

Byron Bay Writers Festival

1-3 August 2014



byronbaywritersfestival.com

PROGRAM



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first national

BYRON BAY Writers Festival

Welcome to the 2014 Byron Bay Writers Festival.

Storytelling, contemporary truths and legends, provenance, discovery and the sheer joy of sharing the written and spoken word are the core values that proudly underpin the 2014 Byron Bay Writers Festival. Inspired by the sentiment expressed in Polley's documentary, the Byron Festival team are excited to open the pages on the 18th Byron Bay Writers Festival program featuring more than 100 acclaimed authors, all with tantalising stories to tell.

The myriad writers, thinkers and creative souls invited from across Australia and around the world will converge in the idyllic surrounds of Byron Bay to bring voice to their writings and allow us to listen to conversations about the things that concern us most and to ruminate on realisations that may offer solace and joy. They will engage you in lively and enlightening discussions and debates throughout 105 sessions at the main Festival site, North Byron Beach Resort, and during the Festival's week of workshops and special feature events.

Acclaimed UK author, Jeanette Winterson, considered one of the world's Top 10 writers to see live, will deliver the Festival's Keynote Address. US author Poe Ballantine will discuss his lauded true crime memoir in conversation with Richard Fidler. They will be joined by

'If there's a story to be told and if the story has some validity, some resonance, then you don't keep it to yourself.'

From *Stories We Tell*
by Canadian Film Director Sarah Polley

esteemed international writers including Geoff Dyer and Susie Orbach.

Don't miss Pulitzer Prize winner David Finkel, author of the brilliant and harrowing *Thank You for Your Service*, and former Prime Minister Malcolm Fraser as they explore Australia's relationship with the US, prompted by influential commentator, David Marr.

Cognisant of David Suzuki's belief that 'mounting climate evidence underscores the need to act' we have again afforded the environment a strong focus this year. We're looking forward to Bob Brown's session with Tim Flannery exploring an environmental vision for Australia. We'll also probe into our past with authors of fiction and non-fiction including the 2014 Stella Prize winner, Clare Wright and award-winner M.L. Stedman.

Of course, it wouldn't be a Festival without food events. Join Christine Manfield for a Literary Lunch travelling the Indian spice route from the comfort of The Byron at Byron Resort. Saturday's Supper with substance will be dished-up by national treasures Julian Burnside and Frank Moorhouse in conversation with Sian Prior.

Dust off your Ziggy Stardust outfits as we bring one of Melbourne's best-loved spoken word events *Liner Notes*, to Byron for the first time. A literary cabaret, this year's performers include among others Andrew Denton, Missy Higgins and Benjamin Law.

Kids Big Day Out adds an extra dimension on Sunday and includes some of Australia's favourite authors led by Andy Griffiths. Enjoy another Festival first as Asphyxia unfolds her magical world of marionettes, and if you're one of the millions of kids who own a copy of *Possum Magic*, bring it along for Mem Fox to sign.

A festival is a fleeting moment in time but can leave powerful and indelible memories as the conversations and discovered stories echo and ripple into the community, and beyond. Do join us for an illuminating Festival.

Edwina Johnson, Festival Director

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Secretary **Russell Eldridge**

Treasurer **Cheryl Bourne**

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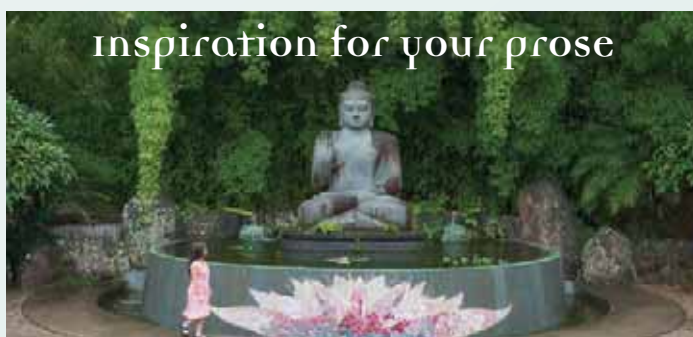
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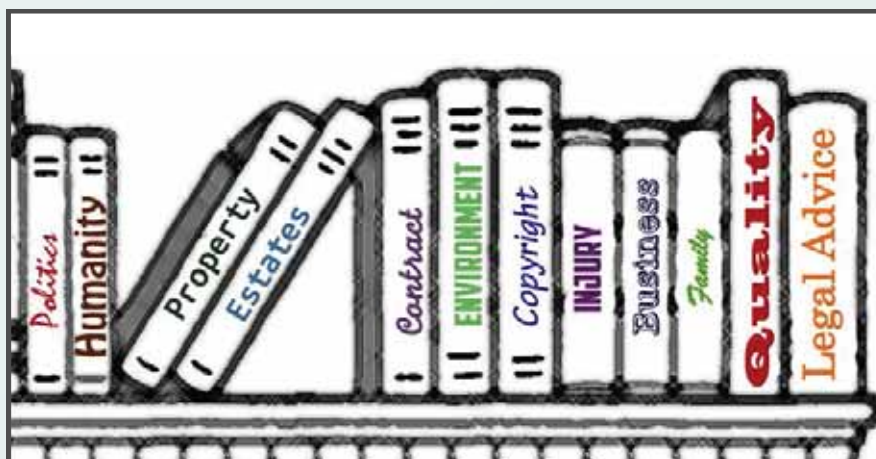
FRIDAY 1 August

SCU Marquee	Macquarie Marquee	Feros Marquee
9.00am – 9.45am My Mother, My Father, My Sister Robin Hemley, Kathryn Heyman, Susan Wyndham Chair: Simon Marnie 1	9.00am – 10.00am Dream Boat Refugees Julian Burnside, Carina Hoang, Antony Loewenstein Chair: David Marr 8	9.00am – 10.00am A Home Among the Gumtrees: Our Diverse Culture Tasneem Chopra, Benjamin Law, Rabia Siddique Chair: Jane Caro 15
10.00am – 10.45am Geoff Dyer In conversation with Chris Hanley Sponsored by Brisbane Powerhouse 2	10.15am – 11.15am Books that Shaped Me William Lane, Qaisra Shahraz, Craig Sherborne Chair: Lynda Hawryluk Sponsored by Collins Booksellers 9	10.15am – 11.15am Our Story: Film and National Identity Terry Hayes, Andrew Knight, John Weiley Chair: Zacharey Jane Sponsored by SAE 16
11.00am – 12.00pm Jeanette Winterson Keynote Address Sponsored by Southern Cross University 3	11.30am – 12.30pm When Media Empires Fall: The Inside Story David Marr, Colleen Ryan, Christopher Warren Chair: Edna Carew Sponsored by The Walkley Foundation 10	11.30am – 12.30pm The Ocean is Broken Tim Flannery, Lisa-ann Gershwin, Ian Hoskins Chair: Mick O'Regan Sponsored by Patagonia 17
12.15pm – 1.15pm Ethics of Memoir Poe Ballantine, Robin Hemley, Kate Holden, David Leser; Chair: Janet Steele Sponsored by Transit Lounge 4	12.45pm – 1.30pm Robert Hoge in conversation with Sophie Hamley 11	12.45pm – 1.30pm Frank Moorhouse in conversation with Sophie Cunningham 18
1.30pm – 2.30pm Landscape of the Sacred Tasneem Chopra, Jono Lineen, Antony Loewenstein, Claire Scobie Chair: Jane Caro Sponsored by Christopher and Lynda Dean 5	1.45pm – 2.45pm Idiot Boxing: Andrew Denton and Andrew Knight in conversation with Geoff Lemon Sponsored by Bottrill Van Kempen Solicitors Attorneys 12	1.45pm – 2.30pm The Art of Song Writing Darren Hanlon, Missy Higgins Chair: Anneli Knight 19
2.45pm – 3.45pm Where Have All the Bookshops Gone: Bricks and Mortar in the Digital Age Carina Hoang, Henry Rosenbloom, Fiona Stager, Meg Vann; Chair: Sophie Hamley Sponsored by The Australian Writer's Marketplace 6	3.00pm – 4.00pm Kitchen Confidential Jim Hearn, Christine Manfield, Steven Snow Chair: Simon Marnie Sponsored by Brookfarm 13	2.45pm – 3.45pm History: A Work in Progress? James Brown, Mike Carlton, Clare Wright Chair: Russell Eldridge Sponsored by Inside History 20
4.00pm – 5.00pm View from the Commentary Box Gideon Haigh, Geoff Lemon Chair: Mick O'Regan 7	4.15pm – 5.00pm A Guest in Their Country Carina Hoang, Jono Lineen, Bhuchung Sonam, Agustinus Wibowo Chair: Janet Steele 14	4.00pm – 5.00pm Small Gems: Writing Short Stories Maxine Beneba Clarke, Kate De Goldi, Qaisra Shahraz Participating Chair: Abbas El-Zein 21



PROGRAM

Womankind Marquee	New Philosopher Marquee	
9.00am – 9.45am Women in a Male World: the Media, Identity and Self-worth Jesse Blackadder, Joanna Immig Chair: Antonia Case 22	8.30am – 11.00am ABC North Coast On site broadcast 30	
10am – 10.45am The Importance of Being Stella Tony Birch, Carrie Tiffany, Clare Wright Chair: Sophie Cunningham 23	11.15am – 12.00pm How Vulture Capitalism is Swallowing the World Antony Loewenstein 31	
11.00am – 11.45am Meet the Performance Poets Jesse Brand, Luka Lesson, Omar Musa Chair: Miles Merrill 24	12.15pm – 12.45pm Sh*t Asian Mothers Say Benjamin Law, Michelle Law Chair: Moya Sayer-Jones 32	
12.00pm – 12.45pm Andy Griffiths in conversation with Julian Louis 25	1.00pm – 1.30pm Poets in Conversation Lisa Gorton and Omar Musa 33	
1.00pm – 1.45pm M.L. Stedman in conversation with Georgie Williamson 26	1.45pm – 2.15pm To the Point: Short Form Fiction Tony Birch, Angela Meyer 34	
2.00pm – 2.45pm The Uncertain Workplace Gideon Haigh, Ashley Hay, Colleen Ryan Chair: Edna Carew 27	2.30pm – 3.00pm Sian Prior in conversation with Chris Hanley 35	NORTH BYRON LAUNCHPAD 2.30-3.30pm BOOK LAUNCH: Deeper Water Jessie Cole; Launched by Georgie Williamson 38
3.00pm – 3.45pm Lloyd Jones in conversation with Susan Wyndham 28	3.15pm – 3.45pm Coast: A History of the NSW Edge Ian Hoskins 36	 INDIGENOUS LITERACY FOUNDATION
4.00pm – 5.00pm The Eureka Moment: Finding the Story Shady Cosgrove, Claire Dunn, Clare Wright Chair: Georgie Williamson 29	4.00pm – 5.00pm BOOK LAUNCH: Over the Water William Lane Launched by Sarah Armstrong 37	



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SATURDAY 2 August

SCU Marquee	Macquarie Marquee	Feros Marquee
9.00am – 10.00am Bob Brown in conversation with David Leser <i>Sponsored by Jan Barham MLC The Greens</i> 39	9.00am – 9.45am Destination Literacy Tristan Bancks, Chris Sarra, Meg Vann Chair: Jesse Blackadder 46	9.00am – 10.00am John Safran and Fr Bob Maguire in conversation with Kate Eltham <i>Sponsored by Feros Care</i> 53
10.15am – 11.00am Missy Higgins in conversation with Simon Marnie 40	10.00am – 10.45am The Nature of Corruption Matthew Condon, Tara Moss, P.M. Newton Chair: Moya Sayer-Jones 47 <i>Sponsored by Rochdale Accounting & Financial Services</i>	10.15am – 11.15am Soldiers: Lambs to the Slaughter or Sacred Cows? James Brown, David Finkel, Rabia Siddique Chair: Russell Eldridge 54
11.15am – 12.15pm An Environmental Vision for Australia Bob Brown, Tim Flannery Chair: Lisa-ann Gershwin <i>Sponsored by First National Real Estate</i> 41	11.00am – 12.00pm Beyond Victims: The Challenge of Leadership Tony Birch, Wesley Enoch, Chris Sarra Chair: Gideon Haigh <i>Sponsored by Future Leaders</i> 48	11.30am – 12.30pm Memoir: What Gets Left Out? Robert Hoge, Lloyd Jones, Victor Marsh, Sian Prior Chair: Mick O'Regan 55
12.25pm – 1.15pm Sophie Cunningham Thea Astley Lecture Introduced by Thea's son Ed Gregson 42	12.15pm – 1.15pm True Crime: Monsters or People Like Us? Poe Ballantine, Virginia Peters, John Safran Chair: Marele Day 49	12.45pm – 1.30pm The Woman of Many Parts Kate Holden, Jean Kittson, Tara Moss Chair: Matthew Condon 56
1.30pm – 2.30pm Half the Sky: The Need to Educate Girls and Women Tristan Bancks, Maxine Beneba Clarke, Christine Manfield, Qaisra Shahraz; Chair: Susan Wyndham <i>Presented by Room to Read</i> 43	1.30pm – 2.30pm Malcolm Fraser in conversation with Kerry O'Brien <i>Sponsored by Macquarie</i> 50	1.45pm – 2.30pm Richard Clapton in conversation with Simon Marnie 57
2.45pm – 3.45pm On Tour: Five Writers, Five Towns in Five Days Nick Earls, Ashley Hay, Angela Meyer, Craig Sherborne, Samuel Wagan Watson Chair: Zacharey Jane <i>Sponsored by The Australia Council</i> 44	2.45pm – 3.45pm My Life is a Joke Mel Buttle, Jean Kittson, Michelle Law, Mandy Nolan Chair: Mick O'Regan <i>Sponsored by Blue River Design</i> 51	2.45pm – 3.45pm Salvation through Story Shady Cosgrove, Kathryn Heyman, Alex Miller Chair: Georgie Williamson 58
4.00pm – 5.00pm The State of the State Mike Carlton, Terry Hayes, David Marr, Kate McClymont Chair: Christopher Warren <i>Sponsored by Byron Echo and Echonetdaily.</i> 45	4.00pm – 5.00pm Travellers' Tales Robyn Davidson, Jono Lineen, Christine Manfield, Agustinus Wibowo Chair: Russell Eldridge <i>Sponsored by Byron at Byron</i> 52	4.00pm – 5.00pm Hugh Mackay in conversation with Edna Carew 59

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PROGRAM

Womankind Marquee	New Philosopher Marquee	
9.00am – 10.00am Writing for YA Kate De Goldi, Lisa Gorton, Diana Sweeney plus the Susie Warrick Young Writer's Award winner Chair: Laurel Cohn 60	9.00am – 10.15am The Ashley Hay Conversations: 9.00am: Lisa-ann Gershwin Stung! On Jellyfish Blooms and the Future of the Ocean 9.40am: Sophie Cunningham Warning: The Story of Cyclone Tracy 68	 Byron Bay Writers Festival 1-3 August 2014 
10.15am – 11.00am Books that Shaped Me Lisa Gorton, Inga Simpson, M.L. Stedman Chair: Claire Scobie 61	10.30am – 11.15am Well It Made Me Laugh Mel Buttle, Nick Earls Chair: Meg Vann 69	
11.15am – 12.00pm The Essence of Place Abbas El-Zein, Emily Perkins, Felicity Volk Chair: Carrie Tiffany 62	11.30am – 12.15pm Cranes Falling in Unison Performance poetry with Jesse Brand 70	
12.15pm – 1.00pm Writing for Children Martin Chatterton, Mem Fox, Sally Rippin Chair: Jesse Blackadder 63	12.30pm – 1.15pm David Finkel in conversation with Geoff Dyer 71	
1.15pm – 2.00pm Susie Orbach in conversation with Wendy Were Sponsored by Womankind 64	1.30pm – 2pm Adrian Newstead discusses an insider's history of the aboriginal art trade with Edna Carew 72	
2.00pm – 2.45pm Jeanette Winterson discusses The Daylight Gate Sponsored by Brisbane Powerhouse 65	2.15pm – 2.45pm Craig Cliff and Emily Perkins discuss The Mannequin Makers and The Forrests 73	NORTH BYRON LAUNCHPAD 3.30pm – 4.30pm BOOK LAUNCH: The Whitlam Mob Mungo MacCallum Launched by Kerry O'Brien 76
3.00pm – 3.45pm Rabia Siddique in conversation with Chris Hanley 66	3.00pm – 3.45pm Asphyxia and Friends... 74	
4.00pm – 5.00pm Pitch Perfect Pitch Perfect finalists; Judging panel: Tom Gilliatt, Susan Hornbeck, Henry Rosenbloom MCs: Kate and Jol Temple Sponsored by Zentveld's 67	4.00pm – 5.00pm BOOK LAUNCH: Have You Seen Simone? Virginia Peters, Detective Dave Mackie, Sophie Cunningham 75	



Happy Hour

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SUNDAY 3 August

SCU Marquee	Macquarie Marquee	Feros Marquee
9.00am – 10.00am When the Mind Unhinges Craig Cliff, Andrew Knight, David Roland Chair: Sophie Hamley 77	9.00am – 10.00am A Murder of Crime Writers Martin Chatterton, Terry Hayes, Tara Moss, P.M. Newton, Karin Slaughter Chair: Chris Hanley 83	9.00am – 10.00am Secrets and Lies: Should the Catholic Church Confess? David Marr, Joanne McCarthy, John Saunders Chair: Janet Steele 89
10.15am – 11.15am The People Next Door: Spotlight on NZ Craig Cliff, Kate De Goldi, Emily Perkins, Carrie Tiffany; Chair: Lloyd Jones Sponsored by Griffith REVIEW 78	10.15am – 11.15am Into the Wild Jessie Cole, Robyn Davidson, Claire Dunn, Felicity Volk Chair: Anneli Knight Sponsored by The Atlantic 84	10.15am – 11.00am Jean Kittson in conversation with Jane Caro 90
11.30pm – 12.30pm A Wide Brown Land: Writing Australia Tony Birch, Alex Miller, Inga Simpson Chair: Ashley Hay Sponsored by Robert Oatley Vineyards 79	11.30am – 12.30pm Dangerous Allies: Some of our Best Friends are Enemies David Finkel, Malcolm Fraser Chair: David Marr 85	11.15am – 12.15pm The Cost of Free Speech Julian Burnside, Antony Loewenstein Participating chair: P.M. Newton Sponsored by Byron Coastal Real Estate 91
12.45pm – 1.45pm Getting to the Truth: Courage and Persistence in Investigative Journalism Joanne McCarthy, Kate McClymont, Colleen Ryan Chair: Christopher Warren 80	12.45pm – 1.30pm Straw into Gold: Can Writing Be Taught? Robin Hemley, Kathryn Heyman, Carrie Tiffany Chair: Sophie Hamley 86	12.30pm – 1.15pm Creativity and Craziness Jeanette Winterson in conversation with Susie Orbach Sponsored by Sydney Opera House 92
2.00pm – 3.00pm The Book and The Academy Shady Cosgrove, Jim Hearn, Kate Holden Chair: Jeri Kroll Sponsored by AAWP 81	1.45pm – 2.45pm Making our Culture Mem Fox, Frank Moorhouse, Henry Rosenbloom, Susan Wyndham; Chair: Jill Eddington Sponsored by Good Reading 87	1.30pm – 2.30pm Grief and Loss in Fiction Emily Perkins, M.L. Stedman, Felicity Volk Chair: Ashley Hay 93
3.15pm – 4.15pm Shifting Sands: Lessons From Iraq, Afghanistan and 12 Years of War Abbas El-Zein, David Finkel, Antony Loewenstein Chair: Jacqui Park 82	3.00pm – 4.00pm Surf's Up: Men Doing Something Beautiful Gary Elkerton, Bob McTavish, Steven Snow Chair: Mick O'Regan Sponsored by Frontline Copy Centre 88	2.45pm – 3.30pm Karin Slaughter in conversation with Martin Chatterton 94
4.30pm Byron Bay Public School Choir to close Festival		3.45pm – 4.30pm David Leser in conversation with Jane Caro 95



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PROGRAM

Womankind Marquee	New Philosopher Marquee	<p>Byron Bay Writers Festival</p> <p>1-3 August 2014</p>  <p>INDIGENOUS LITERACY FOUNDATION</p>
<p>9.20am – 2.00pm KIDS BIG DAY OUT Introduced by Maddie and Possum, co-hosts of Possum's Club, Saturdays on PRIME7</p> <p>9.30 – 10.00am MEET Sally Rippin</p> <p>10.10 – 10.40am MEET Mem Fox</p> <p>10.50am – 11.20am MEET Asphyxia</p> <p>11.30am – 12.00pm MEET Tristan Bancks</p> <p>12.10pm – 12.40pm MEET Nick Earls</p> <p>12.50 – 1.20pm MEET Jesse Blackadder</p> <p>1.30pm – 2.00pm MEET Andy Griffiths</p> <p>96</p>	<p>9.00am – 10.50am The Georgie Williamson Conversations: 9.00am Ashley Hay The Railwayman's Wife 9.40am Clare Wright The Forgotten Rebels of Eureka 10.20am Kathryn Heyman Floodline 99</p> <p>11.00am – 11.45am Lighthouses Ian Hoskins, M.L. Stedman Chair: Lisa Walker 100</p> <p>12.00pm – 12.30pm Here on Earth: An Argument for Hope Tim Flannery Sponsored by Patagonia 101</p> <p>12.45pm – 1.30pm Be Still My Beating Heart: Writing Romance Amy Andrews, Jennifer St George Chair: Mandy Nolan 102</p> <p>1.45pm – 2.30pm Alex Miller in conversation with Chris Hanley Sponsored by New Philosopher 103</p> <p>2.45pm – 3.30pm Robyn Davidson in conversation with Matthew Condon 104</p> <p>3.45pm – 4.30pm Jessie Cole and Inga Simpson in conversation with Lisa Walker 105</p>	
<p>2.15pm – 3.15pm Meet the Performance Poets Maxine Beneba Clarke, Geoff Lemon, Thando Sibanda, Samuel Wagan Watson Chair: Miles Merrill 97</p> <p>3.30pm – 4.30pm Transforming Communities Wesley Enoch, Jim Hearn, Kate Veitch Chair: Baden Offord 98</p>		

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Feature Events

WEDNESDAY 30 JULY
7.00pm – 8.30pm

Byron Community Centre Theatre
Jonson Street, Byron Bay
Cost: \$20

John Weiley Retrospective: An Explorer in Film

Film screening and John Weiley
in conversation with Kerry O'Brien

John Weiley is a pioneer, explorer, and a leader in Australian cinema. His films, which range from drama and comedy to art and science, have received worldwide acclaim (and some controversy). In 2002 he was invited to become a member of the American Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences – a rare honour for an Australian filmmaker.

This exclusive event includes a selection of clips from Weiley's work, from the early 1960s to the present, curated by Screenworks Chair Lois Randall. Audiences will be treated to classic cinema moments including performances from young Weiley with Germaine Greer in 1960s student films, Bryan Brown in the 1970s *Third Person Plural*, the Opera House in the long suppressed *Autopsy on a Dream* (made in 1968 and recently screened on ABC TV), the slapstick musical comedy *Dimboola*, the experimental "lesbian feminist psychodrama" *Journey Among Women*, which premiered at Cannes Film Festival in 1977, and the feature films *Dead Easy* and *Coolangatta Gold*. Weiley's Imax films, which he wrote, produced and directed, will also feature: *Antarctica*, described by *Hollywood Reporter* as "jaw droppingly beautiful" (still one of Australia's highest grossing films); the creative 3D art film *Imagine!*; the environmental feature *The Edge*; and science feature *Solarmax* with spectacular time-lapse and satellite images of the surface of the sun.

The screening will be followed by John Weiley in conversation with Kerry O'Brien, drawing out stories from the colourful chapters in the career of this extraordinary filmmaker who grew up in a grand old Grafton pub, attended school in Lismore, was a founding member of Screenworks and is a loyal supporter of the Byron Bay Writers Festival.

Sponsored by Screenworks Northern Rivers NSW

FRIDAY 1 AUGUST
5.00pm – 6.00pm

Byron Community Centre Theatre
Jonson Street, Byron Bay
Cost: \$10

Conversations: Richard Fidler with Poe Ballantine

Join Richard Fidler for a recorded broadcast of his ABC Radio program *Conversations*. Richard's guest is the gifted iconoclastic US author Poe Ballantine, best described by author Tom Robbins:

'Poe Ballantine's prose cuts right to the bone (the one that's stuck in America's throat), but manages to preserve not only the sweetest meat but the barbecue sauce, as well. Mark Twain would have admired his wit, and had Oscar Wilde read him, he would have bought an old Ford pickup and moved to Nebraska the day he got out of the slammer, hoping that some of his style rubbed off on him. A book without style is like a swan without feathers – it's just another plucked chicken – but this new one of Ballantine's (*Love and Terror on the Howling Plains of Nowhere*) is in its funky way majestic as it zigzags downstream. Poe Ballantine is the most soulful, insightful, funny, and altogether luminous "under-known" writer in America. He knocks your socks off, even when I'm barefoot.'



John Weiley



Poe Ballantine

FRIDAY 1 AUGUST
6.15pm – 8.00pm

Cavvanbah Room, upstairs at the
Byron Community Centre
Jonson Street, Byron Bay
Cost: \$8

Screening of the acclaimed documentary: *Love and Terror on the Howling Plains of Nowhere*

Directed by Dave Jannetta
Introduced by Poe Ballantine

Orson Welles once said "I don't think history can possibly be true." This is surely the case in the dozens of speculative accounts presented in *Love and Terror on the Howling Plains of Nowhere*. In 2006, Steven Haataja, a brilliant mathematics professor in the isolated community of Chadron, Nebraska, disappears without a trace. When his body is discovered three months later, the cause of death sends the community reeling with questions, conspiracy theories and misplaced suspicions. As the unusual cast of characters inhabiting the town weighs in on Haataja's final days, a vortex of esoteric theories, tawdry innuendos and illogical scenarios unravel. Celebrated author Poe Ballantine, whose acclaimed memoir inspired the film, leads us through the

maze, offering insights into Chadron and his own life of wanderlust.

Love and Terror had its world premiere at the esteemed Hot Docs Canadian International Documentary Festival earlier this year where it was screened to much acclaim. Don't miss out on the first opportunity to see it in Australia at this special screening introduced by Poe Ballantine. More information on the film at: www.loveandterrorthemovie.com.

FRIDAY 1 AUGUST
6.30pm – 9.00pm

Byron Beach Café
Clarkes Beach, Lawson Street,
Byron Bay
Cost: \$95

War and Remembrance Literary Dinner

Mike Carlton and Geoff Dyer in
conversation with Chris Hanley

Mike Carlton is one of Australia's iconic broadcasters and journalists. His life-long passion for naval history is self-evident in *Cruiser* and in his most recent book, *First Victory*, which tells the stirring naval story of the perilous opening months of the Great War. Geoff Dyer has been described by the *Daily Telegraph* (UK) as 'Possibly the best living writer in Britain.' His many books have been translated into 24 languages and

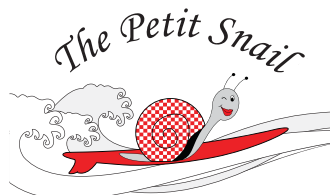
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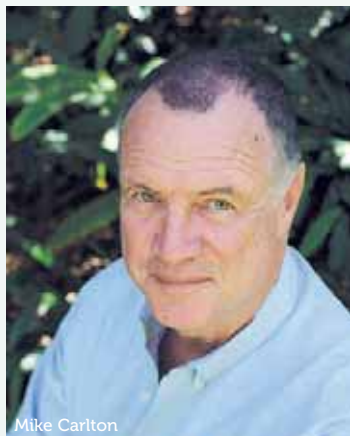
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Mike Carlton



Missy Higgins

include *But Beautiful*, *Jeff in Venice*, *Death in Varanasi* and *The Missing of the Somme*, which *The Observer* described as 'The great Great War book of our time.' Join them as Chris Hanley leads a dinner-time conversation and reflection upon war and remembrance, 100 years on.

Wine generously supplied by Red + White

FRIDAY 1 AUGUST 7.00pm – 8.15pm

Lennox Head Cultural & Community Centre
Cnr Mackney & Park Lanes,
Lennox Head

Cost \$25

An Evening with John Safran and Father Bob Maguire

Hosted by Jenny Burgess

Join two men who have made a difference – award-winning documentary maker and author John Safran and social activist, Catholic priest Father Bob Maguire in consecutive conversations with journalist Jenny Burgess, followed by a lively Q&A session with the popular co-hosts of Triple J's *Sunday Night with Safran*.

Relish John Safran's provocative and hilarious takes on race, the media, religion and other poignant social

issues and the true story of the genesis of his first book, *Murder in Mississippi* that tells how he met a white supremacist and befriended his black killer.

A man of passion, creativity and humour, Father Bob is part Billy Connolly, part angry Old Testament prophet and part compassionate Mother Theresa (he would hate this categorisation) – his story is told in *Father Bob*, *The Larrikin Priest*. His Father Bob Maguire Foundation is focused on growing social capital and supporting cohesive communities based on a philosophy of Care Without Borders.

FRIDAY 1 AUGUST 8.00pm – 10.30pm

(including a 30-minute interval)
Byron Community Centre Theatre
Jonson Street, Byron Bay
Cost: \$40

Liner Notes presents David Bowie's Ziggy Stardust: a spoken word tribute

For the first time, the Festival turns up the volume as the literary cabaret *Liner Notes* hits town. One of Melbourne's best-loved spoken word events, this is a poetic tribute to a classic album, song by song. A stellar line-up of writers, poets and musicians explore

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We would love to hear your Byron Bay Writers Festival 2014 highlights so please join the conversation online.

their personal connection to that glam ham of wham, bam and thank-you-ma'am – David Bowie.

Join us as we salute Bowie's masterpiece of *Sturm und Drang*, on which he introduced the world to the leper messiah from outer space, Ziggy Stardust. Featuring special guests Andrew Denton, Missy Higgins, Andy Griffiths and Benjamin Law with Maxine Beneba-Clarke, Omar Musa, Luka Lesson, Emilie Zoey Baker and Sean M Whelan.

MC Michael Nolan will deliver a potted history of Bowie and his flame-haired alter-ego, and the live *Liner Notes* band will rip through the hits like a stiletto caught on satin flares. Yes, they'll likely take it all too far, but in their defence, boy can they play guitar...

Dress up for an unforgettable night of stories, spoken word and songs, as we celebrate a starman surely even Richard Dawkins believes in.

Sponsored by Christopher and Lynda Dean

SATURDAY 2 AUGUST 5.00pm

Byron Bay Library, Lawson Street,
Byron Bay

Cost: Free, but booking recommended

Australian Slam Champions on Heat

MC: Miles Merrill with Jesse John Brand, Maxine Benenba Clarke, Omar Musa and ... you!

It's the Byron Heat of the Australian Poetry Slam.

With just two minutes each, local spoken-wordsmiths ignite the audience with poetry, hip hop, monologues, stories...whatever they can do with mind, mouth and mic. Judges are chosen from the audience. Top two scorers head to a NSW Final in Sydney. Hosted by Miles Merrill with special guests Maxine Beneba Clarke and Australian Slam Champions Jesse John Brand and Omar Musa.

No need for competitors to register interest beforehand: simply turn up at 4.30pm, ready to roar. Win this heat and you're on your way to Sydney to compete in the State Final. The national Australian Slam champion will publish a book with Pitt Street Poetry and tour to the China Bookworm International Literary Festival, Ubud Writers & Readers Festival in Bali, Sydney Writers' Festival and return to Byron Writers Festival 2015 a published author.

This slam is co-presented by Word Travels, Byron Bay Writers Festival and The Byron Bay Library.

Come on, give it your all: we want to hear your voice. All work presented must be of your own composition, written within the last 12 months. Fresh! For further details, visit www.australianpoetryslam.com. Two minutes that could change your life!

To get ready for the championship, book into Luka Lesson's *Performance Poetry Workshop* – see page 14.

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Feature Events

SATURDAY 2 AUGUST

6.00pm – 7.00pm

Byron Community Centre Theatre
Jonson Street, Byron Bay

Cost: \$25

John Safran

Murder in Mississippi

Live on Stage

MC: Mick O'Regan

This is the true story of how John Safran met a white supremacist, befriended his black killer and wrote a book.

If you were John Safran you might find yourself cruising American white supremacist websites one night, only to stumble upon the news of the violent murder of a lifelong southern racist who you not only know personally but have been sued by. You would then get on a plane, live in Jackson, Mississippi for the best part of six months, plunge into FBI files, earn a killer's trust and write a true crime novel.

In this live event Safran will take you deeper into his time in the South, telling the story on stage with film and photography from his six-month immersion below the Mason Dixon Line. *Murder In Mississippi* is a tale of race, poverty, incarceration and the cultural fault lines that have defined the South since they found themselves on the losing side of the Civil War. John Safran is Australia's peerless exponent of gonzo film-making and has added 'author' to his bio with the release of his first book, a true crime novel, *Murder in Mississippi*.

SATURDAY 2 AUGUST

6.30pm – 9.00pm

Fishheads Restaurant

Jonson Street at Main Beach,

Byron Bay

Cost: \$95

National Treasures

Literary Dinner

Julian Burnside and
Frank Moorhouse in
conversation with Sian Prior

Julian Burnside, recipient of the 2014 Sydney Peace Prize, is a barrister specialising in human rights and commercial litigation. He is the author of *Wordwatching*, *Watching Brief* and *On Privilege* and is a National Trust Living Treasure. Throughout his illustrious career Frank Moorhouse has won every major national prize for novels, short stories, essays and film scripts. Best known for his Edith Campbell-Berry trilogy led by *Grand Days*, Frank received the 2013 Australia Council Award for Lifetime Achievement in Literature. Enjoy the freshest locally sourced food as journalist, author and broadcaster Sian Prior hosts what promises to be one of the most engrossing conversations of the Festival.

Wine generously supplied by Robert Oatley Vineyards

SATURDAY 2 AUGUST

8.00pm – 9.15pm

Byron Community Centre Theatre
Jonson Street, Byron Bay

Cost: \$25

Richard Clapton in conversation with David Leser

Richard Clapton is a much-loved legend of Australian music, the performer and songwriter of many iconic Australian hit songs including *Deep Water*, *Best Years of Our Lives*, *Goodbye Tiger*, *Glory Road*, *Lucky Country*, *I am An Island*, *Trust Somebody*, *Capricorn Dancer* and *Girls on the Avenue*.

As a producer Richard worked on the second INXS album, *Underneath the*



John Safran
photo Germain McMicking



Christine Manfield
photo Anson Smart

Colours, which saw the beginning of their rise to fame in the shape of their first two hit singles. He also joined The Party Boys for a period before resuming his solo career. Australian rock music historian, Ian McFarlane described Clapton as "one of the most important Australian songwriters". In 1999 Clapton was inducted into the Australian Recording Industry Association (ARIA) Hall of Fame. Clapton's memoir, *The Best Years of Our Lives*, celebrates 40 years in the music industry. He is in conversation with award-winning journalist and author, David Leser.

SUNDAY 3 AUGUST

12.00pm – 2.30pm

The Restaurant, Byron at Byron
Resort & Spa

Broken Head Road, Byron Bay

Cost: \$95

Passage to India: Travelling the Spice Route

Literary Lunch

Christine Manfield in
conversation with Simon Marnie

India is not a destination; it is an experience. Celebrated chef, author and gastronomic traveller Christine

Manfield creates an exotic lunch embracing some of her favourite dishes from her extensive travels through India. *Tasting India* is her culinary story of the sub-continent garnered from many visits, myriad passionate cooks and their shared love of food. The recipes she collected along the way reflect the stories of countless mothers, grandmothers, daughters, sons of daughters, brothers, sisters and aunts, as told to her during her travels. Christine's evocative menu will be overseen by the Byron at Byron's head chef Gavin Hughes, and the journey interpreted by ABC broadcaster and committed foodie, Simon Marnie. Be transported in the resort's sumptuous and spectacular rainforest setting.

Christine is an ambassador for Room to Read.

SUNDAY 3 AUGUST

2.00pm

Railway Friendly Bar,
Jonson Street, Byron Bay

Cost: Free

Writers at the Rails

Featuring David Hallett, Omar Musa and Christine Strelan

22nd Anniversary with invited readings and Poetry Slam



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MONDAY 28 JULY
10.00am – 4.00pm

Brave New World of Book Publishing

Roz Hopkins

Green Building Centre, 1 Brigantine St, Arts & Industry Park, Byron Bay \$100/\$85*

Options abound in the brave new world of book publishing – ebook, print-on-demand, DIY publishing, traditional publishing. These terms trip off today's aspiring author's tongue – but how do you know what's right for you? This hands-on workshop will help you unpick the options and explore how they might work for you, bearing in mind the type of person you are, the style and genre of your writing, and your motivations for writing and getting published.

We'll consider the key elements involved in creating a professional book – one that stacks up just as well as a book published by one of the major publishing houses. And we will explore in detail the business end of publishing, ensuring that you understand what's involved in distributing and promoting your book, and the financial return you might expect.

Every project is different and in this workshop we will base our discussions around attendees' individual writing projects, so that each participant can expect to leave with an overview of how to move forward with their book.

MONDAY 28 JULY
1.30pm – 4.30pm

Understanding Your Creative Rights Seminar

Sally McPherson

SAE Institute, 373 Ewingsdale Rd, Byron Bay \$20/\$15*

Copyright is a quintessential entitlement for creators and authors. What is it? Who owns it? What rights do you have if you do own it? For how long? And significantly, how do you derive commercial benefit from it?

An intangible and perpetuating asset, copyright is also a powerful creative authority vital to the livelihoods of writers, artists and performers.

This seminar will traverse the fundamentals of copyright (including joint authorship), and importantly, examine options for copyright owners to make money from its authorised use. How can a work be commercialised, exploited and protected simultaneously? And what are the implications of the internet and social media? How can a 1968 statute possibly offer any protection?

Sally McPherson has explained to hundreds, maybe thousands, of talented people the fundamentals of copyright ownership. Benefit from her expertise by attending this concise, vitally informative workshop.

TUESDAY 29 JULY
10.00am – 4.00pm

Write to the Bone: Turning tragedy into triumph

Mandy Nolan

Byron Sport & Cultural Complex, Ewingsdale Rd, Byron Bay \$100/\$85*

For the last 30 years comedian and writer Mandy Nolan has been using her personal struggles as her creative resource. Nolan believes that it is in the magic of the everyday, the humdrum of the mundane where

some of the most profoundly human insights lie sparkling amongst the dross of success and achievement. In her one-day workshop, Nolan will encourage participants to use their own stories and experiences, and in particular their greatest personal challenges, to inform their writing.

'I think the most important story that storytellers need to uncover is in fact their own. Whether writing fiction or non-fiction, your own narrative becomes your primary creative touchstone. The trick is being able to pick it up when required and skim it across to the pond. You want to make your stone bounce ... not sink!'

TUESDAY 29 JULY
10.00am – 4.00pm

Spoken Word & Performance Poetry

Luka Lesson

SAE Institute, 373 Ewingsdale Rd, Byron Bay \$100/\$85*

Luka Lesson has facilitated spoken-word poetry workshops in nine countries with poetry aficionados, school students and word beginners alike. His unique style allows writers to harness their own voices and create new work that can be developed further in their own time using the tools Luka so generously provides.

Advice is given on generating text, separating the inner creative from the critic, and how to perform with a clear intent and a strong presence. With over seven years of workshop experience, Luka creates a nurturing and safe space for participants and the results are ever inspiring.

TUESDAY 29 JULY
10.00am – 4.00pm

So You Think You Can Write

Laurel Cohn

Byron Community College, East Point Arcade, Jonson Street, Byron Bay (across from Woolworths) \$100/\$85*

So you think you can write, but can you rewrite? Successful authors often note that the art of a good book lies in the revision process. Getting your story down (whether fiction or non-fiction) is a great achievement, but the real work begins with rewriting. And rewriting. And more rewriting.

In this workshop, designed specifically for writers with a completed draft of a book-length work, editor Laurel Cohn explores the three key aspects to the art of revision: stepping out of writer mode and into revision mode; identifying the heart of the narrative; and shaping the text to honour the story. Each of these aspects requires a different perspective and particular tools and strategies.

Through the day, you will be encouraged to pull back from your work, and then dive deep into the heart of it. Learn how to enhance your underlying themes, hone your voice, structure your story line, pace your narrative and tighten your text. The art of revision is fundamental to the craft of writing. Embrace this and you will improve your chances of publishing success.

Participants to bring: 10,000-word extract from current working draft of their manuscript, preferably the opening plus the synopsis (up to 500 words).

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Roz Hopkins



Luka Lesson



Mandy Nolan



Claire Dunn



Angela Meyer



Benjamin Law

TUESDAY 29 JULY
10.00am – 4.00pm

Writing as Therapy

David Roland & Claire Dunn

Green Building Centre, 1 Brigantine St, Arts & Industry Park, Byron Bay
\$100/\$85*

David and Claire wish to provide a gentle environment in which they explore ways of using writing to move through difficult emotions, integrate past events, and heighten positive experiences. Life writing creates narrative, and narrative can lead to resolution, by turning the brain's implicit memories into explicit ones.

Exercises will include James Pennebaker's writing to heal exercises, journaling with a purpose, narrative integration, self-compassion and gratitude exercises.

The presenters, a psychologist and a journalist, are both memoirists, and will share their personal experiences of using writing in these ways.

Be prepared to spend a large part of the day writing and giving feedback about your writing process. Your level of skill is unimportant and there will be no pressure to read out what you have written. Please bring plenty of writing materials. You will leave this workshop with a bag full of new writing tools.

WEDNESDAY 30 JULY
10.00am – 4.00pm

Faber Writing Academy

at ALLEN & UNWIN

Getting Published:
Insiders reveal how to get your foot in the door

Annette Barlow

Byron Community College,
East Point Arcade, Jonson Street,
Byron Bay (across from Woolworths)
\$120/\$100*

Annette Barlow is a Publisher with Allen & Unwin.

A one-day course offering aspiring writers the opportunity to find out what really goes on inside a publishing house, how publishers make their choices and how to improve one's chances of publication. The program will include sessions on sure-fire proposals, editing your first page, opening chapters, how to write a great covering letter and the top 10 reasons manuscripts are rejected.

The day will include group sessions along with individual feedback – for this you are required to please send in the first two pages of your manuscript (double-spaced, Times New Roman, size 12) with your name, the title and the genre in the header or footer at least two weeks ahead of the course date.

Please send your two pages to info@nrwc.org.au.

Please note that *Getting Published* is targeted at writers with unpublished manuscripts suitable for the adult market; either fiction or non-fiction.

WEDNESDAY 30 JULY
10.00am – 4.00pm

Flash Fiction

Angela Meyer

SAE Institute, 373 Ewingsdale Rd,
Byron Bay
\$100/\$85*

Very short stories have been around a long time. Franz Kafka, Virginia Woolf and Ernest Hemingway all have stories that can be read in a matter of minutes. Australian authors such as Rodney Hall, Josephine Rowe and Paddy O'Reilly have published very short stories. Stories under 1000 words are now commonly referred to as 'flash fiction'. Other terms include 'microfiction' and 'sudden fiction'. The publication of flash fiction in both print and online has expanded in recent years, as have competitions accepting flash fiction submissions.

Angela Meyer, whose debut collection of flash fiction *Captives* was released in May, provides an introduction to the genre through lessons, examples, and activities. Angela will encourage you to delight in brevity, and allow you to experiment with notions of character, conflict and resolution, and evocation of place and mood, in few words. She will also show you how to polish your short pieces to make them the best they can be.

WEDNESDAY 30 JULY
10.00am – 4.00pm

Writing the Story of My Life

Benjamin Law

Byron Sport & Cultural Complex,
Ewingsdale Rd, Byron Bay
\$100/\$85*

If you've ever considered writing about your life – in columns, personal essays or as a memoir – but weren't sure where (or how) to start, then join this in-depth exploration of writing the most important story you'll ever tell: your own. Learn key techniques for writing about not only yourself, but the people, places, and experiences of your life in a way that remains true to memory and excites readers.

Learning outcomes:

- how to identify the elements of your life that are most interesting to readers
- how to refine and distill your storytelling voice
- how to find the comedy in tragedy, and tragedy in comedy
- how to stay on task and time-manage the epic task of writing your life on the page
- how to write over 15,000 words about your life in a single month – the start of a good memoir, or a collection of magazine columns.



Anna Middleton

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Workshops

WEDNESDAY 30 JULY

10.00am – 4.00pm

Secrets of Travel Writing

Claire Scobie

Green Building Centre, 1 Brigantine St, Arts & Industry Park, Byron Bay
\$100/\$85*

Blogs, online travel sites and social media have changed the game for professional travel writers. While writers for print media hone new skills to stand out among the virtual crowd, bloggers are learning the craft of traditional journalists. Meanwhile everyone is thinking about their brand, their content and their writers' platform. But award-winning author Claire Scobie (*Last Seen in Lhasa* and *The Pagoda Tree*) emphasises that the aim remains the same: write compelling stories.

This one-day workshop will teach aspiring travel writers – or writing travellers – how to navigate through this new world. Whether you're writing for newspapers, magazines or online, you will learn how to craft an idea into a polished story and how to evoke a sense of place. We will also cover: the range of online options and how to build a following; the use of eye candy; how to hook your reader and how to pitch, revise and structure your work for different media. Filled with plenty of practical exercises, Claire will give you the tools to stay ahead of the game.

THURSDAY 31 JULY

9.30am – 12.30pm

Writing for Children

Sally Rippin

Green Building Centre, 1 Brigantine St, Arts & Industry Park, Byron Bay
\$60/\$50*

Join prolific children's author Sally Rippin for a fun and practical workshop on writing for children aged 6–12 years. Discover what it takes to hook your young reader in, keep them turning the pages and make them fall in love with your characters. Find out how to write

with authenticity by remembering who you were as a child, and make sure you target the right age group for the story you want to tell.

THURSDAY 31 JULY

9.30am – 12.30pm

Writing & Place

Sophie Cunningham

Byron Community College,
East Point Arcade, Jonson Street,
Byron Bay (across from Woolworths)
\$60/\$50*

For most writers, 'where?' is the very first question they must ask themselves before they begin. A sense of place – of landscapes both external and internal – is everything, intrinsically linked to voice, story and character. But creating these textures is no easy task. How do you write about places far away without falling back on travel writing? Why is writing about home the hardest thing of all? How can you use history to inform your sense of place? How do you write a place from the inside out? How does using place in fiction and non-fiction differ? This workshop will involve writing exercises, workshoping and discussion of these issues.

THURSDAY 31 JULY

9.30am – 12.30pm

**Writing Imaginatively
About the Past**

**Masterclass with
Robin Hemley**

SAE Institute, 373 Ewingsdale Rd,
Byron Bay
\$100

Few people have photographic memories or the aural equivalent, and so it's a given that when we write about the past we're going to be recreating and even reinventing large swaths of experience. Many writers approach this with trepidation – others pretend that they have full recall. But we know better. In this workshop, we'll discuss the ways in which we must reinvent the past in order to be true to our experiences.

Please submit up to 12 pages of double-spaced work about a past event (this may be part of a longer work), and while Robin might not choose your piece to discuss in this brief three-hour workshop, he will try to touch on issues that arise in your work, as well as the work of other workshop participants.

Robin Hemley directs the Writing Program at Yale-NUS College in Singapore and is the author of eleven books of non-fiction and fiction. He is a graduate of The Iowa Writers' Workshop, and directed the Nonfiction Writing Program at The University of Iowa from 2004–2013.

THURSDAY 31 JULY

10.00am – 4.00pm

**Getting the Crime
'Right'**

P.M. Newton

Byron Sport & Cultural Complex,
Ewingsdale Rd, Byron Bay
\$100/\$85*

For many writers getting the crime 'right' is an intimidating prospect. This workshop will look at the opportunities that a crime provides. It can work as a framing device for the spine of the plot as well as a way to develop character and setting. This workshop will explore three questions:

What would be needed to solve this crime? This involves thinking about the elements or legal proofs of the crime – clues, evidence, witnesses, physical material, alibis, motives, means etc? It requires a little research and assembling of the ingredients.

How will my characters solve this crime? This involves making decisions about who knows what, who did what, who will discover what, and how they will discover it. We consider what obstacles the characters will face in solving the crime and how to weave the crime into a story and a plot.

Why tell the story of this crime? What does the choice of crime tell you about the characters, about the setting of the story? This involves thinking about the crime as more than just a plot device that pushes your characters around a chessboard. The crime should arise out of the characters and the place and be intrinsic to them.

THURSDAY 31 JULY

1.30pm – 4.30pm

**The Situation vs The
Story: Getting to the
heart of the matter in
non-fiction writing**

Sian Prior

Green Building Centre, 1 Brigantine St, Arts & Industry Park, Byron Bay
\$60/\$50*

If you want to craft an authentic, engaging piece of non-fiction writing, you need to do so much more than produce a faithful description of 'what happened'. But how do you find the 'story' at the heart of the 'situation' you're exploring?

Leaving stuff out can be even more important than putting stuff in. Whether you call it finding an angle, offering an insight, or arriving at a poetic truth, it's a task that requires structure, discipline, a clear voice and an empathy with your readers. In this workshop we'll look at how to convert a bunch of facts into a gripping tale.

Sian Prior has been a writer and broadcaster for over 20 years. Her memoir, *Shy*, was published by Text in May. She teaches non-fiction and journalism at RMIT University and for writers centres around the country.

THURSDAY 31 JULY

1.30pm – 4.30pm

Nature Writing

Inga Simpson

Byron Community College,
East Point Arcade, Jonson Street,
Byron Bay (across from Woolworths)
\$60/\$50*

*"When we tug at a single thing
in nature, we find it attached to
the rest of the world" ~ John Muir.*

This workshop is ideal for fiction and non-fiction writers with a passion for the natural world, as well as professional writers in environmental fields.

You'll focus on techniques for bringing landscapes, flora and fauna to life for your audience, including: evocative description, effective use of emotion, and the importance of story. You'll also consider issues such as anthropomorphism, culture versus nature, and the challenges faced when writing with an environmental message.

The workshop uses a combination of instruction, inspiring examples of nature writing, practical writing exercises, and plenty of opportunity for group discussion. You'll come away with a stronger understanding of nature writing – past and contemporary, Australian and international – and a practical toolkit for sharing your love of nature on the page.



Claire Scobie



Sally Rippin



Robin Hemley



P.M. Newton



Inga Simpson

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Biographies

More detailed biographies are available on the Festival website.
Numbers listed below these biographies refer to the program sessions on pages 4–9.

Amy Andrews

Amy Andrews is an award-winning, best-selling author who has written 40+ contemporary romances. She's sold 1.6 million books and been translated into over a dozen different languages.
Session 102

Asphyxia

Asphyxia is a deaf artist, puppeteer and author who handcrafted the Grimstones family from household junk. Her book series, *The Grimstones*, is based on the acclaimed theatre show.
Sessions 74, 96

Poe Ballantine

Denver-born Poe Ballantine is the author of five books, most recently the memoir *Love and Terror on the Howling Plains of Nowhere*.
Sessions 4, 49

Tristan Bancks

Tristan Bancks is a children's and teens' author. His books include *Two Wolves*, the *My Life* series and *Mac Slater Coolhunter*.
Sessions 43, 46, 96

Annette Barlow

Annette Barlow has worked in the publishing industry for over 25 years and for over 10 years as a publisher. Annette is the publisher in charge of *The Australian*

Vogel's Literary Award.
Workshop only – page 15

Maxine Beneba Clarke

Maxine Beneba Clarke is an Australian writer of Afro-Caribbean descent. She is a spoken-word poet and slam poetry champion, and the author of the award-winning short fiction collection *Foreign Soil*.
Sessions 21, 43, 97

Tony Birch

Tony Birch lives and teaches in Melbourne. He is the author of *Blood*, shortlisted for the Miles Franklin Award, as well as *Shadowboxing* and *Father's Day*. His most recent book is *The Promise*.
Sessions 23, 34, 48, 79

Jesse Blackadder

Dr Jesse Blackadder is an author of contemporary, historical and junior fiction. She was the 2011/12 Australian Antarctic Arts Fellow.
Sessions 22, 46, 63, 96

Jesse Brand

Jesse John Brand is the residing Australian Poetry Slam National Champion, an award-winning writer, and musician. He has performed in several international literary festivals.
Sessions 24, 70

Bob Brown

Bob Brown has been vilified, beaten, shot at and jailed. Jail was not so bad as Parliament, he says, though 'defending this beautiful planet makes both worthwhile'. His new book, *Optimism*, tells why.
Sessions 39, 41



James Brown

James Brown is the author of *Anzac's Long Shadow*. He is a former Australian Army officer and the Military Fellow at the Lowy Institute.
Sessions 20, 54

Jenny Burgess

Jenny Burgess is a member of the Lennox Arts Board and a journalist with Radio 2LM. She has worked in local TV, newspapers and radio.
Feature event only – page 11

Julian Burnside

Julian Burnside is a barrister who specialises in human rights and commercial litigation. He is the author of *Wordwatching*, *Watching*

Brief and *On Privilege*.
Sessions 8, 91

Mel Buttle

Mel Buttle is an hilarious bundle of contradictions, and she's a package that is rapidly making herself felt in all media, right across the country.
Sessions 51, 69

Edna Carew

Author Edna Carew has been a teacher, translator, journalist and commentator. Her many books include bestsellers *Paul Keating*, *Prime Minister* and *Westpac, the bank that broke the bank*.
Sessions 10, 27, 59, 72

Mike Carlton

Mike Carlton is one of Australia's best-known broadcasters and journalists. He has had a life-long passion for naval history and is the author of *Cruiser* and, his most recent book, *First Victory*.
Sessions 20, 45

Jane Caro

Jane Caro is an author, novelist, journalist, broadcaster, columnist, advertising writer and media and social commentator. Her latest book is *For God's Sake - An Atheist, a Christian, a Muslim and a Jew Debate Religion*. She is currently working on

her second novel.
Sessions 5, 15, 90, 95

Antonia Case

Antonia Case is Editor-in-Chief of *Womankind*, a magazine heralding a new era for Australian women, and Literary Editor of *New Philosopher* magazine. Antonia won the AAP Media Professional Award this year.
Session 22

Martin Chatterton

English-born Martin Ed Chatterton wears three hats: children's author and illustrator, adult crime fiction writer, and PhD candidate.
Sessions 63, 83, 94

Tasneem Chopra

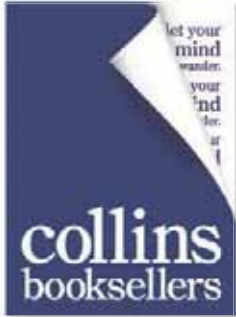
An author, cross-cultural consultant, curator, activist. Tasneem's commitment to social justice is expressed across various media including the arts and community engagement
Sessions 5, 15

Richard Clapton

Richard Clapton is a much-loved legend of Australian music. His memoir *The Best Years of Our Lives* will be published in August.
Session 57

Craig Cliff

Craig Cliff is the author of *The Mannequin Makers* and *A Man Melting*, which



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Jane Caro



Maxine Beneba Clarke



Tasneem Chopra



Mel Buttle



Kate De Goldi



Andrew Denton

won Best First Book in the 2011 Commonwealth Writers' Prize.

Sessions 73, 77, 78

Laurel Cohn

Laurel Cohn is a book editor passionate about the power of stories in our lives. She has been working with writers for 25 years.

Session 60

Jessie Cole

Jessie Cole's debut novel *Darkness on the Edge of Town* was shortlisted for the ALS Gold Medal. Her latest novel *Deeper Water* will be launched at the festival.

Sessions 38, 84, 105

Matthew Condon

Matthew Condon has written several novels, short fiction collections and non-fiction works. His latest books are two volumes of a true crime non-fiction trilogy – *Three Crooked Kings* and *Jacks and Jokers* – the epic story of Queensland corruption in the latter half of the 20th Century.

Sessions 47, 56, 104

Shady Cosgrove

Shady Cosgrove has written *What the Ground Can't Hold* and *She Played Elvis*, which was shortlisted for *The Australian*/

Vogel Literary Award.
Sessions 29, 58, 81

Sophie Cunningham

Sophie Cunningham has been on the publishing scene in Australia for 30 years. *Warning: The Story of Cyclone Tracy*, is her most recent book.

Sessions 18, 23, 42, 68, 75

Robyn Davidson

Robyn Davidson, the author of *Tracks*, was born on a cattle property in Queensland, went to Sydney in the late sixties, and has lived in London, NY and India.

Sessions 52, 84, 104

Marele Day

Marele Day's crime novels won her a Ned Kelly Lifetime Achievement Award. Other works include internationally acclaimed *Lambs of God*, *Mrs Cook: The Real and Imagined Life of the Captain's Wife*, and *The Sea Bed*.

Session 49

Kate De Goldi

Kate De Goldi writes fiction for all ages. Her most recent publication (with artist, Gregory O'Brien) is *The ACB with Honora Lee*.

Sessions 21, 60, 78

Andrew Denton

Andrew Denton likes to describe his occupation on visa forms as "personality". He counts Rupert Murdoch, Paul Keating and Germaine Greer amongst his favourite detractors.

Session 12

Claire Dunn

Claire Dunn is the author of *My Year Without Matches*. She is a freelance journalist and was a campaigner for the Wilderness Society.

Sessions 29, 84



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Antonia won the AAP Media Professional Award this year.

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Biographies

Geoff Dyer

Geoff Dyer's many books include *But Beautiful*, *Jeff in Venice*, *Death in Varanasi*, and, most recently, *Zona*. His books have been translated into 24 languages.
Sessions 2, 71

Nick Earls

Nick Earls is the author of 19 novels and collections of short fiction for adults, teenagers and children. His new novel for adults is *Analogue Men*.
Sessions 44, 69, 96

Jill Eddington

Jill Eddington, as Director of Literature at the Australia Council for the Arts, is responsible for providing leadership of the Australia Council's Literature program and managing the delivery of Australia Council grants and initiatives for the Literature sector.
Session 87

Russell Eldridge

Russell Eldridge is a journalist, fiction writer, media trainer and consultant. Russell is a founding committee member of the Byron Bay Writers Festival, and regularly chairs festival sessions.
Sessions 20, 52, 54

Abbas El-Zein

Abbas El-Zein has published a novel, *Tell the Running Water*, and an award-winning memoir *Leave to Remain*. His latest book, *The Secret Maker of*

the World, is a collection of short stories.
Sessions 21, 62, 82

Gary Elkerton

Gary Kong Elkerton is an immortal of professional surfing and a towering figure in the world of big wave riding.
Session 88

Kate Eltham

Kate Eltham is the Festival Director of Brisbane Writers Festival. For six years she was the CEO of Queensland Writers Centre, connecting Australian writers and readers.
Session 53

Wesley Enoch

Wesley Enoch is originally from Stradbroke Island (Minjeribah) and is a proud Noonuccal Nuugi man. He is the Artistic Director of Queensland Theatre Company and a renowned director and writer for the stage.
Sessions 48, 98

Richard Fidler

Conversations with Richard Fidler presents an in-depth, up-close-and-personal interview program broadcast across Australia on ABC Radio. Richard has interviewed CIA agents, ex-prisoners, prime ministers, astronauts and the Dalai Lama.
Feature event only – page 10

David Finkel

David Finkel is a Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist and

the author of two critically acclaimed books, *The Good Soldiers* and *Thank You For Your Service*.
Sessions 54, 71, 82, 85

Tim Flannery

Tim Flannery has written over a dozen books, including *Here on Earth: An Argument for Hope*, *The Weather Makers* and most recently *Among the Islands*.
Sessions 17, 41, 101

Mem Fox

Mem Fox wrote *Possum Magic* in 1983. It's still in hardback. She has written over 40 books for children and five non-fiction books for adults.
Sessions 63, 87, 96

Malcolm Fraser

The Rt Hon Malcolm Fraser was Australia's 22nd Prime Minister. Since leaving government he has played a distinguished role in international relations. He has written two books, *Malcolm Fraser: The Political Memoirs* and more recently, *Dangerous Allies*.
Sessions 50, 85

Lisa-ann Gershwin

Known to many as the Stinger Lady, Lisa is an enthusiastic media personality, guest lecturer, and authority on all things jellyfish.
Sessions 17, 41, 68

Tom Gilliatt

Tom Gilliatt is the publishing director of Allen & Unwin and was



Tim Flannery

Malcolm Fraser

previously Pan Macmillan's director of non-fiction publishing and digital-only imprint Momentum.
Session 67

Lisa Gorton

Lisa lives in Melbourne. Her second poetry collection *Hotel Hyperion* features storm glasses, museums and a mythical space hotel. Shortlisted for the Queensland Literary Awards, it was selected in *ABR* and *The Age* as a book of the year.
Sessions 33, 60, 61

Andy Griffiths

Andy Griffiths is one of Australia's most popular and well-loved children's authors. He has written more than 25 books, including short stories, comic novels, nonsense verse, picture books, plays and a creative writing guide for students and teachers. Andy is best known for the *JUST!* books, *The Day My Bum Went Psycho* and *The Treehouse* series.
Sessions 25, 96

Gideon Haigh

Gideon Haigh has been a journalist his whole adult life, contributed to more than 100 publications and written 30 books, the latest of which is *Ashes to Ashes*.
Sessions 7, 27, 48

Sophie Hamley

Sophie Hamley has worked as a bookseller, editor, writer, content producer, web and interactive TV producer. She became a literary agent upon joining the Cameron Creswell Agency in 2006. She is President of the Australian Literary Agents' Association.
Sessions 6, 11, 77, 86

Chris Hanley

Chris Hanley is the founder and Chair of the Byron Bay Writers Festival. He is a business coach and speaker across a range of genres from short stories to business articles. Chris is the Principal of Byron Bay's leading real estate company, Byron Bay First National.
Sessions 2, 35, 66, 83, 103

Darren Hanlon

Darren Hanlon is an Australian singer/songwriter who plays urban folk music and is known for his easy engagement with audiences around the world. He has released five solo albums and runs his own record label Flippin Yeah Industries.
Session 19



Geoff Dyer



Lisa-ann Gershwin



Lisa Gorton



Andy Griffiths



Gideon Haigh



Darren Hanlon



Ashley Hay



Terry Hayes



Jim Hearn



Carina Hoang



Robert Hoge photo Matt Warrell



Kate Holden

Lynda Hawryluk

Dr Lynda Hawryluk is a writer and academic who coordinates the Associate Degree of Creative Writing at Southern Cross University.
Session 9

Ashley Hay

Ashley Hay's most recent book is a novel, *The Railwayman's Wife*. She is also the editor of the *Best Australian Science Writing 2014*. She lives in Brisbane.
Sessions 27, 44, 68, 79, 93, 99

Terry Hayes

Terry Hayes began his career as a journalist for

The Sydney Morning Herald, then as a foreign correspondent in the US he covered Watergate and President Nixon's resignation. Hayes continued on to become a successful screenwriter, having written the screenplays for *Mad Max 2*, *Dead Calm* and many more. *I am Pilgrim* is his first novel.
Sessions 16, 45, 83

Jim Hearn

Jim Hearn is the author of *High Season: a memoir of heroin and hospitality*. He teaches creative writing at Southern Cross University.
Sessions 13, 81, 98

Robin Hemley

Robin Hemley directs the Writing Program at Yale-NUS College in Singapore and is the author of 11 well-received books of non-fiction and fiction.
Sessions 1, 4, 86

Kathryn Heyman

Kathryn Heyman has won and been nominated for awards in Australia and the UK. Her fifth novel, *Floodline*, was published in 2013.
Sessions 1, 58, 86, 99

Missy Higgins

Singer/songwriter Missy Higgins has struck a profound chord with

Australian music fans with her irresistible melodies, arrow-through-the-heart lyrics and a voice that clearly means it.
Sessions 19, 40

Carina Hoang

Carina Hoang is a Vietnamese refugee, award-winning author and publisher, and was inducted into WA's inaugural Women's Hall of Fame as one of their most courageous and inspiring women.
Sessions 6, 8, 14

Robert Hoge

Robert Hoge has worked as a political adviser, a science writer and a journalist. His memoir,

Ugly, is about growing up ugly and disabled.
Sessions 11, 55

Kate Holden

Kate Holden is the author of *In My Skin* and *The Romantic*, both memoirs. She also publishes essays, short stories, and reviews.
Sessions 4, 56, 81

Roz Hopkins

Roz has worked in book publishing for over 20 years. She was most recently non-fiction publisher at HarperCollins and currently runs her own small publishing house, Captain Honey.
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Biographies

Susan Hornbeck

Susan Hornbeck is Associate Publisher at Griffith REVIEW, Australia's leading literary quarterly. Formerly she worked 16 years in publicity and marketing in Australian publishing. Session 67

Ian Hoskins

Ian Hoskins's *Sydney Harbour: a history* won the 2010 Queensland Premier's Literary Prize for History. *Coast: a history of the NSW edge* was published in 2013. Sessions 17, 36, 100

Joanna Immig

Joanna Immig is a Byron Bay based writer and photographer. She published *The Toxic Playground* and contributes to print and online magazines. Session 22

Zacharey Jane

Zacharey Jane is the author of the acclaimed novel *The Lifeboat* and the children's picture book *Tobias Blow*. She lives with her family by the sea. Sessions 16, 44

Lloyd Jones

Lloyd Jones' best-known novel, *Mister Pip*, was shortlisted for the Booker

Prize, and was made into a major film. His latest book is a memoir, *A History of Silence*. Sessions 28, 55, 78

Jean Kittson

A multi-talented performer and writer, Jean Kittson is one of Australia's best known and most popular comedians, amusing audiences in theatre, film, print, on radio and television. Sessions 51, 56, 90

Anneli Knight

Anneli is a regular contributor to *The Age* and *The Sydney Morning Herald* and is the author of *Flirting with Finance*, the modern woman's guide to financial freedom. Sessions 19, 84

Andrew Knight

Andrew Knight has enjoyed a long and, to his family's surprise, successful career in film and TV with hit shows such as *Rake*, *SeaChange*, *The Broken Shore*, *Jack Irish*, *Fast Forward*, *Spotswood* and many others. Sessions 12, 16, 77

Jeri Kroll

Professor Jeri Kroll is Dean of Graduate Research at Flinders University. She established its Creative



Ian Hoskins



Jean Kittson



Anneli Knight

Writing Program. Recent books are *Workshopping the Heart* and *Vanishing Point*. Session 81

William Lane

William Lane is a writer based on the north coast of NSW. His novel, *Over the Water*, will be launched at this year's Festival. Sessions 9, 37

Benjamin Law

Benjamin Law is a Sydney-based journalist, columnist and screenwriter, and a frequent contributor to *Good Weekend*, *Frankie* and *The Monthly*. He is the author of *The Family Law*, *Gaysia: Adventures in the Queer East* and co-author of *Sh*t Asian Mothers Say*. Sessions 15, 32

Michelle Law

Michelle Law is the co-author of *Sh*t Asian Mothers Say*. She is a Brisbane-based AWGIE award-winning screenwriter, essayist, columnist and blogger. Sessions 32, 51

Geoff Lemon

Geoff Lemon is variously a *Guardian* sports writer, political satirist, radio broadcaster, and the editor of long-running literary publisher *Going Down Swinging*. Sessions 7, 12, 97

David Leser

David Leser is an award-winning journalist, author of six books, editor of a collection of essays and executive producer of the 2012 documentary, *Paul Kelly: Stories of Me*. Sessions 4, 39, 95

Luka Lesson

Luka Haralampou, aka Luka Lesson, is a spoken-word and hip hop artist of Greek heritage from Australia. Luka's debut collection of work is *The Future Ancients*. His latest album is *EXIT*. Session 24

Jono Lineen

Jono Lineen is an author, curator and public speaker whose passion for landscape and humankind's connection to it inspires his writing. He

is a curator at the National Museum of Australia. Sessions 5, 14, 52

Antony Loewenstein

Antony Loewenstein is a journalist, *Guardian* columnist, author of best-selling books *My Israel Question* and *Profits of Doom* and co-writer of *For God's Sake*. Sessions 5, 8, 31, 82, 91

Julian Louis

Julian is a theatre maker, artistic director, curator and performer. Julian is the Artistic Director of NORPA and director of *The 13-Storey Treehouse*. Session 25

Mungo MacCallum

Mungo MacCallum has long been one of Australia's most influential and entertaining political journalists. He is the author of many books, including most recently *The Whitlam Mob*, which will be launched by Kerry O'Brien at this year's Festival. Session 76



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Michelle Law



Geoff Lemon



David Marr



Kate McClymont



Tara Moss



Omar Musa photo Cole Bennetts

Hugh Mackay

Hugh Mackay is a social researcher and writer. He is the author of 15 books, including six novels. *The Good Life* was a 2013 bestseller. Session 59

Dave Mackie

Detective Sergeant Dave Mackie assisted author Virginia Peters with her investigation into the murder of Simone Strobel, which formed the foundation of her book *Have You Seen Simone?* Session 75

Father Bob Maguire

Father Bob Maguire is a Catholic priest and founder of his eponymous foundation, a community investment in social capital. Session 53

Christine Manfield

Christine Manfield is one of Australia's most celebrated chefs and a writer whose successful books *Tasting India*, *Fire, Spice, Stir*, *Paramount Cooking* and

Paramount Desserts have spiced up the lives of keen cooks everywhere. Sessions 13, 43, 52

Simon Marnie

Simon Marnie presents *Weekends* on 702 ABC Sydney, a diverse program that combines news, arts and lifestyle. Sessions 1, 13, 40, 57

David Marr

David Marr is the author of *Political Animal*. He is a Walkley Award-winning journalist and has written for *The Sydney Morning Herald*, *The Age* and *The Monthly*. Sessions 8, 10, 45, 85, 89

Victor Marsh

Dr Victor Marsh's memoir, *The Boy In The Yellow Dress*, is the warts-and-all account of a sissy boy growing up in 1950s WA, and the help he receives from a most unlikely source. Session 55

Joanne McCarthy

Newcastle Herald journalist named 2013 NSW and

Australian Journalist of the Year and Gold Walkley winner for her child sex abuse investigations and royal commission campaign. Sessions 80, 89

Kate McClymont

Kate McClymont, from *The Sydney Morning Herald*, is one of the country's most respected investigative journalists. She is a five-time Walkley winner, journalism's most prestigious award. Sessions 45, 80

Sally McPherson

Sally McPherson is a solicitor specialising in intellectual property and entertainment law – particularly contracts that involve commercialising or transacting copyright. Her current clients include singers, writers, celebrity chefs and sports personalities. Workshop only – page 14

Bob McTavish

Bob has written technical and esoteric articles for the surf media since 1965. His book *Stoked!* about the Sixties culture has

been a best-seller. His latest book is *More Stoked!* Session 88

Miles Merrill

Miles Merrill is the creative director of the literary arts organisation, Word Travels. He is also a writer, performer, facilitator and event co-ordinator. Miles is the force behind The Australian Poetry Slam. Sessions 24, 97

Angela Meyer

Angela Meyer is a Melbourne-based author, editor and literary journalist. Her books are *Captives* and *The Great Unknown* (as editor, *Spineless Wonders*). Sessions 34, 44

Alex Miller

Alex Miller's eleventh novel, *Coal Creek*, was published to national critical acclaim in 2013. Miller's books are published internationally and widely in translation. Sessions 58, 79, 103

Frank Moorhouse

Throughout his illustrious career Frank Moorhouse has won every major national prize for novels, short stories,

essays and film scripts. He is best known for his Edith Campbell Berry trilogy. Sessions 18, 87

Tara Moss

Tara Moss is an internationally best-selling novelist, journalist, award-winning short story writer, UNICEF Goodwill Ambassador, patron for breastfeeding for the Baby Friendly Health Initiative, and former top model. Tara's first non-fiction title is *The Fictional Woman*. Sessions 47, 56, 83

Omar Musa

Omar Musa is a Malaysian-Australian rapper and poet from Queanbeyan, Australia. His debut novel *Here Come the Dogs* will be published in July 2014. Sessions 24, 33

Adrian Newstead

An Aboriginal art consultant, dealer and widely published arts commentator, Adrian Newstead has 30 years' experience working in Aboriginal and Australian contemporary art. Session 72



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Biographies

P.M. Newton

After a decade working on crime as a detective, P.M. Newton now writes about the cost of crime in *The Old School* and *Beams Falling*. Sessions 47, 83, 91

Mandy Nolan

Mandy Nolan is a comedian, speaker and author. She is a columnist for *The Byron Shire Echo* and is a regular contributor to *The Hoopla*. She published her first memoir in 2011 and has since released her latest, *Boyfriends We've All Had and Shouldn't Have*. Sessions 51, 102

Kerry O'Brien

Kerry O'Brien is the former host of *The 730 Report* on the ABC and the present host of the leading current affairs program *Four Corners*. He is one of Australia's most respected journalists, having been awarded six Walkley Awards during his career. Sessions 50, 76

Baden Offord

Baden Offord is Professor of Cultural Studies and Human Rights in the School of Arts and Social Sciences at Southern Cross University. Sessions 98

Susie Orbach

Susie Orbach is a psychoanalyst, writer, activist and social critic. She is UK convenor of www.endangeredbodies.org and co-founder of The

Women's Therapy Centre in the UK and USA. Sessions 64, 92

Mick O'Regan

Mick O'Regan is a local freelance journalist and media consultant with a long association with the Byron Bay Writers Festival. Sessions 7, 17, 51, 55, 88

Jacqui Park

Jacqui Park is executive director of the Walkley Foundation, *Walkley Magazine* editor and has for many years worked on press freedom and media development in the Asia-Pacific region. Session 82

Emily Perkins

Emily Perkins's most recent novel is *The Forrests*. Her novels and short stories have won awards in the UK, US and her native New Zealand. Sessions 62, 73, 78, 93

Virginia Peters

Virginia Peters is the author of *Have You Seen Simone?* Her short stories have appeared in *Sleepers*, *Overland*, *New Australian Stories* and *Kill Your Darlings*. Sessions 49, 75

Sian Prior

Sian Prior is a journalist, broadcaster and creative writing teacher. She has been published in *Meanjin* and *The Sleepers Almanac*. *Shy: a memoir* is her first book. Sessions 35, 55



Susie Orbach photo Charlie Hopkins



Emily Perkins



Sian Prior

Sally Rippin

Sally Rippin is the author of the best-selling *Billie B Brown* and *Hey Jack!* series. Other recent books include the *Our Australian Girl* series and *Big Sky Mind*. Sessions 63, 96

David Roland

David Roland has a PhD in clinical psychology. He is an Honorary Associate with the School of Medicine, University of Sydney. Session 77

Henry Rosenbloom

Henry Rosenbloom is the founder and publisher of *Scribe*. The author of *Politics and the Media*, he has been a book printer, freelance journalist, book reviewer and feature writer. Sessions 6, 67, 87

Colleen Ryan

Colleen Ryan was a Fairfax journalist for over 35 years. She has been Editor of the *Australian Financial Review*, their Washington and China correspondent. She has won three Walkley awards including the Gold Walkley. Colleen's latest book is *Fairfax: The Rise & Fall*. Sessions 10, 27, 80

John Safran

John Safran is an award-winning documentarian who co-hosts *Sunday Night Safran* with Father Bob on Triple J. His first book, *Murder In Mississippi*, was released in 2013. Sessions 49, 53

Chris Sarra

Dr Chris Sarra is the Founding Chairman of the Stronger Smarter Institute. He is the author of *Good Morning, Mr Sarra* and will present the Griffith REVIEW Annual Lecture in 2014. Sessions 46, 48

John Saunders

Author of the *Sexual Abuse Survivors Handbook*, John has documented his 18-year battle with Catholic authorities. His collaboration with *The Sydney Morning Herald* was instrumental in ending legal silencing of abuse victims. Session 89

Moya Sayer-Jones

Moya Sayer-Jones is a novelist, columnist and screenwriter, best known for her comedy. As chief story activist for onlyhuman.com.au she works with government,

NFPs, business and restless creatives bringing more meaning to their storytelling. Sessions 32, 47

Claire Scobie

Claire Scobie is an award-winning journalist and author who has lived and worked in the UK, India and now Sydney. Her first book, *Last Seen in Lhasa*, won the Dolman Best Travel Book Award in 2007. *The Pagoda Tree* is her first novel. Sessions 5, 61

Qaisra Shahraz

Qaisra Shahraz is a prize-winning and critically acclaimed novelist and scriptwriter. Her work has been translated into several languages and has been recognised as one of Pakistan's 100 most influential women. She has recently published her third novel *Revolt* and is currently working on her fourth. Sessions 9, 21, 43

Craig Sherborne

Craig Sherborne is an award-winning journalist and writer. His books include the memoir *Hoi Polloi*, and the novels *The Amateur Science of Love* and *Tree Palace*. Sessions 9, 44



Kerry O'Brien



Virginia Peters



Henry Rosenbloom



John Saunders



Qaisra Shahraz



Craig Sherborne



Thando Sibanda

Thando Sibanda

Thandowako is a writer, performing poet and youth development consultant based in Zimbabwe. He focuses his skills for social commentary on the human challenges in the journey of life
Session 97



Rabia Siddique

Rabia Siddique

Rabia is an Australian/ Indian criminal and human rights lawyer, a retired British Army officer, former terrorism and war crimes prosecutor, hostage survivor, humanitarian, professional speaker, author

and mother of triplet boys!
Sessions 15, 54, 66

Inga Simpson

Inga's debut novel, *Mr Wigg*, was shortlisted for the 2014 Indie Awards. Her new novel, *Nest*, is about a bird artist, home, and missing children.
Sessions 61, 79, 105

Karin Slaughter

Karin Slaughter is an international best-selling author of more than 13 crime and thriller books, which have sold over 30 million copies worldwide in 32 languages.
Sessions 83, 94



Steven Snow photo Brian Usher

Steven Snow

TV chef Steven Snow of Fins restaurant is the author of best-selling cookbooks *Byron Cooking* and *Eating and Cooking on the Coast*.
Sessions 13, 88

Bhuchung Sonam

Bhuchung Sonam was born in Tibet. In exile, he studied at TCV School in Dharamsala, a small town in northern India. He has published five books, including *Songs from a Distance* and *Yak Horns*.
Session 14



Bhuchung Sonam

Fiona Stager

Fiona Stager, co-owner of Avid Reader Bookshop & Cafe, West End, Brisbane, is a literary judge and former president of the Australian Booksellers Association.
Session 6

M.L. Stedman

M.L. Stedman was born and raised in Western Australia and now lives in London. *The Light Between Oceans* is her first novel and has been translated into over 30 languages.
Sessions 26, 61, 93, 100



M.L. Stedman



Jennifer St George

Janet Steele

Janet Steele is an Associate Professor at George Washington University. She is working on a book on journalism and Islam, and divides her time between Washington and Jakarta.
Sessions 4, 14, 89

Jennifer St George

Jennifer St George writes sexy romance novels. Her four books are published with Penguin's Destiny Romance. Jennifer was a 2014 ARRA Awards finalist and won the 2012 Clendon award.
Session 102



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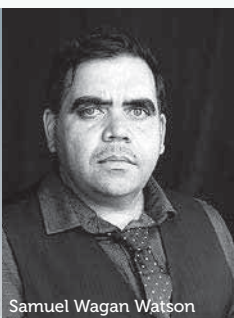
Biographies



Diana Sweeney
photo Donatella Parasini



Christopher Warren



Samuel Wagan Watson



Agustinus Wibowo



Jeanette Winterson
photo Derry Moore



Clare Wright
photo Virginia Cummins

Diana Sweeney

Diana Sweeney is a university lecturer and fashion model. *The Minnow* is her first novel and 2013 winner of the Text Prize for Young Adult and Children's Writing. Session 60

Carrie Tiffany

Carrie Tiffany spent her early twenties working as a park ranger in Central Australia and now lives in Melbourne where she works as an agricultural journalist. Carrie has published two novels; *Everyman's Rules for Scientific Living* and *Mateship with Birds*. Sessions 23, 62, 78, 86

Meg Vann

Meg Vann is the CEO of the Queensland Writers Centre. Her novelette *Provocation* was published in *The Review of Australian Fiction* in 2012. Sessions 6, 46, 69

Kate Veitch

Kate Veitch has written two novels, *Listen and Trust*. Most recently she contributed an essay, *Abandoned Islands as Art Galleries*, to the Griffith REVIEW #44, *Cultural Solutions*. Session 98

Felicity Volk

Award-winning short-story writer, Felicity Volk published her debut novel, *Lightning*, in 2013, to critical acclaim. She also works as adviser to Australia's Ambassador for Women and Girls. Sessions 62, 84, 93

Samuel Wagan Watson

Samuel Wagan Watson is the award-winning author of *Smoke Encrypted Whispers*. His next collection of poetry is *Love Poems and Death Threats*. He lives in Brisbane. Sessions 44, 97

Lisa Walker

Lisa is the author of the novels *Liar Bird* and *Sex, Lies and Bonsai* and the ABC Radio National play *Baddest Backpackers*. Sessions 100, 105

Christopher Warren

Christopher Warren is CEO of the Walkley Foundation for Excellence in Journalism and is trustee of the \$3 billion industry Media Super fund. He is immediate past president of the International Federation of Journalists. Sessions 10, 45, 80

John Weiley

In recognition of extraordinary achievements as a screenwriter and director John Weiley was recently elected to the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences. Session 16

Wendy Were

Wendy Were is a festival director, arts manager, academic and curator. She currently is Executive Director, Arts Development at the Australia Council for the Arts. Session 64

Agustinus Wibowo

Agustinus Wibowo is an Indonesian travel writer, whose travel experiences have taken him through Asia to the Middle East. He has also lived in Afghanistan as a journalist. Sessions 14, 52

Geordie Williamson

Geordie Williamson is chief literary critic of *The Australian*, a position he has held since 2008. His book *The Burning Library* explores the life and works of Australia's greatest novelists. Sessions 26, 29, 38, 58, 99

Jeanette Winterson

Jeanette Winterson OBE is a British writer published around the world. Her most recent work includes the memoir *Why Be Happy When You Could Be Normal?* and the horror novella about witchcraft and superstition, *The Daylight Gate*. Sessions 3, 65, 92

Clare Wright

Clare Wright is a Melbourne-based historian. Her second book, *The Forgotten Rebels of Eureka*, won the 2014 Stella Prize. Sessions 20, 23, 29, 99

Susan Wyndham

Susan Wyndham is literary editor of *The Sydney Morning Herald* and contributing editor of the recent anthology *My Mother, My Father: On Losing a Parent*. Sessions 1, 28, 43, 87

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Tickets

To purchase Festival tickets visit: byronbaywritersfestival.com OR call: **1300 368 552**
OR call into our office: **Level 1, 28 Jonson Street, Byron Bay** (above Witchery)

Festival Passes		
Pass	Full price	Members/students
3 DAY PASS Friday, Saturday, Sunday	\$265	\$230
1 DAY PASS Friday	\$120	\$99
1 DAY PASS Saturday	\$120	\$99
1 DAY PASS Sunday	\$120	\$99
YOUTH PASS Sunday only	\$40	\$35

Feature Events	
Event	Price
John Weiley Retrospective Community Centre Theatre, Wednesday 7pm	\$20
Conversations: Richard Fidler with Poe Ballantine Community Centre Theatre, Friday 5pm	\$10
Documentary Screening: Love and Terror on the Howling Plains of Nowhere Community Centre – upstairs, Friday 6.30pm	\$8
War and Remembrance Literary Dinner Byron Beach Cafe, Friday 6.30pm	\$95
An Evening with John Safran and Father Bob Maguire Lennox Head Cultural & Community Centre, 7pm	\$25
Liner Notes presents David Bowie's Ziggy Stardust – a spoken word tribute Community Centre Theatre, Friday 8pm	\$40
Australian Slam Champions on Heat Byron Bay Library, Saturday 5pm	Free
John Safran – Murder in Mississippi – Live on Stage Community Centre Theatre, Saturday 6pm	\$25
National Treasures Literary Dinner Fishheads restaurant, 6.30pm	\$95
Richard Clapton in conversation with David Leser Community Centre Theatre, Saturday 8pm	\$25
Passage to India Literary Lunch The Byron at Byron, Sunday, 12pm	\$95
Writers at the Rails featuring David Hallett, Omar Musa and Christine Strelan Railway Friendly Bar, Sunday 2pm	Free

Workshops
Workshop prices vary. Please check the workshop section in this program on pages 14–16 *NRWC member's price available

3 day pass

Includes entry to the North Byron Beach Resort Festival site from Friday 1 August to Sunday 3 August. Excludes workshops and separately ticketed events. No reserved seating.

Youth pass

For 6–12 year olds only. Includes entry to designated Womankind Marquee only on Sunday 3 August from 9.00am to 2.00pm. No reserved seating. Each Youth Pass accommodates one accompanying adult allowing access to Womankind Marquee only.

Terms and Conditions of Ticket Sales and Entry

The Byron Bay Writers Festival (**Festival**) is organised and managed by the Northern Rivers Writers' Centre (ABN 94 163 348 616) (**Centre**).

- 1 The Centre may **amend the program** of the Festival at any time without notice.
- 2 Once purchased, tickets **will not be refunded or exchanged**, and lost or stolen tickets will not be replaced.
- 3 If, due to **circumstances beyond the reasonable control of the Centre**, such as an act of God (including adverse weather conditions), an act of terrorism, or other security issue, it is necessary to cancel some or all of the Festival program, the Centre may do so and, unfortunately, no refund will be given.

- 4 Participation in the Festival and entry to the Festival site is at **your own risk**.

- 5 **No commercial activity may be conducted**, and no written material or goods of any description handed out or otherwise distributed, at the Festival site without the express permission of the Centre.

- 6 No photograph or audio or video recording may be taken at the Festival site, other than **for private non-commercial purposes**, without the express permission of the Centre.

- 7 The Centre **may refuse admission** to the Festival site, and eject from the Festival site, any person whose behaviour is inappropriate or a threat to public safety.

- 8 You must bring your entry ticket or pass to the

Festival site and you must **wear your wristband** throughout the period you are at the Festival site.

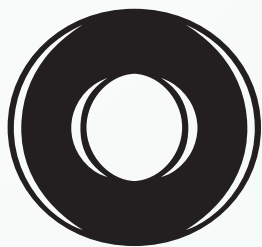
- 9 You must bring **proof of eligibility for concession tickets** to the Festival site and the Centre may refuse entry if this is not provided upon request.

- 10 The Centre reserves the right to examine and search all bags (including handbags), parcels and packages which are brought, or proposed to be brought, onto the Festival site, and to effect such other security measures as are reasonably necessary to protect the Festival site.

- 11 The Centre may amend or vary these terms and conditions at any time and that amendment will take effect from the time the amended terms and conditions are placed on the Festival website – byronbaywritersfestival.com.

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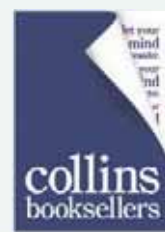
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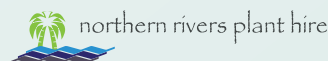


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Festival Information

How to access North Byron Beach Resort

Bus: There is a regular Xcede Shuttle Bus service from Byron Bay to the Festival site (A). The cost is \$4 each way.

The pick-up points for the Xcede Festival Shuttle Bus will be:

- Shirley St (B and C),
- Apartments Inn (Fletcher St, D)
- Atlantic (Marvel St, E)
- Byron Bay Bus Terminal (Jonson St, outside the Byron Visitors' Centre, F)

We encourage visitors to use the shuttle service as parking is limited.

Car: The Festival site is an 8 minute drive from the centre of Byron Bay. Car parking on site is limited. If driving we recommend arriving 45 minutes before Festival entry. There will be a \$5 daily charge for parking on site.



Festival Site Directions

North Byron Beach Resort is located at the end of Bayshore Drive in the Arts & Industrial Estate. If you are coming from Byron Bay town travel approximately 2km along Ewingsdale Rd from the town centre towards the Pacific Highway then turn right at Bayshore Drive (there is a BP Ozigo on the corner of Bayshore Dr and Ewingsdale Rd). If you are coming from the Pacific Highway you will need to turn left at BP Ozigo petrol station after approximately 2km.

Books and More...

- **Collins Booksellers** will have a bookstore on site and all author signings will take place adjacent to the Collins Tent after each session.
- **Food and coffee** will be available for purchase on site from an array of popular local Byron Shire restaurants and cafés.
- **The North Byron Resort Tent** will be licensed and alcohol will be available for purchase and consumption within the designated area.
- **Water** will be available for purchase and there will be a water bottle refill station on site.

Festival Updates

Check the website closer to the time of the festival for any updates and a more detailed site map.

byronbaywritersfestival.com



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