

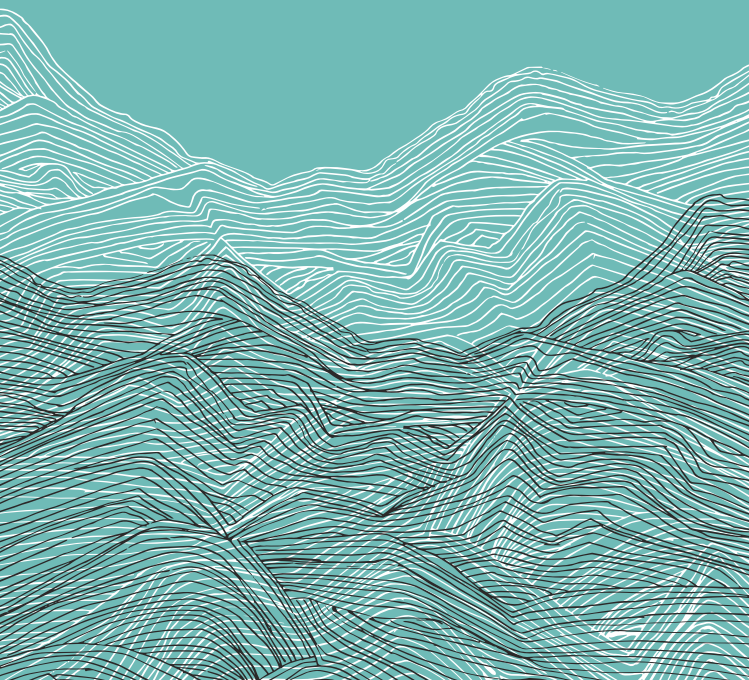
23-25  
AUGUST  
2024

GEELONG  
REGIONAL  
LIBRARIES



# Local WORD

WRITERS FESTIVAL



# FRIDAY 23

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## POETRY WORKSHOP POETS GO TO WAR WITH JOHN BARTLETT

Friday, 10:00am-12noon

Queenscliff Libray, 55 Hesse Street, Queenscliff

This workshop will consider questions such as – what is a ‘war poet’ or ‘war poetry’? And can poetry really make a difference to world events? Participants will read and discuss contemporary poetry from Russian, Ukrainian, Israeli and Palestinian poets and respond to sample poetry with their own writing exercises. Copies of poems to be discussed will be provided ahead of the workshop.

*Up to 15 participants aged 18+. For beginners with a little poetry experience to more advanced writers.*

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## WRITERS WORKSHOP OPINION PIECE WRITING – GETTING PAID FOR WRITING WHAT YOU KNOW WITH CHERIE GILMOUR

Friday, 10:00am-11:30am

Corio Library, Cox Road [cnr Moa St], Norlane

Everyone has opinions and at least one area they know a lot about. This workshop will demonstrate how you can transform your ideas and experiences into a pitch. It will examine the personal side of writing opinion pieces and delve into some of the mechanics of memoir.

This workshop will also examine the practice of blogging for building experience, and how you can get your work to a publishable standard and build an audience.

*Up to 15 participants aged 18+. For anyone who has ever considered writing for a newspaper and anyone who would like to develop their memoir writing or blogging skills.*



## WRITERS WORKSHOP

### PICTURE BOOK WRITING 101

*WITH HEATHER GALLAGHER*

Friday, 10:30am-2:30pm

Colac Library, 173 Queen Street,  
Colac

Many people love the idea of writing a picture book but when they sit down to try, they realise what a difficult art form it can be to master. This workshop will break down the unique elements of picture books and take participants through the different styles (fiction, non-fiction, concept, etc).

Participants are encouraged to come with an idea to work on for discussion about beginnings, endings, structure, word-choice and tone.

*Up to 15 participants aged 18+. For beginner picture book writers.*



## WRITERS WORKSHOP

### WRITING FOR THEATRE AND CHARACTER DEVELOPMENT

*WITH CHRISTINE CROYDEN*

Friday, 2:00pm-6:00pm  
(with a break)

Waurm Ponds Library,  
230 Pioneer Road, Grovedale

Participants in this workshop will begin to develop the craft of writing for theatre, including building their ability to use structure, style and narrative and exploring the ways in which character and dialogue support ideas. Participants will be able to identify their individual voice and create original work that resonates with an audience.

*Up to 15 participants aged 18+. For anyone interested in developing compelling characters for stage, but also useful for fiction writers and other forms of writing.*

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## POP UP EXHIBITION

# RARE AUSTRALIAN FAIRYTALE SHOWCASE

Friday, 10:00am-4:00pm

Waterfront Campus, 1 Gheringhap Street, Geelong

In partnership with Deakin University Library, Local Word is proud to present a pop-up exhibition of rare Australian fairytales. Drawn from their special collections, Deakin Library has created an interactive showcase of rare Australian fairytales, including rarely seen treasures from their historical children's literature collection, complimented by an enchanting digital display that brings these fairytales to life through animation.

*Friday 23 August at Deakin Waterfront  
Campus Library. Open from 10am to 4pm.*

**ENTRY IS FREE AND BOOKINGS ARE NOT REQUIRED.**



# SATURDAY 24

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## WRITERS WORKSHOP

### SOMATIC WRITING – ENGAGING THE SENSES WITH KIM SARGENT-WISHART

Saturday, 10:00am-11:30am

Bannockburn Library,  
25-27 High Street, Bannockburn

This experiential workshop introduces participants to somatic techniques for writing from the senses, using simple movement practices to help connect to the sense of gravity, weight and place. Explorations into peripheral vision, sound mapping, and imaginative forays into the environment serve as pathways into writing with and from the body's myriad ways of perceiving. Somatic writing can open up new pathways of perception, and foster the development of richness and multi-dimensional writing in any genre.

*Up to 15 participants aged 18+. For those interested in exploring movement, kinesthesia and the senses in relation to writing.*

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## PRESENTATION WITH Q&A

### FORMING CONNECTED FAMILY RELATIONSHIPS THROUGH STORYTELLING WITH ANDY MCNEILLY

Saturday, 11:00am-12noon

Ocean Grove Library, Presidents Ave  
(cnr The Avenue), Ocean Grove

Helping our children learn to be resilient in the face of today's challenges and mental health struggles is one of our key roles as a parent. Using personal stories not only helps our children learn these skills, but it also helps us to build connected relationships. This workshop is filled with stories and examples of how to do this at home. Learn simple strategies to help your children develop skills to become more resilient and face today's challenges.

*Up to 20 participants aged 18+. For parents, educators and aspiring writers.*



**WRITERS WORKSHOP**  
**DIGGING THE PAST INTO  
THE PRESENT: THE  
ARCHAEOLOGY OF WRITING**  
*WITH ROBYN ROWLAND*

**Saturday, 1:00pm-5:00pm**

**Torquay Library, Surf City Plaza,  
Beach Road, Torquay**

The processes of writing are often like an archaeological dig turning over artefacts, considering stratification, piecing together fragments, blowing away the dust of memory.

Each participant will be given notes to keep relating to the topic, as well as copies of poems which exemplify themes. The workshop involves a talk by the presenter, followed by a guided reflective moment, time for writing towards the topic and finally individual feedback in the group for each participant.

*Up to 12 participants aged 18+. For beginners to more advanced poets.*

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**WRITERS WORKSHOP**  
**WORD PLAY FOR ALL  
AGES – USING PLAY TO  
GET WRITING**  
*WITH SUZE MALE*

**Saturday, 3:00pm-4:00pm**

**Biyal-a Armstrong Creek Library,  
20 Main Street, Armstrong Creek**

Join us for a lively and fun session for creative writers and aspiring creative writers, using writing prompts and wordplay. This will include a short mindfulness meditation to enhance creativity and some easy, seated 'yoga for writers' movement to really get our creativity flowing. Come along with an open mind and a willingness to explore the power and benefits of combining movement with stories.

*Up to 30 participants aged 13+.*



## EVENING EVENT

### INTO YOUR ARMS – CELEBRATING THE WORDS AND MUSIC OF NICK CAVE

Saturday, 5:30pm-  
7:30pm

Geelong Library &  
Heritage Centre, 51 Little  
Malop Street, Geelong

Showcasing the anthology “Into Your Arms – Nick Cave’s Songs Reimagined” [Fremantle Press 2023], this special evening event will draw on the evocative music and words of Nick Cave to bring to life three original and unsettling tales of crime, faith, violence and love.

*“In creating this anthology, each contributor has selected a Nick Cave classic, dug deep into the lyrics, basked in its mood, and reimagined it in their own inimitable style.”*

Featuring readings from three local writers and collaborators on this anthology, **Rhett Davis**, **Toni Jordan** and **Mark Smith** (also a co-curator on the project), and beautifully accompanied by MC Vin Maskell and the acclaimed six-piece **Stereo Stories** band, this event will combine words and music in a way that is guaranteed to inspire the storyteller in all of us.

*Canapés and drinks will be provided during interval.  
\$65 per person. \$55 per person for Geelong  
Regional Library Members. Aged 18+.*

# SUNDAY 25

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## PANEL DISCUSSION

### MY BACKYARD, A STORY ABOUT THE WADAWURRUNG PEOPLE

Sunday, 10:30-11:30am

Geelong Library & Heritage  
Centre, 51 Little Malop Street,  
Geelong

'My Backyard' depicts what happened to the local Wadawurrung people after white settlement and the colonisation of Australia.

This newly published booklet, produced in consultation with Wadawurrung Traditional Owners Aboriginal Corporation, brings together a collection of paintings and poetry by the late Ron Milligan, long-time member of both Geelong One Fire and Reconciliation Victoria. Over many years Ron worked to educate the local community in understanding and connecting with the history of the Wadawurrung.

Join **Vicky Grosser**, President of Geelong One Fire and co-producer of the booklet, Ron's daughter, **Kerry Spina**, and **Kylie Clarke**, Gunditjmara, Wotjobaluk, Ngarrindjeri, Muandik woman to talk about the project and Ron's work. Led by **Tom Molyneux**, Gunditjmara man & creative professional based in Geelong.

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## PANEL DISCUSSION

# THE POWER OF POSITIVE PUBLISHING – WRITING SELF-HELP

Sunday, 12noon-1:00pm

Geelong Library & Heritage Centre, 51 Little Malop Street, Geelong

Despite its phenomenal growth and increasing global popularity,

the self-care genre has sometimes been maligned by traditional publishers and other authors. These days however, it is unembarrassed and wholly transformed into a category killer. But what's involved in writing a self-help book, who can it help and how does one begin?

Hear from these local authors who have achieved success in publishing their own self-help books, and learn from their personal experiences in writing books that empower, inspire, and aid individuals in their personal and professional journeys.

Featuring local authors and professional business women **Justine Martin**, **Sue Wong** and **Rosanne Michie** and led by panel chair, local author **Fiona Lowe**.

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## PANEL DISCUSSION

### BEYOND THE COFFEE TABLE BOOK – EXPLORING PUBLISHING IN ART, DESIGN & NATURE

Sunday, 1:30pm-2:30pm

Geelong Library & Heritage  
Centre, 51 Little Malop Street,  
Geelong

A well-produced coffee table book is more than just a book – it is both covetable & collectible. With their beautiful finishes, aspirational images, and carefully crafted prose, coffee table books have long been a source of inspiration for readers and collectors alike.

In this session we explore the human urge to 'make special' and to capture what is it that moves us – be it art, design or nature – and to share it with others in a beautiful and permanent way.

Join author and artist **Helen Bodycomb**, writer **Patricia Callan** and photographer **Anthony Car**, and chaired by local writer **Abigayle Carmody**.

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## PANEL DISCUSSION

### CRIME FICTION EXPLORED

Sunday, 3:00pm-4:00pm

Geelong Library & Heritage  
Centre, 51 Little Malop Street,  
Geelong

In light of the increasing popularity of crime writing in Australia, this talented panel of crime writers will explore why we are drawn to both writing and reading crime fiction, and speak honestly about their individual journeys and the challenges they have faced in balancing their creative endeavours with the demands of daily life.

Each author is a local writer, drawing on aspects of their respective environments and community for setting, plot and character.

Featuring **Rick Wilkinson**, geologist turned journalist/author, **Christine Keighery**, adult, children's and YA author, and recently published crime writer, **Stuart Rosson**. Discussion led by **Lindy Cameron**, crime author and founder of Clan Destine Press.

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## PANEL DISCUSSION DECODING THE PUBLISHING INDUSTRY – Q & A SESSION

Sunday, 4:30pm-5:30pm

Geelong Library &  
Heritage Centre, 51 Little  
Malop Street, Geelong

What does it take to get a novel or memoir signed? What does a literary agent do? Can I send a manuscript directly to a publisher? What's the difference between publishing and self-publishing?

These are just a few of the questions often asked in writing groups and workshops and emerging writers often don't know where to start. So, let's talk all things publishing!

Featuring editor/writing coach, **Liz Monument**, author and hybrid publisher, **Sarah Walkerden**, local published poet **Alex Creece** and **Abbey Lay**, who was recently shortlisted for the Victorian Premier's Award for an Unpublished Manuscript. Chaired by local author **Jen Kloester**.

*Send your question/s in advance to [events@grlc.vic.gov.au](mailto:events@grlc.vic.gov.au) [subject: "Question for Publishing Panel"] or come along on the day and join the discussion.*

**ENTRY IS FREE BUT BOOKINGS ARE REQUIRED.**

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## BOOK SALES & SIGNINGS

Provided by our 2024 bookstore partners, The Bookshop at Queenscliff.

Pop up bookstore open from 10:00am on Sunday 25 August at Ki-kirri-ngitj (we talk together), Ground Floor, Geelong Library & Heritage Centre

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## TICKETS (UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED)

### WORKSHOPS:

\$30 or \$20 for Geelong Regional Libraries Members\* or \$10 Concession.

### PANEL DISCUSSIONS & PRESENTATIONS:

\$20 or \$10 for Geelong Regional Libraries Members\*

*\*Membership is free and available immediately online – [www.grlc.vic.gov.au/services/join-library](http://www.grlc.vic.gov.au/services/join-library)*

### EARLY BIRD FESTIVAL PASS:

Available to purchase only in July, \$70 includes tickets for two writers workshops of your choice, plus entry to all five panel discussions on Sunday 25 August.

All tickets on sale at [www.grlc.vic.gov.au/localword](http://www.grlc.vic.gov.au/localword) or in-person at our libraries.

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## CONTACT

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[03] 4201 0600



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[WWW.GRLC.VIC.GOV.AU/LOCALWORD](http://WWW.GRLC.VIC.GOV.AU/LOCALWORD)



# Local Word

WRITERS FESTIVAL

