

southern

write

Newsletter of the SA Writers' Centre Inc

September 2009

Pizza with Neal Porter

The SA Writers' Centre will be having a pizza and wine evening for published authors with award-winning US-based children's book editor Neal Porter on Tuesday 6th October from 6.30pm.

Neal has been in and around the book publishing industry for more than 30 years. After a brief stint in the college textbook department of St Martin's Press he moved into trade publishing, where he held marketing positions at Avon Books, Farrar, Straus and Giroux, Atheneum and Scribner. In that capacity he worked with authors Madeleine L'Engle, Natalie Babbitt, William Steig, E. L. Konigsberg, Susan Cooper, among others. In 1985 he became Editorial Director of Aladdin Books at Macmillan and in 1987 he moved

to London to become Joint Managing Director of Walker Books. He returned to the US in 1989 as Vice-President and Publisher of Macmillan Children's Books and subsequently held executive positions at Orchard Books and Dorling Kindersley. In 2000 he helped to found Roaring Brook Press, where he is currently Editorial Director of Neal Porter Books.

Among the Australian authors he has published are Margaret Wild, Ron Brooks, Ursula Dubosarsky and Gregory Rogers King. Books he has edited have won numerous citations, including the Boston Globe-Horn Book Award, two Caldecott Honors, two Theodore Geisel Honors, a Seibert Honor for Nonfiction, the Sugarman Award for Biography and 22 ALA Notable Book Citations.

Please note that the evening with Neal Porter is for published authors only.

If you're an aspiring writer you can hear Neal as part of the seminar 'Writing for Children' with literary agent Nanette Halliday and author Christine Harris at the Centre on Saturday 10th October.

For more details please turn to page 4.

Cost, including wine and pizza:

\$55 for SAWC members
or \$77 for non-members.

Bookings essential: 8223 7662.

sawriters@sawc.org.au or www.sawc.org.au

SA Writers' Festival

The 2009 SA Writers' Festival promises a wonderful mix of wordplay, wine, food, sculpture and music. Once again the SA Writers' Centre is proud to be a partner in this great event.

The SA Writers' Festival is a celebration of South Australian creativity that flows as richly as wine. The Festival showcases writers of many genres and backgrounds, whose words thrill, amuse, inform and give voice to our own thoughts and feelings.

Join us during this eagerly awaited week in September as an excellent group of South Australian writers share their stories and writing secrets and inspire us anew, in a region where wonderful food, wine and art are nurtured for us all to enjoy.

Bronwen Webb
SAWC Chair



The Wirra Wirra Festival Day on Sunday 13 September offers a smorgasbord of delights and opens at 11am by the

launch of the 2009 Wirra Wirra Short Story Anthology. This is followed at noon with a panel discussion entitled 'Fact or Fiction'. At 1pm Omnibus Books publisher Dyan Blacklock will talk about the environmental and ethical issues of having books printed in China. The following session at 1.50pm, The Young Mob, will be chaired by Jared Thomas and will introduce four young Aboriginal writers: Tiffany Collins, Dillon Kite, Brenton Ezra McKenna and Juanella McKenzie. At 2.30pm, crime writer and Festival Special Guest Jennifer Rowe (aka Emily Rodda, who has been described as

the Australian J. K. Rowling) will deliver the Anne-Marie Mykyta Lecture – 'The Importance of Not Being Earnest'. 'The First Book' panel discussion will follow at 3.20pm, followed by the launch at 4pm of *Womanspeak* by Jude Aquilina and Louise Nicholas (Wakefield Press, 2009). The Festival Day program closes at 4.30pm.

A return bus service from the city to Wirra Wirra is available for those who do not wish to drive. Turn to page 5 for more details.

October issue *Southern Write*
Copy deadline:
5pm, 15 September 2009

Email material to: comms@sawc.org.au
Post to: 'Attention Editor', PO Box 43,
Rundle Mall, Adelaide 5000.

Centre Information

Contributions

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

- **Adeeb Kamal Ad-Deen**, *Forty Poems About the Letter*, (Arabic text) Azminah, 2009.
- **Elia Vasilie Apostol**, *Eros: Poems Written May to June*, 2009.
- **Astrid Cooper**, *Starlight*, eXtasy Books, 2009.
- **Tess Driver** for *Moon in the Mirror: Poetry of Maureen Vale*, 2009.
- **John Endersby**, *Monsters in the Dark: A True Story*, Trafford Publishing, 2009.
- **Express Media**, *Voiceworks*, issue no. 77, Winter, 2009.
- **Jo Fiedler**, *Cauliflower Conspiracy: Advice and Recipes for Parents of Fussy Eaters*, One Goat Creative, 2007; Greg Knagge, **Jo Fiedler**, Shane Devries, *I Only Like Toast*, One Goat Creative, 2008.
- **The Mozzie**, vol. 17, no. 6, July, 2009.
- **Miles Trench**, *Holistic Gardening: The Five Principles of Success*, 2008.
- **Wakefield Press** for **Cath Kenneally's** *Jetty Road*, Wakefield Press, 2009, **Joel Magarey's** *Exposure: A Journey*, Wakefield Press, 2009, and **Marie Steiner's** *Servants Depots in Colonial South Australia*, Wakefield Press, 2009.
- **Amelia Walker** for *Para West Poetry: Poems by the Students of Para West Adult Campus*, 2009.
- **Margaret Walker**, *Secret Cook's Business: Generations of Kitchen Wisdom*, 2009.
- **Seaview Press, West Press** and the **SAWC** for the anthology *Gateways*, 2009.

I love deadlines. I like the whooshing sound they make as they fly by.

– Douglas Adams

Our Thanks

Thanks to Jade Carrick, Betty Collins, Jenny Cumming, Jo Dey, Coie and John Dikkenberg, Joanna Goldsworthy, Catherine Jones, Irena LeMaire, Kristina Lupp, Hakim Oerton, Gay Sanderson and Joel Shayer for their assistance in mailing the August 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

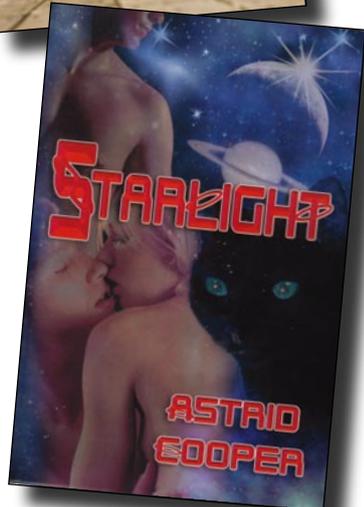
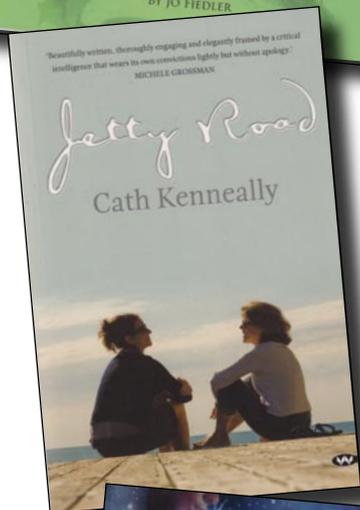
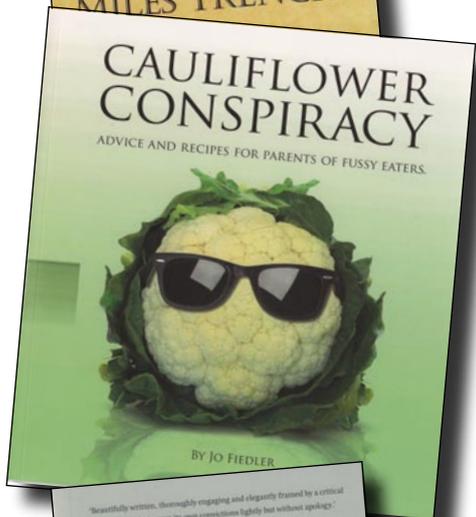
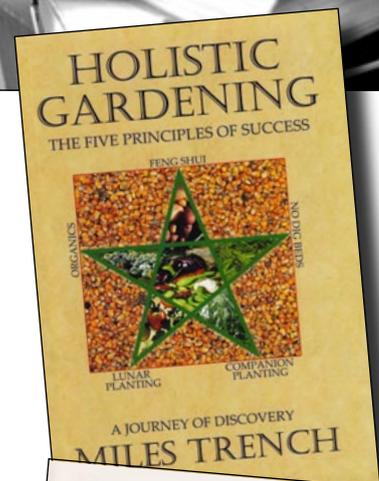
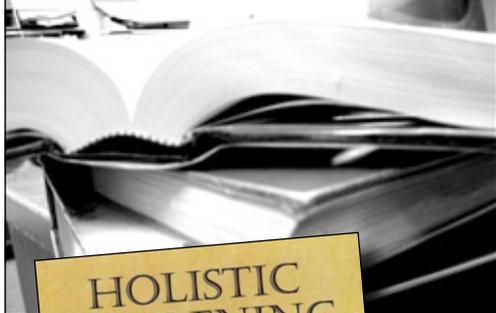
Wheelchair access to the SA Writers' Centre is available at the 26 York Street rear entrance. Alternatively, come in from Rundle Street via Caffè Brunelli, proceed towards the toilets and take the door to your left to reach the lift.



SA Writers' Centre Life Members

- Max Fatchen
- Gillian Rubinstein/Lian Hearn

Thanks to SAWC sponsor:





Workshops and Events



Australian Filmmakers' Forum: Crosspollinating Your Screenplay from Story to Stage to Screen.

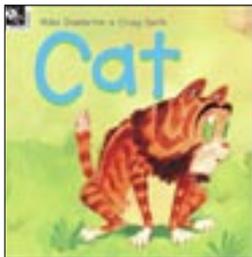
**1-5.30pm Sunday 6 September, The Barrel Room,
Wirra Wirra Vineyards, McLaren Vale**

Join Andrew Bovell, writer of *Strictly Ballroom*, *Lantana* and *When the Rain Stops Falling*, Vincenzo Cerami, writer of *Life is Beautiful*, Anna Maria Monticelli, writer-producer of *La Spagnola* and *Disgrace* (original story by J. M. Coetzee) and Sean Riley, writer of *The Angel & the Red Priest* and *The Wife of Bedlam*, to discuss the benefits of developing scripts more collaboratively.

Cost: \$15 per person

Bookings essential: 8232 6852 or sa@awg.com.au

Deadline for registrations: Monday 31 August



The Storybook Walk

**11am Sunday 6 September
Thalassa Park, Windebanks
Road, Aberfoyle Park
Free entry**

This magical sculpture park features popular Australian children's book characters. Amanda Graham's 'Arthur

the Dog' and Mike Dumblenton's 'Cat' will be joining the existing sculptures. The proceedings will be opened by Professor Michael Barber, the Vice-Chancellor of Flinders University and the new sculptures will be unveiled by artists Gerry McMahon and John Wood.



Adult Session on Writing for Children with Sally Heinrich

**2-3pm Monday 7 September
Aldinga Library
Free entry**

This workshop focusses on how to write for children. Sally, the author and illustrator of a wide range of children's books, will provide workshop participants with inspiration and practical knowledge on this subject.

**Bookings essential: www.onkaparingcity.com/libraries
or phone 8384 0053**

Panel Discussion on Writing Grant Applications with Sandra Naulty, Terra Lea Ranson and Georgie Davill.

10-11am Tuesday 8 September

Hub Library

How do writers and artists go about obtaining funding? What grants are available and when? How do you convince the funding body that your project is worthwhile? The panel members, respectively from Arts SA, the City of Onkaparing and the SA Youth Arts Board, will help demystify the process of applying for grants.

**Bookings essential: www.onkaparingcity.com/libraries
or phone 8384 0053**



Growing Your own Food with Lolo Houbein.

**2-3pm Wednesday 9 September
Willunga Library**

The author of *One Magic Square* will present this workshop on the topic of growing your own food on one square metre. With more and more people

feeling concerned about where their food comes from and what they should be eating this workshop is a must.

**Bookings essential: www.onkaparingcity.com/libraries
or phone 8384 0053**



Writing Your Family History with Elizabeth Hutchins.

**2-3pm Thursday 10 September
Noarlunga Library**

With a focus on capturing family memories from those you love, this is not a workshop on genealogy but

rather an opportunity to try your skills at some creative writing and the retelling of stories held dear by your family. Please bring along a treasured object or a photograph to prompt your thinking on the day.

**Bookings essential: www.onkaparingcity.com/libraries
or phone 8384 0053**

Methods of Graphic Storytelling and Working with the Writer's Script with Greg Holfeld

**2-3pm Friday 11 September
Seaford Library**

Greg will help participants deconstruct the methodology behind graphic storytelling and demonstrate how graphic authors work with the writer's text. If graphic novels are for you, or if you know nothing about them and feel that it's time you did, come along.

**Bookings essential: www.onkaparingcity.com/libraries
or phone 8384 0053**

Upcoming Workshops

Seminar: Writing for Children

with Nanette Halliday, Christine Harris and Neal Porter

Saturday 10th October, 10am-1pm

If you write for children, this seminar is an outstanding opportunity to listen to three professionals – a literary agent, an author and a publisher – talk about various aspects, both commercial and creative, of the children's publishing industry.

US-based **Neal Porter** has been in publishing for more than 30 years and the books he has edited have won numerous awards and citations. He has worked with both US and Australian authors, including Natalie Babbitt, Ron Brooks, Susan Cooper, Ursula Dubosarsky, Madeleine L'Engle, Stephen Michael King, E. L. Konigsberg, William Steig, Margaret Wild and many others. In 2000 he co-founded Roaring Brook Press, where he is currently Editorial Director of Neal Porter Books.

Christine Harris has written 50 books, in all genres, for young readers in Australia, New Zealand, France, UK, Italy, Russia, Canada, USA, Thailand, Japan and Brazil. Her books have won and been shortlisted for awards. *Audrey of the Outback* was recently shortlisted for 'Book of the Year, Younger Readers' by the Children's Book Council of Australia and the Western Australian Young Readers' Book Awards. Christine will talk about 'that something special' that sets one book apart from others. What is it that will help and support writers as they struggle to improve their writing and enter the open market, and how do you discover and nurture your own 'secret ingredient'?

Nanette Halliday is a literary agent for children's authors and illustrators and a program coordinator for several children's literature organisations. As such, she has a broad perspective on the many and varied organisations that support the work of children's writers and illustrators. During this session Nanette will discuss literary agencies, government support for children's writers, support from non-government organisations, copyright issues and writers' organisations and networks.

Seminar: \$60 for SAWC members or \$88 for non-members
Bookings: 8223 7662, sawriters@sawc.org.au or www.sawc.org.au

Occasional Verse

with Lyall Chittleborough

Saturday 10th October, 2pm-5pm



Rediscover the practical advantage to the writer – and the great appeal to the reader – of rhyme, rhythm, metre, placement, structure and suspense. These devices can enhance acceptance of a variety of forms such as: writing for children (they love rhyme); lyrics – popular, humorous or serious;

commemorative celebratory verse – weddings, decade birthdays,



Enhancing Your Creativity

with Annie Fox

Saturday 10th October, 10am-1pm

More tips and tools to flex your creative muscles and get your imaginative juices flowing. In a celebration of the senses

Annie will guide you on a journey to

mine your creative landscape for hidden treasures using writing, drawing, journaling, creative visualization, character creation and story making. A playful workshop suitable for all levels of experience.

Annie Fox is a multi-award winning screenwriter, script editor and consultant. Her credits include *Ocean Girl*, *Thunderstone*, *Cybergirl*, *Pirate Islands*, *Wicked Science*, *The Sleepover Club*, *Flipper*, *Blue Heelers*, *Good Guys-Bad Guys*, *State Coroner*, *Something in the Air* and many others. Her shows have been nominated for and received numerous awards.



Writing 'People' Stories

with Claire Halliday

Saturday 10th October, 2pm-5pm

Suitable for anyone seeking a professional feature writing career, or simply researching the stories of their own family, this workshop guides writers through

the important 'who, what, when, where, why and how' of great storytelling, with special emphasis on developing great interview techniques that will help you extract the best story from your subject and inject those magazine and newspaper articles with your own unique writing style.

Claire Halliday is a freelance writer from Melbourne whose work has appeared in national and international newspapers and magazines for over a decade. Her previous books include two collections of interviews with important Australians, *Unsung Heroes* and *The World At Their Feet*. Her most recent book *Do You Want Sex With That?* is a personal account of her own attitudes to sex and also explores the place of sex throughout Australian life.

retirements, significant events, etc; letters to the editor; satire; serious poetry and so on. Learn how to develop endorsement of your ideas and how to stimulate a sense of fun or sober enjoyment of your pieces – earning you requests for more.

Lyall Chittleborough is a lecturer and teacher of many years' experience. He is a commercially published novelist and poet and he has also produced his own publications in these genres. An old hand at creating rhyming verse for special occasions, he believes that creating rhyming verse is an exercise of supplementary value to any author because it demands closer scrutiny of 'synonyms' that are both accurate in meaning and suitably rhyming.

Workshops: \$55 for SAWC members or \$77 for non-members
Bookings: 8223 7662, sawriters@sawc.org.au or www.sawc.org.au

Board's Eye View



SAWC Board Member **Amy Matthews** talks about the dreaded Rejection Rat.

Officially last year was the Year of the Rat. Unofficially, for me, it was the Year of the Rejection Letter, culminating in one rotten week when I received seven of the wretched things. Maybe it wouldn't have been so bad if there had been some successes mixed in, but ultimately I published nothing in 2008. Not a word. Maybe even that wouldn't have seemed so bad if I hadn't been working so hard at it. I wrote more than ever. I sent out letters, synopses, even full manuscripts when they were requested. And they were requested. Requested, read, rejected.

Understandably, I suppose, the rejections brought the demons crawling out from under the bed, and the first one out was Doubt. You're deluded, the snouty, snuffly thing wheezed as I lay awake in the dark. You never had the talent for it. Any past success was crushed by the bulk of Doubt settling into the bed with me. It took most of the blanket and left me cold. When I woke up it was still there; it followed me about, moaning for the rest of the year. When I sat at the computer it shoved its snout over my shoulder and sighed at everything I tried to write. Really? it said. Clumsy sentence, that. I'd type a word and it would snuffle. I erased the word.

It sighed. Soon the cursor, blinking on the blank page, gave me a headache.

I went to my friends' book launches, lugging the fat creature on my back. The authors, glowing like brides, wrote 'You'll be next!' when they signed my copies; you never are, it complained. I tried to shrug it off – I used to catch those best wishes like bridal bouquets, knowing they were written with love – but the horrible thing had its claws in me. Maybe you should quit, it said finally, as we stood at the latest launch, faking cheer.

Quit? If I quit I could spend more time with the kids. I could finally tackle the weeds which had infested my front garden. I could organise my wardrobe, which looked like it had exploded. I could see friends. Think of all the time I would have if I quit writing.

So I tried it. I didn't quite get to the weeds, but I did do a lot of child wrangling, and picked the clothes up off my floor. And I read. I went to the library and came home with an armful of books. I cruised the aisles of the bookstores; I ordered far too many books online. I devoured the complex confection of *Lolita*, rushed headlong into the swirl of *Gone With the Wind*, covered in the darkness of *I am Legend*. I read

everything I could lay my hands on.

And I found my heart skipping a beat as I regarded the rows of books, each one holding an entire world. And then one day, as the Year of the Rat crawled off to its hole and the Year of the Ox came charging in, I found myself back at the computer. And it was fun.

Doubt is still around somewhere, probably under the bed having a nap. Sometimes I can hear her snuffling. What put her back to sleep, you ask? I answered a question. A question I'll ask you now: If you knew you would never get published, would you still write?

Don't get me wrong. I want to be published, and so far the Year of the Ox has been pretty kind to me: I haven't stopped sending out letters and synopses, or entering competitions. But none of that is fun. The fun bit is the writing. The worlds created, the characters met, the stories spun. And you don't need a publisher to do that. So, if you run into me in twenty years and I still haven't been published ask me if I still write.

I hope I say yes.

Gawler Poets would like to express their regret on the news of the death of one of the monthly event's regular readers, Jennifer Jandruwanda. From when she first appeared here, on Sunday April 26, 1998, she quickly became a favourite. Her wit, intelligence and humour were not only fun to listen to, but also provided us with an important insight into modern indigenous life.

Jenny was a guest of the March 28, 1999 readings, a guest of the Gawler Poetry Festival which ran from Friday 19 to Sunday 21, September 2003 and also performed as a guest of the Gawler Gourmet & Heritage Festival during Easter 2004. She will be sadly missed.

Gawler poets
Evanston

Have Your Say! Wirra Wirra Bus

The SA Writers' Centre is conducting an online membership survey to get your views about our organisation. Your input will contribute to the continuous improvement of services we provide, so please make your opinion count and submit it at the latest by Monday 14 September.

A link to the survey web address will be emailed to you shortly. If you have not received the survey or if you're not online and wish to complete it, please contact us on 8223 7662 and we'll send one out with a stamped self-addressed envelope.

Thank you for your cooperation!

Take the bus to and from to the SA Writers' Festival from the Writers' Centre on Sunday 13 September.

Outgoing trip:

9.30am Depart SA Writers' Centre, Rundle Street

10.15am Pick up at Noarlunga train station

10.45am Arrive Wirra Wirra Vineyards, McLaren Vale

Return trip:

4.35pm Depart Wirra Wirra Vineyards, McLaren Vale

5.00pm Drop off at Noarlunga train station

5.40pm Arrive SA Writers' Centre, Rundle Street

Tickets \$15. Bookings 8223 7662.

Literary Awards...

Many readers and quite a few writers think that the current crop of Australian literary awards are irrelevant or out of touch with what many book buyers want, but secretly, deep down, wouldn't we as writers all like to win one? Haven't we imagined ourselves 'doing an Oscars' Night', thanking that long list of people who've helped us get where we are today? But entering and winning are two different things. In some ways, most Australian literary awards are competitions and, like the lottery, you have to be in it to win it. And there are certainly plenty of them. Under the heading 'Awards, Competitions, Fellowships and Grants' *The Australian Writer's Marketplace* lists 231 entries covering all forms of writing and genre. What follows is by no means meant as a comprehensive inventory. Listed below are some of the more prestigious awards.

FOR PUBLISHED WORKS:

PRIME MINISTER'S PRIZE

\$100,000 tax free for fiction and \$100,000 tax free for nonfiction. Authors, publishers and literary agents are eligible to enter books written by living Australian citizens and permanent residents. Books must be first published in the English language and first offered for general sale between 1 January 2008 and 31 December 2008.

MILES FRANKLIN LITERARY AWARD

The winner receives \$42,000 and tours with the shortlisted authors to all Australian states and territories.

BARBARA JEFFERIS AWARD

Offered annually for 'the best novel written by an Australian author that depicts women and girls in a positive way or otherwise empowers the status of women and girls in society'. The Award is paid from the Barbara Jefferis Literary Fund, which was established by a bequest from Barbara Jefferis's husband, ABC film critic John Hinde, who died in 2006. The Australian Society of Authors is Trustee of the Fund. In 2009 the Award is valued at \$35,000.

NATIONAL BIOGRAPHY AWARD

For a published work of biographical or autobiographical writing. The National

Biography Award was established in 1996 to encourage the highest standards of writing biography and autobiography and to promote public interest in those genres. The National Biography Award is administered by the State Library of New South Wales on behalf of the award's benefactors, Geoffrey Cains and Michael Crouch, and is worth \$20,000.

BLAKE DAWSON PRIZE FOR BUSINESS LITERATURE

The range of subjects covered by the Prize includes Australian corporate and commercial literature, histories, accounts and analyses of corporate affairs as well as biographies of business men and women. Worth \$30,000.

NITA B. KIBBLE LITERARY AWARDS: KIBBLE LITERARY AWARD

Awarded annually a prize of \$20,000 for women writers of a published book of fiction or nonfiction classifiable as 'life writing'.

DOBBIE LITERARY AWARD

Annually awarded prize of \$2,500 for a first published work by a woman author of fiction or nonfiction classifiable as 'life writing'. (In association with Perpetual Philanthropic Foundations)

KATHLEEN MITCHELL AWARD

Biennial award of \$7,500 for a novel by an Australian author under 30 years of age. (In

association with Trust as Trustee and Cauz Group Pty Ltd as organiser/administrator).

THE COLIN RODERICK AWARD

The principal Award of the Foundation for Australian Literary Studies. The value of the Award is \$10,000 and the winner also receives the H.T. Priestley Memorial Medal.

CHILDREN'S BOOK COUNCIL OF AUSTRALIA (CBCA) CHILDREN'S BOOK OF THE YEAR AWARD

Awarded in the following CBCA areas: Book of the Year: Older Readers; Book of the Year: Younger Readers; Book of the Year: Early Childhood; Picture Book of the Year; The Eve Pownall Award for Information Books. Prizes of up to \$10,000 per category to the authors and illustrators of winning and honour books.

MELBOURNE PRIZE FOR LITERATURE (Tri-annual)

\$60,000 cash (\$30,000 cash + \$30,000 cash for international travel) for a Victorian based writer whose body of published or produced work i.e. poetry, plays, fiction, nonfiction or essays has made an outstanding contribution to Australian literature and to cultural and intellectual life. Also the Best Writing Award: \$30,000 cash for a piece of published or produced work in any genre by a Victorian writer 40 years and under, which is an outstanding example of clarity, originality and creativity. Civic Choice Award: \$3,000 cash: voted by visiting public to a display

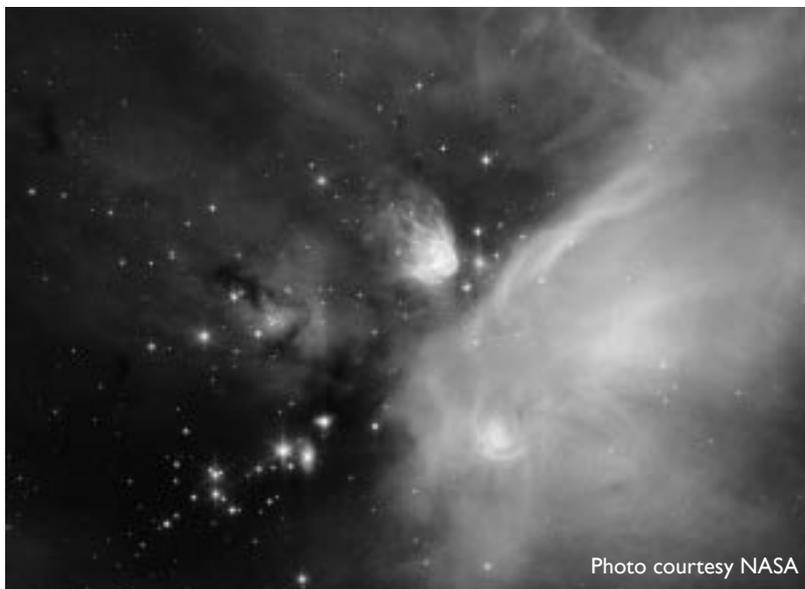


Photo courtesy NASA

...who, what, where, when

of finalists of the Best Writing Award to be held at Federation Square.

PREMIER'S LITERARY AWARDS (SA, WA, NSW, VIC, QLD)

Various categories and cash/publication prizes.

AUSTRALIA-ASIA LITERARY AWARD

For a book-length work of literary fiction written by an author resident in Australia or Asia, or a work primarily set in Australia or an Asian country. Works must have been either written in, or translated into, English and published in the preceding year. First awarded last year – cash prize of \$110,000, administered by WA Department of Culture and the Arts. Currently suspended (due to controversy over absence of WA writers in entries).

INDUSTRY AWARDS FOR PUBLISHED WORKS:

AUREALIS AWARDS

Established in 1995 by Chimaera Publications, the publishers of *Aurealis Magazine*, to recognise the achievements of Australian science fiction, fantasy and horror writers. Intended to complement the Ditmar and the Australian Children's Book Council Awards. Neither of these awards distinguishes between the different categories of speculative fiction. It is hoped that the Aurealis Awards finalists and winners will increase the profile of Australian science fiction, fantasy, and horror, and will provide an essential reading list for anyone with an interest in these genres. No cash.

DITMAR AWARD

The Ditmar Award (formally the Australian SF 'Ditmar' Award and, before that, the 'Australian Science Fiction Achievement Award') is awarded annually at the Australian National Science Fiction Convention (Natcon) to recognise achievement in Australian science fiction (including fantasy and horror) and science fiction fandom. The current categories are: Best Novel; Best Novella or Novelette; Best Short Story; Best Collected Work; Best Artwork; Best Fan Writer; Best Fan Artist; Best Fan Production; Best

Fanzine; Best Professional Achievement; Best Fan Achievement; and Best New Talent. Nominations and voting done by readers/fans, and overseen by the convention committee. Trophies are usually accompanied by a certificate.

THE ROMANCE BOOK OF THE YEAR AWARD

Known as *The Ruby*, voted on by Australian readers, open each year to any Australian or New Zealand romance author who has published a long or short romance novel. Finalists and winners announced in *Woman's Day*. Four categories: Short Sweet Romance; Short Sexy Romance; Long Romance and Romantic Elements.

THE NED KELLY AWARDS FOR CRIME WRITING

Run through the Crime Writers Association of Australia the 'annual Neddies' are awarded for fiction, nonfiction and first fiction. Undisclosed cash prizes.

THE DAVITT

Sponsored by Sisters in Crime Australia and awarded to the best crime novel by an Australian woman published in book form in Australia in the previous year. There are three categories to the Davitt: the best adult novel; the best young fiction book and the Reader's Choice award, voted by members of Sisters in Crime.

AWARDS FOR UNPUBLISHED MANUSCRIPTS:

VOGEL AWARD

For writers under 35 with an unpublished manuscript. Entry fee of \$25. Prize currently \$20,000 plus publication by Allen & Unwin.

EMERALD AWARD FOR THE BEST UNPUBLISHED ROMANCE MANUSCRIPT

Designed to mirror the submission process, entrants initially enter 18 pages to be scored and judged by romance readers. If their entry makes it to the second round, they are asked to submit the full novel. There are two sections for this award: category and single title. Three finalists in each category will then go on to the final judge for placings.

THE HARPER COLLINS VARUNA AWARDS FOR MANUSCRIPT DEVELOPMENT

Provides five new or emerging writers each year with the experience of working closely with a senior in-house editor from HarperCollins Publishers on the development of a manuscript. The manuscripts are selected with a view to publication, but there is no guarantee of publication by HarperCollins.

NSW LITLINK/NORTHERN RIVERS WRITERS' CENTRE UNPUBLISHED MANUSCRIPT AWARD

Inaugurated in 2009, the NSW LitLink is a state-wide literary network, linking the nine Writers' Centres across NSW. Entries to the Award are open to all writers resident in regional NSW, outside the Sydney metropolitan region. Entry fee of \$35 per manuscript, to assist with administration and adjudicating. A shortlist of four to be announced with shortlisted writers to appear at the Byron Bay Writers' Festival 2009, where the winner will be announced in a dedicated session. The shortlisted manuscripts will each be read and considered by Annette Barlow of Allen and Unwin, and the ultimate winner will receive a prize, details of which are to be confirmed shortly.

Parallel Importation Update

Understanding the Productivity Commission's Report and the debate over parallel importation of books can be quite difficult. The issues are complex and have been somewhat muddled by some media commentators. It seems no-one really knows what impact the government's proposed reforms will have, but only Dymocks and some of the other big retailers believe it will lead to cheaper books. If you're looking to better understand the argument against the government's proposals the following link to an article published in *The Age* by Michael Heyward of Text Publishing is a good place to start: <http://www.textpublishing.com.au/news/post/parallel-importation-rules-why-we-need-them/>

W h a t ' s O n



Poetica September Program

Mike Ladd presents *Poetica* on Saturday at 3.05pm (repeated 3.05pm on Thursdays)

- 5 Sept National Poetry Week 2009: a round-the-nation sampling of recent Australian poetry.
- 12 Sept All the Iron Night: feature on the poetry and music of Ross Bolleter.
- 19 Sept Glass Cathedrals: the poetry of Nicolette Stasko.
- 26 Sept The Wanderer: Robert Menzies performs this famous poem by Christopher Brennan.

For further details visit the website at www.abc.net.au/rn/arts/poetica/

Thur 3 Sept: Burnside Library's One Book One Burnside

With Malcolm Walker's *The Stone Crown*, the theme this year will be medieval. Launch will be at 6.30pm. Book by phoning the library on 8366 4280.

Sun 6 Sept: Friendly Street @ Murray Bridge

Friendly Street Poets' inaugural event at Murray Bridge from 2-5pm at Our Wellbeing Place, Swanport Road (next to Indoor therapy pool). Afternoon tea will be provided. For details phone 042 887 8163.

Wed 9 Sept: Kathryn Fox

Kathryn Fox's first book *Malicious Intent* topped amazon.com's crime fiction list. Her latest title *Blood Born* will be launched from 7.30-8.30pm at Marion Cultural Centre Domain Theatre, 287 Diagonal Road, Oaklands Park. Book signing included. Free event. Book on 8375 6855.

Thur 10 Sept: Society of Editors

From 7.30pm there will be a brief AGM at SA Writers' Centre, followed by guest speaker Liz Harfull, author of *The Blue Ribbon Cookbook: Recipes, Stories and Tips from Prize-winning Show Cooks*. Drinks and nibbles will be served. Or join the committee and Liz Harfull at 6 pm at Amalfi Restaurant, 29 Frome Street. Please confirm your booking by emailing SAPresident@editors-sa.org.au by Fri 4 Sept.

Fri 11 Sept: Friendly Street @ Port Noarlunga

You are invited to read, perform or listen to poetry at the Arts Centre, Gawler Street, Port Noarlunga between 7-10pm. Prizes for the best three poets on the night. Guest poet is Jeri Kroll. Cost: \$5/\$4 conc.

Sat 12 Sept: Book Launch: Marilyn Monroe by the Brooklyn Bridge

Jude Aquilina will launch Joan Fenney's collection of poetic portraits at the SA Writers' Centre at 2pm. Drinks and nibbles provided. All welcome. RSVP to Joan at jfen55@optusnet.com.au

Sun 13 Sept: Book Launch: WomanSpeak

Jude Aquilina and Louise Nicholas invite you to the launch of their new collection of poems which 'explores topics where the great men of literature never dared venture'. Published by Wakefield Press, *WomanSpeak* will be launched at 4pm at Wirra Wirra Vineyards, McLaren Vale as part of the SA Writers' Festival.

Sun 13 Sept: SA Writers' Theatre

There will be a workshop of 'Stage Whisper' by Kay A'Caster from 2pm-5pm at Holden Street Theatre, Hindmarsh (next to Hindmarsh Stadium). Free admission.

Sun 13 Sept: Hills Poets

The next meeting is 3.30 pm at the Bridgewater Inn, Mt barker Road, Bridgewater. New readers are welcome. For information please ring Jill Gower on 8339 5119.

Wed 16 Sept: SA Writers' Theatre General Meeting

The meeting will commence with ten-minute readings of first-draft scripts, followed by the reading of a completed script and feedback to the playwright, from 7pm at the SA Writers' Centre. All welcome.

Thur 17 Sept: North Eastern Writers' Group

The next meeting will be held from 7.30-9.30pm at the Tea Tree Gully Memorial Hall. Our guest speaker will be Stephen Matthews from Ginninderra Press.

Enquiries to Ken 8380 5348 or Sharon 0403 831170 or check out our website at www.northeasternwriters.com

Sun 20 Sept: Sunday with the SAWT

Features a script-in-hand performance of 'Different Rules' by Brian Fox; Guest Speaker: Don Barker. Starts 1pm at Holden Street Theatre, Hindmarsh. Admission: \$10 (pay at door). Includes soup, buttered roll, guest speaker and the performance. For more information please go to www.sawt.org.au

Sun 20 Sept: Hills Poets

There will be a reading by the Hills Poets from their new anthology *Frost & Fire* in the Stirling Library at 2.30 pm.

Mon 21 Sept Henley Scribblers Club

Meets from 9.30-11.30am at the Henley Community Centre, Military Road. Enquiries: Angie 8353 1517 or Lettie 8356 7812

Thur 24 Sept: Liz Byrski

Western Australian writer, journalist and broadcaster and author of eleven non-fiction books, Liz Byrski, is releasing her latest book *Bad Behaviour* 7.30pm to 8.30pm at Marion Cultural Centre Domain Theatre, 287 Diagonal Road, Oaklands Park. Book signing included. Free event. Bookings essential. Phone 8375 6855.

2-3 Oct: Port Lincoln Workshop

David Harris will be conducting a Memoirs Writing Workshop at the Port Lincoln Library. Nibbles and drinks 5.30 pm, workshop from 6-8 pm. Cost \$20. For bookings phone Louise 08 86883622.

2-3 Oct: Port Lincoln

On Saturday 3 October, Christine and David Harris will be storytelling at the Stinky Creek World Food and Music Fair, 10.30 am-4pm. Day sessions are free entry. World music, food, storytelling and dancing. For more information email Simon at srichie@westnet.com.au

Opportunities

Wet Ink - Special Offer

Wet Ink has teamed up with *Griffith REVIEW* to offer readers a subscription special. Subscribe to both magazines and get an extra 15% off normal subscription prices – that's a 25% discount off cover price. Go to www.wetink.com.au

Flagging the Festival Awards

A reminder that nominations for the 2010 Adelaide Festival Awards for Literature are well and truly open. For full details see the front cover of *July Southern Write*. Nominations close 5pm 30 October.

ABR Poetry Prize

The Australian Book Review Poetry Prize – 1st prize \$4000 – is one of Australia's most lucrative and respected awards for poetry and guarantees winners wide exposure through publication in its pages. Closing date is 1 December 2009. Guidelines and application form are now available at www.australianbookreview.com.au

Writers' Residencies

The Katharine Susannah Prichard Writers' Centre in WA funds five Writer-in-Residence positions every year. For further details email ksp-writeabookinaday@iinet.net.au

Asialink Residencies

Grants are awarded up to \$12,000 towards travel, living and project expenses for four-month residencies. Go to www.asialink.unimelb.edu.au/artsresidencies, or email n.low@asialink.unimelb.edu.au. Applications close on September 4 2009.

Cordite Poetry Review

Writing haikus, senryus or other ultra-short poems? Submissions are now open for the 31st issue of *Cordite* – EPIC. Details available at www.cordite.org.au

12words.com.au

A micro-fiction slam – involving a competition for 15-25 year old Australians – is part of the 12words project, a micro-fiction website. Launched on August 1, 12words will run until 1 December.

Parallel Importation

An on-line petition against parallel importation can be found at <http://savingsaussiebooks.wordpress.com/>

Copyright Training Sessions

The Australian Copyright Council training sessions held in Adelaide on 8-11 September will explain your rights and obligations under Australian copyright law. Go to <http://www.copyright.org.au/training2009> for the program overview.

The Writer's Help Desk

Brascoe Publishing have started a Writer's Help Desk. The service provides mentoring for those who wish to self-publish. For further information contact Leticia Supple on 0421 925 382 or email media@brascoebooks.com.au

Wanted: Stories of Motherhood

A Quorn-based writer wants down-to-earth reflections on motherhood. If you've got up-front, honest descriptions of your experience as a mother and would like to be included in her book contact Katie-Lee Pearce on 0429 783 009 or at Bump2Bub@hotmail.com

2009 Inverawe Nature Poetry Competition

The competition is for a nature poem not longer than 28 lines. First prize is \$1000, runner up \$300, Tasmanian resident's award \$350, emerging poet's award for an unpublished poet, \$200. For definitions of nature and unpublished, see the entry form. Entries close 12 October 2009. Entries must be accompanied by an entry form, available at www.inverawe.com.au

2009 Australian Centre Cultural Awards

Asher Literary Award (\$10,000) for women writers on an anti-war theme; D. J. 'Dinny' O'Hearn Fellowship (\$5,000) for emergent writers; Peter Blazey Fellowship (\$15,000) for a work-in-progress in the nonfiction fields of biography, autobiography or life writing; Kate Challis RAKA Award (\$25,000) for indigenous scriptwriting; and the Vincent Buckley Poetry Prize (\$10,000) to support Australian poets to visit Ireland. Visit <http://www.australian.unimelb.edu.au/public/awards/>

CAL Scribe Fiction Prize

The CAL Scribe Fiction Prize is open for an unpublished manuscript by any published or unpublished Australian writer over 35. The winner will be awarded a book contract from Scribe and a prize of \$12,000. To enter visit <http://www.scribepublications.com.au/prize>

Angry Robot™

Angry Robot™ is a new global publishing imprint from HarperCollins with a mission to provide the global science fiction-fantasy community with new content both in physical and digital form. For more information visit <http://angryrobotbooks.com/>

Seven By Twenty

Seven By Twenty (<http://twitter.com/7x20>) takes twitter-length fiction and poetry: 140 characters or less. No sim subs, no more than 1 sub/mo, no serials, no horror, no pay, reprints encouraged. Uses one-time electronic rights. Send to: 7x20mag@gmail.com with subject 'Submission'.

Poets Group @ Mostly Books

The Working Poets Group meets on the last Sunday of every month from 2-4pm. It is an opportunity for poets to explore form and language. There is some opportunity to read, but it is intrinsically a working group. For facilitator's details email mostlybooks@internode.on.net.

BELS Certification Session

An examination will held on 7 October at the SA Writers' Centre to evaluate the proficiency of manuscript editors in the life sciences and to award credentials similar to other professions. For more information go to www.bels.org

Murray Alfredson: 'On my father', *Poets' Ink Review*, June, 2009; 'The pipes in minor key', *Touch: Journal of Healing*, May, 2009; 'In Aachen Cathedral', *Catchfire: Friendly Street Poets*, 33; 'Mors gemini mei', *Recovering the Self: A Journal of Help and Healing*, June, 2009. His essay 'Archaisms: why they are still useful in poetry today' appeared in *Umbrella*, Summer 2009. 'By-passed' was published in the anthology *Gateways*.

Ross Duffy's story 'After Hours' was commended in the FAW Queensland 150 Short Story Competition and is to be published in *Scope Magazine*.

Mike Dumbleton's picture book *What Will Baby Do?* (illustrated by Craig Smith) has been published by Working Title Press.

Joan Fenney's poem 'Crumpled Pages' was awarded first place in the 2009 Scribbligum Gumblossoms competition.

Friendly Street Poets are finalists in the Ruby Awards in the category of Sustained Contribution (Organisation).

Cameron Fuller recently had the following poems published: 'morphecology'

in *Westerly*; 'English text pattern' and 'The lifestyle you deserve' in *Cordite*, and 'A linguistic tour of the capitals' in *Blue Dog*.

Kimberley Mann's *Awake During Anaesthetic* will be launched at Melbourne's Overload Poetry Festival. Kimberley won an Arts SA grant for the visit.

Trish Morey is a finalist in the Romance Writers of Australia's RuBY, or Romantic Book of the Year Award, along with two other members of the South Australian Romance Authors, **Claire Baxter** and **Elizabeth Rolls**.

Amy Matthews attended the Romance Writers of Australia Conference where she won the Anna Campbell Award for Historical Romance and was awarded second place in the STALI award.

Deb Matthews-Zott had various poems published in *The Independent Weekly*, *Transnational Literature* and *Catch Fire*.

Fiona McIntosh's novel *Tyrant's Blood* was published by HarperCollins.

David Mortimer's poem 'House Sitting'

was published in *Five Bells* Autumn/Winter 2009; his poem 'Without Street Lights' appeared in *Etchings 7: Chameleons*; and his poem 'Rainbow in Black' was shortlisted for the Blake Poetry Prize 2009.

Marianne Musgrove's poem 'Argument in the Cathedral' was published in issue # 17 of *Ripples*.

Renata Provenzano's articles 'Aloha Happiness – Learn About Hawaiian Spirituality' and 'Health Plan' appeared respectively in *Australian Natural Health*, vol. 9, no. 4 and *Women's Health and Fitness*, June 2009.

Max Merckenschlager had two poems published in the anthology *Award Winning Australian Writing*.

John Sabine's short story 'A Creek by Any Other Name' was Highly Commended in the Shire of Nillumbik's recent Ellen Gudrun Kastan Literary Awards.

Brett Stuart Williams won 1st prize in all three categories – short story, a prisoner experience and design a slogan – of the Australian Prisoner Foundation's Prison Library Services campaign competition.

THE WRITERS' HOUSE

VARUNA PUBLISHER FELLOWSHIPS and PUBLISHER SUPPORTED PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT RESIDENCIES

The **Varuna Publisher Fellowships** give successful applicants an opportunity to catch the attention of 1 of 8 Australian publishers. Each publisher receives a shortlist of 10 writers and selects 3 for Fellowships; that's 80 writers being read by publishers and 24 receiving fellowships.

A **Publisher Supported Professional Development Residency** is a week-long non-selective program where you work closely with Creative Director Peter Bishop, discovering and shaping the real force of the material you are working with and learning about the publishing industry and how to find a place in it from those best qualified to tell you – the publishers.

For dates and more detailed information about either of these programs go to www.varuna.com.au

Seaview Press
Advert
To Go Here

Sept 11: EJ Brady Short Story Competition ☺●

For major short story, maximum of 2500 words: \$1500 winner and \$200 runner-up. For very short story, maximum 700 words: \$500 winner and Tom Donovan Encouragement Award \$100. Entry fee of \$10. Entry form required. Contact Mallecoota Arts Council on 03 51 580 890 or www.artsmallacoata.org

Sept 18: Meadows Muse ★☺●

Poetry & short stories from primary school upwards about an aspect of Meadows. For more information www.meadows150.org.au

Sept 25: Cricket Poetry Award ☺●

Valued at \$2,000, poets are invited to submit a poem celebrating an aspect of the game be it backyard, beach, club or social cricket. For conditions and entry forms go to http://www.publisherscup.org.au/wp-content/uploads/pccpp_entryform_v1sm.pdf

Sept 25: Whyalla Writers' Group Short Story and Poetry Competition for Adults and Young Adults ★☺●

Theme is 'Rogues & Rascals'. Short story (Adult), maximum 1500 words and Poetry (Adult) maximum 40 lines. Entry fee is \$7. 1st prize \$250, 2nd prize \$100, 3rd prize \$50. Short story (Young Adult 12-18 years), maximum 1000 words and Poetry (Young Adult 12-18 years) maximum 25 lines. Entry fee is \$5. 1st prize \$100 + \$50 book voucher, 2nd prize \$50 + \$25 book voucher, 3rd prize \$25 + \$15 book voucher. Entry form required. Contact Fai Chivell on 8645 7126 or go to www.whyalla.rotaryaust.org

Sept 30: Eastern Writers Group Biggest Little Short Story Competition ☺●

Open theme to 500 words. Prizes: 1st \$200, 2nd \$100, 3rd \$50. Entry fee \$5. Entry forms and rules available from

Eastern Writers Group website: <http://www.wordsatwork.com.au>, by emailing easternwritersgroup@hotmail.com or phoning 03 9434 3491.

Sept 30: Inaugural Basil Bunting Poetry Award 2009 ●

Prizes: 1st £1,000, 2nd £500, 3rd £250, plus three commendations of £75. Entry details available from www.basilbuntingaward.co.uk

Sept 30: The Examiner Port Stephens Literature Awards

Short stories up to 2000 words on any topic. 1st prize \$400, 2nd \$200, 3rd \$100, plus \$100 'Tanilba House' prize. Four \$50 most highly commended prizes. Entry fee: \$5 cheques made out to TACE. Standard competition conditions apply – no entry form needed. Separate cover sheet, story title and author's contact details. Stories to be typed and double-spaced. Enquiries Geoff Walker 02 4982409 or tace@tilligerry.com. Postal address: Literature Awards, 6 The Parkway, North Mallabula 2319.

Sept 30: Positive Words Mini-Competition ☺●

Write a poem in ten lines or less, or a short story in 100 words or less including the word vegetable(s) at least once. Prize: 6-month subscription. Entry fee: \$1.10 in unused postage stamps. All entries must be postmarked by 30 September 2009. Send entries to The Editor, Sandra James, PO Box 798, Heathcote 3523, Victoria. For details: positivewordsmagazine@live.com.au

Oct 9: Burnside Library Historical Fantasy Short Story Competition ☺●

In keeping with Malcolm Walker's *The Stone Crown* Book 1 Burnside has a historical fantasy short story competition. Entrants must be over 16. 1st prize: a year's membership of SAWC + extras, 2nd prize: a SAWC workshop + extras. Details and entry forms at www.burnside.sa.gov.au/goto/library

Oct 16: Southern Cross Literary Competition ☺●

Southern Cross Literary Competition is for stories up to 5,000 words. This competition, which was run for many years by Ballarat Writers, has been relaunched, bigger and better in 2009. \$1,000 prize. \$10 entry. Open to Australian and international writers. Enter by post or online. Guidelines and entry details at www.ballaratwriters.com

Oct 31: Best of Times Short Story Competition ☺●

For humorous short stories (any theme) up to 2500 words. Cash prizes for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place. (Amounts depend on number of entries received.) Highly commended and commended certificates will be awarded too. Enter as many times as you like. 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 if you have a PayPal account, you can pay cabbook-8@yahoo.com.au. Post your entry to Chris Broadribb, PO Box 55, Blaxcell NSW 2142 or email it to cabbook-8@yahoo.com.au. Competition webpage: http://spiky_one.tripod.com/comp8.html

Nov 30: The Blackened Billy Verse Competition ●

Open for entries in September. 1st prize \$500 plus the famous Blackened Billy Trophy, 2nd prize \$250 and 3rd \$150. Entry forms will be available

on September 1. Enquiries to Jan Morris PO Box 3001, West Tamworth or email janmorris@northnet.com.au

Nov 30: Horse SA Writing Competition ☺☺●

Open Short Story: any subject relating to Australia – 1200-1500 words. Essay: any aspect of South Australian horse history – 1200-1500 words. Fee of \$7.70 per entry. 1st prize \$100, 2nd \$50 Myer Voucher, 3rd \$20 Myer Gift Card. For conditions of entry email horsesa@horsesa.asn.au

Nov 30: The Australian Fabians Race Mathews Award ☺★●

This Young Writers' Competition is open to all Australian political thinkers and activists aged 18–28. Entries should be between 600 and 1,000 words, with no footnotes, on any policy issue relevant to Australia in 2009. 1st prize: a return airfare to London and internship at one of the UK's leading think tanks; 2nd prize: one-month internship at Per Capita. To enter go to the Submit Entry page at www.fabian.org.au/youngwriters

Dec 18: Hill of Content Bookshop 2009 Hal Porter Short Story Competition ☺●

Manuscripts must be a maximum 2500 words, typed, double-spaced on A4 paper; only title of story to appear on manuscript, with author's details on a separate sheet. \$5.50 entry fee. No entry form necessary. 1st prize \$1000. For details email pedrom@bigpond.net.au

Please note: competitions are listed in order of closing date

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: ☺ Entry forms 20c each or send one business-sized stamped self-addressed envelope, plus one loose 50c stamp for every TWO competitions.

