



## Australian Society of Authors

Australian Society  
Of Authors Limited  
ABN 26 008 558 790  
PO Box 1566  
Strawberry Hills NSW 2012

98 Pitt Street  
Redfern NSW 2016

Tel (02) 9318 0877  
Fax (02) 9318 0530

asa@asauthors.org  
www.asauthors.org

### ASA Mentors Register 2009: Poetry

#### **Judith Beveridge**

Sydney, NSW

Genres: Poetry

Preferred contact: email, face to face

Judith Beveridge has published three books of poetry all of which have won major prizes: *The Domesticity of Giraffes* (Black Lighting Press 1987); *Accidental Grace*, (UQP, 1996) and *Wolf Notes* (Giramondo Publishing, 2003). She is the poetry editor of *Meanjin*. In 2005 she was awarded the Philip Hodgins Memorial Medal for excellence in literature. She has edited UQP's *The Best Australian Poetry 2006* as well as co-edited anthologies from the Newcastle Poetry Prize, *Sunweight* (2005) and *The Honey Fills the Cone* (2006). She teaches poetry at the University of Sydney.

#### **Colleen Burke**

Sydney, NSW

Genres: Poetry and non-fiction

Preferred contact: face-to-face, post, telephone

Colleen Z Burke – poet, author, biographer – is the author of numerous books, including nine poetry books, oral histories and a biography of the Australian poet Marie E.J. Pitt. Since the 1980s Colleen has facilitated creative writing and poetry courses in adult and community education. Her most recent poetry book is *The odd pagan or two*. Colleen is co-editor of *The Turning Wave - Poems and songs of Irish Australia* (2001) and has been a recipient of the NSW Writer's Fellowship. Her autobiographical and biographical writings appear in *Wee Girls: women writing from an Irish perspective* (Spinifex Press), "Looking over my shoulder" (memoir) in *Feminisms: Within and Without*, "Marie E.J. Pitt, Poet and Socialist" in *Overland* and "Shaping the southern cross: Some 19th Century Irish Australian poets" in *Voices & Spaces: Indigenous & Multicultural Writers in Dialogue* (2006) – a book and eight CD set.

### **Beatriz Copello**

Sydney, NSW

Genres: Fiction and poetry

Preferred contact: face to face, post, email, telephone

Dr Beatriz Copello is a poet, novelist, playwright and psychologist with over 15 years experience teaching creative writing. She has completed a Doctor of Creative Arts Degree, Creative Writing (University of Wollongong), has a MA from the University of Sydney and a Graduate Diploma from UTS, both majoring in creative writing. Through Bemac Literary Consultancy she has guided many writers and supported them to achieve their full potential. Her poetry and fiction have been published in literary journals in Australia and overseas. Her novel *Forbidden Steps Under the Wisteria* was published by Abbott Bentley in 1999. *Meditations at the Edge of a Dream*, a book of poetry, was published by Glass House Books in 2001. She received an Australia Council grant in 1996. Beatriz has participated as a judge in many literary competitions and has edited various books. She is committed to helping young writers in particular.

### **Brian Dibble**

Perth, WA

Genres: Poetry, fiction, life-writing

Contact: Telephone, email, post and face-to-face

Foundation Head of Communication and Cultural Studies at Curtin University, Brian Dibble started Australia's first BA program in Creative Writing in the early 1970s. Now he holds a personal chair as Professor of Comparative Literature, teaching both Literature and Creative Writing. Curtin's Creative Writing graduates have produced nearly 300 books or scripts for stage, TV or film, and they have won the Miles Franklin Award, the Vogel Prize and most of the State/Premier's literary awards. Dibble's own students have published more than fifty books, among them Deborah Robertson whose novel *Careless* was short listed for the 2007 Miles Franklin Award. Currently, he supervises honours, masters and doctoral students. Dibble has written/edited a dozen books of his own poetry and fiction, including *Analogues* (FACP), William Hart-Smith's poetry (A&R and Penguin), WA literature, *Celebrations* (UWAP), and two *Spiny Babbler* anthologies of Australian students' work; three of his books have been short-listed for the WA Premier's Literature Awards. And he has been editor of the *Beloit Poetry Journal* (US), the *Australian Journal of Cultural Studies*, *Compass* (Sydney), and *Southern Review* (Adelaide). Currently, he is writing a biography of Elizabeth Jolley.

### **Brook Emery**

Sydney, NSW

Genres: Poetry

Preferred contact: Telephone, email, post and face-to-face

Brook has published two collections of poetry, *and dug my fingers in the sand* and *Misplaced Heart*, won the Queensland Premier's Prize and been

short-listed twice for the NSW Premier's Prize. Individual poems have won the Newcastle Poetry Prize, the Bruce Dawe National Poetry Prize and the Max Harris Literary Award among others. He is the NSW editor of the poetry magazine *Blue Dog*. He has judged the Henry Kendall Poetry Competition, the Taronga Poetry Prize and the Women Writers Poetry Prize. He holds a BA and MA in literature from the University of Sydney and a PhD in Creative Arts from the University of Newcastle. He has taught writing and literature at university, secondary school and for various workshop groups. He is the Chairperson of the Poets Union and has coordinated and taught its Young Poets Fellowship program.

### **Jean Kent**

Hunter Valley, NSW

Genres: Poetry

Preferred contact: Email, face to face, post, telephone

Jean Kent has had experience mentoring poets for the ASA and the Hunter Writers' Centre. She has taught creative writing at Newcastle University and run poetry workshops in schools, for WEA, the Poets Union, FAW and Writers' Centres. She has judged competitions and edited anthologies of Hunter Region poets. Her poetry collections are *Verandahs*, *Practising Breathing* and *The Satin Bowerbird*. Her awards include the Anne Elder Prize, the Dame Mary Gilmore Award and the Wesley Michel Wright Prize for her books, and the Josephine Ulrick Prize and runner-up for the Newcastle Prize for individual poems. She has received several grants from the Literature Board and a residency at its Paris studio. Jean grew up in country towns throughout Queensland and lived in Canberra and Sydney before settling at Lake Macquarie. To support her writing life, she has also worked as a counsellor in TAFE colleges.

### **Chris Mansell**

Shoalhaven, NSW

Genres: Poetry

Preferred contact: email, face-to-face

Chris Mansell has published quite a number of books of poetry (see her website at <http://www.chrismansell.com>) and has taught writing in workshops, lectured, and mentored individuals at all levels. Under the formal mentorship scheme she has worked with eight poets (all but one interstate) and one prose writer. She has also worked as a freelance editor (of prose non-fiction) and is publisher and editor of PressPress (poetry). She likes a hands on approach but also to stimulate poets towards greater clarity. She tries to promote independence and to help the writer achieve their own goals.

### **Gina Mercer**

Sandy Bay, TAS

Genres: Fiction, non-fiction and poetry

Preferred contact: email

Gina Mercer [B.A.(Hons), PhD, Grad.Dip. Adult Ed.] has worked as Senior Lecturer in the School of Humanities at James Cook University, Townsville from 1991-2003. In that time she lectured primarily in Creative Writing, Australian Literature and Literary Theory. She was the General Editor of the literary journal LiNQ from 1994-2002. She also supervised many Honours, Masters and PhD candidacies to successful completion. She finds supervising and mentoring a fascinating and fulfilling process at both the intellectual and practical levels. This is reflected in a collection of essays entitled *Postgraduate Research Supervision: Transforming (R)Elations* which she coedited (Peter Lang NY, 2001). Prior to this she published a critical analysis of N.Z writer Janet Frame: *Subversive Fictions* (UQP, 1994). Her first collection of poems, *The Ocean in the Kitchen*, was published by Five Islands Press in 1999 after being selected in their highly competitive New Poets' programme. Her first novel, *Parachute Silk*, was published by Spinifex Press in 2001.

### **David Musgrave**

Sydney, NSW

Genres: Poetry, fiction

Preferred contact: Telephone, email, post and face-to-face

David has published two collections of poetry (*To Thalia* and *Watermark*), one novella in prose and poetry (*On Reflection*) and several articles on literature. Individual poems have either won or been short-listed for the Broadway, Henry Lawson, Bruce Dawe, Newcastle, Somerset and Sidney Nolan Gallery Poetry Prizes. He is the publisher at Puncher & Wattmann, and has edited for publication four collections of poetry and one novel, one of which, *James Stinks (and so does Chuck)* by Nick Riemer, was placed third in the Mary Gilmore Award. Several titles for the press are already in preparation for publication in 2007 and beyond. He holds a PhD in English Literature from Sydney University, where he is an honorary associate. He has taught at several universities, and is treasurer of the NSW Poets Union.

### **Bruce Pascoe**

Apollo Bay, VIC

Genres: Fiction, poetry, drama and history

Preferred contact: email, telephone

I published *Australian Short Stories* mag for 16 years and have published over 60 other Australian authors' titles. I have had 11 of my own titles published by Penguin, Magabala, Bruce Sims, McPhee-Gribble and others. My novel *Shark*, 1999, won the Australian Literature Award (FAW) of 1999 and my most recent novel is *Ocean*, Bruce Sims Books 2002. My stories have won over 20 national awards and been broadcast in UK, USA, China, Indonesia and Australia. I have an Indigenous heritage and I'm currently compiling a dictionary and teaching program for the Wathaurong language of Geelong-Ballarat.

### **Judith Rodriguez**

Melbourne, VIC

Genres: Poetry, libretto and short fiction

Preferred contact: email, post

Making writing live as a whole and in detail, is the aim that interests me. I teach in a university writing department, have conducted many workshops in different settings, and for eight years was poetry Series Editor with Penguin Books Australia. I have ten published collections of poetry; several won prizes. My *New And Selected Poems* (University of Queensland Press) and *The Cold* (National Library) are in print. My long ballad with lyrics, 'The hanging of Minnie Thwaites', was the only poem in Kerry Greenwood's 2000 compilation *On Murder: True Crime Writing in Australia*. The opera *Lindy* based on my libretto (music by Moya Henderson) premiered in 2002.

### **Charmaine Saunders**

Perth, WA

Genres: Fiction, non-fiction, short stories and poetry.

Preferred contact: email, telephone

Dr Charmaine Saunders is a therapist, columnist, speaker, media commentator and six-times published author. She was an English and Literature teacher for 12 years before working in Personal development and still teaches University extension and TAFE courses, including, specifically, creative writing. She has been a professional proof-reader and also editor for various publishing projects. Currently, she is a regular contributor to magazines and writes nine regular online and print columns.

### **Terry Whitebeach**

SE Tasmania, Tasmania

Genres: Poetry, prose, young adult fiction, adult fiction, biography, history and autobiography. I am also interested in cross-cultural collaboration.

Preferred contact: face to face, telephone

Terry Whitebeach is a Tasmanian writer, teacher of creative writing, historian and community artist. Her published work includes poetry: *Bird Dream* (Penguin 1993), which won the Anne Elder Award, *All the Shamans Work in Safewa: Poems for Young Adults* (Ginninderra Press 2006); radio plays for ABC's *Airplay: Antarctic Journey*, *Bantam*, a *REAL Book* by Mick Brown & Terry Whitebeach, *Mill Ends*; novels for young adults: *Watersky* (FACP 1997) and *Bantam* (with Michael Brown) (FACP 2002), which was a 2004 CBCA Notable book and was serialised on the ABC's *Book Reading*. A biography, *A Versatile Man: The Life and Times of Don (Pwerle) Ross*, is in publication with IAD Press. Her new work, *The True Love Story of David Collins and Terra Nullius* is being supported by an ArtsTas research grant. Terry established Batchelor Institute's Indigenous Creative Writing Program in Alice Springs in 1999 and coordinated it till 2002. In 2006 she was awarded a PhD in history (Biography): her thesis was entitled *Telling Someone Else's Story*. She is an experienced teacher of creative writing, workshop facilitator, mentor and editor.

**The Australian Society of Authors**  
**Last updated 9 March 2009**