



Australian Society of Authors

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ASA Mentors Register 2009: Young Adult

Goldie Alexander

St Kilda, VIC

Genres: Fiction and non-fiction, mostly children's and Young Adult

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

With 40 published books for children, Young Adults and adults, numerous articles and short stories, plus over a decade of taking Creative Writing workshops and classes, I can offer a wide range of writing experience and marketing to anyone interested in using me as a mentor.

Alyssa Brugman

Hunter Valley, NSW

Genres: YA

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

Alyssa's novels for Young Adults include *Finding Grace*, *Walking Naked* and *Being Bindy*. They have been short-listed for a variety of awards including, the NSW Premier's Literary Award, the Queensland Premier's Literary Award, the Victorian Premier's Literary Award, 'Honour Book' in the CBCA Book of the Year, YA Audio Book of the Year, Best Designed YA Book at the APA Design Awards, the Children's Peace Literature Award, and a number of awards overseas. Alyssa is currently writing a series for younger readers. The first book, *For Sale or Swap*, was short-listed for the Children's Choice Awards in three states. Other titles in the series include *Beginner's Luck*, *Hot Potato* and *Hide and Seek*. Alyssa's books have been translated into German, Dutch, Danish, Portuguese, Turkish, and Swedish, and are distributed in the US and UK. Another novel for older readers entitled *Solo* is due for release in early 2007. Alyssa has been a mentor for the Children's Book Council 'Frustrated Writers' program (resulting in a contract for that manuscript with Random House Australia), and regularly conducts writing workshops at festivals and in schools around Australia.

Gary Crew

Maleny, QLD

Genres: Children's and Young Adult novels and illustrated books

Preferred contact: Email

Gary Crew is Australia's most awarded author for Children and Young Adults having won the CBC Book of the Year four times – twice for his Young Adult novels and twice for his illustrated books. He has also won the National Children's Book Award, the NSW and Victorian Premiers' Awards, the Ned Kelly Award for crime fiction and twice been short listed for the Edgar Allan Poe Mystery Fiction Award in the USA. Gary has written more than 40 books which are published all over the world. He has undertaken four ASA mentorships in Young Adult Fiction, all of which have resulted in publication. Gary is an experienced editor. He is also Associate Professor and Coordinator of Creative Writing at the University of the Sunshine Coast.

Garry Disher

Mornington Peninsula/Melbourne, VIC

Genres: Fiction and Young Adult

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

Garry Disher has published forty books, mostly fiction: award-winning novels, short story collections, crime thrillers, novels for children and young adults, best-selling writers' handbooks, history textbooks and anthologies. He taught creative writing for many years and helped to design the professional writing course for the TAFE system in Victoria. He has judged the Vogel and many other awards, assessed manuscripts for the Victorian Writers' Centre, been writer-in-residence in Australia and the UK, and mentored several novelists. His awards and honours include the German Crime Fiction Award (twice), CBC Book of the Year, NSW Premier's Award and a nomination for the Booker Prize.

Hazel Edwards

Melbourne, VIC

Genres: Fiction for children and YA, as well as non-fiction and scripting.

Preferred contact: telephone, email, face to face

Best known for *There's a Hippopotamus on Our Roof Eating Cake*, Hazel writes across media, including YA *FakeID*, *Antarctica's Frozen Chosen* and sequel *Outback Ferals* (Hachette). Recently she co-authored ex blog *Cycling Solo: Ireland to Istanbul* (Brolga) with her son Trevelyan Quest Edwards.

Her web site www.hazeledwards.com <http://www.hazeledwards.com/> has details of her Antarctic expedition publications including animation, scripts, Auslan DVDs and junior fiction. Hazel mentors gifted students, runs Non Boring Writing workshops for genealogists, web-chats in literary festivals and lectures in writing for children and Non-fiction Projects at Holmesglen TAFE. Melbourne-based, Hazel is married with two children, and a

grandson for whom she writes a story each birthday. In 2006 she was a national Literacy Champion and is co-portfolio holder of Education & Writing for Children on the ASA Committee.

Kate Forsyth

Sydney, NSW

Genres: Fantasy fiction for children, YA and adults

Preferred contact: Email, face to face, telephone

Kate Forsyth is the author of almost 20 books for children, young adults and adults, most of them in the fantasy Genres. Her books are sold in Australia, NZ, the US, Canada, the UK, Germany, Russia, Japan and Italy, and regularly feature in the fantasy bestselling lists. She is best known for her *Witches of Eileanan* books, and her new series for children, *The Gypsy Crown*. She has a BA in Literature and a MA in Writing, and is an experienced teacher, lecturer and mentor.

Sue Gough

Brisbane, QLD

Genres: Young adult and adult fiction

Preferred contact: face to face, telephone, email

Sue Gough is an experienced mentor and has written award-winning novels for young adults and now concentrates on adult literary fiction. Her novel *The Nether Regions* was published by Picador in 2001 and was described by Caroline Baum in the *Sydney Morning Herald* as “a really splendid Australian debut”. It has been optioned for a movie. Sue has served as Deputy Chair of the Australia Council Literature Fund, and is currently on the Queensland State Library Board. She is a judge for the Queensland Premiers Award, the Somerset Novella Prize and the State Library’s Young Writers Award. Her creative writing workshops are extremely popular and she has a great track record in getting her students published.

Strephyn Mappin

Sydney, NSW

Genres: Crime fiction, young adult fiction, horror

Preferred contact: email, telephone

After having his stories appear in literary magazines Australia-wide, Strephyn had two collections published by Fremantle Arts Centre Press as well as having stories included in numerous anthologies of Australian fiction. He then began writing for young adults as SR Martin, completing the *Insomniacs* series, the *Swampland* trilogy and several novels. He also wrote the book version of the screenplay for the film, *The Magic Pudding*. The *Insomniacs* series has been published in France, USA, Spain and China, while the *Swampland* trilogy has appeared in the USA and Italy. Strephyn has also written short films and feature screenplays and also works as a book reviewer and manuscript assessor.

Stephen Measday

Blue Mountains, NSW

Genres: Junior fiction, young adult fiction and screen adaptations

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

Stephen Measday is the author of fifteen books for younger readers (junior/young adult fiction) and has been published in Australia, USA, UK, South Korea, France and Indonesia. So far, two of his mentored authors have created successful series and stand-alone titles with major publishers. Stephen's novels *A Pig Called Francis Bacon* and *The News They Didn't Use* have been listed as Notable Books by the Children's Book Council of Australia. He conducts creative writing workshops throughout Australia (for all ages) and lectured in scriptwriting for fifteen years at the University of Western Sydney. His scriptwriting awards include an Australian Writers Guild (Awgie) award for radio drama and a United Nations Media Peace Prize for an episode of *A Country Practice*. Recent television work has included editing the Emmy nominated children's series, *Hi-5*. Stephen's strengths in mentoring are one-to-one feedback on turning a concept into a story, plotting, structure, characterisation and dialogue.

Sally Rippin

Melbourne, VIC

Genres: children's picture books; writing and/or illustrations, and novels from junior to YA.

Preferred contact: email, face to face

Sally Rippin is an award-winning children's author and illustrator. She was born in Australia but grew up in SE Asia, England and France. She has published over twenty children's books and two Young Adult novels. Currently Sally teaches Writing For Children at RMIT as part of the Professional Writing and Editing program. As well as acting as a mentor for the ASA, Sally runs workshops on making children's picture books and assesses manuscripts for the Victorian Writers Centre. She is a regular speaker at schools and literary festivals around Australia.

Robyn Sheahan-Bright

Gladstone, Queensland

Genres: Literary Fiction and Short Stories; YA Fiction, Children's Fiction and Picture Books

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

Robyn operates justified text writing and publishing consultancy services, and publishes regularly on children's literature, Australian fiction, and publishing history. She also writes reading group and teachers notes for several major publishers. She was inaugural director of and is a Life Member of the Queensland Writers Centre, and was co-founder of Jam Roll Press. Her publications include *Paper Empires: A History of the Book in Australia (1946-2005)* (2006) co-edited with Craig Munro, *Kookaburra Shells Port Curtis Literature* (justified text press, 2006), and *Hot Iron Corrugated Sky: A Century of Queensland Writing* (2003) co-edited with

Stuart Glover. Her PhD thesis traced the development of the Australian children's publishing industry, and she teaches for Griffith University (Gold Coast) and USQ. She was a member of the Literature Board (2001–3), and was Program Manager for the fourth Literature Board funded Residential Editorial Program at Varuna in early 2006. She is a member of the Qld Premier's Literary Awards panel, coordinating judge for the Somerset National Novella Competition for School Age Writers, a member of the ASA Management Committee, and a member of the Organising Committee for the Curtis Coast Literary Carnivale.

Julia Stiles

Far South Coast, NSW

Genres: Fiction, General Non-Fiction, Young Adult, Children's

Preferred contact: email, telephone

Julia Stiles is one of Australia's most experienced and well-respected editors. She has a BA in English Literature from Leeds University and a Masters in Australian Literature from Sydney University. She was Senior Editor at Pan Macmillan and subsequently moved to Random House to as Commissioning Editor. Julia has been freelancing for eight years and works with all the major publishing houses. She is experienced in a broad range of Genres, including – literary and commercial fiction, children's and young adults' fiction, and general non-fiction. Julia has been an ASA mentor to several emerging writers, some of whom have had their work published as a result. She has taught editing and creative writing in schools, and was Editor-in-Residence at the Sunshine Coast University.

Trudy White

Melbourne, VIC

Genres: writing and/or illustrating fiction (children's and adults), short story, picture books and YA novels

Preferred contact: face-to-face, email

Trudy White is an artist and writer. She works with ink and watercolour and computer-based drawing and design techniques. She has published three illustrated books (two for adults/YA readers and one for children) and also illustrates other people's work. She completed a Master of Fine Art by research at Victoria College of the Arts in 2006 and exhibits artwork regularly. Trudy teaches digital imaging at TAFE, illustration short courses at CAE, and runs visiting artist workshops in primary and secondary schools. In 2007 she will teach Writing for Children at RMIT in the Professional Writing and Editing program, and run a creative writing project for students of the different schools at VCA.

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.

Dianne Wolfer

South-west WA

Genres: YA fiction, younger readers fiction and adult fiction.

Preferred contact: email, face to face, telephone

I am author of eleven books for children and teenagers. My novels have won and been short-listed for various awards. They are read and workshopped in schools and universities within Australia and overseas. I am a trained teacher, experienced mentor and spend much of my time working with students of all ages. As a mentor, I see my role as encouraging and gently challenging a writer to dig deep, edit bravely and refine their work. I live in Albany and I'm the WA Regional Advisor for the international Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators. Encouraging a love of books and reading in our youth is something I'm passionate about. I'm happy to work via phone, e-mail or, if possible, face to face. I visit Perth regularly. You can find out more about me at www.diannewolfer.com

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