Writer-in-residence:
Lauren Williams

The second writer to officially visit the region in this year is Lauren Williams. Lauren Williams is a poet who was a singer, who became poet who moonlighted as a singer. After 20+ years in the poetry and moonlight game, she started writing songs, and about time too. This involved teaching herself guitar, reclaiming her middle name and, over the next 5 years, collecting a sprinkling of prizes.

‘Union of Romantic Fools’, is Lauren Lee Williams’ debut CD of brand new old style string band country songs, and was launched in June this year. Lauren has five published collections of poetry, and two more are currently with publishers. She lives in the central Victorian goldfields town of Blackwood.

While in the region Lauren will be performing in Wagga and Albury, will be tutoring creative writing students at CSU, and will also be a guest at our monthly writers’ meeting. For this workshop lease bring along some work as usual, but be prepared to think about whether your piece could be transformed into song.

Lauren Williams will have cds available to purchase, as well as a limited number of poetry books.

Albury Performance: Wednesday 28th July, Albury Library, 5.30pm.

Writers’ Workshop (theme of ‘Songwriting’): Saturday 31st July, 2-5pm, the Booranga Writers’ Centre, CSU Wagga

Wagga Performance: Thursday 5th August, Wagga City Library, 5pm. Visiting poet Randall Stephens will also be reading.

*** Please arrive early and be prepared for a 5pm start!

Booranga Writers’ Centre (McKeown Drive) 2010 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
Recent Booranga Events

Readings - Louise Waller / David Reiter: A great crowd joined us on May 13th for the feature performance by writer-in-residence Louise Waller (pictured right). On the night we were lucky enough to be able to once again have David Reiter (pictured below) in town to give us a taste of his work.

Louise is an extremely enthusiastic writer and proved a pleasure to have at Booranga. While here she shared her thoughts on the craft of writing at workshops in both Narrandera and Wagga. I took part in the Wagga workshop myself, and found it a very worthwhile experience. Louise presented us with a number of pieces of writing and then got us to step into the role of poetry judge and editor, to think about the processes at play when you are on the other side of the fence. The second half of the workshop was all about intertextuality, and we found ourselves working to create poems involving our own personal thoughts, as well as text cut from recent newspapers. I found this an interesting exercise in comparing the personal with the wider world, creating poetry out of the collision.

HSC English Night: I was pleased to be able to attend this year’s HSC English night held on June 16th at the Riverine Club. This event involves Extension English students from across the region give readings, a sample of the work they will be submitting for their HSC. All members of the audience are given feedback sheets and encouraged to give their thoughts, to help the students hone a final draft. As emcee David Gilbey noted on the night, it is an event that is unique across NSW. As with previous years this event was well attended, and showed that the Riverina continues to be breeding ground for the development of great young writers.

2010 Calendar of Booranga Events

July - August
Writer-in-residence: Lauren Williams
- 5.30pm, Wednesday 28th July, performance at Albury Library
- 2pm, Saturday 31st July, monthly writers’ workshop, Wagga Historic Council Chambers
- 5pm, Thursday 5th August, performance at Wagga Library

September
8-12th: Write Around the Murray Festival
Australian National Poetry Slam: Wagga Heat

October
1st - 10th: Writer-in-residence: Steven Amsterdam

November
fourW twenty-one launches
Write around the Murray Festival – 8 to 12 September

The countdown is on to the launch of the Write around the Murray Festival program on Wednesday, 4 August. A program of almost 40 events and featuring more than 30 festival guests will celebrate writing, illustrating and storytelling. The festival also features Booranga Writers on Stage with Nathan Curnow joining the line up of David Gilbey, Derek Motion, Harata Syme and Jo Wilson Ridley on the Saturday for the first festival marquee program. Look out too for Emilie Zoey Baker!

Festival Book Club:

Cate Kennedy’s much acclaimed novel, The World Beneath is the Book of the Festival, and there should be great discussion when she joins with The Age’s Book Editor and ABC First Tuesday Book Clubber, Jason Steger on Sunday, September 12 at 3pm for a festival finale with a difference!

For more details about the festival go to: www.writearoundthemurray.org.au

Booranga Monthly Writers’ Meetings

Booranga remains committed to facilitating these meetings every month, even though due a number of Booranga staff commitments we were unable to hold a meeting during the month of June.

Our next meeting will once again be held at the Booranga Writers’ Centre (McKeown Drive, Charles Sturt University, Wagga), and will of course feature visiting writer Lauren Williams. Bring along some new work to share in friendly and constructive environment, and start thinking about your piece as ‘song’.

It will be held Saturday 31st July, 2-5pm.
Local Theatre...

Two Short Chekhov Comedies

The Wagga School of Arts (SoACT) is now turning its hand to Chekhov. Two short plays, The Proposal and The Bear, promise an evening of light and entertaining comedy.

And in a departure from recent SoACT seasons these plays will be staged in a series of Sunday performances during August - billed as a Month of Sundays - at 3.00pm and 8.00pm from August 1 to 22.

The Proposal features Trevor Dawson, Monique Phillips and Bill Turner. A farmer comes to ask for the hand of the daughter of his next door neighbour, but various distractions keep getting in his way.

The Bear features Michael Luckins, Liz Fletcher and Leigh Ladd. Smirnov arrives at the home of a recently widowed woman to collect a debt incurred by her late husband. When she is unable to pay him immediately an argument ensues which threatens to end in considerably more than tears.

A Month of Sundays with Chekhov will play in the SoACT Basement Theatre (at the rear of the Wagga Civic Theatre) for eight performances only. Bookings are available at the Civic Theatre Booking Office, phone 6926 9688.

The Laramie Project by Moises Kaufman, Directed by Rohan Maloy

Behind The Curtain Theatre Company presents their second show for 2010, playing at the Riverina Playhouse from August 19 - Sept 4. Student preview - Thursday August 19 - 8pm - $10 (special price). Opening night Friday August 20 - 8pm. Then runs August 21, 26, 27, 28, September 2, 3, 4 at 8pm and Saturday August 28 and September 4 at 2pm. Tickets are adult $28 (or $25 at the door), conc/Stud $20 (or $15 at the door).

ON OCTOBER 7, 1998, a young gay man was discovered bound to a fence in the hills outside Laramie, Wyoming, savagely beaten and left to die in an act of brutality and hate that shocked the world. Matthew Shepard’s death became a worldwide symbol of intolerance, but for the people of Laramie the event was deeply personal, and it is their voices we hear in this stunningly effective theatre piece. Moises Kaufman and fellow members of the Tectonic Theatre Project made six trips to Laramie over the course of a year and a half in the aftermath of the beating and conducted more than 200 interviews with people of the town. From these interviews as well as their own experiences, Kaufman and the Tectonic Theatre members have constructed a deeply moving theatrical experience.

The Laramie Project @ The Riverina Playhouse has a stellar cast that include Billie Shepard, Clancy Arnold, Diana Lovett, Iain Wright, Janine Agzarian, Jessica Tripp, Matthew Popp, Nick Childe and Victor Moore. The show is directed by Rohan Maloy, Sound design by David Maloy, Costume design by Marita Macklin and lighting and special effects by Affinity Productions.
The Australian National Poetry Slam 2010

The search is once again on for Australia’s next poetry slam champion!

Speak, scream, howl, whisper or sing your original poem at the Australian Poetry Slam 2010 – an electric live event where the audience is the judge! Slam heats are soon to be held in city and regional venues across Australia until November 2010. Two finalists from each slam heat will compete in their state final.

During December, the top two performers from each state and territory will battle for the coveted national title at the Sydney Opera House, as well as some amazing prizes.

Booranga is pleased to support this event in 2010, and I will be your host for the Wagga heat.

I was a state finalist in the event last year, and I urge any and everyone to have a go this year. The rules are simple: you have two minutes to perform, and the work must be written by you. No props are allowed. Judges are selected randomly from amongst the audience on the night.

**Date:** Friday 17 September, 7:30PM

**Venue:** Home Tavern Hotel, 142 Fitzmaurice St. Wagga Wagga

**Contact:** Wagga Wagga City Library, Ph: 02 6926 9700, e: wcl@wagga.nsw.gov.au, website: www.wagga.nsw.gov.au/library

Note: People under the age of 18 are welcome, but must be accompanied by an adult.

*fourW twenty-one update:*

All work submitted for *fourW twenty-one* is currently being read by our capable editorial team. Once again, Booranga received submission from hundreds of writers from the Riverina and across Australia, and I’m sure the twenty-first issue will be packed with great work.

The launch dates for *fourW twenty-one* have already been set: Wagga launch, Saturday 20th November, 2pm, Wagga City Library / Melbourne launch, Sunday 21st November, 2pm, (venue to be confirmed) / Sydney launch, Saturday 27th November, 2pm, Glebe Books (Glebe site).
**Don’t Jump** - Robyne Young

Don’t jump! yells Greg  
Echoes the signs we all ignore;  
Put up by the old farts who run the town.

What a girl! We yell back at him  
Lifting our bodies from the bridge  
And into air, pulling our knees and heads  
Into our chests and  
For a moment freeze...  
Eyes closed.  
Waiting.

Drop down.  
Still curled, hit the water.  
Stings like hell then sink in black and cold.

Stretch out. Reach up.  
And up.....And up.......  
Break through the water, breathe.  
But something has my legs.  
Arms reach for sun. Fingers barely pierce the surface.

Pulled down. Can’t see. Too dark.  
Tired from kicking this thing  
That’s tackling harder than in a rugby game.  
Sight clears. Eyes focus.  
Greg? Greg?

Too strong. Give in.  
Two words echo.  
Don’t jump.


**Olivia’s Choice**

Please do consider sending us something for Olivia’s Choice, the members’ work section of this newsletter. Poetry, short-stories, essays...the choice is yours!

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

**Special Event: Australian Poetry Festival - Inventing the Tradition**

Inventing the Tradition is designed to be challenging, but above all, an entertaining and stimulating festival. It is a not a conference but it has the serious aim of investigating the relationship between the mainstream and the margins, between tradition and the avant-garde. Poets will be reading from their own work but they will be contextualising their readings by reference to poets whom they admire and by briefly mentioning the theories, traditions (or anti-traditions) from which they write. Readings will mix ‘n match poets from different aesthetic theories and practices to expose the audience to different ways of thinking about poetry.

Central Sydney festival events take place in Kings Cross over 3, 4 and 5 September.

The cocktail party will be in the cocktail bar of the Sugarmill Hotel, 33-37 Darlinghurst Road, Kings Cross, 7pm — 9pm, Friday 3 September.

Main festival events will take place in the Rex Centre, 58A Macleay Street (entrance across the square from the El Alamein fountain and next to the post office, near Baroda Street).

Full details (including events and poets involved) can be obtained by downloading the official program:

http://www.poetsunion.com/node/586#attachments

**Submission open: Visible Ink**

Closing date for submissions: 31 July 2010

- All submissions must be original, unpublished works. They must not have previously won competitions or prizes.
- All written submissions 2500 words max. Poetry 50 lines max.
- All visual art – Black & White only
- There is a AU$5 fee for each written piece submitted. The fee for a small folio of visual art is AU$5 in total. See below for payment options.
- All selected contributors will receive a free copy of Visible Ink 2010, & other major prizes to be announced. Everyone welcome to the launch in early 2011. Keep an eye out for upcoming events in 2010 at which there will be additional prizes.

For further information about submissions, events & sales:
- email visibleinkmag@gmail.com
- or visit http://visibleinkmag.wordpress.com/

**General Submissions**

Remember to keep in mind those literary journals that are open for submissions all year. A good place to start researching the major Australian ones is here:

http://www.litmags.com.au

(Booranga receives copies of the NSW based journals *South-erly* and *HEAT*, and these are available to borrow for Booranga Members)
Prose

EJ Brady Short Story Competition

Closing date: 31st August

Categories for short story (2500 words max) and very short story (700 words max).

Prize of $1500 for short story and $500 for very short story.

For further details visit: www.artsmallacoota.org.

2010 Boroondara Literary Awards

These awards give writers of all ages the opportunity to win lucrative awards for their prose and poetry.

The Open Short Story section, which is offering $3000 worth of prizes, is open to writers across the country who have unpublished literary works between 1500 and 3000 words.

The best Boroondara entry will receive $500 and young authors also have a chance to share in the generous cash prizes.

Each winner will be published in an anthology, and selected entries in the Progress Leader.

Entries close: Friday 27th August.


VARUNA/SCRIBE NAS NATIONAL SHORT STORY COMPETITION

Award: Writers will be considered for publication in Scribe’s second national anthology of Australian stories.

Who should apply: Short story writers, both established and new or emerging, are invited to submit up to three stories of up to 5,000 words each. Regional writers are especially encouraged to apply.

Important dates: Submissions are accepted from 1 June 2010 and must be postmarked by 30 July 2010. Results will be available on the Varuna website by 30 September 2010.

Application fee: $45 (including GST) per application. Fees cover administrative costs and help sustain this program.

Writers wanting to be considered for both programs (anthology and masterclass) pay a single fee of $65 (including GST).

For more information go to: http://www.varuna.com.au/


**BOORANGA NEWS**

JULY - AUGUST 2010

PUBLISHING, COMPETITIONS and OPPORTUNITIES

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**Rolf Boldrewood Literary Awards**

Closes 17th September

Competition for prose (max 3000 words) and poetry (max 80 lines).

First prize $500.


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**Lyric Writing Competition**

Closes 30th September

Write the lyrics to a new hit single, music composed by James Roche. Winning lyrics will be recorded and released.

Visit www.australianpoetrycentre.org.au for further details.

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**Nature Writing Essay Prize**

The Nature Conservancy Australia is giving you the chance to win $5000 with publication in the journal Indigo.

A new biennial prize for nature writing open to any Australian, for an essay between 3000 and 5000 words exploring the author’s sense of place in Australia.

Judged by Sally Blakeney and Mark Tredinnick.

Email australia@tnc.org for guidelines, eligibility and entry forms. Entries close 30th September.

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**Screen and Theatre**

**INSITE Unproduced Screenplay Competition**

The winning screenplay will receive a rehearsed public reading during the 2011 BigPond Adelaide Film Festival.

The winning writer will receive travel to Adelaide to participate in rehearsals as well as a cash prize of $2,500.

Closes: 27th August

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 to 31st December 2010

Group membership (including one copy of fourW)
$55.00
Single membership (including one copy of fourW)
$36.00
Single membership (not including anthology)
$25.00
Concessional membership (one copy of fourW)
$26.00
Concessional membership (not including anthology)
$15.00
Student membership (under 21 years) not including anthology
$11.00

MEMBERSHIP ENTITLES YOU TO...

- Copy of fourW twenty 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

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: (please indicate membership type required)

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

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