Visiting Author:  
Dr. David Reiter

Booranga is pleased to welcome experienced author and publisher David Reiter to the region this September. Dr Reiter has written and published books in many genres: his fourth book, *Hemingway in Spain and Selected Poems*, was shortlisted for the 1998 John Bray Award, and his book of short stories, *Triangles*, was shortlisted for the 2000 Steele Rudd Award. In 1999 his play *Paul and Vincent* was broadcast on ABC Radio National. He has also published two books for primary school aged children.

David has produced multimedia compositions also, completing *The Gallery*, an interactive poetic work in 2000 and a multimedia murder mystery, *Sharpened Knife*, in 2002. The web version of the latter work has been archived by the Pandora Project (National Library). He has been a member of the New South Wales Writers’ Centre and the Australian Script Writers Association.

He is the founder of IP (Interactive Publications Pty Ltd), a publishing consultancy and a print and digital publisher based in Brisbane. Every year IP runs a competition to find and publish the best new books of poetry, non-fiction, and fiction.

While here for just a few days David will be speaking to school students and CSU writing students, but will also be giving a special workshop for Booranga members (Saturday 5th September, 10am) titled ‘Selling that Book’. A recent review of this workshop says the following:

*Reiter’s hands-on experience and in-depth knowledge of the subject is invaluable to those writers and artists at all levels, whether they are just about to start or have been through the publishing process before. In regional areas where isolation and distance poses enormous difficulties for writers to experience a degree of new ideas, networking and interchange in a workshop scenario is invaluable.* — Merryn Spencer. Orana Arts, Dubbo [workshop held on 3 Dec 07]

**Selling That Book - workshop with Dr. David Reiter**  
Saturday 5th September, 10am, at the Booranga Writers’ Centre  
Cost: $15 / $10 concession (book a spot by emailing or phoning Booranga)

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**Booranga Writers’ Centre (McKeown Drive) 2009 Office Hours:**

*Staff will be in every Monday (9am - 3.30pm), Tuesday (9 - 11.30am), Thursday (9 - 11.30am).*

*For enquiries (with a quick response) email us: booranga@csu.edu.au*  
*Or alternatively email our director directly: dmotion@csu.edu.au*
Australian National Poetry Slam
Wagga Heat

The National Poetry Slam is happening again in 2009, and the Wagga heat will be on this coming Saturday. The rules are simple: anyone can enter, and you have just two minutes to perform your poetry. Props, instruments, or teams are not allowed, and the work performed must be your own original work, written in the past 12 months.

Last year’s heat at the Wagga Library was a fantastic event, and I urge everyone to come along, to either enter or be part of the audience. The host will once again be performance poet Tug Dumbly, who will no doubt regale the crowd with some of his own poetry.

National Poetry Slam / Wagga Heat: 2.30pm, Saturday 5th September
Venue: Wagga City Library

Booranga Spoken Word Project

If you find the heat of the National Poetry Slam whets your appetite for all things poetic and performance-based, there is now an opportunity for you to participate in a series of performance poetry workshops. Thanks to a cultural grant from Wagga Council, Booranga will be setting up a performance poetry group, a group that will meet once a month to share new material - to focus on the written and poetic aspects of their work, but then to also spend time working on performance techniques. There will be both a poetry tutor and a drama / performance tutor engaged to work with the group, and the expected outcome is a group performance finale in early 2010.

We are looking to keep the group number to a manageable size, so please contact Booranga to express your interest in participating (contact details on front page).

Workshops will be free, and we are planning the first meeting for the Sunday 27th September, from 4pm, at the Riverina Community College in Wagga.

It is anticipated that these workshops will run on a Sunday once a month for the next 6 months at least.

2009 Calendar of Booranga Events

5th September
- Editing / Publishing workshop with David Reiter (10am)
- Wagga Heat of the National Poetry Slam, 3pm, Wagga Library

25th September
Author talk - playwright Alex Broun, 5-7pm, Wagga Library

27th September
First Booranga Spoken Word Group meeting (4pm)

9th - 23rd October
Writer-in-Residence: Rhyll McMaster

November
Launches for fourW twenty:
21st - Wagga Library, 2.30pm
22nd - Wagamama Courthouse Venue, Melbourne, 2.30pm
28th - Gleebooks, Sydney, 2.30pm
October Writer-in-Residence: Rhyll McMaster

This coming October Booranga will welcome our final writer-in-residence for 2009, the award winning poet and novelist Rhyll McMaster.

Rhyll McMaster was born in Brisbane and has worked as a secretary, nurse and a sheep farmer. In 1965 she published her first poems in the *Bulletin*, and her poetry has since appeared regularly in many Australian publications. McMaster published her first collection, *The Brineshrimp*, in 1972, winning the Harri Jones Memorial Award. She has also won the Grace Leven Prize twice. McMaster is widely admired for the fine detail of her descriptive poetry. Attracting equal attention are her explorations of family life and her persistent questions about life itself.

In addition to her poetry McMaster has reviewed fiction for the *Sydney Morning Herald* and written short stories. She was, for a short time, poetry editor for the *Canberra Times*.

Rhyll’s most recent work is the novel *Feather Man*, the story of a woman growing up and becoming an artist, but also the story of a woman negotiating the various influences of men in her life. This book is a beautiful work that manages to be dark, moving, compelling, but also very humorous. *Feather Man* collected the inaugural Barbara Jefferis Award in 2008, and the New South Wales Premier’s Literary Award (UTS Award for New Writing) in 2008.

Rhyll will be appearing at a number of events while in the region, and members will be kept up-to-date with an e-bulletin in the coming weeks. For now, her Wagga events include:

**Saturday 10th September** - Monthly Writers’ Workshop featuring special guest, 2.pm, at Booranga Writers’ Centre, McKeown Drive

**Thursday 22nd October** - Reading at Wagga City Library, 5-7pm.
Recent Booranga Events

Celebrating the Voice (Wagga and Albury)

The recent ‘Celebrating the Voice’ performances and workshops were well received by the Wagga community. Our visiting writers Ernie Blackmore, Auntie Barbara Nicholson, and Elizabeth Hodgson (pictured running the poetry workshop) entertained a good crowd in both Wagga and Albury with their selected readings, and were joined in both venues by local Booranga member John Muk Muk Burke. The group also made appearances at the Junee Correctional Centre, Narrandera Tafe, and James Fallon High in Albury. The two workshops ran in the Wagga Art Gallery’s workshop were a particular highlight of the tour: all the participants in both the life-writing session and the poetry session felt as if they had been given an opportunity to learn from writers with very informed ideas about what a writing life involves.

‘Celebrating the Voice’ was a joint initiative of the Booranga Writers’ Centre and the South Coast Writers’ Centre. It was supported by the Wagga City Council and the Albury City Council.

Anita Heiss’ Author Talk

Anita Heiss was introduced by David Gilbey to an enthusiastic crowd at the Wagga Library (21st August) and was also surprised by a group of her own family from the region who came out to see her. Anita gave a compelling talk for just over an hour, detailing her experiences as an Indigenous author, and also as a speaker who often finds herself invited to speak about Indigenous issues. All present enjoyed hearing about her experiences, and I particularly enjoyed hearing the author talk about the way she has included cultural issues in the range of genres she has - poetry, essays, and of course chick-lit novels.

Anita Heiss’ visit to Wagga was sponsored by the Wagga City Council.

Both ‘Celebrating the Voice’ (Wagga performances and workshops) and Anita Heiss’ author talk were staged as part of Wagga Council’s winter culture festival, Mawang.
Also on in the Region...

**Dublin by Lamplight**

Presented by Behind The Curtain Theatre Company (by Michael West, directed by Rohan Maloy).

With a stellar cast made up local Talent, *Dublin by Lamplight* previews at the Wollundry Amphitheatre on Thursday September 3, opens on Friday September 4, and plays September 5, 10, 11, 12 - all 7.30pm shows.

Nominated for three Irish Times/ESB Irish Theatrical Awards 2004, Michael West’s script brilliantly mixes fact and fiction, poetry and politics. Combining comedy, farce, tragedy and social commentary, *Dublin by Lamplight* uses provocative forms to immerse the audience in another world, the filth and Fury of Dublin 1904. Fading stars, rebels, whores, and romantics irreverently expose the strange and lurid world of *Dublin by Lamplight*.

Participants are encouraged to bring cushions and blankets for comfort and warmth. Bringing your own refreshments is also encouraged.

**Tickets cost $28 for adults, $23 for concession and $18 for students at the door. Tickets are available from the Civic Theatre Booking office on 02 6926 9688. You can also obtain tickets at the door on the night.**

**Author Talk: Alex Broun**

Renowned playwright Alex Broun will be giving a special one-off talk in the Wagga Library. Local theatre goers will no doubt remember his play *Pickups* being produced locally recently, and his short play in the local 10 minute play festival.

Alex has enjoyed considerable success in theatre, TV and film as a writer, actor and director. As a writer he has had many plays performed in the USA, South Africa, Singapore, Malaysia, the UK, Taiwan, the Philippines and Australia. He has also twice received funding from the Australian Film Commission as well as recently having two short screenplays filmed. One of the world’s leading ten minute playwrights, in recent years he has had over 40 short plays produced in over 150 productions across the globe. He is currently the Artistic Co-ordinator of Short & Sweet, the largest ten minute play festival in the world.

**Playwright Alex Broun talk - Friday 25th September, 5-7pm, Wagga Library**
On the Craft… A Book Review by Kelly A. Shaw

*Writing Your Life: A Journey of Discovery* by Patti Miller

‘Write what you know’ is inevitably one adage every writer encounters, especially when first starting out. The vague advice offered by this cliché is supposed to make the task less daunting – but how do you know what to pick or even where to start?

Writing about your life – and the people, events, experiences that have shaped you – is always an excellent way to ease into the writing process. The information is readily accessible, there is no heavy research involved, it is one easy way to get the creative juices flowing and perhaps most importantly, all good writing starts with some nugget of truth.

In ‘Writing Your Life’, Patti Miller offers a series of DIY workshops for those who wish to use their life stories as a jumping off point into writing. Although the book is designed more specifically for those who want to write an autobiography or a collection of memoirs, it is full of tempting, easily accessible exercises.

Miller does apply some of the important aspects of fiction writing to memoir writing, like dealing with structure, using detail and finding your voice. But unlike fiction guides, Miller tackles the issues unique to the memoirist, like the problem of selective memory and using writing as a path to healing.

The latter portion of the book contains a sizeable anthology loaded with well-chosen vignettes from a variety of writers. Some are funny, some are touching, but all are poignant.

Regardless of your genre of choice, Miller’s supportive style might even make you a convert to the task of completing your own life story right from her opening line: ‘Everyone can write a life story,’ (3). And hopefully, it will make your material the all the richer for it.

Ghost Poetry

2008 Booranga writer-in-residence Nathan Curnow has just published his first full length poetry collection, *The Ghost Poetry Project*. As many of you will remember from his readings, this project and manuscript details his poetic adventures staying overnight in the most haunted locations in Australia (including a stay at the nearby Monte Christo Homestead in Junee). I’ve just got hold of a copy of this book and can testify to the strength of the poems within, but also the overall readability - Curnow draws the reader into his narrative of facing what he fears.

*The Ghost Poetry Project* has already been launched in Melbourne, but if you happen to be in Sydney this weekend, it will have a final launch party on **Saturday 5th September, 4-6pm, St Stephens Church, Newtown.**

A great way to get poetry books is of course to ask your local book retailer to order them for you (thereby demonstrating to the popular book sellers that there is a market for poetry).

But of course *The Ghost Poetry Project* is available directly from Puncher & Wattman, and an order form can be downloaded here: [http://www.puncherandwattmann.com/Puncher_Order.pdf](http://www.puncherandwattmann.com/Puncher_Order.pdf)

### fourW twenty

All work has been read, and if you submitted work, you should be hearing from us in the next few days.

Stay tuned for the next newsletter in early November, which will feature details of the book’s content.

For now, I can confirm that fourW twenty will be launched (dates in the 2009 calendar) in Wagga by Professor Carmen Moran, in Melbourne by Doctor Christine Ferrari, and in Sydney by Peter Minter.

In 2009 fourW will once again be fully funded by CSU Wagga’s Department of Humanities and Social Sciences.

### Olivia’s Choice

The member’s work section of our newsletter is on hiatus until next issue, but in the mean time, please consider sending Olivia Markham some work for Olivia’s Choice! Poetry, short-stories, essays...the choice is yours!

(Send contributions of creative writing for Booranga News to booranga@csu.edu.au and place ‘Olivias Choice in the subject line). In every *Booranga News* Olivia will be giving you prompts for new writing, as well as her feedback on your own submissions.
Prose

The Katharine Susannah Prichard Short Fiction Award

WORDS: Minimum 1000 Maximum 3000

2 Sections: Katharine Susannah Prichard Open Awards & Mundaring National Young Writers Awards (20 years and under)

PRIZES: Katharine Susannah Prichard Open Awards: 1st $600 2nd $300 3rd $175 Commended 5 of $10
Mundaring National Young Writers Awards: 1st $75 2nd $25 Commended 5 of $10
Under-13’s: $25

Awards announced and presented at the Celebration of Katharine’s Birthday KSP Writers’ Centre, 3 pm Sunday, December 6, 2009. No entry form required – both sections are open to all Australian residents.

Send entries to:
KSP Short Fiction Awards
11 Old York Road
GREENMOUNT WA 6056

Closing date: Friday September 25, 2009

2009 GC O’Donnell essay prize

This prize is awarded every two years.

The prize is awarded to the author of an unpublished essay displaying original thinking on a topic of the author’s choice regarding copyright and the protection of the interests of authors. The winning entry is likely to exhibit original ideas on issues of practical importance in copyright or on copyright theory. The competition is open to any interested persons, including authors, lawyers and students, from anywhere in the world.

The prize of AUD$3,500 will be awarded at the 2009 Copyright Law and Practice Symposium, to be held in Sydney on 15 and 16 October 2009.

Entries should be a minimum of 5,000 and a maximum of 10,000 words.

Entries should be sent to:
Australian Copyright Council
PO Box 1986, Strawberry Hills NSW 2012

The closing date for submissions for the 2009 prize is 30 September.

Southern Cross Literary Competition

We are pleased to announce the long-awaited return of the Southern Cross Literary Competition for original unpublished stories up to 5,000 words. The prize is $1,000 and the judge is Zoe Dattner from Sleepers Publishing.

The guidelines for the competition are below, and you can enter by post or online. National and international entries are welcome.
Competition is open to anyone over the age of 18 years, including overseas applicants

Entries must be the original work of the applicant

Entry fee is AUD$10 per story

The closing date is October 16. Entries must be submitted online or postmarked by that date. Results will be announced in December.

Enter online at: http://www.ballaratwriters.com/?page_id=426

The CAL Scribe Fiction Prize

Scribe is pleased to announce the launch of the CAL Scribe Fiction Prize for an unpublished manuscript by an Australian writer over 35. The winner will receive $12,000 and a book contract from Scribe. The prize is open to any writer over 35, who may or may not have been published before.

This prize recognises that there are many examples of late bloomers when it comes to writers, certainly in terms of getting published.

Entries close 15 October 2009


Poetry

Short and Twisted call for submissions

Short and Twisted, an anthology of short stories and poetry with a twist at the end, is seeking submissions of stories, super short stories and poetry for the 2010 issue.

Submissions accepted between 1 September and 30 November 2009.

For submission guidelines see website: www.celapenepress.com.au, email shortandtwisted@celapenepress.com.au or send SSAE to 2 Bonview Court, Knoxfield, VIC, 3180.

Cordite Poetry Review

One of Australia’s foremost online journals for contemporary poetry has opened submissions for its 31st issue – EPIC. The guest editor for this issue, due online in December 2009, is Ali Alizadeh. Why ‘EPIC’? It’s not because we’ve had enough of haikus, senryūs and other ultra-short poems. We simply believe it’s about time one of poetry’s oldest and most earth-shattering genres was given its due credit...

So send us three of your long, longish, and/or very, very long poems about all things macrocosmic – mythology, history, war, love, politics, the end of the world as we know it, you name it. As the word epic is related to the ancient Greek epos (speech) we are also seeking spoken word and audio submissions for this issue.

Booranga (trading as Wagga Wagga Writers Writers Inc.) was formed in 1987 to assist and promote local authors and their work. The group holds regular readings at local venues, conducts writing workshops, offers fellowships at Booranga, the Riverina Writers’ Centre at Charles Sturt University, and published an annual anthology, fourW, under the imprint of fourW press, and is active in promoting writing and writers throughout the Riverina.

**MEMBERSHIP PERIOD 1ST JANUARY - 31ST DECEMBER 2009**

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP ($33) or CONCESSION ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP ($22)

6-MONTH MEMBERSHIP ($17)

GROUP MEMBERSHIPS ARE AVAILABLE

**MEMBERSHIP ENTITLES YOU TO...**

- Copy of fourW nineteen Anthology
- Regular newsletter (bi-monthly) & e-list mailouts
- 10% discount at Book City, Wagga
- 10% Discount at Angus & Robertson Bookworld, Wagga
- 10% discount to RTC performances
- Member discounts to readings, performances & workshops
- Invitations to writing events & get-togethers
- Access to a network of writers, book enthusiasts & other writers’ centres for information & friendship
- Use of Booranga Writers’ Centre resources, such as library and computer

**Note:** Student Membership ($11) is now also available for students under 21 years of age. Student members will receive newsletters & discounted admission to reading etc. but will not receive a complimentary copy of fourW nineteen.

Please fill out and send application form to:
Wagga Wagga Writers Writers Inc. Booranga Writers’ Centre,
Charles Sturt University, Locked Bag 588, Wagga Wagga NSW 2678, Phone/Fax (02) 69332688

Name: ........................................................................................................................................
Address: .......................................................................................................................................

Telephone: ...................................... (home) ...................................... (work) ...................................... (mobile)
Email: ........................................................................................................................................

Enclosed is: $............ cheque/money order FOR: single / concession / student / 6-month membership (please circle)

undeliverable return to:
POSTAGE PAID AUSTRALIA
Booranga Writers’ Centre
Locked Bag 588
Wagga Wagga, NSW, 2678

**WWW & the Booranga Writers’ Centre are supported by:**

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