

Festival Guests

Amanda Anastasi is an award-winning poet whose work ranges from the introspective to the socio-political.

David Astle is the Dictionary Guy on *Letters and Numbers* (SBS) and well-known crossword compiler.

Kate Atkinson is an actor and one of the original founders of Actors for Refugees.

Matt Blackwood has won multiple awards for his published fiction and non-fiction stories.

Anne Buist is an author, Chair of Women's Mental Health at the University of Melbourne and experienced clinical psychiatrist.

Anson Cameron is the author of six highly acclaimed novels and two prize-winning collections of short stories.

Steven Carroll is the author of nine novels including the 2008 Miles Franklin Award winner, *The Time We Have Taken*, and *A World of Other People*, for which he won the Prime Minister's Literary Award.

Barrie Cassidy is a leading political commentator, author and host of *Insiders* (ABC).

Sherryl Clark has had more than 60 books published and teaches creative writing at Victoria University TAFE.

David Day is an Australian historian and biographer who has written nearly twenty books, including prize winning biographies of several prime ministers.

Sarah Depasquale is a musician, teacher and librarian and has toured extensively with The Tea Rose Duo.

Alexis Drevikovsky writes to find answers and runs to prove people wrong, and works in the arts sector.

Claire Dunn is the author of *My Year Without Matches*, and a freelance journalist.

Anna Fern crosses between spoken word and sound poetry, and loves plucking sounds from unlikely objects.

Shayne Francis is an actor, mother, insatiable reader and Melbourne manager of the Footpath Library.

Joshua Funder is the author of Watson's Pier, a novel which challenges our understanding of Gallipoli.

Enza Gandolfo is the author of the 2009 novel *Swimming*, and a lecturer in professional writing at Victoria University.

Alice Garner is a performer, author, historian and teacher who co-founded Actors for Refugees.

Helen Garner is a highly acclaimed and award-winning Australian novelist, short-story writer, screenwriter and journalist.

Anna George has worked in law, film and television, and has written feature film scripts.

Lisa Gorton is a poet, essayist and fiction writer, and winner of the Vincent Buckley Poetry Prize 2008.

Robert Gott is a children's writer, a newspaper cartoonist and the author of the William Power trilogy of crime-caper novels. His latest novel is *The Port Fairy Murders*.

Michael Green is a freelance journalist, and writes about environmental, social and community issues.

Diana Greentree is a writer, actor and founder of Greentree Drama School.

Andy Griffiths is one of Australia's best loved children's authors and the award-winning

writer of the The Treehouse series and the BUM trilogy.

Gideon Haigh has been an independent journalist for almost 30 years.

John Harms is a writer, publisher, broadcaster and historian who appears on *Offsiders* (ABC) and runs footyalmanac.com.au

Catherine Harris is an award-winning writer and author of *The Family Men*.

Leigh Hobbs is an artist and author best known for his children's book characters Old Tom, Horrible Harriet, and Mr Chicken.

Sandy Jeffs is an award-winning writer who has published both poetry and memoir.

Dmetri Kakmi is a writer, book editor, essayist, reviewer and radio broadcaster.

Dr Stuart Kells is an antiquarian bookseller, author and bibliophile.

Jackie Kerin is a passionate and tireless promoter of traditional oral storytelling.

Michael Kitson is an academic and bookseller at the Sun Bookshop.

Kate Lawrence is a storyteller with a background in community development, law and disaster recovery.

Bruno Lettieri is formerly of Rotunda in the West and was a literacy teacher at Victoria University, and is now freelancing.

Joel McKerrow is a performance poet based in Melbourne.

Belinda McClory is an Australian film, television and stage actress.

Lily Mae Martin is an artist, mother, and nomad.

John Marsden is an Australian writer, teacher and school principal who has won every major writing award in Australia for young people's fiction. His first novel for adults is titled *South Of Darkness*.

Vin Maskell is a Williamstown writer and editor of Stereo Stories and Scoreboard Pressure.

Paul Mitchell is a Melbourne-based poet, fiction writer and journalist.

Rhys Muldoon is an Australian actor, writer and director who has worked extensively in film, television, theatre and radio.

Rod Mullinar is a prominent British Australian actor, noted for his roles on Australian television.

Matthew Naqvi is a writer, editor, writing group facilitator, filmmaker and television host.

Lucia Nardo has published non-fiction, magazine articles, and award-winning short stories and screenplays.

Paddy O'Reilly is the author of three novels, a collection of award-winning short stories, and a novella.

Favel Parrett is a Victorian based award winning writer. Her most recent novel has been long listed for the 2015 Miles Franklin Literary Award.

Robert Pascoe is Dean Laureate and Professor of History in the College of Arts at Victoria University.

Richard Piper has had a long and impressive career on the stage, and trained at London's celebrated Central School of Speech and Drama.

Rachel Power is a freelance writer, editor, artist and blogger, and Communications Coordinator for the Australian Education Union.

Alice Pung is an award winning writer and Artist

in Residence at Melbourne University, Janet Clarke Hall.

Susan Pyke teaches with the University of Melbourne, and her poetry, short stories and associative essays have appeared in various journals.

Jane Rawson was formerly the Environment & Energy Editor for news website, The Conversation. She is the author of the novel, *A Wrong Turn at the Office of Unmade Lists*.

Hannie Rayson is a playwright and screenwriter whose works have been performed around Australia and internationally.

Kate Richards is a writer of fiction, narrative nonfiction and poetry, and holds a medical degree with honours.

Sally Rippin has had more than fifty children's books published, including the renowned *Billie B Brown* and *Hey Jack!* series.

Tracey Rolfe is a freelance writer and editor who teaches in Professional Writing and Editing at Victoria University.

John Romeril has been a working playwright since 1968, and recently co-wrote the award-winning *Jack Charles v. The Crown*.

Harry Saddler was the joint winner of the Melbourne Writers Festival "Blog-to-Book Challenge", resulting in his first non-fiction book, *Not Birdwatching: reflections on noticing animals*.

Claire Saxby writes fiction, non-fiction and poetry for children.

Jeremy Scott had open-heart surgery as a child and recently cycled around the planet, because he could.

Jack Serong is the editor of Great Ocean Quarterly. His first novel *Quota* was published in 2014.

Majid Shokor is an award-winning Iraqi Australian actor.

Lessa Siegele is a Life Member of Quilters Guild of South Australia Inc. and was presented with the 2007 Rajah Award for Outstanding Contribution to Australian Quilting.

Rochelle Siemienowicz holds a PhD in Australian cinema, and is a writer, film critic and editor. Her first book is *Fallen* - a memoir about sex, religion and marrying too young.

Graeme Simson is the international best-selling author of *The Rosie Project* and *The Rosie Effect*.

Alicia Sometimes is an Australian writer, poet, broadcaster, and musician.

Rebecca Spalding is a ukulele playing singer-songwriter, based in Melbourne.

Graeme Sparkes is a writer who teaches English to young adult refugees and migrants.

Randall Stephens is a performance poet who cycles and writes about it, and travelling and some other stuff.

Claire Varley is a Melbourne writer whose work has appeared in Australian Love Poems, page seventeen, Sotto Magazine, and Seizure online. Her new novel *The Bit In Between* will be published in August through Macmillan.

Jen Watkins is an active community member of Williamstown, and is a singer, songwriter, writer, performer and educator.

Alison Whan is the Engagement and Partnerships Coordinator and Director - Offset Creative Arts Journal.

Mark Wilson is a much loved, award-winning author, storyteller, illustrator and artist.

Festival Information

How to Book

For detailed descriptions of sessions, presenters and to book tickets, visit www.willylitfest.org.au or phone the Box Office on 9932 4074.

Book before midnight, Sunday 24 May 2015 for special early bird pricing.

Phone bookings and online ticket sales close at 2.00pm on Friday 12 June 2015. After this time, tickets can be purchased at the festival.

In person bookings can be made on a number of days leading up to the festival at the Hobsons Bay Tickets Box Office at Williamstown Town Hall. Please call **9932 4074** or visit the website (www.willylitfest.org.au) for details.

Tickets can be purchased on the day, however we recommend pre-booking as sessions sell out quickly. Tickets are available for sale and collection from 8.30am Saturday 13 June at the Williamstown Town Hall.

Booking fees may apply and ticket prices include GST. All sessions must be booked and entry is dependent on having a ticket. We cannot guarantee entry without a valid ticket. All bookings are final and no refunds or exchanges will be given.

Access

Both Williamstown Town Hall and Williamstown Library are wheelchair accessible. Please ask a volunteer for assistance if you require help in reaching a venue, or if you require particular seating for hearing or access requirements.

Large print programs are available. Simply email a request to info@willylitfest.org.au

Getting There

Train: Take the Williamstown line to North Williamstown Station, and walk to 104 Ferguson Street.

Bus: SITA Coaches
Route 471 Williamstown <> Sunshine or
Route 472 Williamstown <> Moonee Ponds.

Bike: There are bike and shared paths throughout the western suburbs.

Ferry: A regular ferry service runs between Southbank and Gem Pier, a 15 minute walk from the Town Hall.

Parking: Street parking is available around the Town Hall.

Queries

Volunteering and general enquiries:
info@willylitfest.org.au

Sponsors

Major Partners



Festival Bookseller

Session Sponsors



Point Gellibrand Rotary Club
Williamstown Rotary Club



Friends of Williamstown
and Newport Libraries



Ada Cambridge Prizes



All details are correct at time of printing.
Information is subject to change without notice.

Williamstown Literary Festival

13 and 14 June 2015

Swimming in Words



Visit willylitfest.org.au or phone 9932 4074.

Proudly supported by



Saturday 13 June

9am to 10am: The Ada Cambridge Prizes and Official Festival Opening

Join us in The Supper Room at Williamstown Town Hall for the announcement of the prestigious Ada Cambridge Prizes for Biographical Prose and Poetry, the announcement of our newest competitions, The Young Adas, and the official opening of the Festival by our patron, Terry Bracks AM. Free event, all welcome. Please pre-book your free tickets to secure a seat.

The Supper Room Town Hall	The Chamber Town Hall	Upstairs Studio Town Hall	Downstairs Studio Town Hall	Williamstown Library	The Hub Town Hall
10.30am to 11.30am	10.30am to 11.30am	10.30am to 11.30am	10.30am to 12.30pm	10.30am to 11.15am	10.30am to 11.30am
It Happened in a Holden Full \$20 Conc \$17 Early \$15 Almost every Australian has a Holden story. Hear Paddy O'Reilly , Anson Cameron , John Romeril and Gideon Haigh share their funny, brave, sad and sometimes ridiculous Holden tales.	Motherhood and Creativity Full \$20 Conc \$17 Early \$15 Do women still feel that they have to choose between following their creative dreams and having children? Rachel Power , Lisa Gorton , Lily Mae Martin and Sally Rippin consider the “divided heart”.	Australian Love Stories Full \$15 Conc \$12 Early \$10 Inkerman & Blunt and the Willy Lit Fest invite you to a morning of velvety love readings, featuring Susan Pyke , Alexis Drevikovsky and Claire Varley . Prepare for lust, obsession, and betrayal.	True Tales, Told Live Full \$25 Conc \$22 Early \$20 Before there were books, there were storytellers. Led by Kate Lawrence , <i>True Tales, Told Live</i> will appeal to anyone who longs to develop their skills at finding and crafting stories from their life. It is for those who want to reflect on their life; speak from the heart, rather than read; and deliver their story in a way that moves and entertains. This workshop will help you to find the stories from your lives, even when you think you don't have any, and craft them into a satisfyingly shaped piece for telling.	Story Time Free event, no bookings required Join Hobsons Bay Libraries for songs, stories and activities. Story time encourages imagination and a life-long love of books and libraries. Suitable for pre-school children over two years of age.	Draw with Leigh Hobbs Children \$10 Adults free Back by popular demand, author and artist Leigh Hobbs will show aspiring young artists ages six to 11 years how to create their own wonderful characters. Get inspired by Mr Chicken and Horrible Harriet!
12.00pm to 1.00pm	12.00pm to 1.00pm	12.00pm to 1.00pm			
Steven Carroll: Forever Young Full \$20 Conc \$17 Early \$15 Winner of the Prime Minister's Literary Award and the Miles Franklin Award, Steven is the acclaimed author of <i>The World of Other People</i> . Steven Carroll discusses his latest novel, <i>Forever Young</i> .	Bringing the Outside Inside Full \$15 Conc \$12 Early \$10 Michael Green , Jane Rawson , Harry Saddler and Claire Dunn discuss our obsession with books that reconnect us to the wild. Proudly supported by Hobsons Bay City Council as part of Our Place: Connected Green Healthy .	Writing the Risqué Full \$15 Conc \$12 Early \$10 How risky is it to write from life? Exposing real truths? How far do you go? Dmetri Kakmi talks with Rochelle Siemienowicz , author of <i>Fallen</i> , about what it's like to write a revealing memoir.		10.30am to 12.45pm	12.00pm to 1.00pm
2.00pm to 3.00pm	2.00pm to 3.00pm	2.00pm to 3.00pm	2.00pm to 3.00pm	2.00pm to 3.00pm	2.00pm to 3.00pm
David Day: Political Biographer Full \$25 Conc \$22 Early \$20 The renowned author of <i>Menzies and Churchill at War</i> , <i>John Curtin: A Life</i> , and <i>Chifley</i> turns his astute eye to Paul Keating in his newest biography. Proudly hosted and supported by Tim Watts MP .	Reimagining Gallipoli Full \$15 Conc \$12 Early \$10 Joshua Funder , author of <i>Watson's Pier</i> and great-grandson of Stan Watson, a hero of the Gallipoli evacuation, discusses the controversies of remembering Gallipoli and how fiction can take us closer to the truth.	Alice Pung: Laurinda Full \$15 Conc \$12 Early \$10 In this talk, much loved and award-winning author Alice Pung discusses her acclaimed novel, <i>Laurinda</i> , and other works, as well as giving insights into her creative processes.	I Write. You Draw. Full \$15 Conc \$12 Early \$10 Illustrator Mark Wilson joins author Claire Saxby to discuss the collaboration between writer and illustrator. During the hour, Claire will write a story and Mark will explore ideas to illustrate it.	Tales from the Flyway Full \$15 Conc \$12 Early \$10 Informative and enlightening, violinist Sarah Depasquale and storyteller and author Jackie Kerin will take you on a journey following the path of migratory shore birds along the East Asian Australasian Flyway.	Victoria University Taster Free event, bookings required Come and enjoy a choice of four short writing workshops - speedy writing and questions answered - with Sherryl Clark , Tracey Rolfe , Michael Kitson and Lucia Nardo .
3.30pm to 4.30pm	3.30pm to 4.30pm	3.30pm to 5.00pm	3.30pm to 4.30pm	3.30pm to 4.30pm	3.30pm to 5.00pm
Barrie Cassidy: In Conversation Full \$25 Conc \$22 Early \$20 Prof Rob Pascoe talks with one of Australia's most prolific political journalists, Barrie Cassidy , about his book, <i>Private Bill: In Love and War</i> , the classic, heart-warming story of his parents' journey.	Madness, Poetry and Memoir Full \$15 Conc \$12 Early \$10 Dr Kate Richards , Graeme Sparkes and Sandy Jeffs explore mental illness in searching and inspiring ways. Chaired by Jen Watkins . Proudly supported by Hobsons Bay City Council as part of Community Health and Wellbeing .	Joel McKerrow Full \$25 Conc \$22 Early \$20 One of Australia's most successful performance poets, Joel McKerrow , will perform his evocative and passionate poetry for thirty minutes, followed by a one hour workshop perfect for both beginners and long-time poets.	Versatility and Creativity All tickets \$5 The ability to be multi-disciplined is vital for writers. Matthew Naqui will outline skills to help build your writing output and reputation in this very competitive environment.	Words on Wheels Full \$15 Conc \$12 Early \$10 Two adventurous writers recreate their epic cycle journeys: Perth to Melbourne with Randall Stephens ; London to New Zealand with Jeremy Scott . They made it. And wrote books about it.	Treasure Mapping Full \$25 Conc \$22 Early \$20 Learn Treasure Mapping with writer Lucia Nardo from Victoria University. Use collages to deepen creativity, develop writing plans, and work through writer's block. No artistic skills required. All materials supplied.

5.00pm to 6.00pm: In Conversation with Helen Garner | Full \$25 | Conc \$22 | Early \$20 | The Supper Room

Bruno Lettieri talks to writer, novelist, and journalist **Helen Garner** about her latest work, *This House of Grief*. With her extraordinary powers of observation, she takes us into the trial of a man accused of drowning his three sons. Hailed as “a magnificent book about the majesty of the law and the terrible matter of the human heart”, this conversation is not to be missed.

7.30pm to 10.00pm: Stereo Stories | Full \$20 | Conc \$17 | Early \$15 | The Hub (Town Hall Ballroom)

Following their delightful debut at the 2014 Willy Lit Fest, the Stereo Stories band of writers and musicians return with their distinctive blend of story and song. Experience pathos, humour and love, with jazz, soul, pop and rock... And a chance to dance! Hosted by **Vin Maskell**, Williamstown writer and founding editor of Stereo Stories. BYO supper to enjoy, drinks available at bar prices.

For more information on all sessions, detailed presenter biographies and to book, visit www.willylitfest.org.au

Sunday 14 June

The Supper Room Town Hall	The Chamber Town Hall	Upstairs Studio Town Hall	Downstairs Studio Town Hall	Williamstown Library	The Hub Town Hall
10.30am to 11.30am	10.30am to 11.30am	10.30am to 11.30am	10.30am to 12.00pm	10.30am to 12.00pm	10.30am to 11.30am
Stuart Kells: Antiquarian Books All tickets \$5 Author and bibliophile Dr Stuart Kells will discuss what makes a book rare, desirable and valuable. Participants can bring along a book from their own collection for discussion and appraisal.	David Astle: Cluetopia Full \$25 Conc \$22 Early \$20 Join full-time word nerd David Astle and hunt down curious crosswords; the most dubious, and ground-breakers and head-spinners. Proudly supported by Friends of Williamstown and Newport Libraries .	My Name is Lizzie Flynn Full \$15 Conc \$12 Early \$10 Join author Claire Saxby and quilter Lessa Siegele to hear about Claire's new book, and the fascinating story of the Rajah Quilt, which was made by convict women on their journey to Australia in 1841.	Sticky Stories - workshop one Full \$15 Conc \$12 Early \$10 Try your hand at Locative Literature with award-winning writer and artist, Matt Blackwood . Examine the space around you, and create a short story based on your experience that is written on Post-It notes and finally installed in the space. Sticky Stories fosters observation, a sense of how other people interpret the same place, and enhanced short form writing skills. Photos of the installation will then be shared across social media, for others to connect with your writing. It's quirky, fun, and rewarding.	Bayside College Debate Free event, bookings required After a stellar debut in 2014, the debate is back! Do we need books in the 21st century? Do they have a place? The Year 12 and Year 10 debating teams from Bayside College battle it out.	Andy Griffiths Children \$5 Adults free Go on a journey with children's author, Andy Griffiths , through his wonderful world of creativity and story-telling. Andy will be signing books after his talk. Expected to sell out quickly - bookings essential!
12.00pm to 1.00pm	12.00pm to 1.00pm	12.00pm to 1.00pm		12.00pm to 1.00pm	12.00pm to 1.00pm
John Harms & Anson Cameron Full \$15 Conc \$12 Early \$10 John Harms talks to Anson Cameron about his brilliant new novel <i>The Last Pulse</i> . At once hilarious and insightful, it will bring you to tears (all types) and make you think. This is a must-see session.	Hannie Rayson: Hello, Beautiful! Full \$25 Conc \$22 Early \$20 Hannie Rayson —writer, mother, daughter, sister, wife, romantic, adventuress, parking-spot optimist—has spent a lifetime giving voice to others... Now, she shines the spotlight on her own stories.	La Mama Poetica @ WLF Full \$15 Conc \$12 Early \$10 La Mama presented poetry for the first time in 1975. Now curated by Amanda Anastasi , La Mama Poetica features the best spoken word and poetry on offer. With Anna Fern and Paul Mitchell .		Fatal Attraction: Loving Crime Full \$20 Conc \$17 Early \$15 Crime writing explores the blackness of our souls, and yet we can't get enough of it. Panel chair Jock Serong will take Anna George , Anne Buist and Robert Gott to the source of human darkness.	Kamishibai: Stories on a Bike Free event, all welcome Join Jackie Kerin for Kamishibai - a form of storytelling originating in Japan, where storytellers told their stories from the back of bicycles! Proudly supported by Storytelling Australia Victoria .
2.00pm to 3.00pm	2.00pm to 3.00pm	2.00pm to 3.00pm	2.00pm to 3.30pm	All day Saturday and Sunday	
John Marsden Full \$20 Conc \$17 Early \$15 Master storyteller and one of Australia's most popular fiction authors, John Marsden , has written 40+ books selling five million copies worldwide. His new novel, <i>South of Darkness</i> , is his first book for adults.	Actors for Refugees Full \$15 Conc \$12 Early \$10 Alice Garner , Kate Atkinson , Majid Shokor , Rebecca Spalding and Diana Greentree reunite for a one-off performance. Proudly supported by Hobsons Bay City Council as part of Racism. It Stops With Me .	Mad for Journals Full \$20 Conc \$17 Early \$15 Get the how, what, when, where and why on writing for journals! Tips, tricks and advice from experts John Harms (The Footy Almanac), Alison Whan (Offset Journal) and Jock Serong (Great Ocean Quarterly).	Sticky Stories - workshop two Full \$15 Conc \$12 Early \$10 Did you know Sticky Stories is based on a locative literature project created by Matt Blackwood in 2013? Short stories were presented on Post-it notes in the places where these stories were set. More than 30 stories were set across Melbourne's fascinating streets and lanes, then photographed, posted and retweeted widely on Twitter. Here is your chance to write locative literature at the Willy Lit Fest and share it with the world. Please note, workshop two is a repeat of workshop one.	The Willy Lit Fest Hub (Town Hall Ballroom) Services <ul style="list-style-type: none">Box Office (ticket collection and purchases)Book and Paper: official festival booksellersAuthor signings - check the full schedule on the dayThe Reading Corner; proudly presented by Friends of the Williamstown Botanic Gardens Food and Drink <ul style="list-style-type: none">Coffee cart and snacksBar (operating evenings only)Tables and chairs for food to be enjoyed in The Hub Stalls <ul style="list-style-type: none">Victoria UniversityHobsons Bay City CouncilHobsons Bay LibrariesWriters VictoriaThe Footpath LibraryThe 100 Story BuildingGet Up Out WestCFA Point Cook Pop-Up Readings Writers and poets will entertain you with readings from their published, or yet-to-be-published, works. Check the website for full schedule. Proudly supported by Victoria University .	

6.00pm to 7.00pm: Special Closing Event: Graeme Simsion | Gold coin donation (proceeds donated to The Footpath Library) | The Hub

Following **Graeme Simsion's** knock-out performance in 2014, he is back! Graeme is the international best-selling author of *The Rosie Project* and *The Rosie Effect*. With another novel under his belt, a movie in the making, and an Australian Book of the Year for 2014 Award to boot (for *The Rosie Project*), Graeme is back to share stories, laughter and insight at the Willy Lit Fest in our very special closing event. **Proudly supported by Hobsons Bay Libraries**.

Make sure you join us for some very special pre-events

Homegrown Hobsons Bay Wednesday 10 June from 7.00pm to 8.30pm Williamstown Library Free event. Bookings via the library website. Join Hobsons Bay Libraries for the launch of Homegrown Hobsons Bay , an exciting new project to celebrate and recognise the contribution of local writers to the vibrant culture of Hobsons Bay.	Hidden Stitches, Silent Chords - Play Reading Thursday 11 June at 8.00pm The Chapel at Ragusa, 139 Nelson Place, Williamstown Tickets available at door. Full \$25 Conc \$20 Women's stories inspired by the playwright's ancestors: survivors of 19th century migration, and world wars. Playwright Jen Watkins Director Claire Tiesen Cast Diana Greentree , Josephine Lange , Daisy Watkins-Harvey , Annette Kane , and Fi Roake .	Swimming in Ink Friday 12 June from 7.30pm to 9.30pm Seaworks, 82 Nelson Place, Williamstown Full \$25 Conc \$22 Early \$20 To swim in ink is to write about the magnetic pull of the sea. Fiction writers Favel Parrett , Enza Gandolfo and Jock Serong share their thoughts - how does the sea shape their narratives? Chaired by Williamstown writer, and daily swimmer, Vin Maskell .
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For more information on all sessions, detailed presenter biographies and to book, visit www.willylitfest.org.au