Williamstown Town Hall

16-18 June 2023

Bunurong Country

fest festival through a tax-deductible www.givenow.com.au/willylitfest

General Inquiries

info@willylitfest.org.au

Getting There Train

Williamstown Line to North Williamstown and a short walk (650 metres)

Ferry

Donate You can support our community

Secure online

donation.

Festival Venue Williamstown Town Hall

104 Ferguson Street Williamstown Wheelchair access throughout

How to Buy Tickets

Early Bird Buy early bird tickets before

11.59pm on Friday 26 May 2023

Online www.willylitfest.org.au

SPONSORS

Major Partner



WATERLINE PLACE

WILLIAMSTOWN 3016

ABC

The Williamstown Literary Festival is supported by Hobsons Bay City Council through its Make It Happen Grants program

Sponsors

Rotary Wyndham Harbour

Rotary

Werribee

on taxidermy as a craft.

transport us to the Iceland of

With Anna Kate Blair, Rijn will

makes the macabre beautitul.

Thursday 8 June

Chunxiao Qu in the gallery.

with Genevieve Callaghan,

art ephemera. Join us for a reading

a monthly newspaper and sporadic

publisher based in Naarm, publishing

no more poetry' is an independent

Local poetry publishing house

no more poetry salon

9nuL 7 VebsenbeW

with bi-monthly poetry collections,

Lia Dewey Morgan and

Rijn Collins's Fed to Red Birds

Taxidermy and Fairytales

and John and Sunday Reed.

and Mirka Mora, Joy Hester, IVIEIDOURNE MILIEU OF GEORGES

against the backdrop of the

Thuy On (Decadence) discuss

Preston (Bad Art Mother) and

Stella-celebrated writers Edwina

selfish. So what does this mean

be selfless. Artists are seen as

Good mothers are expected to

Wednesday 14 June

Bad Art Mother

for a mother with artistic ambitions?

ambition, practice and motherhood

tairytales, and share her meditations

FURTHER WEST IN 2023

everyone is invited to our birthday celebrations.

family and friends

St Mary's Primary School

in writing and performance. whilst showcasing their poetic skills

engage and entertain their audience,

Their term's hard work culminates in

School have been honing their cratt.

Under the tutelage of acclaimed

St Mary's Poetry Slam

ms05.11 - ms00.01

Friday 16 June

the young poets of St Mary's Primary

Supported by the Đất Nước Library

No one turned away for lack of funds

Recommended price \$15

Đất Nước Library, Footscray

look after the children? Or is it a

of the grandmother left behind to

government? Is it an oral history

Is it a prison memoir, about the

story. But what kind of story is it?

A grandson tries to learn the family

Memory and Inheritance

grandfather imprisoned without charge

André Dao in conversation

love story? A detective tale?

or trial by a revolutionary

mq0£.7 - mq0£.8

anul St vebseuT

:menA

spoken word poet Emilie Zoey Baker,

and continents.

and literature, spanning centuries

discuss apparitions of Marian art

Anshing and Anna Parlane

Diego Ramirez, Kate O'Boyle,

How much Mary?

underground art world.

Thursday 1 June

stranger than fiction in Melbourne's

Tim Byrne, Chris will unravel truths

expert on art heists. With arts critic

Womersley (The Diplomat) is an

Woman was stolen from the NGV.

Picasso's The Weeping

Thursday 18 May

mq00.8 - mq00.7

From the Dat Nudc Library in Footscray, to the Louis Joel Arts and Community Centre in Altona -

to co-host conversations that reflect our wide-reading community. Reading may be an activity that To celebrate 20 years of Willy Lit Fest in 2023, we're looking to our neighbouring arts organisations

Louis Joel in Sargood Street, Altona in the lead-up to festival weekend.

conversations at the point where art and literature intersect. These events will be held at

In partnership with the Louis Joel Arts Centre in Altona, Willy Lit Fest presents a series of

WILLY LIT FEST AND LOUIS JOEL ARTS CENTRE

stsisH hA

Tickets \$20

happens in solitude, but its joy is realised in empathy and conversation.

FESTIVAL INFORMATION

in a train station locker. Chris

Weeks later it was discovered

a school-day slam where students will

By invitation to

THAVE DEATURED EVENT

emiT A .esel9 A .gno2 / Stereo Stories

Natherine Kovacic and Willy's own Jock Serong, Nick Gadd, Jacinta shape our lives. With special guests Stories band celebrates the songs that Join festival favourites, as the Stereo

Thats mq00.8 rol mq05.7

Friday 16 June

Andy Griffiths and Smokie Dawson. Parsons, Rijn Collins, Angela Savage,

theatre-style rows and cabaret-style tables available. Arrive together Seating for Stereo Stories will be general admission, with both Full \$35 Conc \$32

WILLY LIT FEST LATE

to sit together. BYO snacks, drinks available at the festival bar.

Willy Lit Fest extends beyond its usual daytime hours

theatre and music for your Saturday night entertainment.

Full \$22 Conc \$20 Early \$15 Pirates Tavern, rear of Nelson Place Stay for sea shanties and a beer. Moderated by Jeff Maynard

Full \$22 Conc \$20 Early \$15

Paris or Die tollowed by a Q&A.

mq0£.e - 0£.7

mq00.e - 0£.7

Paris or Die: A Performance

in 2023. Lit Fest hits your local, bringing literature into

Commodore Peter Scott deep dives into what it takes to be a Submariner.

the farthest deployment in the history of the Australian submarine service,

-rom conducting top-secret missions to making history commanding

one strange night, it nearly does. A theatrical retelling of Jayne's memoir

beautiful to be real. She will disappear into the culture if it kills her. And

a cloud of grief, she finds herself in a dizzying neighbourhood, studying

at an intense theatre school, and tailing in love with a Frenchman too

Paris, it seems, has its own plans for Jayne Tuttle. Drawn there from

Running Deep: An Australian Submarine Life

Soul City, Williamstown High School, Pasco Street

Saturday 17 June

Sid.

willy



dogtown pet supplies

Festival Bookseller & Partner









Friends of the Festival





Phone

Hobsons Bay Box Office (03) 9932 4074 Mon-Fri; 9.30am – 4.30pm

In person is only available at the festival

You can buy on the day, but we recommend pre-booking to avoid disappointment

Terms and Conditions

Booking fees may apply. GST included. Entry is only guaranteed with a valid ticket. All bookings are final and there are no refunds or exchanges possible.

> Melissa Horne MP PROUDLY SUPPORTING

WILLIAMSTOWN ERARY FEST

Melissa Horne mp STATE MEMBER FOR WILLIAMSTOWN

016 🕓 9399 902

Southbank to Gem Pier and a pleasant 15-minute walk

Parking

On-street parking available

Stay for the Weekend

Visit www.visithobsonsbay.com.au or phone: (03) 9932 4310 for information





willylitfest.org.au or 9932 4074

PROGRAM & TICKETS:

FESTIVAL PROGRAM

willy lit fest



It's Never 'Just' a Love Story

'Women's fiction' is a derogatory

term used to dismiss romance as

an airport read, full of feelings not

legend and historical fiction writer

Alison Stuart, Genevieve Novak

Full \$22 Conc \$20 Early \$15

Anne Casey-Hardy discusses

the terrifying thrills of innocence,

Full \$22 Conc \$20 Early \$15

The Adas Award Ceremony

Join us for the announcement of the

Biographical Prose and Young Adas

Free event, bookings required

Prizes, and the Jennifer Burbidge

Short Story Award. Winners will

read excerpts from their pieces.

winners of the Ada Cambridge Poetry,

(Crushing) and Nicola Marsh -

a New York Times bestseller -

to discuss loving romance.

Cautionary Tales

for Excitable Girls

from a place of experience.

In conversation with

Meeting Room Two

5.45pm - 6.45pm

Angela Savage

The Chamber

facts - but a little bit of love should

never undermine the story. Join local

SATURDAY **17 JUNE**

10.00am - 11.00am

Laughing Yoga

Start your festival with a smile. Join positivity expert Ros Ben-Moshe (The Laughter Effect) for a guided laughing yoga class and learn the fascinating science of why laughter really is the best medicine. The Supper Room

Full \$22 Conc \$20 Early \$15

A Country of Eternal Light

Grief is complicated. Paul Dalgarno (A Country of Eternal Light) speaks to Angela Savage about remaining wanted by our loved ones, dead or alive, and reckoning with our pasts. The Chamber

Full \$22 Conc \$20 Early \$15

Book Launch: Beyond Lawson

Join Leigh Hay, Mick Coventry, Margaret Ryan and James Thomas to celebrate the centenary of The Henry Lawson Memorial & Literary Society Inc. by launching Beyond Lawson, a collection of contemporary poems inspired by the works of Henry Lawson.

Meeting Room One Free event, bookings required

Could ChatGPT write a novel?

SUNDAY

18 JUNE

8.00am - 9.00am

Swimming salon

BYO thermos.

The Crystals meets literature

Four writers will read on the theme

of swimming; dip into great literary

reading will be followed by a winter

swim for those feeling galvanised

to share the majesty of the ocean.

and big, impossible waves. The

works that feature Jawbone Reserve

Al language models like ChatGPT can generate text based on prompts. Its ability to write a coherent and emotionally engaging novel is.. We ask Rhett Davis, Declan Fry and ChatGPT whether Al could write a novel Meeting Room Two Full \$22 Conc \$20 Early \$15

10.00am - 12.00pm

Dream Writing Workshop

Learn how to extrapolate meaning from your subconscious with poet Manisha Anjali (Neptune). Turn dreams, visions and hallucinations into prose. Committee Room Full \$30 Conc \$28 Early \$25

11.00am - 11.30am

Ukulele Dolls

A group of music-loving women with an innovative combination of ukuleles, washboard and vocal harmonies. The Hub

11.30am - 12.30pm

Writing against 'the Cult of Forgetfulness'

Australia's colonial history is an act of violence against First Nations People. In order to move with care and hope into a shared future, how do we write through the 'cult of forgetfulness'? Join Jock Serong (The Settlement) and Declan Fry as they tackle the 'not my problem' mindset The Supper Room

Full \$22 Conc \$20 Early \$15

It's Just a Question of Smiling More

Toni Jordan (Prettier if She Smiled More) and RN's Jacinta Parsons (Question of Age) unpack the patriarchy with hilarity and cutting observations, focussing on the slip in time when women of 'a certain age" beain to seem invisible. The Chamber

Full \$22 Conc \$20 Early \$15

Not Quite Murder in Williamstown

Elizabeth Coleman (A Routine Infidelity) and Katherine Kovacic (Seven Sisters) discuss madcap murders, Phryne Fisher and psychological thrillers - with a particular lens on the criminal side of Williamstown. Moderated by Emily Spurr Meeting Room Two Full \$22 Conc \$20 Early \$15

12.45pm – 1.15pm

Lines at Lunchtime

Hear from two judges of our Ada Cambridge Poetry Prize, Andy Jackson (Human Looking) and Gayelene Carbis (I Have Decided to Remain Vertical) read from their recent collections in this free lunchtime event. The Hub Free event,

no bookings required

1.30pm - 2.30pm

Psychogeography of Williamstown

Over two years, Nick Gadd and his wife Lynne circled the city of Melbourne on foot, starting in Williamstown and ending in Port Melbourne. Their walk was a meditation on lost histories embedded in place, in old buildings, derelict factories, scraps of graffiti. Join Nick for a recreation of his early walk and grasp an ephemeral Hobson's Bay. Meet at the Book Room outside the Williamstown Library

Full \$22 Conc \$20 Early \$15

Witchcraft in the 21st Century

Historically, witches have sat outcast by patriarchal society, but novels about witches are on the rise. Join Eliza Henry-Jones (Salt and Skin) and practising witch Rijn Collins (Fed to Red Birds) for a discussion on the role of witchcraft in the 21st century. Moderated by Rochelle Siemienowicz (Fallen) The Supper Room

Full \$22 Conc \$20 Early \$15

Who Writes a Recipe?

Three independent food writers. publishers and chefs: Rushani Epa (Colournary), Sasha Gattermayr (Tart) and Ella Mittas (Ela Ela) discuss food writing in an era where recipes can be found online; their food is more family and feeling. Moderated by Jess Ho The Chamber

Full \$22 Conc \$20 Early \$15

Welcoming Native Bees into your Garden

Join Emma Cutting (The Pollinator Handbook) for a fun and practical introduction to native bees, welcoming them to your green patch and street gardening. Learn about planting for biodiversity as active citizenship. A friendly session for both adults and children. Meeting Room Two Full \$22 Conc \$20 Early \$15

Write Now and Out Loud: 88 Ways to Change Your

Voice and Finish Your Book Someone is waiting for the gift only your book can give. Join local award-winning author Louise Karch, M.Ed. and special guests Leanne Gordon and Daniel Burns for a Write Now and Out Loud power session. Come write, laugh, and fuel your inner author with wisdom and chocolate. (Bring your laptop or journal). Committee Room (90 mins) Full \$30 Conc \$28 Early \$25

3.00pm – 4.00pm

Enclave and Blak Futurisms What dystopia occurs when we ignore our shared humanity? Claire G. Coleman, master of speculative fiction, explores a future of surveillance, disruption and segregation that echoes the horrors of our colonial past. Claire G. Coleman in conversation with Hella Ibrahim (Unlimited Futures) discuss speculativefiction as an act of decolonisation and a re-imagining of so-called Australia. The Supper Room Full \$22 Conc \$20 Early \$15

First Time Podcast talks Sad Girl Novels

First Time Podcast tackles the trials and triumphs of publishing. In a live episode recording, Katherine Collette talks to Pip Finkemeyer about Sad Girl Novel(s) and finding the perfect balance of delusion and ambition needed to write a novel. The Chamber Full \$22 Conc \$20 Early \$15

Homemade Apothecary

Learn to ferment for good with Sharon Flynn (Wild Drinks). In this seminar learn to infuse, brew and ferment delicious and nutritious things to drink, from mead to kombucha Meeting Room Two Full \$22 Conc \$20 Early \$15

Festival Book Club

Join our special festival book club discussion of Murder in Williamstown by Kerry Greenwood. Have a cup of tea, a scone and join our host for a book chat. The Hub

Free event, bookings required

4.30pm - 5.30pm

Book Launch: Dot Circle and Frame

Dot Circle and Frame by John Kean reveals the origins of Australia's most internationally significant art form. Return to Papunya (a remote Aboriginal community in Central Australia) with John Kean and Gaye Sculthorpe in 1971 and meet the exceptional cohort of 'painting men': Kaapa Tjampitjinpa, Tim Leura, Clifford Possum and Johnny Warangula. The Supper Room

Free event, bookings required

Book Launch: Artful Women

Come and meet Artful Women, a work of poetry that explores the art and lives of women artists and writers ignored by history. Helen Cerne will read from this personal and political collection. Launched by Enza Gandolfo (The Bridge) The Gallery, Williamstown Library

Free event, bookings required

Haunted, Vivid and

Full \$22 Conc \$20 Early \$15

Transform your lived experience

provides a space for writers to ask

questions about their projects, with

guidance from experts Michelle

Vasiliu (My Happy Sad Mummy)

and Karen Ingram (Lifting the Lid).

Hosted by Mia Boonen, supported

of mental health. This seminar

Writing from

Lived Experience

The Hub

Westside Writers Salon

In partnership with the Emerging Writers' Festival, join four new writers from the West: Kgshak Akec (Hopeless Kingdom), Sam Elkin (ed. Nothing to Hide), Gareth Morgan (When a Punk Becomes a Spunk) and Lia Dewey Morgan (Bath Songs) as they read a selection from their recent work

MC-ed by Elise Brocklehurst Meeting Room Two

Free event, bookings required 6.00pm onwards

Birthday party!

As the festival comes to a close, come and celebrate 20 years of both Willy Lit Fest and the Emerging Writers Festival. Join our two program directors Emily Westmoreland (WLF) and Ruby-Rose Pivet-Marsh (EWF) as they interview the two festivals' founders Angela Altair and Esther Anatolis on the scope of literary festivals in Australia, their festival dreams for the future, and how these festivals came to fruition. There will be cake! Peachy Keen Rear of 82 Ferguson Street Come down the lane! Free event, bookings required

Why are we Still Writing about Virginia Woolf?

It's been a century since Virginia Woolf and the Bloomsbury set were at their most prolific, yet readers still turn to them today. Join Michelle Cahill (Daisy and Woolf) and 3RRR's Fiona Wright as they discuss reimaginings of Woolfs' work, characters and her ongoing relevance. Meeting Room Two Full \$22 Conc \$20 Early \$15

11.30am - 12.30pm

Tim Baker was living the dream.

All this changed in 2015 when he was

diagnosed with stage 4, metastatic

prostate cancer. Jock Serong and

Patting the Shark

MC-ed by Chris Ringrose The Supper Room

1.30pm – 2.15pm

Could you survive Stunt Camp where daredevil kids jump from great heights, engage in intense combat and flip, twist and tumble like it's the easiest thing in the world? Trent Roberts (Stunt Kids) is ready to assign you to a top secret, highly dangerous For children 6+ The Hub Full \$22 Conc \$20 Early \$15 Children free, bookings required

11.30am - 1.30pm

The People's Choice

It's your chance to be the festival favourite! Local writers, read your poetry or prose (no longer than four minutes) and be crowned the People's Choice by an audience vote. Prizes to be won.

Free event, bookings required

Stunt Kids

Re-writing a childhood

There is a vantage point in midlife where you can examine the legacy of your childhood and face the myths that make us. Gina Perry (My Father the Whale) and Megan Rogers (My Heart is a Star) discuss whether it's possible to rewrite a childhood

Meeting Room Two Full \$22 Conc \$20 Early \$15

A local, all-female choir who

3.00pm – 4.00pm

Exciting Women I Know Three short story writers, Paige Clark

(She is Haunted), Paul Dalla Rosa (An Exciting and Vivid Inner Life) and Katerina Gibson (Women I Know) read from their latest collections and discuss the short story as a form Moderated by Fiona Wright Meeting Room Two

2.30pm - 3.00pm

Willin Wimmin

support women and social justice through singing. The Hub

and Life Saving Club Full \$22 Conc \$20 Early \$15

10.00am - 11.00am

Jock Serong, Tim Baker,

MC-ed by Rebecca Olive

Williamstown Swimming

Vin Maskell and Louisa Lim.

It's Not Too Late

Join a comic, an entrepreneur and a health expert for global hope. Learn how local authors Louise Karch, Craig Lewis, Dr Liz Cyarto and 300 volunteers from 41 countries published the worldwide bestseller and award-winning The Carbon Almanac (plus a free kids book 'Generation Carbon'). A fun session for kids and adults ready to make a difference. thecarbonalmanac.org

The Supper Room Full \$22 Conc \$20 Early \$15 Children free, bookings required

Spike the Surf Dog

From lost dogs home to surfing champion. Meet Spike the Surf Dog and his human Rob Lorenzon (Spike Surfs) for a storytime and a lesson on the critters of Port Phillip Bay. Sponsored by Dog Town Pet Supplies

The Chamber Full \$22 Conc \$20 Early \$15 Children free, bookings required

Tim Baker will navigate the perilous journey of Patting the Shark, through chemo, surfing and a recovery more intimidating than the biggest swell. The Chamber

Full \$22 Conc \$20 Early \$15

Everything Feels Like the End

How do we navigate a world in an era that feels like the beginning of the end? Climate, mental health. housing, and inflation are all commonly described as crises. Join Amanda Anastasi (The Inheritors), and Katerina Gibson (Women | Know) as they discuss the tenderness and interrogation required to navigate these perilous times Moderated by Lia Dewey Morgan Meeting Room Two

Full \$22 Conc \$20 Early \$15

We Live in a Caravan

Jess Tsigros (We Live in a Caravan) and her family lived in a caravan and visited every state and territory. Hear about some of the people they met, and the wildlife they spotted. Reconnect with nature in an interactive storytime. For children 3+ The Hub

Free event, bookings required

1.30pm - 2.30pm

The Beige Index

Ever wondered how diverse your favourite films are? The Beige Index is the Bechdel Test for race, exploring ethnic representation in IMDb's Top 250 Films, featuring hot takes and data visualisations. Join co-creators Jonathan O'Brien and Siang Lu (The Whitewash) as they share stories and blame for how The Beige Index came to be.

The Supper Room Full \$22 Conc \$20 Early \$15

Indelible City

The story of Hong Kong has long been obscured by competing myths: to Britain, a 'barren rock' with no appreciable history; to China, a part of Chinese soil from time immemorial that has at last returned to the ancestral fold. Navigate the tense history of Hong Kong through the lens of the King of Kowloon's street art. Louisa Lim and Jinghua Qian discuss this indelible city from the time of the 2019 protests. The Chamber

Full \$22 Conc \$20 Early \$15

Who Needs the ABC?

For the past nine years, the ABC has been besieged. Its funding has been slashed. It has been assailed by complaints from ministers and prime ministers. It has been relentlessly attacked by commercial media outlets. But who needs the ABC? Matthew Ricketson (Who Needs the ABC?),

and Jinghua Qian discuss the vital role the ABC plays in Australia today. Sponsored by the Friends of the ABC

The Supper Room Full \$22 Conc \$20 Early \$15

Misogyny in Medicine

Neela Janakiramanan (The Registrar) and Susan White (The Cut) have written thrillers set against the backdrop of a broken hospital system. In these psychological works of fiction, the most confronting aspect of their work day is not the high stress environment, but the men they work with.

Moderated by Jacinta Halloran (Resistance)

The Chamber Full \$22 Conc \$20 Early \$15

by the Satellite Foundation Meeting Room One No one turned away for lack of funds Recommended price \$15. bookings required

4.30pm – 5.30pm

Infidelity and Other Affairs

When faced with her husband's affair, journalist Kate Legge (Infidelity and Other Affairs) discovered a fault line of betraval running through four generations of his family. But is unfaithfulness predisposition or a learned behaviour? Legge and Clare Wright examine the vast catalogue of human behaviours that make us who we are Kate Legge in conversation with Clare Wright

The Supper Room Full \$22 Conc \$20 Early \$15

The Grandest Bookshop in the World

It had monkeys, sweets, a greenhouse, it was the biggest bookstore in the world! And it was right here in Melbourne. Amelia Mellor (Grandest Bookshop in the World) takes us on a wild ride through the history of Cole's Book Arcade. In conversation with Irma Gold, 'stay as long as you like nobody asked to buy'. This event is suitable for adults and children.

The Chamber Full \$22 Conc \$20 Early \$15