

**Newcastle
Writers
Festival**

Festival Information

NEWCASTLE
SEE CHANGE



How to buy tickets

The Newcastle Writers Festival is committed to providing free sessions in its program. Tickets are not needed for these events. Seats are offered on a 'first in, first served' basis. Admission cannot be guaranteed for free sessions.

All other tickets are available from Ticketek and can be bought over the counter, online at www.ticketek.com or by contacting the box office on (02) 4929 1977. Please note, that unless you buy your tickets over the counter at the Civic box office on Hunter Street, the sale will incur an additional delivery fee. **The advertised ticket price includes a Ticketek service fee.**

There is no concession price but Companion Card holders qualify for a second ticket at no cost for their companion. Companion Cards need to be booked via the phone or in person and the card need to be sighted at time of collection.

How to find us

The festival is held in the Civic Precinct, which is close to bus links and the bustling Honeysuckle and Darby Street eatery strips.

Please note, the rail line terminates at the Newcastle Interchange at Wickham and the free 110 bus will take you to the festival site. For updates about track work and for timetable information see www.sydneystains.info.

For bus timetables see www.newcastlebuses.info.

Newcastle Taxis bookings can be made by phoning 133 300 or book online at www.newcastletaxis.com.au.

You are encouraged to leave your car at home but if you do drive, we recommend all-day parking at the Civic West Parking station on Gibson Street, which is offering a special rate of \$6.50. For more details see www.huntercarparks.com.au or www.wilsonparking.com.au

For more information about where to go and what to do during your stay see www.visitnewcastle.com.au

Venue information

The Civic Precinct is located between Hunter and King Streets. There is wheelchair access to City Hall via the Wheeler Place entrance and there is an internal lift. If you require assistance, please email admin@newcastlewritersfestival.org.au and the festival can arrange for a volunteer to be available. The festival is committed to enabling access to all. Please visit our website for more information about accessibility.

The main information desk is located in Wheeler Place and there is an additional desk on King Street outside City Hall. Programs and session information is available. **Please see 'Venues map' on the next page.**

Sound and video recording is not permitted without approval from the festival director Rosemarie Milsom. Email admin@newcastlewritersfestival.org.au.

At the conclusion of each session, ALL seats are to be vacated as this enables sound and stage staff to set up for the following session. Doors will open 15 minutes before the start of each session.

Follow us // #nwf18



Facebook

facebook.com/newcastlewritersfestival



Twitter

@newwritersfest



Instagram

@newcastlewritersfestival

Stay in touch with festival events throughout the year by subscribing to our newsletter via the website or on Facebook.

Program designer Miranda Whittle // **Cover design** Enigma

Getting to the Writers Festival

Consider public transport, private vehicle or pedal power to get to the 2018 Newcastle Writers Festival.



Train

All Hunter and Central Coast trains terminate at Newcastle Interchange, a 10-minute walk from the festival. The free 110 bus departs from the interchange and drops off outside Newcastle City Hall.



Bus

Bus is a great way to get to the city centre. Plan your trip at newcastletransport.info with the handy trip planner tool.



Car

Hundreds of car parking spaces are located close to the festival. The Civic West, Gibson Street car park will have \$6.50 all day parking on 7/8 April. View our handy parking guide at revitalisingnewcastle.nsw.gov.au.



Cycling

Bike racks are located at Burwood Street, NeWSpace and Laman Street for those who wish to cycle to the Writers Festival.



STILL
OPEN FOR
BUSINESS...

For more information follow **Revitalising Newcastle** on Facebook or visit revitalisingnewcastle.nsw.gov.au



From the Director

Even after 40 years I can clearly picture Mrs Scully, my kindergarten teacher. She wore brightly coloured sleeveless geometric print dresses – it was the 1970s! Most days she would read to us after lunch while we sat statue-still on the floor. She also played the guitar and often included music in these popular afternoon breaks from school work. 'Storytime' gave me permission to let my imagination roam.

I don't think we lose the desire to listen to stories as we get older, even if taking time out from our hectic schedules to read and engage with each other becomes more difficult. Reading to the children in our lives is one way to return to that meaningful state: attending writers festivals is another. This year, you will hear stories from Aboriginal writers, a radical farmer who wants to overhaul how we produce our food, poets, one of Australia's most popular comedians, and Richard Fidler. You will hear the stories behind the stories. There will be music, too. I think Mrs Scully would approve.

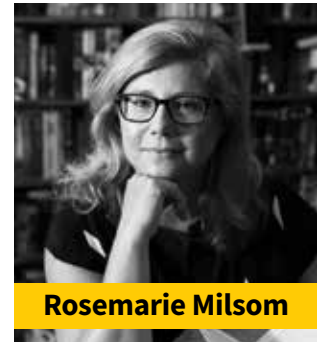
The Newcastle Writers Festival is built on a foundation of goodwill; from our enthusiastic and ever-growing team of wonderful volunteers and facilitators to local arts organisations, including The Lock-Up and Hunter Writers Centre. I extend my appreciation to the festival's core funder, Revitalising Newcastle. Thanks also to our major sponsor Newcastle City Council and other essential sponsors, including the University of Newcastle, Newcastle Port Corporation, Catfish Foundation, Hunter Water, the Copyright Agency Cultural Fund and Enigma. Thanks also to our media partners — Newcastle Herald, 1233 ABC Newcastle, *intouch magazine* and NBN News – who are all committed to telling the Hunter's stories.

The festival works closely with a number of local businesses and I want to acknowledge MacLean's Booksellers, Scion Audio, Rydges (formerly Crowne Plaza Newcastle), Quest Apartments, EJE Architecture, The Press Book House, Margan Wines, Fourth Wave Wine, The Edwards and FogHorn Brewhouse.

I would also like to acknowledge the Newcastle Writers Festival board members for their hard work and valued support; Jenny Blackford, Frances Crampton, Sally Ebert, Laura Jackel, Sheree Kable, Sharon Roberts and Kate Robinson. Added thanks to Sally Ebert and Ewa Ramsey who have helped manage the festival logistics, and to Miranda Whittle who has designed the program for the past four years. Chris Patterson and Gavin Blyth record the events and ensure that after the festival is over, the special moments live on.

I look forward to seeing you in April.

Rosemarie Milsom - manager@newcastlewritersfestival.org.au



Rosemarie Milsom

From the Lord Mayor of Newcastle

Welcome to the Newcastle Writers Festival

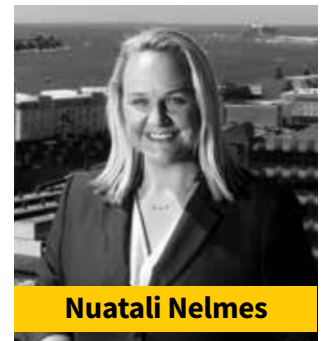
Each year the Festival gets bigger and better and the 2018 program is no exception. It is an honour to host the wonderful Australian writers and thinkers who make their way to Newcastle each year to share their experiences and insights with booklovers of all ages.

Newcastle City Council has been a proud festival supporter since the beginning and we are a major sponsor for the sixth year. This great event shines a spotlight on Newcastle's thriving arts and literary culture, attracting authors of national stature while providing an opportunity for local writers to showcase their work to a large audience.

I offer a special welcome to our first-time Newcastle visitors and I encourage you to take in everything our city has to offer; from our stunning beaches to our thriving restaurant and café culture to our fabulous cultural institutions such as Newcastle Art Gallery and Newcastle Museum. You'll find all of this within walking distance of the festival hub in the Civic Precinct.

Thank you to Rosemarie and the team, including the many dedicated volunteers, who amaze us each year with the quality and diversity of program events. Enjoy!

Nuatali Nelmes



Nuatali Nelmes

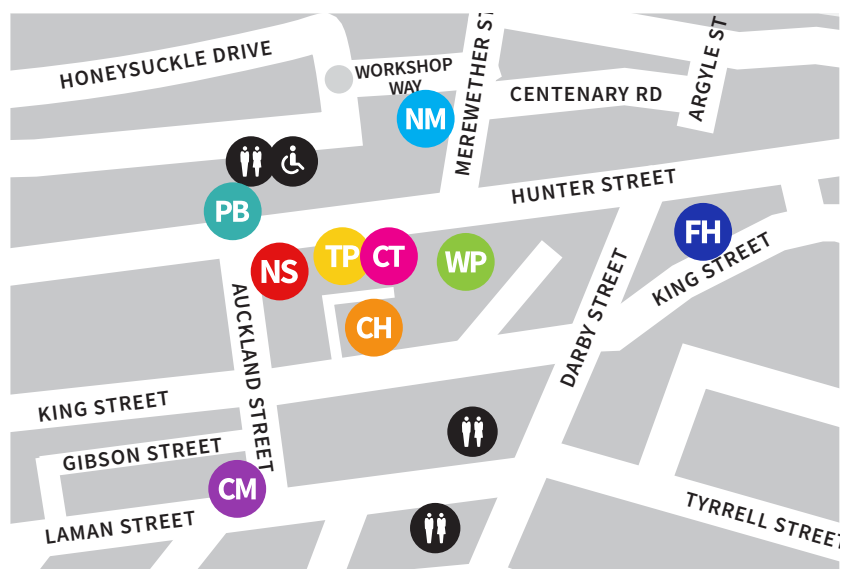
Venues map

- | | |
|---|--|
| PB The Press Book House | CT Civic Theatre & Lounge Bar |
| NM Newcastle Museum | WP The Marquee Wheeler Place |
| TP The Playhouse | CH Newcastle City Hall |
| FH FogHorn Brewhouse | CM Harold Lobb Concert Hall Conservatorium of Music |
| NS NeW Space Cafe and chill-out zone | |

Other venues

Noah's on the Beach
29 Zaara Street
Newcastle Beach

Cessnock Performing Arts Centre
198 Vincent Street



Program Feature Events

OPENING NIGHT GALA

3

Jimmy Barnes *Working Class Man:* An Evening of Stories and Songs

FRIDAY 6TH APRIL
8.00pm - 10.00pm
Civic Theatre

This event has sold out.



Writing the Past

43

SATURDAY 7TH APRIL
6.00pm - 7.00pm
Harold Lobb Concert Hall
Conservatorium of Music

Richard Fidler discusses his passion
for the stories and personalities that
have helped shape history.

Host / Gretel Killeen

Tickets \$28

Jimmy Barnes *Working Class Man*

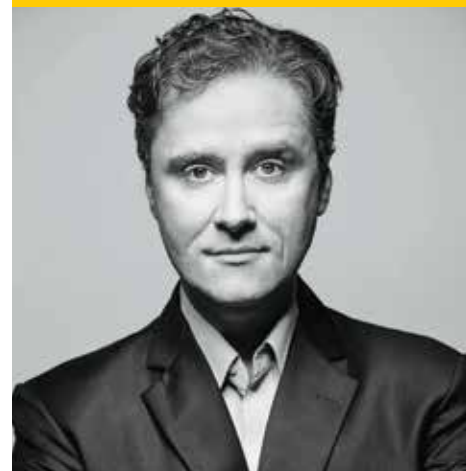
Cover to Cover

45

SATURDAY 7TH APRIL
9.00am - 7.00pm
Civic Theatre Lounge Bar

Join the Jane Austen Society Hunter for a
live reading of *Persuasion* in honour of the
novel's 200th anniversary.

Free event



Life advice from Kitty Flanagan

44

SATURDAY 7TH APRIL
7.30pm - 8.30pm
Harold Lobb Concert Hall
Conservatorium of Music

The much-loved comedian shares tips
and cautionary tales from her new book,
Bridge Burning and other Hobbies.

Host / Meredith Jaffé.

Tickets \$28



Family Fun Day

66

SUNDAY 8TH APRIL
10.00am - 1.00pm
Wheeler Place Marquee

There will be storytelling, book making,
music and plenty of fun.

Free event

In partnership with
Catfish Foundation



Secrets and Lies

49

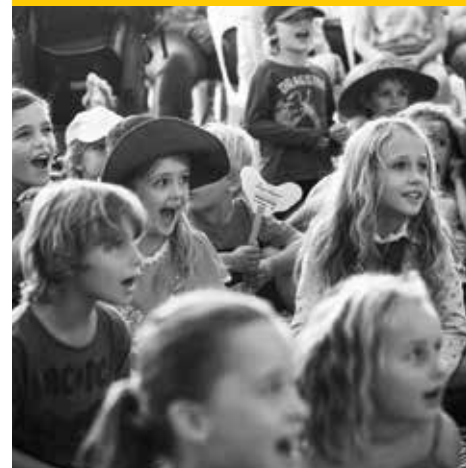
SATURDAY 7TH APRIL
7.30pm - 8.30pm
Cessnock Performing Arts Centre

Michael Robotham in conversation
with Barry Maitland.

Tickets \$25

Bookings: call on 4993 4266 or book online at
www.cessnockperformingartscentre.com.au

In partnership with
Cessnock City Council



Program Friday 6 April

Special Events

10.00am - 12.30pm

1

Newcastle Museum

Poetry & Nature: Poetic responses to the work of Ash Island's Scott Sisters

Experienced poet and tutor Judy Johnson will inspire participants to create poetry in response to the exquisite illustrations of Australia's finest female 19th-century natural history artists, Helena and Harriet Scott.

Devonshire tea provided.

Bookings: Call 02 49741400 or email enquiries@newcastlemuseum.com.au

Tickets \$18 / \$15 concession

In association with the Transformations exhibition at Newcastle Museum.



11.30am - 2.00pm

2

Noah's on the Beach

LITERARY LUNCH

This Writing Life: Di Morrissey in conversation with Natasha Beyersdorf

Best-selling writer Di Morrissey has sold more than two million books during her 25-year career. She will chat about the places and people that inspire her work, including her new book *The Red Coast*.

This event is a fundraiser for the Royal Institute for Deaf and Blind Children Hunter.

Bookings: ridbc.org.au/Literarylunch

Enquiries: Darren Parmenter
T / 0455 067 908
E / darren.parmenter@ridbc.org.au

Tickets \$90
(includes welcome drink and two-course meal)

8.00pm - 10.00pm

3

Jimmy Barnes

(see page 4)

This event has sold out

NeW Space

Hunter Street

11.00am - 1.00pm

4

University of Newcastle

NeW Space

Cnr Hunter and Auckland Streets
Room X201 (Enter on Hunter Street)

MASTERCLASS

Making family and local histories global

Family and local history can strengthen communities and give voice to their diverse stories. But how do you turn your research into powerful stories that capture a wide audience and have global and contemporary relevance?

Join the History Council of NSW with guest speakers including local history specialists and historians, as they share their skills and experience in connecting family and local histories with current issues and audiences.

After the guest speakers deliver their session, there will be time for questions and participants are invited to share their ideas and/or research for feedback.

With Nancy Cushing, Andrew May, Julie McIntyre and Sue Ryan.

Presented by History Council of NSW with support from the School of Humanities and Social Science, University of Newcastle.

Free session

Limited places

Cummings Room

City Hall

5.30pm - 7.00pm

5

Newcastle Short Story Award Presentation

Hosted by Hunter Writers Centre

Judge Ryan O'Neill will be attending.

Free event



Newcastle Short Story Award

All program information is correct at time of printing and some changes may occur without notice. Bookings are not required for free sessions.



Program Saturday 7 April

Concert Hall City Hall

10.00am - 11.00am **6**

Lost for Words

Australia's relationship with its languages with Ray Kelly Snr, Mark MacLean and Charmaine Papertalk Green.

Host / John Maynard

Free session

11.30am - 12.30pm **7**

Beyond the Headlines: How investigative journalists work

With Louise Milligan and Nick Toscano.

Host / Jane Hutcheon

Tickets \$15

1.30pm - 2.30pm **8**

The Hunter Region and the Great War

A presentation by Greg Ray that includes historical images.

Free session

3.00pm - 4.15pm **9**

Beyond the Suffering

Newcastle has been an epicentre of child sexual abuse within churches. Now that the Royal Commission has concluded, what needs to happen to assist survivors and protect children?

With Joanne McCarthy, James M. Miller and Louise Milligan.

Host / Emma Alberici

Tickets \$15

4.30pm - 5.30pm **10**

Beyond Mad Max

Steve Bisley discusses the highs and lows of life in the fast lane.

Host / Dan Cox

Tickets \$25

Mulubinba Room City Hall

10.00am - 11.00am **11**

Who are the Seekers, Whatnows, Drifters, Satisficers and Digitals?

Scott Holmes explores small business tribes with Christina Gerakiteys.

Free session

11.30am - 12.45pm **12**

SPECIAL EVENT

Newcastle Writers Festival Joanne Burns Microlit Award Ceremony

Includes a discussion about using microlit to explore the concept of time. With Raelee Lancaster, Tess Pearson and Richard Holt.

Host / Cassandra Atherton

The *Time* anthology will be launched by Ed Wright.

Free session

1.30pm - 2.30pm **13**

False Claims of Colonial Thieves

John Kinsella and Charmaine Papertalk Green take a poetical look at the colonial narrative and the Indigenous understanding of country. *John Kinsella will be appearing via Skype.*

Host / Magdalena Ball

Tickets \$15

3.00pm - 4.00pm **14**

BOOK LAUNCH

Marilla North's new book *Dymphna Cusack: Lucky in Love* will be launched by Ann Hardy.

Includes a dramatised reading of Cusack's play *We've Been So Lucky, Fella!*

Free session

4.30pm - 5.30pm **15**

BOOK LAUNCH

Port Stephens writer Joanna Atherfold Finn's debut book *Watermark* will be launched by Robert Drewe.

Free session

Cummings Room City Hall

NEW Thinking Series

In partnership with the University of Newcastle's Faculty of Education & Arts with support from the Centre for 21st Century Humanities.

10.00am - 10.30am **16**

Revisiting *Wuthering Heights*

With Alexandra Lewis

Free session

10.45am - 11.15pm **17**

Captive Anzacs

The little-known history of Australian POWs captured by the Ottomans during World War I.

With Kate Ariotti

Free session

11.30am - 12.30pm **18**

The Last Taboo

Writing about mothers who murder. With Nancy Cushing, Xanthé Mallet and Alistair Rolls.

Host / Rachel Franks

Free session

1.30pm - 2.30pm **19**

The Deep Time Project

The trials and tribulations of digitising 50,000 years of human expression.

With Greg Blyton, Gionni di Gravio, Ann Hardy and Craig Williams.

Host / Marguerite Johnson

Free session

3.00pm - 4.00pm **20**

Next Generation Humanities

Find out what the future of humanities looks like from local up-and-coming researchers.

With Nicole Kimball, Gabrielle McGinnis and Elicia Taylor.

Host / Amy Dewar

Free session

4.30pm - 5.30pm **21**

The Battle Within

Writing about the legacy of captivity in postwar Australia.

With Christina Twomey.

Host / Kate Ariotti

Free session

Hunter Room City Hall

10.00am - 11.00am **22**

Crossing Over

What are the challenges of writing across genres?

With Jesse Blackadder, Janette Paul and Jane Rawson.

Host / Jennifer Smith

Free session

11.30am - 12.30pm **23**

A Life With Trees

How Inga Simpson discovered the beauty of nature and her own path as a writer.

Host / Keri Glastonbury

Free session

1.30pm - 2.30pm **24**

Outside the Square

Is experimentation in Australian literature dead?

With Julie Koh, Ryan O'Neill and Jane Rawson.

Host / Georgie Williamson

Free session

3.00pm - 4.00pm **25**

Old Friends, New Tricks

Jane Hutcheon and Janette Paul (aka Jaye Ford) have been friends since their first day of uni. They discuss the challenges of a life in words and the art of perseverance.

Free session

4.30pm - 5.30pm **26**

Beyond the Capitals: The Voice of Regional Poetry

With Dael Allison, Steve Armstrong and Judy Johnson.

Host / Magdalena Ball

Free session

5.30pm to 6.30pm **27**

BOOK LAUNCH

Celebrate the launch of *Brew: 30 Years of Poetry at the Pub Newcastle*

Editor Dael Allison in conversation with Poetry at the Pub president Clark Gormley.

To be launched by Judy Johnson.

Includes readings from the anthology.

Free event

The Marquee

Wheeler Place

10.00am - 11.00am 28

Too Much Rock 'n' Roll: A life in Music

Mark Tinson in conversation
with Phillip McIntyre.

Free session

11.30am - 12.30pm 29

Trading Stories

Nick Milligan and Joanna Atherfold
Finn explore the allure of short
stories and how the Hunter shapes
their work.

Host / Conor McCarthy

Free session

1.30pm - 2.30pm 30

justiceINjustice

Creative responses to
marginalisation and injustice
within the criminal justice.

With Rob Cleworth, Melinda Dundas
and Karen Wells.

Host / Caroline McKay

In partnership with The Lock-Up's
exhibition *justiceINjustice*.

Free session

3.00pm - 4.00pm 31

Making it Up

What is fiction for?

With Lia Hills, Ryan O'Neill
and Jock Serong.

Host / Ed Wright

Free session

4.30pm - 5.30pm 32

Life Experience: How do you transform real events into fiction?

With Jesse Blackadder, Kathryn
Heyman and Michael Sala.

Host / Suzanne Leal

Free session

The Playhouse

Hunter Street

10.00am - 11.00am 33

Anaesthesia

The gift of oblivion and the mystery
of consciousness.

Kate Cole-Adams in conversation
with Annette Marfording.

Tickets \$25

11.30am - 12.30pm 34

What does it mean to live well?

With Brigid Delaney, Robert
Dessaix and Ken Hillman.

Host / Suzanne Leal

Tickets \$25

1.30pm - 2.30pm 35

The Meaning of Water

It symbolises life and purification,
but in their most recent books
Scott Bevan, Jesse Blackadder
and Jock Serong also explore
its danger and allure.

Host / Rosemarie Milsom

Tickets \$25

3.00pm - 4.00pm 36

A Good Life to the End

How can we be empowered to take
control of our journey through
ageing and death?

Intensive care specialist Ken Hillman
in conversation with Meredith Jaffé.

Tickets \$25

4.30pm - 5.30pm 37

Speaking Their Truth

The power in the telling of women's
stories.

With Kate Cole-Adams, Cassie Lane
and Jenny Valentish.

Host / Annette Marfording

Free session

Harold Lobb Concert Hall

Conservatorium of Music

10.00am - 11.00am 38

Earth Hour

Bruce Pascoe and Charles Massy
tackle myths about agriculture and
discuss what it means to live in
connection with the land.

Host / Geordie Williamson

Tickets \$25

11.30am - 12.30pm 39

The Long and Winding Way to the Top

Fifty (or so) songs that
made Australia.

Andrew P. Street in conversation
with Felicity Biggins.

Tickets \$25

1.30pm - 2.30pm 40

Danger Music

How teaching the cello to children in
Afghanistan led Eddie Ayres to a self-
discovery almost too hard to bear.

Host / Dan Cox

Tickets \$25

3.00pm - 4.00pm 41

Dark Emu

Bruce Pascoe discusses his ground-
breaking research which overturns
the long-held belief that Indigenous
people were simply hunter-
gatherers.

Host / Jill Emberson

Tickets \$25

4.30pm - 5.30pm 42

The Music That Changed Me

Eddie Ayres and Christopher
Lawrence in conversation
with Felicity Biggins.

Tickets \$25

6.00pm - 7.00pm 43

Richard Fidler

(see page 4)

Tickets \$28

7.30pm - 8.30pm 44

Kitty Flanagan

(see page 4)

Tickets \$28

Special Events

9.00am - 7.00pm 45

Civic Theatre Lounge Bar Cover to Cover

Join the Jane Austen Society Hunter
for a live reading of *Persuasion*
in honour of the novel's 200th
anniversary.

Free event

11.30am - 1.30pm 46

FogHorn Brewhouse

Poets' Lunch

Hosted by Hunter Bush Poets. Enjoy
a meal with lashings of Aussie bush
poetry, tall tales, and rollicking
rhymes.

Tickets \$30 - book online at
www.trybooking.com/UFE0
or call 49261313

The Press Book House

BOOK LAUNCHES

All free events

11.30am - 12.30pm 47

Newcastle poet Kathryn Fry's new
book *Green Point Bearings* will be
launched by Brook Emery.

1.30pm - 2.30pm 48

Richard Holt's new book *What You
Might Find* will be launched by
Cassandra Atherton.

7.30pm - 8.30pm 49

Cessnock Performing Arts Centre

Michael Robotham

(see page 4)

Tickets \$25

Program Sunday 8 April

Concert Hall City Hall

10.00am - 11.00am 50

A Reckoning

The #MeToo and Time's Up campaigns have become powerful platforms for women to share their stories, but what happens now?

With Amal Awad, Cassie Lane and Tracey Spicer.

Host / Julia Baird

Tickets \$15

11.30am - 12.30pm 51

The Hunter and the Hunted: Exploring this potent crime fiction dynamic

Michael Robotham in conversation with Jaye Ford.

Tickets \$25

1.30pm - 2.30pm 52

Blood Ties

What are the challenges when creating fictional families?

With Holly Ringland, Robert Drewe and Jock Serong.

Host / Meredith Jaffé

Tickets \$25

3.00pm - 4.15pm 53

The Lost Empire

While we cheer our athletes competing for Australia on the Gold Coast, Melissa Lucashenko, Selina Tusitala Marsh and Salil Tripathi reflect on the significance and relevance of the Commonwealth of Nations.

Host / Julianne Schultz

Free session

In partnership with Griffith Review

Mulubinba Room City Hall

10.00am - 11.00am 54

Give your stories a future: How three local writers bring their writing to life

With Sally Egan, Maree Gallop and Aidan Walsh.

Host / Jessie Ansons

Free session

11.30am - 12.30pm 55

How Poets See the World

With Lia Hills, Michele Seminara and Selina Tusitala Marsh.

Host / Magdalena Ball

Tickets \$15

1.30pm - 2.30pm 56

Politics of Identity

A discussion about trauma across the generations and the struggle to belong.

With Mehreen Faruqi, Roanna Gonsalves and Amal Awad.

Host / Saba Vasefi

With a special musical performance by Minerva Khodabande.

Free session

3.00pm - 4.00pm 57

The Politics of Poetic Form

With Chris Brown, Keri Glastonbury and Emily Stewart.

Host / Claire Albrecht

Free session

Cummings Room City Hall

NEW Thinking Series

In partnership with the University of Newcastle's Faculty of Education & Arts with support from the Centre for 21st Century Humanities.

10.00am - 10.45am 58

The Corridor of Truth: What fiction adds to history

A presentation by Evelyn Conlon.

Free session

Supported by



11.30am - 12.30pm 59

Mapping Aboriginal Massacres

Lyndall Ryan discusses her groundbreaking research with Catharine Coleborne.

Free session

1.30pm - 2.30pm 60

Why Study Writing?

With Dael Allison, Keri Glastonbury and Kathryn Heyman.

Host / Michael Sala

Free session

3.00pm - 3.30pm 61

Picnic at Hanging Rock 50 Years On

Gender and pseudo-history in Joan Lindsay's tale of a group of girls suddenly lost forever.

With Marguerite Johnson.

Free session

Hunter Room City Hall

10.00am - 11.00am 62

Writing the Landscape: The transformative power of place

With Lia Hills, Holly Ringland and Inga Simpson.

Host / Geordie Williamson

Free session

11.30am - 12.30pm 63

The Cult of Wellness

Mindfulness apps and super foods promise health and happiness, but has the fad gone too far?

With Brigid Delaney and Nick Toscano.

Host / Jennifer Smith

Tickets \$25

1.30pm - 2.30pm 64

Not quite overnight: The winding road to publication

With Melissa Lucaschenko, Wendy James and Inga Simpson.

Host / Conor McCarthy

Free session

3.00pm - 4.00pm 65

Against the Odds

How athlete Joe Williams overcame his struggle with mental illness and addiction in order to thrive.

Host / Brett Keeble

Tickets \$15



FREE Family DAY!

From 10am to 1pm The Marquee, Wheeler Place

Dust off your Book Week costume and come as your favourite character to win great prizes.

Visit **Zanni Louise** in the Creative Bookmaking Tent and create your own story.

There will be face painting, puppetry, music and lots of fun!

The Marquee

Wheeler Place

10.00am - 1.00pm

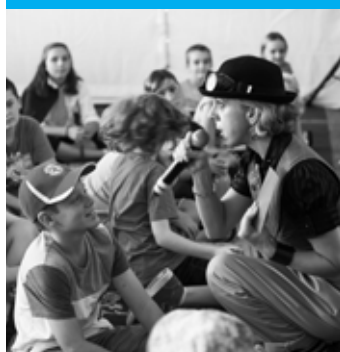
66

Family Fun Day

See timetable in blue below.

In partnership with the Catfish Foundation

Free event



2.30pm - 3.00pm

67

World Hurl Anti- Slam

Everyone is welcome to participate. Anti-slam has no rules and is a reaction to the competitive nature of slam poetry. Performances can take any form.

Registration from 2pm at venue

Free event

3.15pm - 4.30pm

68

What is Your Newcastle Story?

This unique interactive event in partnership with Idea Bombing Newcastle responds to this year's 'Storytime' theme.

With Michael Cassel, Anthony Furniss, Cherie Johnson, Becky Kiil and Alex Morris.

Free event

All program information is correct at time of printing and some changes may occur without notice. Bookings are not required for free sessions.

The Playhouse

Hunter Street

10.00am - 11.00am

69

The Radical Farmer

Charles Massy discusses his critically acclaimed book, *Call of the Reed Warbler*.

Host / James Whelan

Tickets \$25

11.30am - 12.30pm

70

When the Past and Present Collide

Robert Drewe in Conversation with Joanna Atherfold Finn.

Tickets \$25

1.30pm - 2.30pm

71

In Excess: A Conversation about self-destruction

with Steve Bisley, Cassie Lane and Jenny Valentish.

Host / Rosemarie Milsom

Tickets \$25

Harold Lobb Concert Hall

Conservatorium of Music

10.00am - 11.00am

72

A Fine Balance

Robert Dessaix on the pleasures of leisure and why we need to do less instead of more.

Host / Ed Wright

Tickets \$25

12.00pm - 1.00pm

73

SPECIAL FAMILY EVENT

Newcastle Youth Orchestra and Newcastle Writers Festival present

Prokofiev's *Peter and the Wolf*

Featuring playwright Carl Caulfield. There will also be a performance of *Carnival of the Animals*. Ogden Nash's poetry will be recited by Ghillian Sullivan.

Tickets Adults \$25
Concession/Child \$15
Family \$60

1.30pm - 2.30pm

74

Revolutionary Women

Who were Caroline Chisholm, Elizabeth Macquarie and Queen Victoria?

With Julia Baird, Sarah Goldman and Luke Slattery.

Host / Tracey Spicer

Tickets \$25

3.30pm - 5.00pm

75

Symphony of Seduction

Christopher Lawrence discusses the great love stories of classical composers with Paul Bevan. Includes musical interludes with David Banney, Gavin Clark and Peter Guy.

Tickets \$35

Supported by the Newcastle Music Festival

The Press Book House

Hunter Street

8.00am - 10.00am

76

Poets' Breakfast

Enjoy live performances and a coffee. Presented by Hunter Bush Poets.

Host / Ron Brown

Free session

10.30am to 11.30am

77

BOOK LAUNCH

Newcastle writer Zeny Giles' new book of poetry *Parables* will be launched by Dael Allison.

Proceeds from the sale of the book will help fund the Margaret Henry Lecture.

12.30pm to 1.30pm

78

Women of Words

Readings by poets Dael Allison, Magdalena Ball, Ivy Ireland, Judy Johnson, Michele Seminara and Melinda Smith.

Host / Janette Hoppe

Free event

Poetry at the Pub Festival After Party

MONDAY 9TH APRIL

From 7.30pm

Wickham Park Hotel

With special festival guests and a constellation of stars on the open mic. All welcome.

Free event

10.00am - 10.15am

A welcome by Newcastle Youth Orchestra Kids.

10.20am - 10.50am

Gregg Dreise takes you on a journey to his childhood riverbank. The adventure includes music, daggy jokes and, most importantly, a good yarn.

11.00am - 11.30am

Loppy and Curly are back! Lynn Jenkins and Kirrili Lonergan share their new book, *Perfect Petunias*, which is aimed budding perfectionists who worry about making mistakes.

11.40am - 12.10pm

Digby Fixit Live! captivates young audiences with theatrical storytelling, puppets, music and giggles galore! It is adapted from Renee Price's picture book series.

12.20pm - 12.50pm

Help Emily S. Smith and Graham Davidson from Storytime Lane create illustrations for their new book, *Life is Not Fair When You Are Just a Chair*.



THE WORLD'S BEST WRITERS ALL
HAVE SOMETHING IN COMMON.
THEY'RE MORE THAN 70% WATER.

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Free water from our refill station at Wheeler Place
all weekend. #reduceplasticwaste #lovewater



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OPENING HOURS

MON: THUR: 11:30AM - 10:00PM
FRIDAY: 11.30AM - 11:30PM
SATURDAY: 11.30AM - 11:30PM
SUNDAY: 11.30AM - 9:00PM

NEWCASTLE'S BREWERY

AWARD WINNING BEERS & LOCALLY SOURCED PRODUCE SERVED FROM AN AWARD
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15% OFF MEALS FOR NEWCASTLE WRITERS FESTIVAL

SIMPLY PRESENT YOUR FESTIVAL TICKET WHEN
ORDERING & RECEIVE 15% OFF ANY FULL PRICED MENU ITEM.
EXCLUDES ITEMS ALREADY DISCOUNTED & DRINKS.

////// HOPPY HOUR ////

\$5 SCHOONERS!
FRIDAY 4PM - 6PM

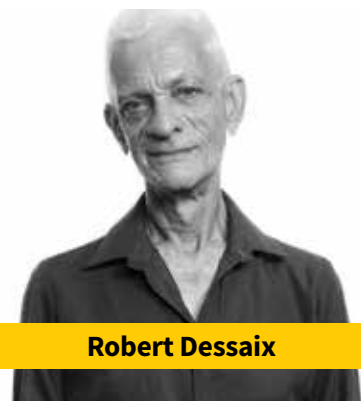
////// LIVE MUSIC ////

SATURDAY 7TH FROM 8PM
CHECK THE WEBSITE FOR DETAILS.

JUST DRINKS OR COFFEE?

GET YOUR FRIENDS TOGETHER AND HEAD IN TO THE BAR
& GRAB A DRINK OR A COFFEE & CAKE AFTER A SESSION.

Biographies



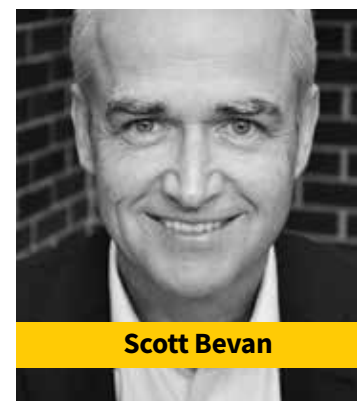
Robert Dessaix



Eddie Ayres



Kate Cole-Adams



Scott Bevan

Emma Alberici

Emma Alberici is one of Australia's most highly regarded journalists and is the ABC's chief economics correspondent.

Session 9

Claire Albrecht

Claire Albrecht is poet and PhD candidate at the University of Newcastle.

Session 57

Dael Allison

Dael Allison is a poet and PhD candidate in creative writing at the University of Newcastle. She is also the editor of Newcastle Poetry at the Pub's 30th anniversary anthology, which will be launched at the festival.

Session 26, 27, 60, 77, 78

Jessie Ansons

Jessie Ansons is a local writer whose short stories have been published in newspapers and anthologies.

Session 54

Kate Ariotti

Kate Ariotti is a lecturer at the University of Newcastle. She specialises in the history of war's impact on Australian society and culture.

Session 17, 21

Steve Armstrong

Steve Armstrong is a Newcastle poet whose work has been shortlisted for many prizes. His first collection will be published by University of Western Australia Press in 2018.

Session 26

Joanna Atherfold Finn

Port Stephens writer Joanna Atherfold Finn's debut book, *Watermark*, will be launched at this year's festival.

Session 15, 29, 70

Cassandra Atherton

Cassandra Atherton is an award-winning writer, academic and critic. Her recent books of prose poetry are *Trace*, *Exhumed* and *Sketch Notes*.

Session 12, 48

Amal Awad

Amal Awad is a journalist, screenwriter and author. She is a columnist for SBS Life, and has written for various outlets, including *ELLE* and *Frankie*.

Session 50, 56

Eddie Ayres

In 2016, ABC broadcaster Emma Ayres became Eddie. His book, *Danger Music*, which recounts his time as a music teacher in Afghanistan and his transition, was published in 2017.

Session 40, 42

Julia Baird

Julia Baird is a journalist, broadcaster, columnist and political commentator who currently hosts *The Drum* on ABC TV. Her biography of Queen Victoria has been a critical and commercial success.

Session 50, 74

Magdalena Ball

Magdalena Ball is a novelist, poet, reviewer and interviewer, and is the editor of *Compulsive Reader*.

Session 13, 26, 55, 78

David Banney

David Banney is the artistic director of the Christ Church Camerata and co-artistic director of the Newcastle Music Festival.

Session 75

Jimmy Barnes

Jimmy Barnes is one of the most successful artists in Australia. The two volumes of his memoirs – *Working Class Boy* and *Working Class Man* – have had critical and commercial success.

Session 3

Paul Bevan

Paul Bevan has worked in radio for more than 25 years. He currently presents Drive for 1233 ABC Newcastle.

Session 75

Scott Bevan

Scott Bevan is a Newcastle-based writer, journalist, broadcaster and playwright.

Session 35

Natasha Beyersdorf

Natasha Beyersdorf fronts the evening weekday news for NBN as well as reporting and compiling special presentations.

Session 2

Felicity Biggins

Felicity Biggins is a lecturer in communications at the University of Newcastle and with her husband, playwright Carl Caulfield, she runs a small theatre company called Stray Dogs.

Session 39, 42

Steve Bisley

Steve Bisley has been a film and television actor for more than 30 years and is best known for his roles in *Mad Max* and *Water Rats*. The second volume of his memoirs, *All the Burning Bridges*, was published in 2017.

Session 10, 71

Jesse Blackadder

Jesse Blackadder is an award-winning novelist, short story writer, freelance journalist and budding screenwriter.

Session 22, 32, 35

Greg Blyton

Greg Blyton is a senior lecturer, Aboriginal historian and researcher at the University of Newcastle's Wollotuka Institute.

Session 19

Chris Brown

Chris Brown is a teacher and poet living in Newcastle.

Session 57

Ron Brown

Ron Brown is a founding member of the Hunter Bush Poets, which was established in 1997 and has since merged with the Newcastle Hunter Valley Folk Club.

Session 46, 76

Michael Cassel

Michael Cassel is the chief executive of Hunter Development Corporation and program director for the Revitalising Newcastle program.

Session 68

Gavin Clark

Gavin Clark commenced his studies on the cello at age three. He has been principal cellist of the Christ Church Camerata since August 2014.

Session 75

Rob Cleworth

Artist Rob Cleworth focuses on the relationship between photography and painting.

Session 30

Kate Cole-Adams

Kate Cole-Adams is a writer and journalist. Her most recent book, *Anaesthesia*, is part memoir, part history and part investigative journalism.

Session 33, 37

Catharine Coleborne

Catharine Coleborne is professor and head of the School of Humanities and Social Science/Dean of Arts at the University of Newcastle.

Session 59

Evelyn Conlon

Evelyn Conlon is a novelist and short story writer, and an elected member of Aosdána, the Irish association honouring distinguished artistic work.

Session 58

Dan Cox

Dan Cox is a journalist with 1233 ABC Newcastle and the host of the much-loved Treasure Hunter segment.

Session 10, 40

Nancy Cushing

Nancy Cushing is associate professor in Australian history at the University of Newcastle.

Session 4, 18

Graham Davidson

Graham Davidson is an award-winning Newcastle animator and illustrator.

Session 66

Brigid Delaney

Brigid Delaney is a senior writer for *Guardian Australia* and the author of three books: *This Restless Life*, *Wild Things* and *Wellmania: Misadventures in the Search for Wellness*.

Session 34, 63

Biographies

Robert Dessaix

Robert Dessaix is a writer of fiction, autobiography and the occasional essay. His most recent book is *The Pleasures of Leisure*.

Session 34, 72

Amy Dewar

Amy Dewar is a PhD candidate at the University of Newcastle. Her research focuses on documenting and describing the endangered language of Fakamae, spoken in Vanuatu. studies.

Session 20

Gionni Di Gravio

Gionni Di Gravio is a professional archivist who uses emerging technologies to connect people across time and space with historic records and archives.

Session 19

Gregg Dreise

Gregg Dreise is an award-winning author and illustrator. He is a descendent of the Kamilaroi tribe from southwest Queensland and north-west New South Wales.

Session 66

Robert Drewe

Robert Drewe is an award-winning novelist, non-fiction and short-story writer. His most recent book, *Whipbird*, centres on the ghosts that haunt an unusual family gathering.

Session 15, 52, 70

Melinda Dundas

Melinda Dundas is completing a book about her marriage to Roni Levi, her work with the Newcastle Legal Centre following his death, and the years since.

Session 30

Sally Egan

Sally Egan's writing has been published in *Home is the Hunter* (Catchfire Press) and the *Newcastle Herald*.

Session 54

Jill Emberson

Jill Emberson started her journalism career in Triple J newsroom. She is a currently on extended sick leave from her role as Mornings presenter on 1233 ABC Newcastle.

Session 41

Brook Emery

Sydney poet Brook Emery has published five collections, the latest being *Have Been and Are* in 2016.

Session 47

Mehreen Faruqi

Mehreen Faruqi has been a Greens MP in the New South Wales Legislative Council since 2013 and is the first Muslim woman elected to any Parliament in Australia.

Session 56

Richard Fidler

Richard Fidler presents *Conversations*, an in-depth interview program broadcast on ABC radio. He is the author of the best-selling books *Ghost Empire* and *Sagaland*, which was co-written with Kári Gíslason.

Session 43

Kitty Flanagan

Kitty Flanagan is one of Australia's top comedians. Her new memoir, *Bridge Burning and Other Hobbies*, recounts her career and relationship ups and downs.

Session 44

Rachel Franks

Rachel Franks is the coordinator, Education & Scholarship, at the State Library of New South Wales, and a conjoint fellow at the University of Newcastle.

Session 18

Kathryn Fry

Belmont poet Kathryn Fry has work published in various anthologies and journals. Her debut collection *Green Point Bearings* will be launched at this year's festival.

Session 47

Anthony Furniss

Anthony Furniss is the youngest director of EJE Architecture, a local practice which recently celebrated its 40th anniversary. He was the collaborating design architect and site architect for the University of Newcastle's NeW Space project.

Session 68

Maree Gallop

Maree Gallop is a Newcastle award-winning writer and nurse. She has been published in various anthologies and is excited about writing her first novella.

Session 54

Christina Gerakiteys

Christina Gerakiteys has written personal and business development and innovation programs, conducts workshops and facilitates strategic planning meetings and conferences.

Session 11

Zeny Giles

Zeny Giles writes prose and poetry. Sales of her latest collection, *Parables*, will help fund the Margaret Henry memorial lecture.

Session 77

Keri Glastonbury

Keri Glastonbury is a senior lecturer in creative writing at the University of Newcastle, poet and essayist.

Session 23, 57, 60

Sarah Goldman

Sarah Goldman has spent most of her life as a journalist in Australia and Britain. *Caroline Chisholm: An Irresistible Force* is her first book.

Session 74

Roanna Gonsalves

Roanna Gonsalves's creative and scholarly work have been published and performed across various media in India and Australia.

Session 56

Clark Gormley

Clark Gormley is a Newcastle poet, singer/songwriter and comedian. He has been president of Poetry at the Pub for the past 10 years.

Session 27

Peter Guy

Peter Guy is organist and master of the choristers at Newcastle's Christ Church Cathedral, and a past national finalist of the ABC Young Performers Awards.

Session 75

Ann Hardy

Ann Hardy is Historian and Living Histories Co-ordinator at The University of Newcastle's GLAMx Living Histories Digitisation Lab supporting Work Integrated Learning (WIL) students undertake multidisciplinary projects.

Session 14, 19

Kathryn Heyman

Kathryn Heyman is a novelist, essayist, scriptwriter and conjoint professor of writing and English at the University of Newcastle.

Session 32, 60

Ken Hillman

Ken Hillman is professor of intensive care at the University of New South Wales. His most recent book is *A Good Life to the End*.

Session 34, 36

Lia Hills

Lia Hills is a poet, novelist and translator. Her most recent novel, *The Crying Place*, takes the reader into the mysteries and truths that lie at the heart of our country.

Session 31, 55, 62

Scott Holmes

Scott Holmes is the senior deputy vice-chancellor at Western Sydney University and the dean of the School of Business.

Session 11

Richard Holt

Richard Holt is a visual artist and a writer of short and micro-fiction. His debut collection, *What You Might Find*, will be launched at this year's festival.

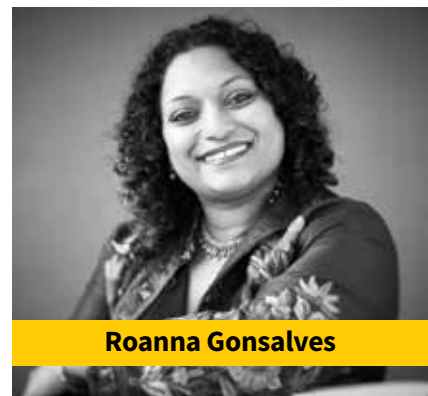
Session 12, 48



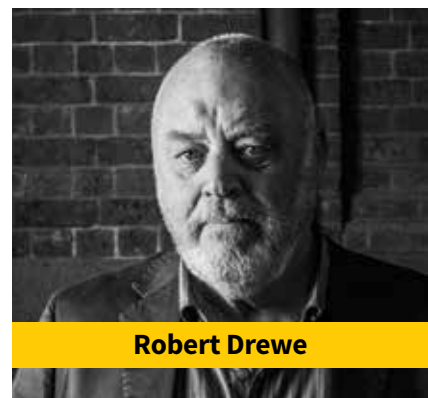
Kathryn Heyman



Melinda Dundas



Roanna Gonsalves



Robert Drewe



Sarah Goldman

Janette Hoppe

Janette Hoppe is a poet whose work reflects her Australian and New Zealand Maori heritage. She is the founder of Papatuanuku Press as well as Women of Words, The Poetry Bomb and The Blue Series projects.

Session 78

Jane Hutcheon

Jane Hutcheon presents the interview show One Plus One on ABC TV and is the author of two non-fiction books: *China Baby Love* and *From Rice to Riches*.

Session 7, 25

Ivy Ireland

Ivy Ireland's poems have been published in various magazines and anthologies. Her most recent collection, *Porch Light*, is published by Puncher & Wattmann.

Session 78

Meredith Jaffé

Meredith Jaffé is a writer and occasional book critic. Her most recent novel is *The Making of Christina*.

Session 36, 44, 52

Wendy James

Newcastle writer Wendy James has been described as Australia's queen of domestic suspense. She is the author of seven works of fiction.

Session 64

Lynn Jenkins

Lynn Jenkins is a Newcastle author, clinical psychologist and mum. She is passionate about assisting children with emotional issues via the platform of picture books.

Session 66

Cherie Johnson

Cherie Johnson is founder and owner of Speaking in Colour, an Aboriginal education and arts consultancy in Newcastle, which provides training, cultural workshops and Aboriginal education resources.

Session 68

Judy Johnson

Judy Johnson is a prize-winning Hunter Region poet with six collections; the latest is *Dark Convicts*.

Session 1, 26, 27, 78

Marguerite Johnson

Marguerite Johnson is a classicist at the University of Newcastle. She researches and teaches the cultural histories of the ancient Mediterranean.

Session 19, 61

Brett Keeble

Brett Keeble is an award-winning sport journalist and the author of Paul Harragon's biography *One Perfect Day*.

Session 65

Ray Kelly Snr

Ray Kelly is an Indigenous cultural and language expert, writer and University of Newcastle academic.

Session 6

Minerva Khodabande

Minerva Khodabande is an accomplished cellist and a talented vocalist.

Session 56

Becky Kiil

Becky Kiil abandoned a life and career in human services in Melbourne after falling in love with Newcastle. She is the founder of Newcastle Afoot, a tour and experience business.

Session 68

Gretel Killeen

Gretel Killeen is a best-selling author, social/political commentator, publisher, live show director and the lead singer in a pretty appalling band.

Session 43

Nicole Kimball

Nicole Kimball is a PhD student at the University of Newcastle. Her thesis focuses on various aspects of magic that appear in myths, folktale, and fantasy.

Session 20

John Kinsella

John Kinsella is the author of more than 30 books. His numerous awards include the Australian Prime Minister's Literary Award for Poetry and the Victorian Premier's Award for Poetry.

Session 13

Julie Koh

Julie Koh is the author of two short-story collections: *Capital Misfits* and *Portable Curiosities*. She is a 2017 *Sydney Morning Herald* Best Young Australian Novelist.

Session 24

Raelee Lancaster

Raelee Lancaster is a Brisbane-based writer and researcher. She works with the Indigenous Strategy and Policy team at Walanga Muru at Macquarie University and with the Foundation of Young Australians as a YLab Associate

Session 12

Cassie Lane

Cassie Lane is a writer and former model who has a Master of Creative Writing from the University of Melbourne. *How to Dress a Dummy* is her first book.

Session 37, 50, 71

Christopher Lawrence

Christopher Lawrence's broadcasting career spans more than 40 years. He is also a best-selling writer and his most recent book is *Symphony of Seduction: The Great Love Stories of Classical Composers*.

Session 42, 75

Suzanne Leal

Suzanne Leal is a lawyer, writer and senior judge for the 2018 NSW Premier's Literary Awards.

Session 32, 34

Alexandra Lewis

Alexandra Lewis is a lecturer in English literature and creative writing, and associate director of the Centre for the Novel, at the University of Aberdeen.

Session 16

Kirrili Lonergan

Kirrili Lonergan is a local children's book illustrator and the vice-president of the Children's Book Council of Australia Newcastle Sub-branch.

Session 66

Zanni Louise

Zanni Louise has written four books for young children, and will release another four later this year. She lives in northern NSW.

Session 66

Melissa Lucashenko

Melissa Lucashenko is a Bundjalung novelist and essayist. In 2016 she was awarded the Copyright Agency Limited Fellowship to write her forthcoming novel, *Too Much Lip*.

Session 53, 64

Mark MacLean

Mark MacLean is a writer, editor and language teacher at Lightning Ridge Central School.

Session 6

Barry Maitland

Barry Maitland is a Hunter region-based crime writer. His most recent novels have been the *Belltree Trilogy* featuring homicide detective Harry Belltree.

Session 49

Xanthé Mallett

Xanthé Mallett is a forensic criminologist, author, and science communicator, committed to promoting criminology as well as engaging the public with core social justice issues.

Session 18

Annette Marfording

Annette Marfording's book *Celebrating Australian Writing* features in-depth conversations with 21 Australian authors on their work, writing methods and more.

Session 33, 37

Charles Massy

Charles Massy has a PhD in social change and is a best-selling author and farmer of 40 years. His most recent book, *Call of the Reed Warbler*, explores how regenerative agriculture can save our health and our planet.

Session 38, 69

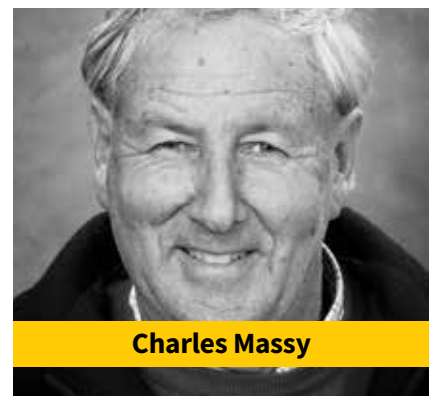
Andrew May

Andrew May is professor of history in the School of Historical and Philosophical Studies at the University of Melbourne.

Session 4



Wendy James



Charles Massy



Julie Koh



Gretel Killeen



Christopher Lawrence

Biographies

John Maynard

Professor John Maynard is a Worimi man from Port Stephens. He is the director of the Wollotuka Institute of Aboriginal Studies at the University of Newcastle and Chair of Indigenous History.

Session 6

Conor McCarthy

Conor McCarthy has written books and essays on medieval literature and contemporary Irish poetry.

Session 29, 64

Joanne McCarthy

Joanne McCarthy started writing about child sexual abuse in institutions, primarily the Catholic Church, in 2006 at the *Newcastle Herald*. Her relentless campaign journalism has been credited with helping to establish the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse.

Session 9

Gabrielle McGinnis

Gabrielle McGinnis is a PhD Candidate in the Faculty of Education and Arts, School of Humanities and Social Sciences at the University of Newcastle. Her work explores digital options for empowerment and engagement with Aboriginal communities.

Session 20

Julie McIntyre

Julie McIntyre is a research fellow in History at the University of Newcastle. She is the State Library of NSW's 2018 Merewether Fellow and assistant editor of the *Journal of Wine Research*.

Session 4

Phillip McIntyre

Phillip McIntyre is a communication and media scholar at the University of Newcastle. Previously, he was involved in the music industry in a number of roles.

Session 28

Carolyn McKay

Carolyn McKay is a visual artist, curator and academic. Both her academic research and her visual arts practice relate to technologies in the criminal justice system and prisons.

Session 30

James M. Miller

James M. Miller has worked as an academic and barrister. His most recent book *The Priests* recounts the profound impact of sexual abuse he experienced as a Newcastle Catholic school student.

Session 9

Louise Milligan

Louise Milligan is an award-winning investigative reporter for ABC TV. She is the author of *Cardinal: The Rise and Fall of George Pell*.

Session 7, 9

Nick Milligan

Nick Milligan is a Newcastle-based entertainment journalist, author and podcaster. His book of short stories, *Tomcat Feelings*, was self-published in 2017.

Session 29

Rosemarie Milsom

Rosemarie Milsom is the founding director of the Newcastle Writers Festival and an award-winning journalist.

Session 35, 71

Alex Morris

Alex Morris is an American freelance writer working and living in Australia. She regularly writes for the *Newcastle Herald* and works at Newcastle Museum.

Session 68

Di Morrissey

Di Morrissey is Australia's bestselling female writer. In 2017, she was inducted into the Australian Book Industry Awards Hall of Fame and received the Lloyd O'Neil Award.

Session 2

Marilla North

Marilla North has worked in advertising and television. She has spent decades researching and writing about Dymphna Cusack.

Session 14

Ryan O'Neill

Ryan O'Neill's most recent book, *Their Brilliant Careers*, was shortlisted for the Christina Stead Prize for Fiction and the Miles Franklin Award, and won the 2017 Prime Minister's Literary Award for Fiction. He teaches at the University of Newcastle.

Session 24, 31

Janette Paul/Jaye Ford

Janette Paul is the rom-com alter-ego of bestselling suspense author Jaye Ford. Jaye/Janette is the author of seven novels – five thrillers and two romantic comedies.

Session 22, 25, 51

Charmaine Papertalk Green

Charmaine Papertalk Green is a member of the Wajarri and Badimaya groups from the Yamaji Nation of Western Australia. She is a visual and installation artist, poet and writer.

Session 6, 13

Bruce Pascoe

Bruce Pascoe has written more than 20 books for children and adults. His most recent, *Dark Emu*, won the Book of the Year and Indigenous Writer's prizes in the 2016 NSW Premier's Literary Awards.

Session 38, 41

Tess Pearson

Tess Pearson is a Sydney-based writer of poetry and prose.

Session 12

Renee Price

Renee Price is a Newcastle children's author/performer. *Digby and the Yodelayhee Who?* is her most recent book.

Session 66

Jane Rawson

Jane Rawson writes novels, novellas, stories and non-fiction, mostly about the environment. Her latest novel is *From the Wreck*.

Session 22, 24

Greg Ray

Greg Ray was a journalist for 30 years. Since 2010 he and his wife Sylvia have self-published several books on Hunter history.

Session 8

Holly Ringland

Holly Ringland's debut novel *The Lost Flowers of Alice Hart* will be published in April 2018 in Australia and internationally.

Session 52, 62

Michael Robotham

Michael Robotham's books have been international best-sellers. His most recent standalone thriller is *The Secrets She Keeps*.

Session 49, 51

Alistair Rolls

Alistair Rolls teaches French at the University of Newcastle. He has published numerous monographs, edited books and journal articles on crime fiction.

Session 18

Lyndall Ryan

Lyndall Ryan is conjoint research professor in the Centre for the History of Violence at the University of Newcastle. In 2017 she launched the first stage of an online digital map of frontier massacres in Eastern Australia 1788 to 1872.

Session 59

Sue Ryan

Sue Ryan is the coordinator, Local History, at Newcastle Region Library.

Session 4

Michael Sala

Michael Sala is a creative writing lecturer at the University of Newcastle. His most recent book, *The Restorer*, has been a critical success.

Session 32, 60

Julianne Schultz

Julianne Schultz AM is the founding editor of *Griffith Review* and an acclaimed author of several books, including *Reviving the Fourth Estate* and *Steel City Blues*.

Session 53

Michele Seminara

Michele Seminara is a Sydney poet and editor. She is managing editor of the online creative arts journal *Verity LA*.

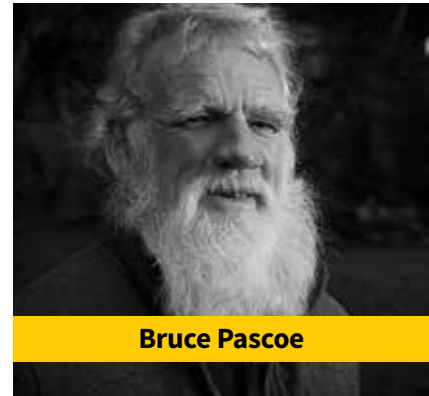
Session 55, 78



Michael Sala



Joanne McCarthy



Bruce Pascoe



Di Morrissey



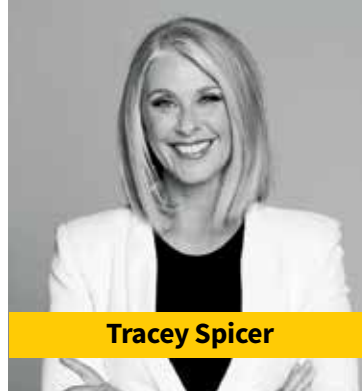
Julianne Schultz



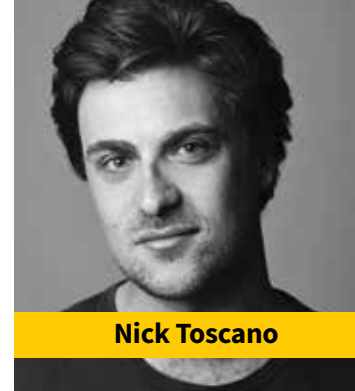
Christina Twomey



Jenny Valentish



Tracey Spicer



Nick Toscano

Jock Serong

Jock Serong is a former lawyer and editor of *Great Ocean Quarterly*. His books include *The Rules of Backyard Cricket* and *On the Java Ridge*.

Session 31, 35, 52

Inga Simpson

Inga Simpson is an award-winning writer who recently completed a second PhD, which explored the history of Australian nature writers. Her memoir *Understory* was published in 2017.

Session 23, 62, 64

Luke Slattery

Luke Slattery is a Sydney-based, author, journalist and literary columnist.

Session 74

Emily S. Smith

Emily S. Smith is a Newcastle author who is passionate about literacy. Her first picture book *Betty the Yeti's Disappointing Day* was published in January.

Session 66

Jennifer Smith

Jennifer Smith is the former vice-president and director of publicity with Simon & Schuster (US) and is currently a Hunter-based media strategist and publishing consultant.

Session 22, 63

Melinda Smith

Melinda Smith won the 2014 Prime Minister's Literary Award for her fourth poetry collection, *drag down to unlock or place an emergency call*.

Session 78

Tracey Spicer

Tracey Spicer has worked for a number of media companies in her 30-year career and is the co-founder and national convenor of Women in Media. Her 'femioir' *The Good Girl Stripped Bare* was published in 2017.

Session 50, 74

Emily Stewart

Emily Stewart is poetry editor at Giramondo Publishing and the author of *Knocks*.

Session 57

Andrew P. Street

Andrew P. Street is an Adelaide-built, Sydney-based journalist, editor, columnist and failed indie rock star.

Session 39

Elicia Taylor

Elicia Taylor is a PhD candidate at the University of Newcastle. Her research examines the impact of World War I on Australian single women and widows.

Session 20

Mark Tinson

Mark Tinson is a musician, songwriter and producer who is known as the 'godfather' of Newcastle rock music. He has worked with Silverchair, Ted Mulry Gang and Screaming Jets.

Session 28

Nick Toscano

Nick Toscano is a multi-award-winning journalist based in Melbourne, who specialises in federal politics, business workplace relations, and the labour movement for Fairfax Media.

Session 7, 63

Salil Tripathi

Salil Tripathi is a contributing editor at *Mint* and *Caravan*. He also chairs PEN International's Writers in Prison Committee and is a senior adviser – global issues – at the Institute for Human Rights and Business in London.

Session 53

Selina Tusitala Marsh

Selina Tusitala Marsh is a Samonan-New Zealander who has published two collections of poetry. She was the Commonwealth poet for 2016.

Session 53, 55

Christina Twomey

Christina Twomey is professor of History at Monash University. Her latest book is *The Battle Within: POWs in postwar Australia*.

Session 21

Jenny Valentish

Jenny Valentish is a regular Fairfax Media contributor. Her book *Woman of Substances: A Journey into Addiction and Treatment* was long-listed for the 2017 Walkley Book Award.

Session 37, 71

Saba Vasefi

Saba Vasefi is an award-winning artist, poet and PhD candidate in feminist cinema studies at Macquarie University.

Session 56

Aidan Walsh

Aidan Walsh is a Newcastle fantasy and science fiction writer. After success with short stories, he is now editing his first novel.

Session 54

Karen Wells

Karen Wells has been a solicitor for more than 15 years and has a strong interest in therapeutic jurisprudence.

Session 30

James Whelan

James Whelan is a researcher and community organiser with Environmental Justice Australia and is the director of the Change Agency.

Session 69

Craig Williams

Craig Williams manages the IT Innovation Team at the University of Newcastle.

Session 19

Joe Williams

Joe Williams is a proud Wiradjuri First Nations Aboriginal man who played in the National Rugby League before switching to boxing in 2009. His experience with severe mental illness and addiction inspired him to become a mental health advocate.

Session 65

Geordie Williamson

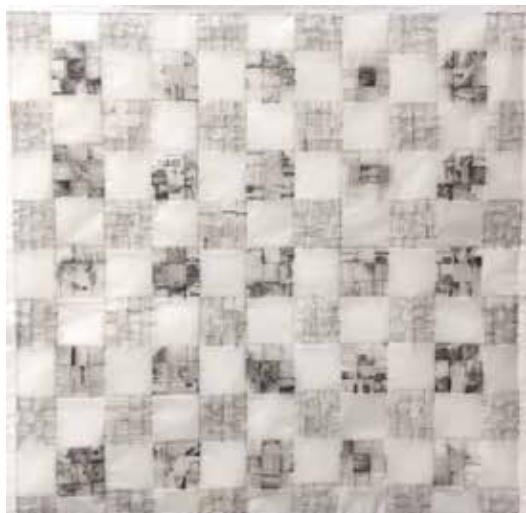
Geordie Williamson is writer, literary critic and publisher. He is editor of *Best Australian Essays* and *Island Magazine*.

Session 24, 38, 62

Ed Wright

Ed Wright is a best-selling author and the director of The Creative Word Shop, a Newcastle writing school and editing service. He is also a commissioning editor for the Puncher & Wattmann press and a literary critic for *The Australian*.

Session 12, 31, 72



TELL ME A STORY

group exhibition coinciding with #NWF18
6 – 8 APRIL 2018

Official opening Saturday 7 Apr 2-4pm

MEET THE ARTISTS Sunday 8 Apr 11.30am

An exhibition about the comforts of storytelling and the influence reading stories has on our lives.

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Gallery hours Thursday – Saturday 11am – 4pm | Sunday 11am – 2pm
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image: Ahn Wells *Memoir 1* 2017 tracing paper, thread 150 x 150cm

GALLERY

139



Festival Bookshop

The MacLean's Booksellers festival bookshop is located on the Lower Ground Floor in the Banquet Room of Newcastle City Hall.

Festival authors will be available for signings at the conclusion of their sessions.



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Between the lines

A group exhibition in conjunction with the Newcastle Writers Festival. Artistic responses to works featured in the festival.

Celebration drinks Friday April 6, from 5 pm



Ink and wash on wood, by Varelle Hardy

Exhibition dates: March 31 - April 15

Opening hours: 11-5 Fri - Sun (closed Easter Sunday)

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Exhibition

A Child's World in Pictures

25 years of illustration - the art of Anne Spudvilas

On Display

21 February - 14 April

Illustrations from the multi award winning artist and children's book illustrator Anne Spudvilas.

Includes works from picture books by well-known Australian authors such as Isobelle Carmody, Margaret Wild, Bryce Courtney and Gary Crew.

Meet the Artist

Anne Spudvilas & author Isobelle Carmody
Thursday 8 March 6:00pm

School Workshops

Thursday 8 & Friday 9 March
9:30am & 11:00am

Where

Newcastle Region Library
Lovett Gallery, Newcastle

Newcastle Region Library



newcastle.nsw.gov.au/library

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Richard Lewer
Never Shall be Forgotten
– A Mother's Story 2017 (detail)
Hand drawn animation



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