



## **Central West Writers' Centre Words Out West Summer Newsletter 2012**

### **Welcome to the National Year of Reading 2012**

It's full steam ahead this year with lots happening in the region from performance poetry to writing competitions, book launches and drop-in days. Also check out all the submission opportunities and writing competitions. And the National Year of Reading is about helping people discover and rediscover the magic of books. Most of all, it's about Australians becoming a nation of readers. Central West Libraries and the Central West Writers' Centre are supporting local reading ambassadors, hosting book clubs, workshops, author visits, talks and more. Stay in touch with [www.wordsoutwest.com](http://www.wordsoutwest.com) for all the details.

### **Local Photographer Launches *Colours of Orange***

Orange photographer Alf Manciangli launches his hard cover book of images called *The Colours of Orange* at Orange City Library on Wednesday 1st February at 5.30pm. Orange Mayor Cr Davis will be officially launching the book. *The Colours of Orange* is a large landscape format, 208 page full colour coffee table book of the beautiful scenery and lifestyle of Orange. Alf took up photography at an early age, has worked around the world and set up Gecko Photographics with Linda Gleeson in Orange. Bookings are essential, please call the Library on 6393 8132.

### **Getting Published Workshop**

You've finished the manuscript but what now?  
You're about to enter a business that may be totally foreign to you and negotiating your way around it can be both confusing and difficult.  
How do you know to whom to send your material, and how long you have to wait?  
How do you negotiate a contract or find an agent who may be able to help?

Set yourself up as a professional who is capable of representing your own interests with knowledge and confidence. This two-hour session presents the basics for authors and illustrators and covers how to go about getting published, researching publishers, writing proposal letters, royalties, contracts. Everything you need to know to put your writing out there.

Where and when:

- \* Orange - Friday 17 February 2012 6-8pm
- \* Dubbo - Saturday 18 February 2012 1-3pm

## **Orange Venue:**

West Room, next door to Orange City Library  
147 Byng Street, Orange NSW 2800  
Refreshments provided  
Cost: \$15

Bookings: Bookings essential - book online at <http://www.asauthors.org> or call the office on 1800 257 121 or (02) 9211 1004  
For enquiries call the Central West Writers' Centre on 6393 8125

## **Oberon Hosts Greg North**

Performance poet Greg North will be the guest of Friends of Oberon Library and Oberon Writers' Workshop at 6pm on Valentine's Day, Tuesday February 14th at the Robert Hooper Community Centre, Fleming Street, Oberon.

Greg, known for his rendition of *The Man From Snowy River* in 15 different accents, comes from the Blue Mountains, he has won a string of performance poetry awards including Australian Bush Poetry Champion in 2008, 2009 and again in 2010. His DVDs *Man of Many Hats* and *Fully Sick Mate* provide even more characters and fun. There is no charge to enjoy Greg's performance and poetry, but a gold coin donation for supper would be appreciated. For catering purposes please RSVP to either Kathy Sajowitz 6336-0742 or Celia Ravesi 6359 3109.

## **Orange local Vanessa Talbot launches book *Extraordinary You The Art of Living a Lusciously Spirited, Vibrant Life***

Congratulations to one our regulars at the Central West Writers' Centre Drop-in Days Vanessa Talbot. Vanessa, along with ten powerful voices has published *Extraordinary You The art of Living a Lusciously Spirited Vibrant Life*. Eleven extraordinary women share with you the keys to unlocking an exceptional life. Through their personal stories of tragedy, near death, crossroads, and plain mundane existences, to expanded lives of exploration and vitality, discover the wisdom and experiences that will enable you to embrace a greater vision for your life. The book is available at Collins Bookstore, Boomers Bookstore in Orange, Bookplus in Bathurst or go to [www.extraordinaryyoubook.com](http://www.extraordinaryyoubook.com)

## **Words from the Dust Highly Commended**

Congratulations goes to all involved in Words From the Dust writing workshop series held during 2011 in Condobolin, Grenfell, Forbes, Cowra, Orange and Blayney and on-going website which was highly commended at the NSW Public Library Marketing Awards. This wonderful project engaged older Australians across the Central West in telling their tales of drought and feelings of life on the land through storytelling. See the writing results at [www.wordsfromthedust.com.au](http://www.wordsfromthedust.com.au)

## **Drop-in Days for Writers return in February**

Love creative writing - then why not share your passion with other writers at our friendly and informal writers' group? Come along and meet other writers, talk about writing or share your writing in a friendly and encouraging atmosphere at the Central West Writers' Centre Drop-In Days, held at the Writers' Centre located upstairs at Orange City Library. Beginners to experienced writers are welcome to call in. Please bring a favourite piece you have read or written to talk about or join in the discussions or just sit back and listen - it is up to you.

The Drop-in Days are held where possible on the last Friday of the month at the same time of 2.30pm to 4.30pm. There is no need to book and it's free.

2012 Drop-in Day Dates will be as follows:

24 February

30 March

27 April

25 May

29 June

27 July

31 August

28 September

26 October

30 November

## **Opportunities**

### **Call for manuscript submissions**

New small publisher Rough Draft is now accepting manuscripts for consideration for publication in 2012. For details go to [www.roughdraft.com.au](http://www.roughdraft.com.au)

### **Huge YA Writing Opportunity with the Ampersand Project**

Hardie Grant Egmont has always supported emerging writers, and this time they want everyone to know about it. Introducing Ampersand: a new collection of short novels by debut fiction writers. It's an ambitious idea, but they're excited about bringing new voices to the YA fiction scene. They want to cater to teenage readers who just aren't into fantasy or paranormal romance, and show them a world just like this one. Real life can be just as dramatic and thrilling as other-worldly adventures, and any teenager who's climbed out their bedroom window for an illicit adventure knows it.

Head to website for submission guidelines and story starting points:

<http://hardiegrant.com.au/egmont/contact-us/the-ampersand-project>

### **VIM Journal Call for Submissions**

VIM Journal is all about counteracting bad news – they want to hear stories of hope, wackiness, enthusiasm, wonder; anything that makes you smile, or think about the world in a fresh way, or sing a bit, or dance a jig. It is a new literary journal in Melbourne, and they want stories. They have put out the call for submissions for the inaugural edition, and would love for you to send in your writing. Submissions to VIM Journal are now open, and close 31 March. For submission guidelines go to: <http://vimjournal.com/>

## **Qantas Spirit of Youth Awards for creative under 30s**

The Qantas Spirit of Youth Awards (SOYA), the leading award for Australia's best emerging artists, designers, and creatives, has unveiled an exciting new format which will see SOYA become a year round initiative. Talented Australians aged 30 and under across eleven creative fields - fashion, interactive content and gaming, written word, visual design and communications, film and video, photography, visual arts, craft and object design, music, architecture and interior design and animation - are invited to submit their work for a chance to receive financial support in the form of \$5000 in cash, as well as a rare 12-month mentorship opportunity with leading luminaries from the international creative community. This year, winners will also be sent on the trip-of-a-lifetime to premiere industry only events at the forefront of their fields.

For 2011/2012, SOYA announces a stellar line-up of inspirational mentors; Marc Newson (Design), Nicky and Simone Zimmermann (Fashion), Robert Luketic (Film and Video), Polly Borland (Photography), Lee Groves (Music), Elizabeth Ann Macgregor (Visual Arts), Vince Frost (Visual Design and Communications), Ashley Ringrose and Brad Eldridge (Interactive Content and Gaming), Markus Zusak (Written Word), Brian Zulaikha (Architecture and Interior Design) and Marco Marengi (Animation). As success stories in their respective fields, these industry leaders know that getting a break and having the right doors opened can help launch a creative career.

SOYA is open for submissions from November 8, with one new creative category closing every month. All submissions can be made through the new SOYA365 hub at [www.soya.com.au](http://www.soya.com.au).

## **Call for submissions: Griffith Edition 36, What Is Australia For?**

This is a trying time of global transition and uncertainty, for societies and for individuals. Yet it is also a time when Australia has remarkable advantages – advantages it must build on if the nation is to prosper.

Instead of seizing the moment, and forging an exciting new future, public discussion is mired in the past. Politics is no longer the art of the possible. Whingeing has replaced can-do.

It is time to revive the debate about national identity. The clichés of old have long exceeded their use-by date. What Is Australia For? will sketch out visionary ideas for the future, uncover neglected stories from the past, and provide an exciting forum for new voices to make their case. Further details at <http://griffithreview.com/future-editions>

## **Call for proposals for Romance Writers of Australia conference**

The Romance Writers of Australia's 21st conference Diamonds are Forever will be held at Hotel QT, Surfer's Paradise, Gold Coast, from August 16-19, 2012, and the conference team is seeking proposals for workshops, panels or other breakout sessions. Details at <http://romanceaustralia.wordpress.com/2011/11/03/conference-2012-call-for-proposals>

### **West Wyalong Movies is looking for scriptwriters**

The Wyalong Movies Project looks at the district's sometimes wild past - in beef, then gold, then wheat and sheep. It looks at the very fortunes of life on the land, and takes a peek at the future. Old movies, pictures and archival footage are combined with interviews of locals who tell the story of the development of West Wyalong and the south-west of NSW, its people and its institutions. They are produced in Orange by KEA Video and the DVDS are selling well.

They are looking for scriptwriters to write short scripts, 20 – 40 minutes in length, across all topics from sports to social events to full in depth local history. This role may suit a semi-retired writer or part-time writer or journalist.

For more details contact Ross via email: [rossfharmer@bigpond.com](mailto:rossfharmer@bigpond.com) and visit the website [www.westwyalongmovies.com.au](http://www.westwyalongmovies.com.au) to see samples of the DVDS.

### **Really Blue Books Submissions**

New digital publisher seeks submissions of fiction and non-fiction. Visit <http://reallybluebooks.com/submissions>.

### **Kurungabaa Journal Seeks Submissions**

Kurungabaa, a journal of literature, history and ideas from the sea, is calling for submissions for an upcoming issue, themed, 'strangers'. Fiction, prose, poems, essays, art, photographs are all welcome. For details and submission guidelines visit the website and read the submission requirements [www.kurungabaa.net](http://www.kurungabaa.net)

### **The Max Afford Playwrights' Award 2012**

Established through the will of the late Thelma May Afford in memory of her husband, Max Afford, this Award provides young writers with the incentive to improve their creative writing as well as to enhance the general public's appreciation of Australian drama and playwrights.

It's a biennial award for young writers of either stage, TV or film plays. The total value of the Award is \$20,000 which includes a \$10,000 cash prize, and a further \$10,000 towards the expenses towards Playwriting Australia's National Script Workshop.

Applications close on 3 February 2012.

To apply, go to:

[http://www.thetrustcompany.com.au/philanthropy/awards/max\\_afford.asp](http://www.thetrustcompany.com.au/philanthropy/awards/max_afford.asp)

### **Olvar Wood online Reading for Writers course**

This new online course is a great bridging course between being part of a book club and getting serious about writing, and includes 10 lessons and formal feedback on a piece of writing. It is self-paced, so can be completed over ten weeks or up to six months. The course costs \$100. Details are available at [www.olvarwood.com.au/OWL/reading.html](http://www.olvarwood.com.au/OWL/reading.html)

## **Call for contributions to We Australians Exhibition**

We Australians are calling out to culturally engaged, audacious, poetic and progressive writers to take part in the We Australians Exhibition program in April 2012. For more information, [www.weaustralians.org/news](http://www.weaustralians.org/news) for details.

## **Creative Australia - 21st Century Stories**

ATSIA's 21ST Century Stories is a 3-year funding initiative that will support ten projects for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander artists, arts organisations or community organisations to tell new stories with potential public outcomes. They invite applications for artistic works that express reactions and outcomes to the way society has transformed in the first decade of the 21st century by highlighting an event from each year of the decade. Projects may be in any artform or combination of artforms. Examples include theatre productions of new work, writing for publication, song writing for recording or performance, or the creation of new works of art for exhibition. These new works will undergo further development and presentation in partnership with respective arts industry organisations and institutions. Grants of up to \$80,000 will be available to support each project. Further details at [www.australiacouncil.gov.au/grants/grants/creative\\_australia\\_21st\\_century\\_stories](http://www.australiacouncil.gov.au/grants/grants/creative_australia_21st_century_stories)

## **Have your book Promoted at the London Book Fair 2012**

Have you ever wanted to have your book out on the Worldstage? Well the London Book Fair 2012 16th to 18th April is your chance to do it. Your book will be promoted to over 24500 book industry professionals from all over the world who are looking to do business. The Australian Self Publishing Group has had a stand there for 4 years with enormous success for many authors. The last book fair they attended they found an International publisher for an author even before the fair started and had contracts signed before the fair ended. Another author has had her book entered in the Berlin film trade fair and now has the chance for the book to become a movie. None of this could have happened without attending a major book fair. Your book will not simply sit on a stand, they make appointments with publishers, agents and distributors and personally show and discuss each book individually. For more information contact William at [publishaspg@gmail.com](mailto:publishaspg@gmail.com) or Visit [www.australianselfpublishinggroup.com](http://www.australianselfpublishinggroup.com) or call 0262912904 and find out more.

## **Writing Competitions**

### **January 2012 - Science Fiction**

This is a genuine, no fee competition that stretches over 12 months. Each month a different genre; each month a winner. Winners are offered a contract, paid royalties, and receive full promotion and marketing strategies. This is not a competition with prizes. There is no entry fee. Only Print Ready novels of genuine merit will be chosen. Your book could be a winner. Full details of rules, genres and how to submit, on our website, <http://www.creativeprintpublishing.com/publishing/competitions.php> Entry form here: <http://www.creativeprintpublishing.com/publishing/competitions/competition-entry.php>

## **The World to Come Closes 29 February 2012**

International collection seeks new unpublished work with the theme "The world to come". Stories between 3000 and 5000 words. Visit <http://call-for-papers.sas.upenn.edu>.

## **2012 Bristol Short Story Prize**

The Bristol Short Story Prize is open to all writers, UK and non-UK based, over 16 years of age. Stories can be on any theme or subject and entry can be made online via the website or by post. Entries must be previously unpublished with a maximum length of 3,000 words (there is no minimum). The entry fee is £7 per story. The closing date for entries is March 31st 2012. To mark the launch of our 2012 competition we are offering the Kindle format ebook version of our latest anthology for only £0.86p from [amazon.co.uk](http://amazon.co.uk) and \$1.33 from [amazon.com](http://amazon.com). This fantastic offer will be available until the end of October. Full details at [www.bristolprize.co.uk](http://www.bristolprize.co.uk)

## **The Down Under Essay Contest**

Creative Nonfiction, in association with Tashmadada, seeks new essays for a special Australia issue. They are looking for a variety of perspectives—from locals, expats, tourists, or anyone else—and will consider essays of all forms and focuses as long as Australia's landscape, people, and/or culture are prominently featured; the stories are true; and submissions are previously unpublished. Essays must be vivid and dramatic. They're looking for well-written prose, rich with detail and a distinctive voice. Essays must be 4,000 words maximum and submitted by February 29, 2012.

All submissions will be considered by the judges for inclusion in Creative Nonfiction #46: Australia, which will be launched at the 2012 Melbourne Writers Festival. Electronic submissions only. To submit visit: [www.creativenonfiction.org](http://www.creativenonfiction.org)

## **Grenfell Henry Lawson Festival 8-11 June 2012**

### **Verse and Short Story Competitions**

You are invited to participate in the Henry Lawson Festival Verse and Short Story Competitions, with total prize money of \$3850 plus statuettes. Medallions will also be awarded in primary sections. The competition closes on 30 March 2012. Entries must be post marked by this date. There are 6 classes for verse, some with Australian themes and 4 classes in short story, all with any theme. Short stories are limited to 2000 words and verse to 48 lines. Entry forms and conditions may be down loaded from the website [www.grenfell.org.au/henrylawsonfestival](http://www.grenfell.org.au/henrylawsonfestival) or by writing to:  
The Verse and Short Story Coordinator  
PO Box 77  
Grenfell NSW 2810. For further information contact Mary Moffitt on 6343 1575. The competition closes on 30 March 2012.

## **Twisted Stringybark Short Story Award 2012**

Nothing entertains a reader more than a good short story with a nifty twist at the end. Stringybark Stories is delighted to invite all writers to enter their best work in the Twisted Stringybark Short Story Award 2012. The maximum word length of your story is 1500 words; it must have some link to Australia (no matter how tenuous); and it must have a twist in the tail! There is over A\$500 in prizes available, cash, plus publication for place-getters and highly commended stories. There is an entry fee of \$9.75 (discounts for multiple entries) Closing date 4 March 2011. Details: [www.stringybarkstories.net](http://www.stringybarkstories.net)

## **The ABR Copyright Agency Fellowship - for a substantial article with an Asian focus**

Australian Book Review seeks applications for the ABR Copyright Agency Fellowship. This Fellowship – the fourth to be offered by ABR – is proudly supported by ABR's generous Patrons. We are seeking a substantial non-fiction article with an Asian focus – either a profile of a major Asian literary/cultural figure or a discursive essay with Asian literary/cultural themes. The Fellowship is worth \$5000. Any Australian writer with a significant publication record (books, creative writing, essays or journalism) is eligible to apply. Applications close 20 March 2012.

## **Quote**

"An idea, like a ghost must be spoken to a little before it will explain itself," by Charles John Huffam Dickens (7 February 1812 - 9 June 1870) English novelist.

The Central West Writers' Centre is assisted by the NSW Government through Arts NSW

