



Australian Society of Authors

Australian Society
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ASA Mentorship Program 2011

Mentors' Register Children's writing

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.

Mark Carthew

Melbourne, Vic

Genres: Children's and illustrated books

Preferred contact: Face to face, email and phone

Mark Carthew is an award winning Australian author and educator well known for his books and series exploring wordplay, music, movement, drama and humour. His internationally acclaimed illustrated play script series *VoiceWorks* (Pearson Education) brought him together with some of the world's leading children's writers and illustrators. Mark's latest releases include *Machino Supremo! Poems about machines* co-written with Janeen Brian and the wonderfully wacky joke, rhyme and riddle books, *Newts, Lutes and Bandicoots* (IPKidz) and *Wicked Wizards and Leaping Lizards* (Random House) produced in collaboration with renowned UK children's illustrator Mike Spoor. His picture books include *Five Little Owls* illustrated by Mini Goss and *The Gobbling Tree* illustrated by Susy Boyer (New Frontier) Winner of Speech Pathology Australia's Book of the Year 2009.

His anthology *Can You Keep a Secret? Timeless rhymes to share and treasure* illustrated by Jobi Murphy (Random House) was noted by the Children's Book Council of Australia as a 2009 Notable Book, Early Childhood.

Mark is a sessional lecturer and tutor at Monash University and tutor at Swinburne University in the Master of Arts (Writing) where he is also completing his PhD.
www.markcarthew.com.au

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/>

Elaine Forrestal

Perth, Western Australia

Genres: children's novels, short stories and picture books, adult/Young Adult historical fiction.

Preferred contact: email, phone

Elaine grew up in small wheat-belt towns in Western Australia, but has travelled extensively and worked in France, Ireland and Canada. She has been a teacher, university lecturer, writer-in-residence, workshop presenter (to adults and children), speaker at conferences and festivals and judge of writing competitions. She now lives in Scarborough with her husband, Peter, and their Beagle, Fling. Since 1999 Elaine has made her living as a full-time writer with fifteen fiction and one non-fiction titles published in Australia, UK, Italy, Slovenia and Korea. Her short stories are published in Australia and America.

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.

Nigel Gray

Perth, WA

Genres: Picture books, children's fiction, adult literary fiction

Preferred contact: email, telephone

I regard picture books as a particularly important art form. Because of the limitation of length, a good text is closer to poetry than prose (this is not a reference to rhyming texts). Picture books are usually a child's introduction to the world of books. Books can become a child's friends, a place they can be at home, and this opens doors to a lifetime of pleasure and opportunity. And children's stories, without illustration comprise the next important step in the development of a child's imagination and the

ability to empathise. I have published about 70 books, nearly 55 of which have been for children. My books have been published in 25 countries and 22 languages, have won four major awards, been short-listed for 15 more, and have picked up 16 further honours in Australia, Europe and the United States. I have won The Dickens Fellowship Award and The Irish Post Award for Literature. I have previously been mentor to five writers in the ASA scheme. I have had extensive experience in teaching Creative Writing, as well as editing fiction for magazine and book publishing.

Sally Heinrich

Adelaide, SA

Genres: Children's writing and picture book illustration

Preferred contact: Email, face-to-face

I started out as an illustrator, but since writing my first picture book about fifteen years ago, I now spend about half my time writing and the other half drawing. As well as illustrating more than twenty books for other people, I have written and illustrated my own picture books, junior novels and a series of information and activity books on different Asian countries.

I have been running short courses on writing and illustrating picture books for the last eight years, and also tutor 'Writing for Children' at University level. I've also been running workshops in writing and illustrating, for both adults and children, for more than ten years.

As well as working in a formal mentoring role, I have informally mentored a number of writers and illustrators over the past few years. I know from my own experience how valuable the right words at the right time can be, and take great pleasure in being able to help other creators on their journey in even a small way.

Nette Hilton

Northern Rivers, NSW

Genres: Children's literature

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

Nette Hilton has been writing books for children, young adults and adults for twenty years. Her work includes many short-listed and award winning titles and several of her works have been translated into many languages. Her recent work *Sprite Downberry* has been short-listed for both the 2009 NSW and Queensland Premier's Literary Awards. *Pyro Watson* is listed as a Notable by the Children's Book Council 2010. *My Silent World* is a White Raven – a prestigious award presented to books selected at the Bologna Children's Book Festival, 2010. *The Smallest Bilby* books have similarly been awarded the White Raven for excellence in children's books. With many years working as an author Nette is well placed to provide realistic and supportive feedback and constructive help for new authors. More workshop/mentorship information is listed at www.speakers-ink.com.au

Elizabeth Hutchins

Adelaide, SA

Genres: Children's stories and novels

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

Elizabeth has published a wide range of books for children and young adults, a number of them short-listed for awards. A graduate of Adelaide University, she has lectured in Writing for Children at the Adelaide Institute of TAFE, taught a WEA picture book writing course, run many workshops with adults that have resulted in publication of their work in anthologies, and undertaken assessments and a mentorship for the South Australian Writers' Centre. Elizabeth keeps in touch with current trends in children's literature as chair of the National Program Committee of the May Gibbs Children's Literature Trust, and through involvement with the Ekidnas (SA children's authors' network), the Children's Book Council, the Books.Be in It Festival and other organisations. She has been a judge of the Premier's Literature Awards for the Adelaide Festival of Arts and has judged a number of writing competitions for adults as well as children.

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.

Jill Morris

Maleny, Sunshine Coast Hinterland, QLD

Genres: Children's fiction and non-fiction, all age levels; especially picture storybooks

Preferred contact: Email and posted hard copy

I am the author of more than 100 children's books, both fiction and non-fiction. Several have won awards for Educational Publishing, the Environment Award, shortlistings and Honour books for the Children's Book Council of Australia; also one title chosen for the prestigious international White Ravens collection. I am a very experienced editor, having package-published three series of books for Curriculum Corporation and one for Rigby Education. My publishers have included Methuen, Harcourt Brace, Penguin, Jacaranda, Harper Collins, Scholastic, Pearson Education, Wendy Pye etc. I am the publishing director of Greater Glider Productions, an independent publisher working with 20 authors and 25 illustrators, many of who have achieved their first publication via my editing and mentorship. In 2005 I was given the Dame Annabelle Rankin Award for services to children's literature in Queensland. I have attended several international book fairs and understand the international and

Australian markets for children's books. I have taught creative writing at all levels: primary, secondary, tertiary and adult students. I am also an experienced journalist, radio & TV scriptwriter and playwright.

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.

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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