IT'S TIME TO TALK

THE GOOD LIFE

SURPRISING

ECLECTIC

INSPIRING

BENDIGO WRITERS FESTIVAL 2015

BENDIGOWRITERSFESTIVAL.COM.AU  #BWF2015
It has been another big year for Bendigo, with the opening of the magnificent Ulumbarra Theatre. Our city now offers unsurpassed quality venues, in which to host excellent events such as Bendigo Writers Festival.

The City of Greater Bendigo is proud to present another brilliant festival that brings so many people together to share such a positive experience. We are grateful to La Trobe University for their continuing support and to all the organisations and individuals who help make our festival so successful.

To make a strong region, it takes determination and expertise. That is why events such as this one are so important, both as a showcase for the city and also as a framework for developing crucial community skills.

To all those people behind Bendigo Writers Festival, the hardworking team at The Capital Venues and Events, our volunteers and friends, thank you and well done.

On behalf of the Bendigo Writers Festival committee of management, welcome one and all to festival 2015.

Cr Rod Fyffe OAM
Chairman,
Bendigo Writers Festival

At La Trobe we consider our Bendigo campus, with its expanding range of excellent modern facilities, one of the great strengths of our University and we’re always proud to be associated with the city.

Events like this one are building on the incredibly lively intellectual culture that has long existed here, and we see it as another contribution to the goal of making Bendigo a great university city, known for its people, its ideas and the educational, economic, health and cultural opportunities that spin off from them.

The University is once again very proud to be a sponsor of this event, and I congratulate Rosemary Sorensen and her team, the City of Greater Bendigo and all those La Trobe academics, staff members and students who have put their weight behind it.

La Trobe’s highly successful Ideas and Society Program, led by Emeritus Professor Robert Manne, will feature at the Festival for the second time this year. We are delighted that the Ideas and Society Program is presenting what is certain to be a stimulating session with Tariq Ali to discuss his new book, Beyond Extreme.

I am proud that La Trobe is part of this great event and I wish the people of Bendigo and surrounding regions an enjoyable Festival.

Professor John Dewar
Vice-Chancellor,
La Trobe University
FRI AUG 7: KEYNOTE
HOPE FOR THE GOOD LIFE
Bob Brown

CAPITAL THEATRE
5.30PM - 6.30PM

He used to be pessimistic, but decided optimism was a better bet. Now, former Greens leader Bob Brown has a simple message for those of us who are worried: “Get active rather than depressed.” This great Australian champion for a caring community talks to Melbourne Writers Festival director Lisa Dempster about his philosophy for happiness and his vision for a magnificent future. “The challenge to intelligent, sensitive folk is to take over,” he says. Join him to celebrate his vision of a magnificent future.

FRI AUG 7: OPENING EVENT
THE GOOD LIFE
with the Gourmet Farmers

ULUMBARRA THEATRE
7PM - 8PM

Gourmet Farmers Matthew Evans, Ross O’Meara and Nick Haddow join food writer Dani Valent on stage to talk about food and philosophy, friendship and commitment, about growing, cooking, tasting and writing. From fruits of the sea to the mysteries of cheese and the secrets of charcuterie, this will be a conversation to savour.

SAT AUG 8: KEYNOTE
BEYOND EXTREME
Tariq Ali and Robert Manne

ULUMBARRA THEATRE
7.30PM - 8.30PM

Internationally respected commentator Tariq Ali writes unflinchingly about contemporary politics, and the rise of weak and ineffective “extreme centre” governments. He talks with Australia’s foremost political analyst, Robert Manne, about what needs to change and how that can happen. This is an Ideas and Society event, in association with La Trobe University.

SUN AUG 9: CLOSING EVENT
INSPIRED BY LIFE
John Clarke and John Wolseley

CAPITAL THEATRE
4.15PM - 5.15PM

John Wolseley mixes art and science, collaborating with plants, birds, water and earth to depict the energy and threatened beauty of the landscape. Comedian, writer and satirist John Clarke shares the artist’s passion for the natural world and for the creativity it inspires. He also shares his riotous sense of humour. With the artist’s magnificent Heartlands and Headwaters exhibition, currently on at the National Gallery of Victoria, as their starting point, they talk together about literature, art and nature. Sponsored by Arnold Dallas McPherson Lawyers.

FRI 7 AUGUST 12.30 - 5PM
WRITE WHAT MAKES YOU BLUSH
with Lee Kofman

Visual Arts Centre Meeting Room

When we feel shame, it can mean we have urgent stories we need to tell. But do you dare, can you find the right language, to write about what makes us blush? Lee Kofman will show you how to find the courage to write about what matters to you. Work through a series of liberating practical exercises and strategies, discovering how to craft both fiction and non-fiction out of what may be uncomfortable and sensitive. Writer and mentor Lee Kofman is the author of the memoir, The Dangerous Bride.

Only 12 places available. Tickets $60 / $50 conc.

FRI 7 AUGUST 1 - 4PM
WRITING REAL
with Sian Prior

Sandhurst Trustees boardroom (18 View St)

Whether you want to write memoir or history, how-to or self-help, or perhaps want help to get yourself going with a blog, Sian Prior will help. Journalist, commentator and author of the memoir Shy, Sian will unpack the keys to non-fiction writing, opening up ways to find your topic, get organised and develop your idea.

Only 20 places available. Tickets $50 / $40 conc.

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WWW.BENDIGOWRITERSFESTIVAL.COM.AU
or at The Capital box office 5434 6100
9.30 TOGETHER APART Living with a writer is not always easy: what happens when there are two under the same roof? Writing couple Anne Buist (Medea’s Curse) and Graeme Simsion (the Rosie series of books) talk to Bhakti Puvanenthiran about how they make room for each other’s creativity.

10.30 AUTHORPRENEUR Hazel Edwards, admired across the world for her children’s books, has inspired many “Hazelnuts” with her writing and workshops. She talks with Cath McDonald about encouraging reading of all ages to share stories, and why seeing things from another’s viewpoint matters.

10.45 WHAT LIFE TEACHES John Marsden is hugely popular for his Tomorrow series and Elite books for younger readers. Following publication of his first novel for older readers, he talks with La Trobe University V-C, John Dewar, about what writing means to him, and about his passionate commitment to education.

11.00 PASSIONATE HISTORY Ian McCalman’s The Reef tells the story of human contact with the Great Barrier Reef. He talks with Robert Manne about this wonder of nature and what needs to be done to protect it. A La Trobe University Ideas and Society event.

11.45 WHERE HORROR COMES FROM Some writers find inspiration in the darkest places and then apply imagination to transform the strange and supernatural into stories that resonate in the everyday. Keith Austin leads the discussion with Sean Williams and Keri Arthur.

12.00 BUSHWHACKING When Don Watson took on the bush - its history, its people, its myths - novelist Roger McDonald cheered, admiring both the book’s breadth and its detail. The two writers talk with Susan Martin about whether the Australian landscape can be understood by writing about it.

12.45 DECEIVING WORDS Susan Butler has watched the evolution of Australian English from her office at Macquarie Dictionary for more than 30 years. She talks with fellow word guru, David Astle, about how slippery meaning can be, and whether it’s wise or foolish to try to pin words down.

1.15 THE ESSENCE OF THE MAN Brendt Nicol in conversation with Peter Kennedy about why she decided to write a new biography, Liddice Liddice, elusive Archbishop Mannix and what she encountered along the way.

1.30 THE BUSH IS ANOTHER COUNTRY Yokels, salt-of-the-earth types, mystical seers: the country can be a magnet for talented characters. Alice Robinson, Cathe Kennedy and Anson Cameron talk to Chris Kelly about their own country settings, where they come from and what a bush setting gives a writer.

2.30 CULTURE, CLASS AND CONFLICT Alice Pung’s prolific new novel, Language, builds on influential characters. Elusive Archbishop Mannix and what she encountered along the way.

2.45 PUBLISH OR BE DAMNED Louise Adler is one of the most influential people in publishing. President of the Australian Publishers Association and head of Melbourne University Publishing which has changed expectations about political memoirs. She talks with La Trobe University Deputy V-C Jane Long about the publisher’s role.

3.45 DOWN BUT NOT OUT Robert Dessaix’s wit and honesty are hallmarks of his much-admired writing, from his first book, A Mother’s Disgrace. He talks with literary journalist Jane Sullivan about his new book, What Days Are For, inspired by an act of kindness at a life-threatening moment.

4.00 CULTURAL POLITICS Opera singer Lyndon Terracini is artistic director of Opera Australia, well-known for his passionate, eloquent, sometimes controversial views about artistic production, and the need for new audiences. He talks with cultural commentator and critic Peter Craven.

4.45 PLOTTING Keeping that story under control isn’t easy; characters and events can start to take on a life of their own, even when the novelist started out sure of where it was all heading. John Charalambs talks to Elle Marney, Geraldine Wooler and Peter Timms about sticking to the plot - or not.

5.00 BEYOND THE BOAT Narn Le shot to international fame with his book of short stories, The Boat, capturing the mood of an era restless for new voices. He talks with literary editor Susan Wyndham about that success, how the book came about, and his role now as a writer and editor of new fiction.

5.30 MAN FOR ALL SEASONS Botanic Gardens director Tim Entwistle is an inspiring advocate for science, nature and gardens. In conversation with Robert Kretschmer he talks about the essential role of nature in the good life, and why traditional growing seasons are not relevant for Australia.

5.50 MINDFULNESS AT TWILIGHT Virtuoso harpist Michael Johnson is well-known for his performances linking music with well-being. Join him for a beautiful and invigorating hour guaranteed to please both body and soul.

6.00 THE CHRONICLER OF OZ Roger McDonald’s brilliant career includes a book about sheeprun, a Gallipoli mini-series and a novel about politicians and poets. He talks to blogger Lisa Hill about writing the panorama of Australian life.

7.30 WHAT’S LOVE GOT TO DO WITH IT? Pleasure, solace, or just good fun, romance writing is also sometimes mysterious, dark, complex and unsettling. Jess Anastasi talks to Fleur Ferris, Ali Sinclair, Keri Arthur and Erica Hayes about how they use romance in their books.

8.00 PHOENIX RISING Poetry publishing is now done almost exclusively by independent, innovative and passionate publishers. John Holton leads the discussion about why and how it survives with David Musgrave, Anne Elvey, Ron Pretty and Susan Hawthorne.

8.30 WORDS ALIVE II Well-known actor Maggie Millar reads ‘Old Collegian’, a whimsical historical monologue specially written for her by Carmel Bird.

9.00 CONSULT AN EXPERT Where do you start when you want to write? Is a writing course worth doing? What are the advantages of e-publishing? Can an agent help? Does book design matter? Book a time to ask your question with David M Henley (Seizure, Xoum Publishing, on-line producer and writer), Malcolm Neil (publishing and retailing consultant, now with digital company Kobob), Kate Larsen (director at Writers Victoria). Email voxelbendigo@gmail.com to register your request.

9.30 TELL IT LIKE IT WAS Memoir throws up many questions, from what you leave out to how much you put in. Three very different memoir writers - Kristina Olsson, Graeme Davison, Lee Kofman - talk to Shane Worrell about what happened when they set out to tell their stories.

9.45 WORDS ALIVE II With praise for the reminder of her brilliant acting skills to comic verse for a theatrical reading that includes work by John Clarke and Pam Ayres.

10.00 THE HEART OF THE MATTER Anne Crawford and Helen O’Neill create insightful portraits with words, and they have both tackled some tricky subjects. They talk with Hilary Harper about their biographical writing and whether dogs or architects are more difficult to understand.

10.20 COLOUR OF GOLD The watercolours by ST Gill provide insight into goldfields life. Art historian Sasha Gritshen talks to Bendigo Art Gallery’s Tansy Curtin about why he has created both an exhibition and a new book about this undervalued artist.

10.45 BRAVE IN THE NEW WORLD Marcus Westbury is a writing innovator, advocate for creative policy and agent of cultural change. He talks to Rob Stephenson about why risk is important, how he crowdsourced his new book and where writing is heading.

11.00 TELL ME WHAT YOU’VE DONE William McInnes talks to Andrew Denton about his new memoir, The Sign of the Times, and his passion for writing about the 1970s, the decade when something big happened.

11.20 RISKY FICTIONS Taboo crumble, as writers brave tough topics with increasing forthrightness. Emily Sexton talks to Paloma Vargas and Richard Wollowiec about writing in the public sphere.

11.45 CONSULT AN EXPERT Where do you start when you want to write? Is a writing course worth doing? What are the advantages of e-publishing? Can an agent help? Does book design matter? Book a time to ask your question with David M Henley (Seizure, Xoum Publishing, on-line producer and writer), Malcolm Neil (publishing and retailing consultant, now with digital company Kobob), Kate Larsen (director at Writers Victoria). Email voxelbendigo@gmail.com to register your request.

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The Hub is the heart of the Festival, adjacent to The Capital entrance and box office.

Right alongside The Capital box office, you’ll find the busy, inviting Festival Hub. Open right through Saturday and Sunday, the Hub is the place to meet and to find audio-visual and print information to make your festival experience even better. You can browse in the Festival Bookshop and have your book signed by authors. Coffee and snacks are available from the Festival Café too.
LYNNE KELLY is a Castlemaine writer, whose books include popular science titles Spiders, and Crocodile, education titles, the novel Avenging Jane, and her new book, Knowledge and Power in Prehistoric Societies. [Sat 1.15pm VAC]

STEVE KENDALL is chief of staff at the Bendigo Weekly and co-editor of Gallop Eyewitness. [Sun 1.45pm VAC]

CATE KENNEDY writes novels, short stories and poetry. The Taste of River Water won the Victorian Premier’s Literary Award for Poetry and The World Beneath was the winner of the People’s Choice Award at the NSW Premier’s Literary Awards. Her latest collection is Like a House on Fire. [Sat 1.15pm BBT; Sun 11.15am ER; Sun 2pm D; Sun 3pm BBT]

PETER KENNEDY is general manager of the Bendigo Weekly. [Sat 1.15pm C]

LEE KOFMAN is a Russian-born Israeli-Australian author of four books, writing teacher and mentor. Her first book in English is the memoir, The Dangerous Bride. [Fri 12.30pm VAC; Sat 3.45pm T; Sun 11.15am T]

KIRSTEN KRAUTH is a Castlemaine-based writer, author of the novel just a girl, and editor of Australian Author and Newswrite magazines. [Sat 1.15pm T]

ROBERT KRETZCHMER is Planning and Policy Officer with the City of Greater Bendigo. [Sat 5pm BTT]

KATE LARSEN is director of Writers Victoria and a poet. [Sat 1.30pm D; Sun 10 T; Sun 3 ER]

NAM LE is the author of The Boat, which was awarded the NSW Premier’s Book of the Year, the Melbourne Prize for Literature, the Prime Minister’s Literary Award, the Dylan Thomas Prize and the Pen/Malamud Award. He is fiction editor of Harvard Review. [Sat 5pm C]

GRAEME LEITH is the renowned winemaker at Passing Clouds, at Kingower, beyond Bendigo. His memoir, Passing Clouds, a Winemaker’s Journey, is published this year. [Sun 3pm C]

CELESTE LIDDLE is an Arrente woman and National Indigenous Organiser for the National Tertiary Education Union. She writes at the popular Black Feminist Ranter blog spot. [Sat 1.15pm ER; Sun 1.45pm BBT]

JANE LIONG is Senior Deputy Vice-Chancellor at La Trobe University. [Sat 2.30pm C]

ANNE MANNE is a Melbourne writer, whose books include Motherhood, the memoir So This Is Life and the bestselling The Life of 1. [Sun 12.30pm C]

ROBERT MANNE is Emeritus Professor of Politics and Vice-Chancellor’s Fellow at La Trobe University, where he convenes the Ideas & Society Program. [Sat 10.45am BBT; Sat 7.30pm Ulumbarra Theatre]

KEN MARCHINGO has been 21 years at the helm of Haven; Home, Safe housing and homelessness services provider. [Sat 12pm VAC]

ELLIE MARNEY is a Castlemaine-based writer and teacher. Her YA crime trilogy, the Shy: a memoir, has been awarded the NSW Premier’s Literary Award, the Melbourne Prize for Literature, the Victorian Premier’s Book of the Year, the NSW Premier’s Book of the Year, the Melbourne Prize for Literature, the Victorian Premier’s Book of the Year, the NSW Premier’s Book of the Year, the Victorian Premier’s Book of the Year, the NSW Premier’s Book of the Year, the Melbourne Prize for Literature, the Victorian Premier’s Book of the Year, the NSW Premier’s Book of the Year, the Melbourne Prize for Literature, the Victorian Premier’s Book of the Year, the NSW Premier’s Book of the Year, the Melbourne Prize for Literature, the Victorian Premier’s Book of the Year, the NSW Premier’s Book of the Year, the Melbourne Prize for Literature, the Victorian Premier’s Book of the Year, the NSW Premier’s Book of the Year, the Melbourne Prize for Literature, the Victorian Premier’s Book of the Year, the NSW Premier’s Book of the Year, the Melbourne Prize for Literature, the Victorian Premier’s Book of the Year, the NSW Premier’s Book of the Year, the Melbourne Prize for Literature, the Victorian Premier’s Book of the Year, the NSW Premier’s Book of the Year, the Melbourne Prize for Literature, the Victorian Premier’s Book of the Year, the NSW Premier’s Book of the Year, the Melbourne Prize for Literature, the Victorian Premier’s Book of the Year, the NSW Premier’s Book of the Year, the Melbourne Prize for Literature, the Victorian Premier’s Book of the Year, the NSW Premier’s Book of the Year, the Melbourne Prize for Literature, the Victorian Premier’s Book of the Year, the NSW Premier’s Book of the Year, the Melbourne Prize for Literature, the Victorian Premier’s Book of the Year, the NSW Premier’s Book of the Year, the Melbourne Prize for Literature, the Victorian Premier’s Book of the Year, the NSW Premier’s Book of the Year, the Melbourne Prize for Literature, the Victorian Premier’s Book of the Year, the NSW Premier’s Book of the Year, the Melbourne Prize for Literature, the Victorian Premier’s Book of the Year, the NSW Premier’s Book of the Year, the Melbourne Prize for Literature, the Victorian Premier’s Book of the Year, the NSW Premier’s Book of the Year, the Melbourne Prize for Literature, the Victorian Premier’s Book of the Year, the NSW Premier’s Book of the Year, the Melbourne Prize for Literature, the Victorian Premier’s Book of the Year, the NSW Premier’s Book of the Year, the Melbourne Prize for Literature, the Victorian Premier’s Book of the Year, the NSW Premier’s Book of the Year, the Melbourne Prize for Literature, the Victorian Premier’s Book of the Year, the NSW Premier’s Book of the Year, the Melbourne Prize for Literature, the Victorian Premier’s Book of the Year, the NSW Premier’s Book of the Year, the Melbourne Prize for Literature, the Victorian Premier’s Book of the Year, the NSW Premier’s Book of the Year, the Melbourne Prize for Literature, the Victorian Premier’s Book of the Year, the NSW Premier’s Book of the Year, the Melbourne Prize for Literature, the Victorian Premier’s Book of the Year, the NSW Premier’s Book of the Year, the Melbourne Prize for Literature, the Victorian Premier’s Book of the Year, the NSW Premier’s Book of the Year, the Melbourne Prize for Literature, the Victorian Premier’s Book of the Year, the NSW Premier’s Book of the Year, the Melbourne Prize for Literature, the Victorian Premier’s Book of the Year, the NSW Premier’s Book of the Year, the Melbourne Prize for Literature, the Victorian Premier’s Book of the Year, the NSW Premier’s Book of the Year, the Melbourne Prize for Literature, the Victorian Premier’s Book of the Year, the NSW Premier’s Book of the Year, the Melbourne Prize for Literature, the Victorian Premier’s Book of the Year, the NSW Premier’s Book of the Year, the Melbourne Prize for Literature, the Victorian Premier’s Book of the Year, the NSW Premier’s Book of the Year, the Melbourne Prize for Literature, the Victoria...
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BENDIGO WRITERS FESTIVAL THANKS OUR SUPPORTERS

FESTIVAL VENUES
All festival venues are in close proximity, either under the one roof at The Capital, next door at the Old Fire Station (Engine Room), Dudley House, just over the road at La Trobe University Visual Arts Centre (VAC), Trades Hall or Ulumbarra Theatre.

EXPLORE BENDIGO
Connect with us and share your experience of the Bendigo Writers Festival via Facebook, Twitter and Instagram @bgowritersfest #BWF2015 @explorebendigo #explorebendigo
Download the Bendigo Region app from Google Play and Apple stores or visit www.bendigotourism.com

BENDIGO WRITERS FESTIVAL 2015
BOOKINGS
03 5434 6100
bendigowritersfestival.com.au
or at The Capital Box Office 50 View St. Bendigo:
Mon-Fri 9.15am – 5.15pm; Sat 10am-1pm

BENDIGO WRITERS FESTIVAL 2015
FRIDAY KEYNOTE
$20 / $15 conc.
at The Capital, Friday 7 August 5.30pm

OPENING EVENT
$20 / $15 conc.
Proudly presented by The Schaller Studio. Ulumbarra, Friday 7 August 7pm

SATURDAY KEYNOTE
$20 / $15 conc.
at Ulumbarra, Saturday 8 August 7.30pm

SATURDAY PASS
$40 / $30 conc.
All Sat sessions in Capital, BBT, ER, VAC, Trades Hall & Dudley House (excl. Late Night Live).

FESTIVAL PASS
$65 / $50 conc.
All Sat and Sun sessions in Capital, BBT, ER, VAC, Trades Hall & Dudley House (excl. Closing Event).

SATURDAY PASS
$40 / $30 conc.
All Sat sessions in Capital, BBT, ER, VAC, Trades Hall & Dudley House (excl. Late Night Live).

SUNDAY PASS
$35 / $25 conc.
All Sun sessions in Capital, BBT, ER, VAC, Trades Hall & Dudley House (excl. Closing Event)

LATE NIGHT LIVE
$35
MDMA: MODERN DAY MAIDEN AUNT

SUNDAY
THE ESSENCE OF THE MAN
1.15pm
I'M WATCHING CLOSELY
1.45pm
AS TIME GOES BY
3pm

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