

# SPECIAL EVENT OPENING NIGHT SOIREE

Friday 14 June 6.30pm to 9.00pm Sebastian Beach Grill

Celebrate our 18th year with a special opening night event at the luscious Sebastian Beach Grill. Special Festival Guest the international best selling author and ex-weste Caroline Overington in conversation with WLF Program Director and comedian Ms Stella. Full \$65 | Conc \$55 | Early Bird \$50

# Saturday 15 June

Williamstown Town Hall, Library & Pirates Tavern

# Williamstown Literary Festival 2019

## The Supper Room

10.00am to 11.00am

**You Daughters of Freedom:**  
The Australians who won the Vote and Inspired the World  
Full \$20 | Conc \$18 | Early \$15

What will a son of the west make of these *Daughters of Freedom*?

Elected member for Gallibrand and author of *Two Futures, Australia at a Critical Moment* **Tim Watts AM** looks horns with award winning historian and author **Clare Wright** to discuss and discover if the lessons of the past improve the rights of the future for all Australians.

## The Chamber

9.30am to 10.30am

### Imagination

Adults \$15 | Children \$12  
Kids under 5 free

Tumble down the rabbit hole with **George Ivanoff** speaking with **Clare Searby** and **Judy Horacek**

to follow on the role imagination plays in the development of young minds. To dream, to inspire, to wonder... what is the rocket fuel that keeps that spark firing?

## Downstairs Meeting Room 1

10.00am to 11.00am

### Turbulence: King of the Air

Full \$15 | Conc \$12 | Early \$10

Soar to unthinkable heights, as renowned biographer **Ann Blainey** takes you inside the rise and fall of Australia's *King of the Air*, Charles Kingsford Smith.

History remembers his courage and charm, but Ann reveals the struggles that lay within. Our **Smithy**.

## Upstairs Meeting Room 2

## Upstairs Committee Room



## 11.30am to 12.30pm

### Axomatic

Full \$20 | Conc \$18 | Early \$15

The Past is Not Dead  
Does time really heal all wounds? Is there such a thing as 'closure' or are we deluding ourselves?

**Joni Dimtri Kakri** as he talks to **Maria Tzourakli** about memory, healing the courage to face the terrors of the past and finding the courage to write your way to a slipperly kind of understanding.

## 10.30am to 12.30pm

### Choose Your Own Fable: Crime Writers WORKSHOP

Full \$40 | Conc \$37 | Early \$35

Best-selling author **Wikki Petratis** offers plenty of practical tips and exercises to get your crime writing ideas flowing. Activities and discussions will include: how to plot for maximum impact, where to set your story, and how to choose a crime that matters.

## 12.00pm to 1.00pm

### Free event (no bookings required)

For the first time in the history of the Ada Cambridge Writing Prizes, submissions to the prose and poetry sections were open to all Victorian writers. Join author, **Carmel Bird** for an hour of celebration where she will announce the winners for the Biographical Prose, Poetry and the Young Ada awards for young writers from Melbourne's western suburbs.

## 2.30pm to 4.00pm

### People's Choice

Free event (bookings required)

In this, the most fun writing competition in the West, 18 local writers each read aloud a 4-minute piece of their own. There are prizes for both prose and poetry. At the end, our enthusiastic audience votes on whose work they enjoyed the most: "The People's Choice" for 2019.  
Entries must be submitted by June 2 to [info@willyfest.org.au](mailto:info@willyfest.org.au)

## 1.00pm to 2.00pm

### Sensory Overload

Full \$30 | Conc \$18 | Early \$15

What is adventure for young readers exposed and potentially injured to global events and crises? What is adventure these days? Three authors:

**Nova Weatman**, **Robert Newtown** and **Lili Wilkinson** are compelled to pay this heed. They discuss with author and blogger **Danielle Birks** about the impact on authors who write for younger readers with access to so much content.

## 1.00pm to 2.00pm

### The Ones That Got Away

Full \$30 | Conc \$25 | Early \$22

Award winning journalist and best selling author of crime fiction **Caroline Overington** speaks with award winning journalist and best-selling author of true crime **Matthew Condon** about the ones that got away, the elusive ideas that never found purchase, the slippery eels that couldn't be caught.

## 4.00pm to 5.00pm

### Adults with Words

Full \$20 | Conc \$18 | Early \$15

The brain is a complicated beast - a cryptic wonderland. **David Astle** is keen on Remotoring the Brain - offering up new and clever ways to get us thinking differently. **Living Treasure** and veteran wordsmith **Rod Quantock** will lead David on a brain trek. Join the voyage.

## 3.00pm to 4.00pm

### Out of the Shadows: True Crime Comes of Age

Full \$20 | Conc \$18 | Early \$15

The rise and rise of true crime. With the recent advent of the true crime podcast, the genre's popularity has reached epic proportions. The most published podcasts have downloaded in the millions. How does the public's interest in true stories affect their reading habits? Do true-crime books and podcasts cross-pollinate? Where will this brave new world lead us? Join a think tank of criminal minds when **Wikki Petratis**, **Clare Halliday**, **Heleen Thomas** and **Liz Porter** to find out.

## 3.00pm to 4.00pm

### Sci Fi vs. Fantasy: An Informal Debate

Full \$20 | Conc \$18 | Early \$15

Join cohort of ABC Radio Melbourne's Breakfast program's **Jacinta Parsons** with three of Australia's best selling YA authors to debate the merits of Sci Fi vs Fantasy, which genre better delivers how does the public's interest in true stories affect their reading habits? Do true-crime books and podcasts cross-pollinate? Where will this brave new world lead us? Join a think tank of criminal minds when **Wikki Petratis**, **Clare Halliday**, **Heleen Thomas** and **Liz Porter** to find out.

## 4.00pm to 5.00pm

### Gorgeous Girl: Descent Into Memoir

Full \$20 | Conc \$18 | Early \$15

Behind the happy facade children's author **Mary K Pershall's** book suggested, she was otherwise immersed in a personal descent into horror. Her daughter Anna, serving time in a Melbourne jail for murder, was the final act of a lifetime of calamity. For Mary, her only means of making sense of her reality was to write about it. Join journalists **Amanda Dunn**, **The New Yorker**), in conversation with Mary about her Herculean effort to keep her daughter, her *Gorgeous Girl* alive.

## 3.30pm to 5.00pm

### Pathways to Publishing

Free event (bookings required)

Stephen King says of writing, "What separates the talented individual from the successful one is a lot of hard work." Writing courses make a great starting point, but what more does a writer need to know? Join **Lucia Nardo** and **Enza Gandolfo** for a lively and informative discussion about courses, groups, competitions and publishing. Proudly supported by Victoria University Polytechnic

## The Hub

## SPECIAL EVENT



### The Adas

## 12.00pm to 1.00pm

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## SPECIAL EVENT



### Stereo Stories

## In Concert at Williamstown Town Hall

7.30pm to 10.30pm

(show starts 8.00pm sharp)

Full \$25 | Conc \$22

Reserved/allocated seating at tables is available to book

A concert celebration of music and memoir, featuring stories by **Arnold Zable**, **Andy Griffiths**, **Melanie Cheng**, **Tore Rørdoche**, **Jack Serong**, **Rijn Collins** and **Brian Nankervis** - all backed by The Stereo Stories Band, playing songs by Marion Williams, Etta James, The Indigo Girls, The Eurythmics, Australian Crawl, and more. "The perfect blend of words, story and music. You'll laugh, you'll cry and most importantly, you'll hear each song with fresh ears and new meaning!"  
- **Andy Griffiths**

## The Pirates Tavern

1.00pm to 2.00pm

### Uncharted Territory and Dangerous Waters

Full \$20 | Conc \$18 | Early \$15

Gather round an open fire in the Pirates Tavern, in the heart of Williamstown's historic docks. Lose yourself to history, as *Preservator* author, **Jack Serong**, and *Fied* author, **Meg Kennedy** travel broiling seas and hostile countryside. Two titles to re-imagine history, bending the line, full immersion. With award-winning historian and author, **Clare Wright** rediscover your country.

## 4.30pm to 5.30pm

### An Adventure In Regret: Bad Diary Salon

Free event (bookings required)

Dear Diary...

We've all written without censorship to the almighty Diary Gods. No one will ever hear your cringeworthy, most inner thoughts.... Or will they?

The Bad Diaries Salon was established mid-2017 with a call out from author **Jenny Ackland** on Twitter - were there teenage diaries, and would they be prepared to read from them live? There were.

Join us and witness a unique performance that is raw, unedited, original and candid: the written word, rediscovered and shared.

