.

Ruth Starke's YA novel, *Orphans of the Queen*, is currently shortlisted for the Queensland Premier's Literary Awards, Best Children's Book.

Jared Thomas's novel, *Sweet Guy*, IAD Press, was launched by Che Cockatoo-Collins at the Age Melbourne Writers' Festival in August.

Jo Vabolis's short film, *Blossom*, (written as part of her studies in The Advanced Diploma of Arts at AIT) has been selected for production by the Screen Production students from AIT Arts.

Joan Vandewerdt had an article on Waddesdon Manor, UK published

If you've had publishing success, let us know! Please supply your information for the Brag File page in writing or by email by the 15th of the month - admin@sawriters.on.net

in *Reflections*, Aug-Oct 2005, the magazine of the NSW National Trust.

Zenda Vecchio's short story, 'Cat in the Window' was published in *Studio 99*.

Kurt von Trojan's short story, 'Becoming Francis', was published in *Positive Words* (August).

Marianne Vreugdenhil came equal second in the Marian Eldridge Awards for aspiring women writers; her short story, 'Games', will be published in Issue 2 of *Page Seventeen*; and her poem, 'A Brave Borrower of Books', was published in *Positive Words* (July).

rob walker's poem, 'Speech of parts', was selected by Les Murray from *Friendly Street's* anthology, *Blur*, for *Best Australian Poems 2005* (to be published by Black Inc in October) and 'Mitchell Park 2000' for *Quadrant*. His work 'ovine soliloquy, stonehenge' was read (September 3) on ABC Radio National's *poeticA* for National Poetry Week. The following poems were published on the OutOfOrder poetry website: 'This had a brilliant title which i've forgotten', 'On watching television Rugby', 'My Verona', 'Drama in Real Life' and 'shucked as an oyster'. rob won equal first in Open Word: National Poetry Week Open Poetry Competition at the SAWC reading 'This had a brilliant title which i've forgotten' and 'The Mouth'.

Jill Wherry's poem, 'Shopping for a Bra is Hell', was commended and published in the latest edition of *Yellow Moon* (#17, Winter, 2005). She was the SA Bush Poetry Performance champion at the Stumpy Festival. The three poems performed were: 'Recovery', 'Shopping for a Bra is Hell', and 'Hooves'.

Georgia Xenophou's poem, 'Ayers Rock' was translated and published in the *World Poet's Quarterly* (China).

The following authors were part of the 2005 Books Alive Great Read Guide: **Lian Hearne**, **Sara Douglass** and **Angela Goode** (an Australian Government initiative which listed 50 remarkable books to sink your teeth into).

Literary Competitions...

19 October 2005
 Yellow Moon, Nutshell 18.
 Categories: A. Cinquain, 1st prize \$70; B. Poem to 24 lines, theme: wood, fire, earth, metal, water, 1st prize \$80; C. Humorous/nonsense poem to 24 lines, 1st prize \$70; D. Tetractys, 1st prize \$60. Entry fee \$5. Guidelines at www.yellowmoon.info.

20 October 2005
 Wannabee Annual Poetry Competition. Open theme to 30 lines. Entry fee \$6.60. 1st prize \$300 + publication. More info at www.wannabee.com.au

24 October 2005
 Gawler Poetry Competition. No entry fee. Sections: Adult, 1st prize \$100; Youth (to 17 years), 1st prize \$50; Junior (to 12 years), 1st prize \$20.

30 October 2005
 Yellow Moon, Search for a Sonnet. Sections: A. Shakespearean, B. Petrarchan. 1st prize \$100. Entry fee \$5 or 3 for \$12. Guidelines at www.yellowmoon.info

31 October 2005
 Positive Words Christmas Short Story & Poetry Competition. Stories to 500 words, poetry to 32 lines. Sections for junior writers. Entry fee \$2.50. For info send

- ☺ indicates a competition listed for the first time
- ★ indicates a competition with sections for young writers
- ☞ indicates the SA Writers' Centre holds the entry forms

As a service to members, the SAWC holds entry forms and guidelines. 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.

If you have any queries about competitions and/or vanity publishing please contact the SAWC. There are some basic guidelines available.

SSAE to Sandra Lynn Evans, 466 Old Melbourne Rd, Traralgon 3844, VIC.

31 October 2005
 The New Writer magazine Prose and Poetry Prizes. International competition based in UK which publishes short stories, novellas, single poems, poetry collections, essays and articles. More info at www.thenewwriter.com

1 November 2005
 Writing Right Short Story Competition. Any genre. 1500 words max. 1st prize \$250 and selected entries will be published in an anthology to be launched at the Writest conference in Kapunda. More details at dyo@ozemail.com.au or call 8332 6085

7 November 2005
 Gwen Harwood Poetry Prize. Submissions of a single poem

or a linked suite to 100 lines. 1st prize \$1500. Entry fee \$12.

25 November 2005
 Whyalla Writers' Group Short Story & Poetry Competition. Theme: Voyage of Discovery. Categories: 1. Short story, adult, max 1500 words, 1st prize \$250; 2. Poetry, adult, max 40 lines, 1st prize \$250; 3. Short story, 12-18yrs, max 1000 words, 1st prize \$100 + \$50 book voucher; 4. Poetry, 12-18yrs, max 25 lines, 1st prize \$100 + \$50 book voucher. Entry fee \$7 & \$5.

30 November 2005
 Society of Women Writers (Tasmania) Writing Competition. 1. Short story to 3000 words. 1st prize \$500. Entry fee \$5. 2. Poetry to 100 lines. 1st prize \$500. Entry \$5. More info at www.lilydaletas.net/comgrps/SWWW/

30 November 2005
 Libbon Writing Competition. Short original fiction, max 2500 words. Winners receive cash prizes and publication in Libbon magazine. More details at www.libbon.co.uk

2 December 2005
 Inner City Life Literary Competition. Categories: 1. Short Story, max 500 words; 2. Poetry, max 20 lines. Entry \$5. 1st prize \$100 + book voucher and winners will be published in *village voice*. More info, email nswwc@nswwriterscentre.com.au or call 02 9555 9757.

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Books in my Life

by Ruth Starke



I was in Tanunda recently, talking about my books to the kids at the Lutheran Primary School, and on my way home was irresistibly drawn to the wonderfully named bookshop in the main street: The Raven's Parlour. It's a beauty: tables of books, comfortable chairs, scattered bookcases, hand-written recommendations, secondhand books in a backroom.

While browsing, I got into conversation with the proprietor, who was still in shock from the recent widely publicized confession of Victoria Beckham that she'd never read a book in her life. How did such a person, she wondered, get through daily life? "I don't leave

home without a book in my bag,' she said. 'I wouldn't dream of getting on a bus without a book; I don't go to bed without a book.'

I thought it unlikely that Mrs Beckham ever travelled by public transport, and wasn't sure I'd take a book to bed, either, if I had David Beckham to snuggle up with, but I was able to tell her that I had it on good authority that Victoria, when travelling or at the hairdresser's, does read fashion magazines – or possibly just looks at the pictures. And also that, in the wave of shock/horror that had followed her remark in Britain, she'd amended her statement: she had started many books, she said;

she'd just never finished one.

Poor Victoria, I thought, never to have been so swept along in the grip of an exciting story that ordinary life is rendered colourless and irrelevant. Sometimes these days the only thing that gets me through a dull dinner party, wearying social event or tiresome play is the thought that in an hour or two I'll be home and tucked up in bed with a book I'm dying to get back to. But I concede that Victoria Beckham's life may be a tad more glamorous than mine.

I've always been captive to the pull of a good story and I remember very clearly when I finished one under my own steam. In Grade 2 at Unley Infant School my teacher was reading aloud Leslie Rees's *Digit Dick on the Barrier Reef* to the class; it was the highlight of my school day. Dick is a tiny boy, only as big as his mother's big toe (hence the name), and in tense daily instalments we were following his fate as he goes to a sea party under the Reef with Miss Nautilus where, among other nail-biting adventures, he's swallowed by a shark and shot out of the spout of a whale. Leslie Rees wrote the book after a stay on Hayman Island in 1942 and the book went on to sell 350,000 copies.

In later adventures, Dick goes to Tasmania searching for a Tasmanian Devil and to WA for black swans; he stows away in the Flying Doctor's bag to search for lost opals and survives the evil attentions of a witchdoctor and his lizard.

They were very Australian

stories, and – apart from the Magic Pudding and a brief dabble in the Billabong books – the only ones I can remember from a childhood reading otherwise dominated by books from the northern hemisphere. I was devastated when I had to change schools before the story was finished.

On my last day, teacher kindly allowed me to read ALL THE REST OF THE BOOK by myself. In retrospect, the fact that I could do this in Grade 2 is surprising; I don't think I was a natural reader. I certainly remember my parents struggling to help me make sense of words on the page and how I would gaze around the room, rather than at the page, for inspiration. 'Window?' I would guess. 'Door, bedspread?'

Perhaps my desire to read the end of *Digit Dick* was the catalyst for launching me as a fully fledged reader: it certainly raised my stakes in the playground as my classmates begged to be told the denouement of the story.

Literacy was a power worth having, I realized and, in retrospect, an excellent lesson in story-telling. Keep your readers in suspense: create strong, appealing characters; build up to a good climax and a satisfying ending. I'm seriously thinking of sending Victoria Beckham a copy of *Digit Dick on the Great Barrier Reef*.

Ruth Starke was a guest speaker for the Friends of the State Library (7 September 2005), where she spoke about the books in her life.

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October 2005**

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