



Australian Society of Authors

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## ASA Mentorship Program 2011

### Mentors' Register 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 has written eleven books for children and young adults. Her novels 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, the Children's Peace Literature Award, Children's Choice awards (KOALAs) and a number of awards overseas. Alyssa's books have been translated into German, Dutch, Danish, Portuguese, Turkish, and Swedish, and are distributed in the US and UK. Alyssa has been a mentor for the Children's Book Council 'Frustrated Writers' program, resulting publication and agent representation for those writers. She is currently undertaking a PhD in Narratology in Young Adult Fiction at the University of Canberra.

#### **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 adult non-fiction

Preferred contact: Skype webchat, telephone, email or face to face

Best known for *There's a Hippopotamus on Our Roof Eating Cake*, Hazel writes across media, and has co-authored YA novels such as *f2m; the boy within* with Ryan Kennedy using Skype, and non fiction *Difficult Personalities* with Dr Helen McGrath. Hazel mentors gifted students, runs Non Boring Writing workshops for genealogists, web-chats in literary festivals and lectures in Writing for Children, Non-fiction Projects and 'Authorpreneurship'. Check her web site <http://www.hazeledwards.com/>

### **Kate Forsyth**

Sydney, NSW

Genres: Fantasy and historical fiction for children, YA and adults

Preferred contact: Email, face to face, telephone

Kate Forsyth is the author of 25 books for children, young adults and adults, most of them either Fantasy or Historical Fantasy. Her books have been sold in 13 different countries around the world, including 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, The Gypsy Crown series for children and her time travel adventure The Puzzle Ring. 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. Her adult 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 on the Queensland State Library Board. She is currently a judge for the Queensland Premiers Award, and the State Library's Young Writers Award. Currently a theatre reviewer for both The Courier-Mail and the ABC, she is also a longtime member of the Brisbane Writers Festival committee. Her creative writing workshops are extremely popular and she has a great track record in getting her students published.

### **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.

### **Mike Shuttleworth**

Genres: Young adult literature (fiction and non-fiction), innovative works using illustration

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

Mike Shuttleworth is a specialist in youth literature. He was the Program Manager at the Centre for Youth Literature, State Library of Victoria from 2002 to 2010. He is very widely read in Australian and international literature and has provided formal and informal advice and feedback to publishers on works in development. He has judged major literary prizes including the 2010 Prime Minister's Literary Award (Children's and Young Adults) and the Victorian Premier's Literary Award. Mike's reviews of young adult literature have appeared in *The Age*, *Australian Book Review* and *The Big Issue*. He has programmed many youth literature events including Reading Matters youth literature conference and the Centre for Youth Literature's Booktalkers and Bookgigs.

### **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.

### **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*, which won the Anne Elder Award, *All the Shamans Work in Safewa: Poems for Young Adults*; radio plays for ABC's *Airplay: Antarctic Journey*, *Bantam*, *a REAL Book by Mick Brown & Terry Whitebeach*, *Mill Ends*; novels for young adults: *Watersky* and *Bantam* (with Michael Brown), 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](http://www.diannewolfer.com)

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**Last updated 23 September 2010**