# **LOCAL WORD WRITERS FESTIVAL – FULL PROGRAM**

**25-26 AUGUST 2023**

WE COME TOGETHER TO DISCUSS, CREATE AND COLLABORATE

# **Friday 25 August 2023**

## WRITERS WORKSHOP WRITING MONOLOGUE FOR PERFORMANCE WITH JACQUI CONNOR

#### Friday 25 August, 10.00am to 2.00pm (with a short break)

#### Boronggook Drysdale Library, 2-8 Wyndham Street, Drysdale

[Book Now at Trybooking](https://www.trybooking.com/CJPJM)

Experience the thrill of developing a monologue — from the initial spark of an idea to hearing the final words being delivered. Actors will attend the workshop’s last hour to read the works developed, lifting the words from the page, and embodying the characters created.

This workshop is for experienced writers who want to explore the dimensions of writing in the first person, writing authentic dialogue and embedding emotion.

Jacqui Connor is a writer, performer, and teacher with over 40 years of experience in theatre. She is a member of The Main Street Writers, a Portarlington writing group, and Dome Poets, a part of Geelong Writers Inc. Up to 10 participants.

Suitable for experienced writers aged 18+.

## WRITERS WORKSHOP HOW TO CREATE A FOUND POEM WITH JO LANGDON

#### Friday 25 August, 10.00am to 12.00pm (with a short break)

#### Belmont Library, 163 High Street, Belmont

[Book now at Trybooking](https://www.trybooking.com/CJPKA)

‘Found poems’ take existing texts and refashion them, reorder them, and present them as poems. The literary equivalent of collage, found poetry is often made from newspaper articles, street signs, graffiti, speeches, letters, or even other poems. This workshop offers an interactive session on ‘found poetry’ and writing responsively to other texts and artworks, inviting participants to transform existing texts and documents into poems through methods such as cut-up or collage, blackout, or erasure, with further exercises in emulation and response.

Jo Langdon is a poet and fiction writer based on Wadawurrung land in Geelong/Djillong. Her two poetry collections are Glass Life (Five Islands Press, 2018), and a chapbook, Snowline (Whitmore Press, 2012), which was co-winner of the Whitmore Press Manuscript Prize.

Up to 20 participants. Suitable for beginners to more experienced or advanced writers aged 16+.

## PRESENTATION WITH Q&A MAGICAL WORLDS: WRITING FANTASY FOR CHILDREN WITH SHIVAUN PLOZZA & SAMANTHA-ELLEN BOUND

#### Friday, 25 August, 11.00am to 12.00pm (including audience Q&A)

#### Lara Library, 5 Walkers Road, Lara

[Book now at Trybooking](https://www.trybooking.com/CJPLF)

This information session and interactive discussion is for anyone interested in the craft of writing, in the fantasy genre, or in children’s literature generally. Looking at the importance of fantasy for children today, developing and maintaining world-building for standalone and series, crafting intricate, engaging fantasy worlds and the magic system that underpins them.

 Up to 30 participants.

Suitable for anyone aged 16+ interested in writing and reading children's fantasy.

## WRITERS WORKSHOP WRITING FICTION –THE TRICKS OF THE TRADE WITH LIZ MONUMENT

#### Friday 25 August, 10.30am to 12.00pm (with a short break)

#### Queenscliff Library, 55 Hesse Street, Queenscliff

[Book now at Trybooking](https://www.trybooking.com/CJPHN)

This short workshop is aimed at debut novelists and self-published writers who aspire to mainstream publication. It looks at aspects such as show-don’t-tell, clunky prose and how to fix it; what genre is; how the plot works, developing your lead character, point of view, and structure & form. It also examines the writer’s life – an honest breakdown of the hours spent creating long fiction.

Liz Monument (The Eternity Fund, Fahrenheit Press, 2016) is a novelist, fiction editor and writing coach based in Geelong. She works hand-in-hand with selected international fiction agencies to accelerate the submission process for writers of talent.

Up to 20 participants. Suitable for complete beginners to experienced writers aged 16+.

## WRITERS WORKSHOP READING & WRITING POETRY IN A TIME OF CLIMATE CHANGE WITH JOHN BARTLETT

#### Friday 25 August, 1.00pm to 4.00pm (with a short break)

#### Colac Library, 173 Queen St, Colac

[Book now at Trybooking](https://www.trybooking.com/CJPLL)

Friday 25 August, 1.00pm to 4.00pm (with a short break) Colac Library, 173 Queen St, Colac This workshop explores the works of several poets who write about the complexities of the planet in this new geological age and how humans impact it. Those attending will also be taken through some exercises to create their own eco-poetry, and each attendee will receive a complimentary copy of John’s latest poetry pamphlet, This Luminous Earth (Pocket Poets/2023).

John Bartlett is the author of ten books of fiction, non-fiction and poetry, including The Arms of Men (Melbourne Poets Union, 2019) and Awake at 3am (Ginninderra Press, 2020). He won the 2020 Ada Cambridge Poetry Prize and Highly Commended in the 2021 Mundaring Poetry Competition. Up to 12 participants. Suitable for anyone concerned about ecopoetics and the environment with some or little experience in writing.

## PRESENTATION WITH Q&A TRAVEL WRITING & MEMOIR WRITING – WHERE TO START? WITH LAURA WATERS

#### Saturday, 26 August, 2:00pm to 3:00pm (including audience Q&A)

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

[Book now at Trybooking](https://www.trybooking.com/CJPLY)

What is it really like to be a travel writer? How do you balance the mix between the privilege of regular travel and the reality of hard work, hectic schedules, and hustle? And how do you even get started? As well as providing plenty of tips, this presentation examines how to write a memoir in a travel context, including the importance of storytelling, writing techniques (developing characters, building suspense and conflict, foreshadowing, setups, flashbacks), and the overall process from writing to editing and publishing.

Laura Waters is a Geelong-based travel writer and author whose work has appeared in publications such as *Escape, Explore, Australian Traveller, NZ Herald*, and *Australian Geographic*. She is the author of *Ultimate Walks* & *Hikes Australia (*Hardie Grant, 2022) and *Bewildered* (Affirm Press, 2019), winner of Best Travel Book at the 2021 ASTW Awards for Excellence.

Up to 50 participants. Suitable for anyone aged 16+ interested in becoming a travel writer.

## WRITERS WORKSHOP TRANSFORM YOUR WRITING WITH LOUIS GLAZZARD

#### Friday, 25 August, 5:00pm to 7:00pm AEST (with a short break)

#### Online only

[Book now at Trybooking](https://www.trybooking.com/CJPLS)

Joining us from Manchester, United Kingdom, Geelong Regional Libraries’ Virtual Writer in Residence, Louis Glazzard, presents a workshop exploring personal identity and experience in our writing. ‘Write about what you know’ is an old writer’s trope, but is it necessarily the best way to go? Drawing on themes explored in Louis’ poetry around LGBTQ+ identity and being a “working class writer”, this workshop will explore how we can use our own experiences in a transformative way to fire up our imagination and reach our full potential as writers.

Louis Glazzard was born and raised working class in Yorkshire, England. Untitled: Voices, Polari Press, Queerlings, and more have published Louis' writing. In 2021, Louis received an Arts Council National Lottery Project Grant, where he ran poetry workshops with various organisations, including the NHS and the LGBT Foundation. Up to 15 participants. Suitable for beginner to intermediate writers aged 16+.

## WRITERS WORKSHOP THE NUTS & BOLTS OF SELF-PUBLISHING WITH FIONA LOWE

#### Friday 25 August, 10.00am to 1.00pm

Unfortunately, this session is cancelled.

# **wSaturday 26 August 2023**

## PANEL DISCUSSION SONGTIMES ON WADAWURRUNG COUNTRY

#### 10:30am to 12:00pm

#### Wurdi Youang (You Yangs –Big hill in the middle of the plains), Level 5, Geelong

#### Library & Heritage Centre

[Book now at Trybooking](https://www.trybooking.com/CJRZI)

Songtimes on Wadawurrung Country is a songbook with five children’s songs featuring simple words and phrases of the Wadawurrung language, written in collaboration with Wadawurrung Traditional Owners Aboriginal Corporation and published in October 2022. Join panellists and project leaders Corrina Eccles (Traditional Owner, Wadawurrung), Kelly Caldwell (teacher, artist, songwriter) and Ben Shaw (permaculturist, songwriter, musician), with panel chair, local children’s, and YA author Sue Lawson, to discuss this ground-breaking project addressing the lost language of Wadawurrung Country. Featuring a live performance of songs from the book and opening with a Welcome to Country by Corrina Eccles.

## PANEL DISCUSSION CREATING FANTASTIC PICTURE BOOKS FOR KIDS

#### 12:30pm to 2:00pm

#### Wurdi Youang, Level 5, Geelong Library & Heritage Centre

[Book now at Trybooking](https://www.trybooking.com/CJRZM)

The southwest region of Victoria is blessed with an abundance of well-known and highly successful children’s and YA authors. Comprised of published local authors and illustrators, the panel explores the initial idea, writing, editing, and finding an illustrator to the finished book. Featuring authors Sue Lawson and Sally Learey and illustrator Kat Fox with panel chair, children’s author Heather Gallagher.

The discussion covers the role of picture books in child literacy; reading as a bonding opportunity; breaking down the mystique – anyone can create a children’s book; and an examination of both traditional and self-publishing models.

## PANEL DISCUSSION LIVING PLACE, WRITING PLACE

#### 2:30pm to 4:00pm

#### Wurdi Youang, Level 5, Geelong Library & Heritage Centre

[Book now at Trybooking](https://www.trybooking.com/CJRZT)

“We need to tell more stories that celebrate and explore the complex, dynamic, joyful and sometimes mundane heart that is regional Australia, and the best people to tell those stories are regional writers.”

Join us for a broad panel discussion with writers with works set in and influenced by our magnificent environment of Geelong, the Bellarine Peninsula, Surf Coast and, more broadly, Wadawurrung Country.

The panel features Gunditjmara actor, writer and theatre maker Tom Molyneux, Miles Franklin Award shortlisted authors Dorothy Johnston and Kgshak Akec, with panel chair, award winning Geelong author Rhett Davis.

With panel chair, Geelong author Rhett Davis (*Hovering*, Hachette, 2022), winner of the 2020 Victorian Premier's Award for an Unpublished Manuscript. 2023

## AUTHOR IN-CONVERSATION THE BELL OF THE WORLD WITH GREGORY DAY

#### 4:30pm to 5:30pm

#### Wurdi Youang, Level 5, Geelong Library & Heritage Centre

[Book now at Trybooking](https://www.trybooking.com/CJRZX)

Gregory Day’s new novel has been described by The Guardian as ‘an electric crescendo of Australian nature writing’ and by The Saturday Paper as ‘a glorious creation, a singing gift’. The Bell of the World is a song about the natural wonders that are not yet gone and a luminous prehistory of contemporary climate change and its connection to colonialism. It is a book immersed in the early to mid-twentieth century but written very much for the hearts of the future.

In conversation with literary and arts professional Harriet Gaffney, including audience Q&A.

Gregory Day is a writer and musician living on Wadawurrung Tabayl in the Eastern Otways region of Victoria, Australia. Gregory has published five novels and won many awards, including the Australian Literature Society Gold Medal. In 2019 Gregory's most recent novel, *A Sand Archive*, was shortlisted for the Miles Franklin Award. In 2020 Gregory received the Patrick White Award for his ongoing work.

In conversation with literary and arts professional Harriet Gaffney, including audience Q&A.

## PANEL DISCUSSION PUBLISH YOUR BOOK IN 2023

#### 5:45pm to 6:45pm

#### Ki-kirri-ngitj (we talk together), Ground Floor, Geelong Library & Heritage Centre

[Book now at Geelong Library](https://events.grlc.vic.gov.au/event/8793052)

If you’re a writer, you’ve probably thought a great deal about writing a book. But while writing a book is a huge achievement in and of itself, getting it in front of readers is another matter entirely. With more publishing options than ever, today’s authors have much to consider. Explore the options through the experiences of some of our region’s recently published authors – from ‘indie’ model users to those finding success with the hybrid publishing model, to authors with many traditionally published titles under their belt; what does it take to get your book out into the world?

Featuring panellists and emerging published authors Mark Towse (*Nana*, D&T Publishing, 2021), Rich Larsen (*The Silent Society*, Shawline, 2023) and S.D. Hinton (*The Brothers*, Harper Collins, 2022) and led by panel chair Alli Sinclair, a historical fiction author with six books published by Harper Collins and translated internationally.

THIS SESSION IS FREE TO ATTEND, BUT BOOKINGS ARE REQUIRED.

## DINNER & SHOW "PARIS OR DIE" WITH JAYNE TUTTLE

#### 7:00pm to 10:00pm

#### Wurdi Youang, Level 5, Geelong Library & Heritage Centre

[Book now at Trybooking](https://events.grlc.vic.gov.au/event/8793053)

*Paris or Die* is a novel about a theatre student drawn to Paris after her mother’s death, where the city’s artistic, amorous and cultural hazards lead her to a bizarre near-fatal conclusion. Developed into a solo theatre show by author/ actor Jayne Tuttle with director John Bolton Paris or Die was performed in 2021 and 2022 at various venues, including La Mama in Melbourne.

Join us for a dynamic, one-hour live performance and an in-conversation with Jayne and host Maria Takolander, including audience Q&A and book signings.

Canapés, a light supper and drinks will be provided throughout the evening (except during the performance)

TICKETS

$65 per person, including canapés & drinks

$55 per person for Geelong Regional Libraries' Members

## BOOK SALES & SIGNINGS

Provided by our bookstore partners, The Book Bird, Geelong West

Available from 10:00am on Saturday 26th August Ki-kirri-ngitj (we talk together), Ground Floor, Geelong Library & Heritage Centre

## TICKETS (UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED)

#### WORKSHOPS:

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

#### PANEL DISCUSSIONS, PRESENTATIONS & IN-CONVERSATION:

$20 or $10 for Geelong Regional Libraries' Members

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

[See all the tickets on sale and full presenter details at the Local Word Writers Festival website](http://www.grlc.vic.gov.au/localword) or in person at any Geelong Regional Library.

## CONTACT

Email: events@grlc.vic.gov.au

Phone: (03) 4201 0600