



# INVERELL SHIRE LIBRARY

## NEWSLETTER

MAY  
2024

## SYDNEY WRITERS FESTIVAL 23RD – 26TH MAY

We are so excited to be partnering with the Sydney Writers' Festival to offer the "Live & Local" program. Join us for 4 days of livestreamed sessions, featuring a wonderful range of Australian and International authors, journalists and storytellers. The Festival celebrates the sharing of stories and ideas and invites people from rural and regional communities to join in via the "Live and Local" program.

Sessions will be available during our opening hours as well outside of our normal operating hours. They are all free to attend and require bookings. We will be providing light refreshments and you are welcome to bring your own (though we ask you to be considerate of others with what you bring). Phone 67288130 to book a spot.

**The full program is on page 2 of this newsletter.**

### ABOUT THE FESTIVAL

Sydney Writers' Festival brings together a broad and engaged community around the sharing of books, writing and ideas.

Each May, they host brilliant storytellers across all forms in a thoughtful, challenging, riotous fun week-long celebration of writing, books and ideas at Carriageworks in Sydney's Inner West and across the city. Since the first Festival in 1997, the world's best novelists, poets, journalists, public intellectuals, economists, politicians, podcasters and scientists have come together to discuss some of the most pressing issues of our times on stage. By showcasing a wide range of Australian and international writers, the Festival helps sustain Australia's literary community and culture as a whole. They are proud to present a Festival that through careful curation acts as a barometer of the world around us, and offers an invitation to hear new ideas, stories and voices in our beautiful city.

The programming speaks – urgently and clearly – to the world as it is today and showcases contemporary and diverse writers including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander voices, this land's first storytellers.

They are a not-for-profit organisation and audience accessibility is at the heart of the Festival programming. They run a free podcast program, which has had over 3.5 million downloads since its inception in 2016. One-third of the events are free, and the "Live & Local" streaming program beams the Festival from their home in Carriageworks to regional libraries and community centres right across the country.

The 2024 Festival will run from 20–26 May.

Information from: [www.swf.org.au/about/about-us](http://www.swf.org.au/about/about-us)





# SYDNEY



# WRITERS' FESTIVAL

# LIVE & LOCAL

# LIVE STREAM SCHEDULE 23-26 MAY

## THURSDAY 23 MAY

10-11AM

### JULIA BAIRD: *BRIGHT SHINING*

Hear from broadcaster and Phosphorescence author Julia Baird, whose latest book, *Bright Shining*, is a beautiful, timely exploration of that most mysterious but necessary human quality: grace. With Jacqueline Maley.

12-1PM

### VIET THANH NGUYEN: *A MAN OF TWO FACES*

Hear celebrated author Viet Thanh Nguyen, hailed as "a conscience of American literature" (*The New Yorker*), discuss his new work with writer and broadcaster Benjamin Law.

2-3PM

### SUZIE MILLER: *PRIMA FACIE*

Put the courts on trial with lawyer turned Oliver Award-winning playwright Suzie Miller as she discusses novelising her theatrical triumph about sexual assault cases with Nicole Abadee.

4-5PM

### JULIAN BORGER: *I SEEK A KIND PERSON*

I seek a kind person who will educate my intelligent boy, aged 11." An extraordinary 1938 personal advertisement that started Julian Borger's quest into his father's past and the story of Holocaust survival.

6-7PM

### FANTASTICAL WORLDS

Imagine another world with popular fantasy authors Garth Nix (*The Old Kingdom series*), Shelley Parker-Chan (*The Radiant Emperor duology*) and Samantha Shannon (*The Roots of Chaos series*). Hosted by Almée Lindorff.

## FRIDAY 24 MAY

10-11AM

### A.C. GRAYLING: *THE MEANING OF LIFE IN A TECHNOLOGICAL AGE*

The quest for a life worth living has been the business of philosophers for millennia. How can we pursue answers to life's big questions in an increasingly unstable technological age? Join pre-eminent philosopher A.C. Grayling for this special talk.

12-1PM

### THE WAR ON JOURNALISTS

With conflict continuing in Ukraine, and the death toll of journalists in Gaza reaching alarming proportions, we look at the role of journalists in war. Featuring Julian Borger, John Lyons and Alisa Sopova. Hosted by Hamish Macdonald.

2-3PM

### ABDU RAZAK GURMAH: *AFTERLIVES*

Explore his writing and unpack the legacies of empire with acclaimed writer Abdulrazak Gurnah, whose 10th novel explores displacement, loss and love during and after German occupation of East Africa. With Sisonke Msimang.

4-5PM

### FEMINIST FIREBRANDS

Four waves in, the feminist fight for gender equality is far from over. Writers and activists Hannah Ferguson, Sisonke Msimang and Jennifer Robinson discuss the most pressing issues facing women today. With host Jo Dyer.

6-7PM

### 5KM FROM THE FRONTLINE

Hear from journalist Alisa Sopova and photographer Anastasia Taylor-Lind, whose extraordinary documentary photography series offers a unique, personal and deeply affecting look at the Ukraine war. With ABC RN's Hamish Macdonald.

7.30-9PM

### QUEERSTORIES

Celebrating the culture and creativity of the LGBTQI+ community one true story at a time, Queerstories has played to crowds big and small, from Mudgee to Murwillumbah, Albany to Adelaide, Brisbane and beyond. Featuring J.M. Field, George Haddad, Bebe Oliver, K. Patrick and Samantha Shannon.

## SATURDAY 25 MAY

10-11AM

### CELESTE NG: *OUR MISSING HEARTS*

Sit down with New York Times best-selling author Celeste Ng, whose smash hit *Little Fires Everywhere* was adapted into a miniseries starring Reese Witherspoon. Listen in as she discusses her new dystopian novel with Claire Nichols.

12-1PM

### TRENT DALTON: *FROM ELI TO LOLA*

Trent Dalton, award-winning author of *Boy Swallows Universe* (now a hit Netflix series) returns with *Lola in the Mirror*, a big, beautiful novel about grappling with our past, present, and possible futures.

2-3PM

### STORYTELLERS: LEIGH SALES AND USA MILLAR

ABC legends Leigh Sales (*Storytellers*) and Lisa Millar (*Master Dogs*) unpack the craft of turning real life events into narrative, drawing from their recent books and a combined 65 years in journalism.

4-5PM

### KATY HESSEL: *THE STORY OF ART WITHOUT MEN*

Overturn art history as you know it with art historian and curator Katy Hessel – creator of popular podcast and Instagram account *The Great Women Artists* – in conversation with curator Beatrice Gratton.

5.30-6.30PM

### SAD GIRL? BAD GIRL? MAD GIRL?

Hear from debut Australian novelist Nadine J. Cohen (*Everyone and Everything*), Madeline Gray (*Green Dot*) and Jessie Stephens (*Something Bad is Going to Happen*) about making and breaking the rules of 'sad girl' literature. In conversation with *The Guardian's* Steph Harmon.

7.30-8.30PM

### SEBASTIAN BARRY: *OLD GOD'S TIME*

Sit down with Ireland's Fiction Laureate Sebastian Barry and host Alisa Piper to discuss the Booker Prize longlisted *Old God's Time*, followed by a live performance of *Kol Nidrei*. Op. 47 by Max Bruch arranged for cello and piano with Melissa Barnard and Lee Dionne from the ACO. Sebastian appears via video link.

## SUNDAY 26 MAY

10-11AM

### BARRIE CASSIDY AND FRIENDS: *STATE OF THE NATION*

Relive all the thrills and spills of the year in Australian politics with veteran journo Barrie Cassidy and his hand-picked squad of the country's sharpest pundits: Bridget Brennan, Amy Remekis, Niki Savva and Laura Tingle.

11.30AM - 12.30PM

### PLAY LIKE A GIRL

Cheer on the athletes kicking goals for women's sport. Olympic rugby gold medalist Chloe Dalton (*Girls Don't Play Sport*), Australia's most decorated cycling Olympian Anna Meares, and world champion pro-athlete Jana Pittman (Enough) chat with host Tracey Holmes.

1.30-2.30PM

### DAVID WENGRON: *THE DAWN OF EVERYTHING*

Transform your understanding of human evolution with professor of archaeology David Wengron, whose groundbreaking work with the late David Graeber overturns theories on the origins of farming, cities, democracy, slavery and civilisation itself. In conversation with ABC RN's Richard Fidler.

3.30-4.30PM

### DARK TECHNOLOGIES

Hear about the role of emerging technologies in conflict and occupation with Wakley Award-winning journalist Antony Loewenstein (*The Palestine Laboratory*), artificial intelligence expert Toby Walsh (*Faking It*) and host Michael Richardson.

5.30-6.30PM

### CLOSING ADDRESS: KATE MANNE ON THE FUTURE OF MISOGyny

Philosopher Kate Manne is heralded for her vivid, rigorous analysis on misogyny in her books *Down Girl* and *Entitled*. Join Kate for a compelling exploration of what she believes lies ahead.



SYDNEY WRITERS FESTIVAL

LIVE & LOCAL



# WHAT'S ON THIS MONTH



## REMINDERS

- Baby Bounce and Storytime resumes week beginning 29th April 2024.
- Bookings are appreciated for all library events and can be made in person or by phoning 67288130

## EVENTS

- Lego Club - 21st & 28th May
- Live streaming Sydney Writers Festival - 23rd - 26th May

## SCREENING NEXT MONTH



Keep an eye out for session times

## IMPORTANT DATES

- Law Week 20th - 26th May
- Reconciliation Week 27th May - 3rd June

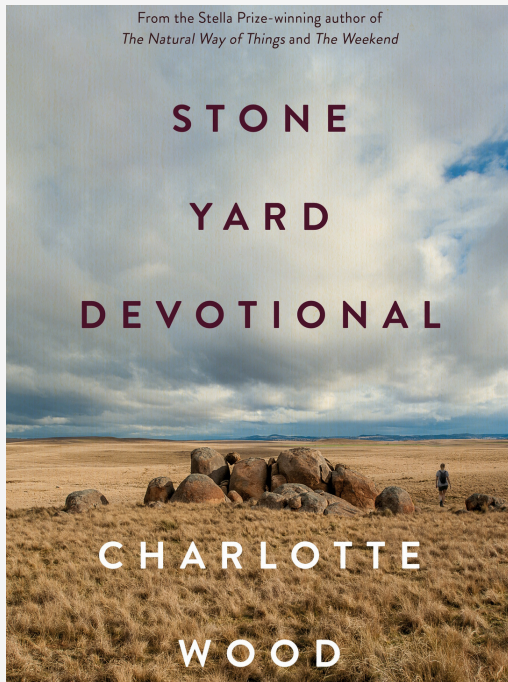
[www.inverell.nsw.gov.au](http://www.inverell.nsw.gov.au)



# NEW FICTION

## **The Hummingbird Effect** by **Kate Mildenhall**

An epic, kaleidoscopic story of four women connected across time and place by an invisible thread and their determination to shape their own stories, from the acclaimed author of *The Mother Fault*. Propulsive, tender and engrossing, this genre-bending novel is a feast for the heart as well as the mind and senses, confirming Mildenhall as one of the most ambitious and dynamic writers in the century.



## **Stone Yard Devotional** by **Charlotte Wood**

A woman abandons her city life and marriage to return to the place of her childhood, holing up in a small religious community hidden away on the stark plains of the Monaro. She does not believe in God, doesn't know what prayer is, and finds herself living this strange, reclusive life almost by accident. As she gradually adjusts to the rhythms of monastic life, she finds herself turning again and again to the thought of her mother, whose early death she can't forget.

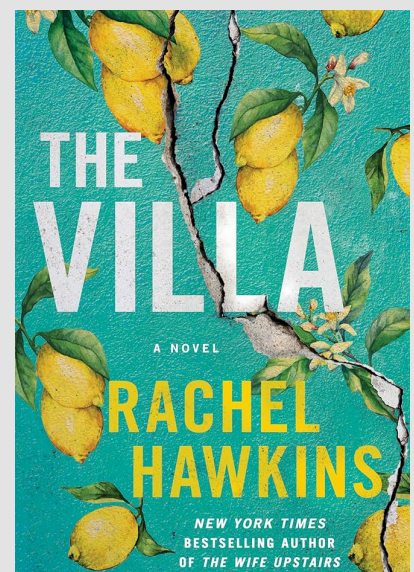
Disquiet interrupts this secluded life with three visitations. With each of these disturbing arrivals, the woman faces some deep questions. Can a person be truly good? What is forgiveness? Is loss of hope a moral failure? And can the business of grief ever really be finished?

## **The Villa** by **Rachel Hawkins**

As kids, Emily and Chess were inseparable, but their bond has been strained by the demands of their adult lives. So when Chess suggests a girls trip to Italy, Emily jumps at the chance to reconnect with her best friend.

Villa Aestas in Orvieto is breathtaking, but it has a dark past: in 1974 it was rented by a notorious rockstar, who was joined by up-and-coming musician Pierce Sheldon and his girlfriend, Mari. By the end of the holiday Pierce is dead, and Mari goes on to write one of the greatest horror novels of all time. As Emily digs into the villa's history, she begins to think that Pierce's murder wasn't just a tale of sex, drugs, and rock & roll gone wrong, but something more sinister - and that there might be clues hidden in the now-iconic works that Mari left behind.

Yet the closer that Emily gets to the truth, the more tension she feels developing between her and Chess. As secrets from the past come to light, equally dangerous betrayals from the present also emerge - and it begins to look like the villa will claim another victim before the summer ends.





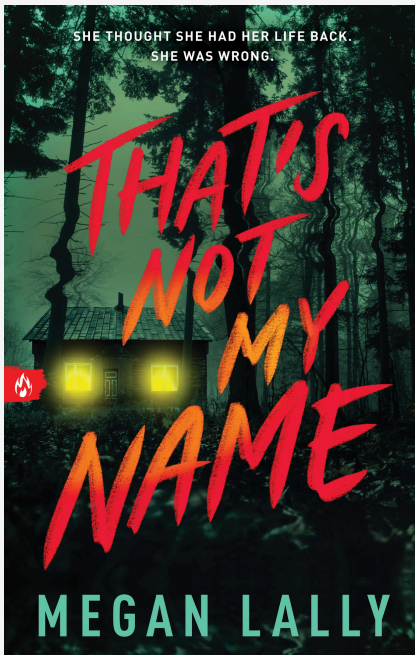
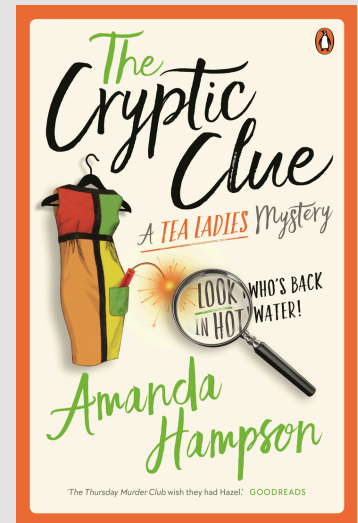
# NEW FICTION

## The Cryptic Clue by Amanda Hampson

In the bustling heart of Sydney's rag-trade, tea ladies Hazel, Betty and Irene are back in business. Having already solved a murder, kidnapping and arson, they are now in a race against time to foil a plot threatening national security.

When Irene gets a coded message directing her to the spoils of a bank robbery, it sends the tea ladies on a treasure hunt with a surprising outcome.

Meanwhile, trouble's brewing at Empire Fashionwear, where the very role of the tea lady is under threat. It's up to Hazel to convince her friends to abandon their trolleys and take action to save their livelihoods - before it's too late.



## That's not my name by Megan Lally

Shivering and bruised, a teen wakes up on the side of a dirt road with no memory of how she got there - or who she is. The police don't know where she came from until a frantic man arrives at the station. He's been searching for her for hours. He has her school ID, her birth certificate, and even family photo.

He is her father. Her name is Mary. Or so he says.

When Lola slammed the car door and stormed off into the night, Drew thought they just needed some time to cool off. Except Lola disappeared. Now his friends, the sheriff, and the whole town are convinced Drew murdered his girlfriend. Forget proving his innocence - he needs to find her. The longer Lola is missing, the fewer leads there are to follow...and the more danger they are both in.

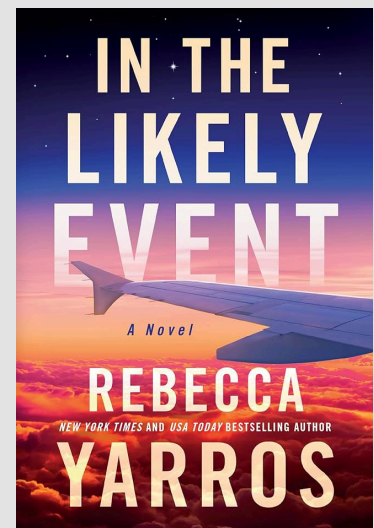
## In the likely event by Rebecca Yarros

When Izzy Astor gets on a plane to go home, she isn't expecting much. It's the usual holiday travel experience: busy, crowded, stressful. Then she spots her seatmate, who is anything but ordinary.

Nate Phelan sports dark hair, blue eyes, and a deliciously rugged charm that Izzy can't resist. Their connection is undeniable. Izzy never believed in destiny before, but she does now.

Just ninety seconds after takeoff, their plane goes down in the Missouri River. Their lives changed. *They* change. Nate goes on to a career in the military while Izzy finds her way into politics. Despite a few chance encounters over the years, the timing never feels right.

Then comes a high-stake reunion in Afghanistan, where Nate is tasked with protecting Izzy's life. He will do anything to keep her safe. And everything to win her heart.





## STAFF BOOK REVIEW



# Night of the living cat

WRITTEN BY HAWKMAN

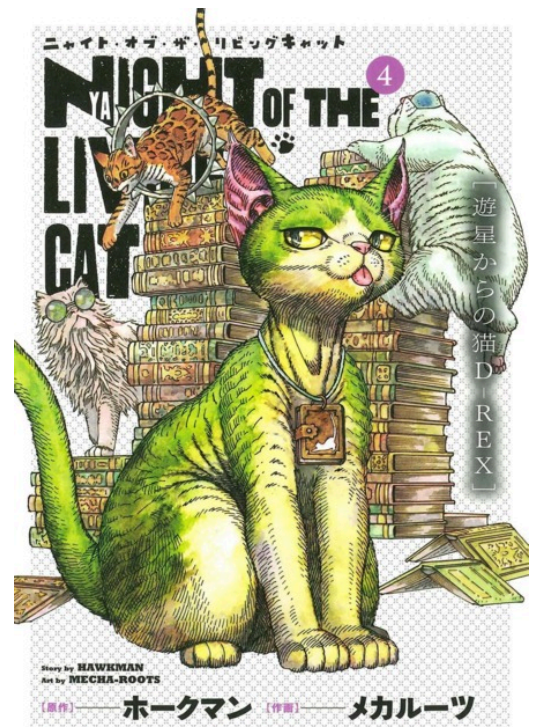
I have not read this genre before and the method of reading the text “backwards” or right to left by our normal standard has proved challenging. The first graphic novel I tried was a struggle to read. The second one in a different series that I read was very easy to read. Probably a combination of more familiarity with graphic novels and the fact the subject matter was different. For “Night of the living cat” the premise is that a factory accident releases test cats, and from then on touching an infected cat results in you turning into a cat yourself. Soon cats are in control and people are struggling for survival. I love both cats and apocalyptic literature so it is a great combination for me personally. I felt the emotion of the characters struggling to survive and make wise decisions while facing a difficult threat, with cats being so cute yet so dangerous.

Thinking about it, graphic novels are a great way to portray the thoughts of many of the characters clearly. In traditional prose, it can be very easy to be confused which voice is talking when the author is presenting several points of view. It takes a skillful author to do this successfully. In graphic novels the picture clearly tells you who is speaking or thinking at that time in the story. A picture can say a thousand words also.

There are still also many graphic novel written left to right such as *Garfield*, *Asterix* and *Peanuts* that have passed the test of time and are as entertaining as they were when originally written.

We have 3 books in this series, and I am tempted to read further.

Reviewed by Helen Y.  
Outreach Services Officer







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Films that matter

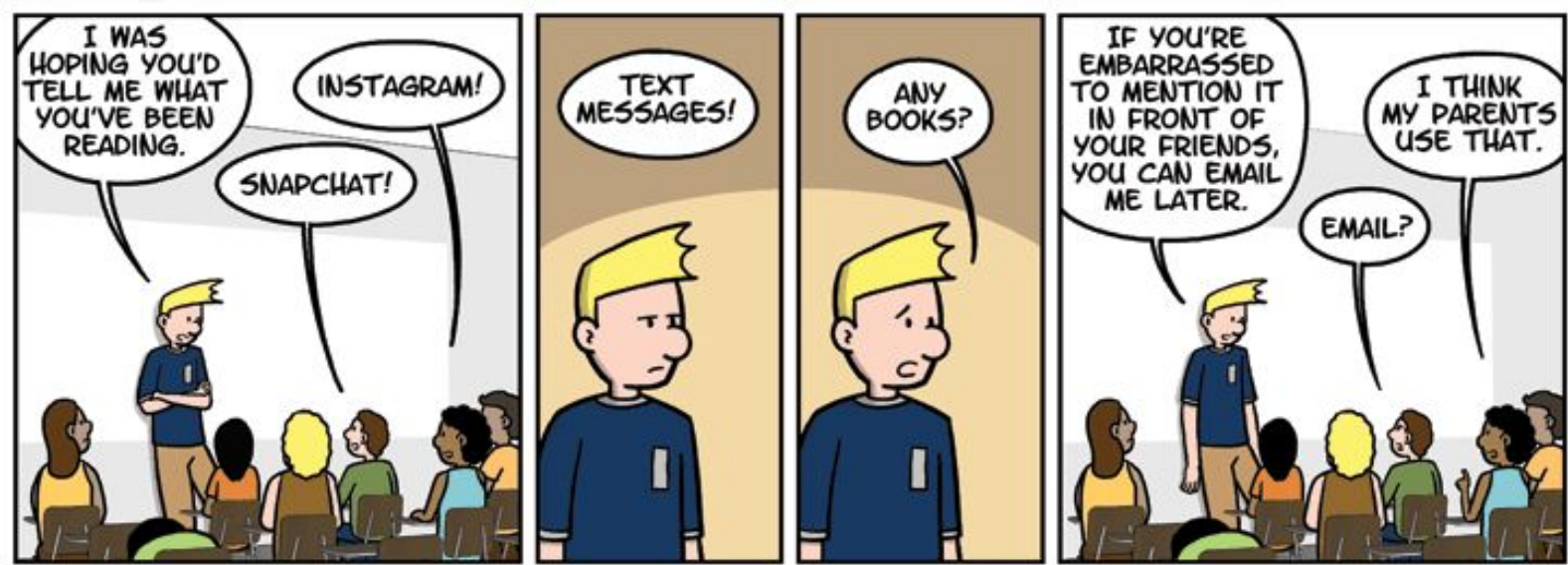
Start today at [kanopy.com](https://www.kanopy.com)

\*Films may vary by country and library.



# COLOURING FUN





UNSHELVED by Gene Ambaum & Chris Hallbeck

www.unshelved.com

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## Sudoku Puzzle Level: Easy

		6				5		8
1		2	3	8				4
			2			1	9	
				6	3		4	5
	6	3	4		5	8	7	
5	4		9	2				
	8	7			4			
2				9	8	4		7
4		9				3		



# Gemstones 2024



## K - 2 Reading Challenge



# Congratulations!

Congratulations to our Gemstones Reading Challenge participants who have read and logged at least 4 books during April. Your names have been added to the April Achievers list which is now displayed in the library.

16 children were successful in meeting the requirements of the challenge for April. We would like to acknowledge them here and encourage them to continue to keep up the great work.

The April achievers are:

Axel, Indi, Elara, Elsie, Henry, Joey, Satya, Amelia, Claire, Emmett, Reuben, Stacey, Jackson, Spencer, Lawrence and Charlotte.

All participants can start logging your reading for May via the Beanstack app.

It's not too late to join the Gemstones Reading Challenge. Please see library staff for more information.



# Lego Club

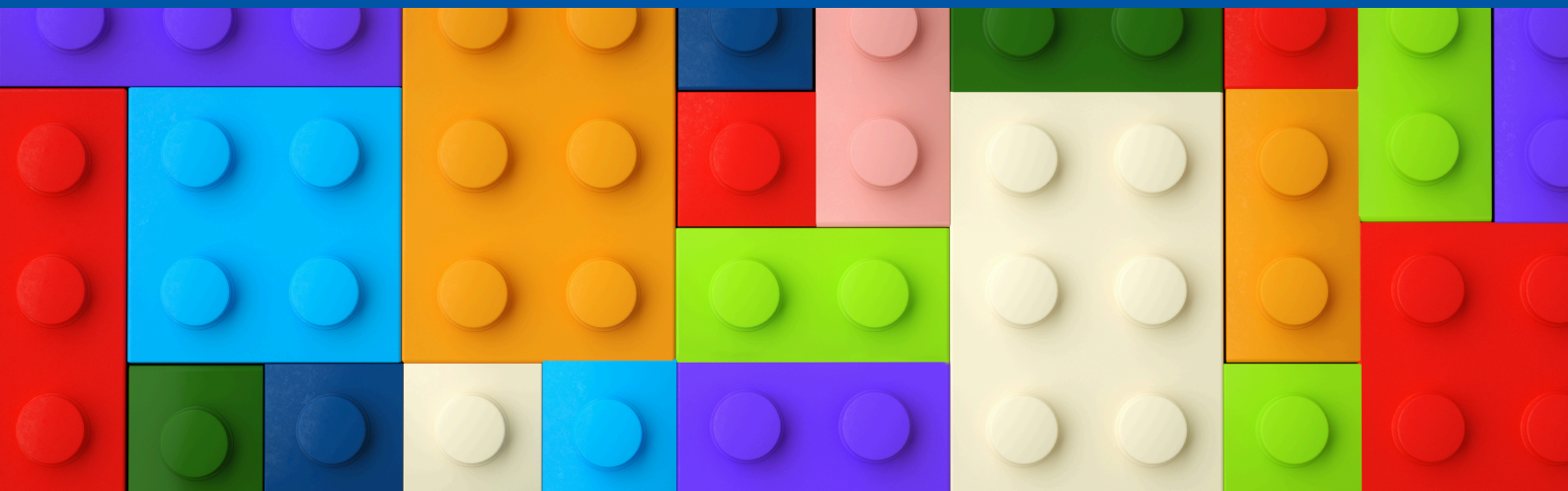
Kinder -  
Year 6



4-5pm on select Tuesdays in Term 2  
**Bookings Essential**

Bookings open via telephone 9.30 am on the Friday before each session

Session dates: 21st & 28 May, 4th, 18th & 25th June



## Beanstack



Register for a reading challenge on Beanstack!

Track your reading, and access rewards.

Challenges for all ages.

Click for the website, or download the Beanstack Tracker app.



# FIONA MCINTOSH

Best-selling author of historical adventure-romance alongside heroic-romantic, often brutal, fantasy.



© Anne Sropin

## ABOUT FIONA

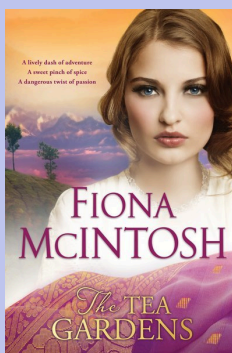
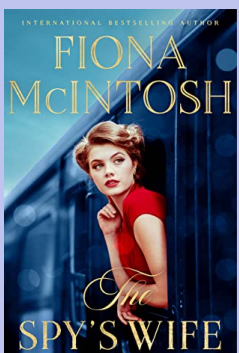
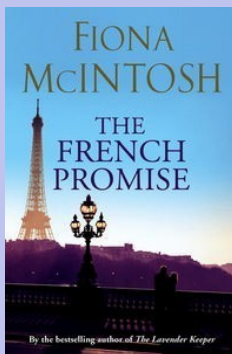
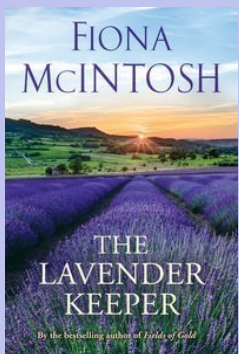
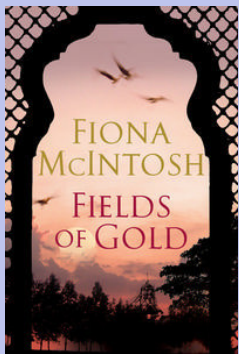
[www.fionamcintosh.com](http://www.fionamcintosh.com)

It's been a curious pathway to writing novels having spent years in PR, sales/marketing for the travel industry and including 15 years running a travel magazine with my husband. I was fortunate that my first attempt at a creative tale won the notice of a global publisher and I've been writing fiction ever since and across various genres although I am best known these days for my historical drama.

I'm still globetrotting regularly but only for books research now, and while our family collectively calls Adelaide home, I'm happiest at our farm in the state's mid north with our dogs, cats, chooks and a lot of wide open space...and silence.

There's not a great deal of space in my busy life for hobbies but I do make time to bake (usually very late), exercise (usually early), and to ritually make a great coffee brew daily - coffee is my vice...along with dark chocolate. I love streaming TV and movies, and these days I am deriving immense pleasure from reading loads of research books for my historical novels.

If coffee and chocolate are my vices, then my addictions are winter boots...and Paris.







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Every Australian online.

## How to stop unwanted calls



High up on the list of annoying things in life are unwanted or nuisance calls. They can be from telemarketers or scammers, or even from somebody you don't want to hear from. Whatever the case, the good news is there's something you can do about them.

Telemarketers are bound by Australian regulations so you can put a stop to their calls with a few simple steps. Scammers on the other hand evade the law so you need to employ savvy tactics to avoid them. In this guide, we explore how you can block calls on your home and mobile phone, as well as hints and tips on how to avoid being scammed if or when you receive an unsolicited call.

### How to stop unwanted calls

- Block calls. There are home phones you can buy that are designed to filter incoming calls. Phones like the Telstra Call Guardian help to block unknown callers by asking callers to identify themselves before you accept (or reject) the call. Contacts you have saved get straight through. You can also block calls from your mobile.
- Register on the **Do Not Call** register (DNC). It's free and you can register your home phone and mobile number. It should stop the majority of telemarketing calls, but there are organisations that are exempt, so you may still get calls from charities, research companies, registered political parties and educational institutions.
- Consider making your home phone number private. By changing your home phone number to an unlisted or silent number, it won't appear in the print or online White Pages directory. Speak to your telecommunications provider or visit their website to see how you can unlist your number. It should be free of charge.
- Ask the caller to remove you from their list. When you receive a call from a telemarketer, simply ask them to take you off their list. If you continue to receive calls from the same organisation, put in a direct complaint to them. If that doesn't work, you can contact the Australian Communications and Media Authority (ACMA). We've included the link to the complaint form at the end of this article.
- Avoid sharing your phone number unless you have to. When you're filling out a form, only share your phone number if it's mandatory or necessary. For example, providing a phone number when you buy something online is necessary in case there are any issues with delivery, whereas providing your phone number when signing up to a newsletter is unnecessary.

For more useful technology hints and tips you can visit the **Be Connected** website at:  
[www.beconnected.esafety.gov.au](http://www.beconnected.esafety.gov.au)



*It's Diverse,  
It's Inclusive*



# BOOK BINGO READING CHALLENGE

**CHANCE TO WIN A**

**PRIZE PACK**

**ENQUIRE NOW!**

The aim of the challenge is to encourage you to broaden your reading experience and introduce you to books you might not usually consider. By participating you have the opportunity to go into the draw to win a fabulous prize pack.

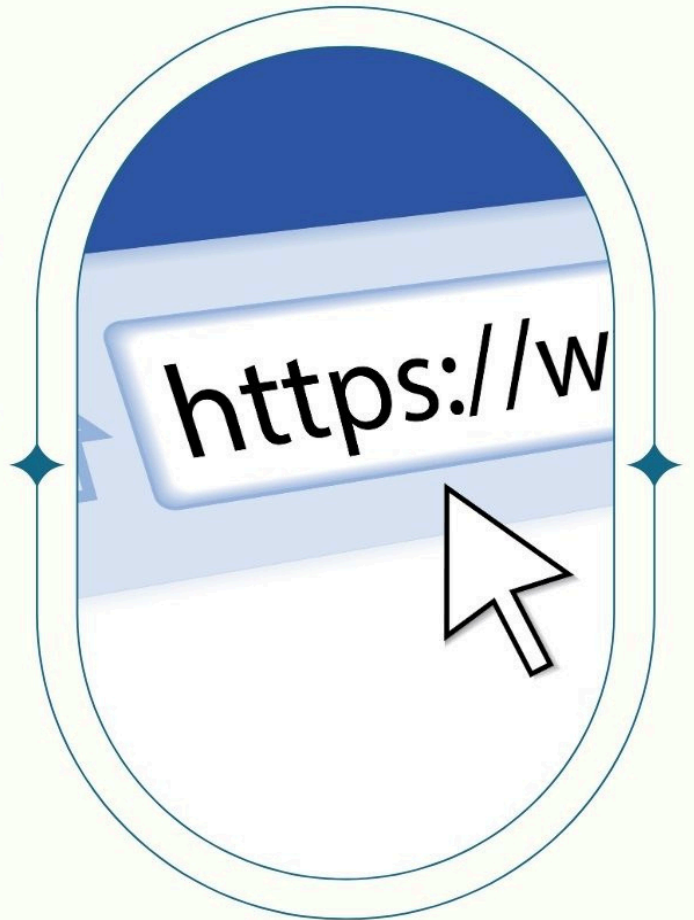


# LIBRARY CATALOGUE

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WHAT'S ON OUR WEBSITE?



## Subscribe to our email list

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