



NEWSLETTER – JUNE 2019

Message from Corryong:

So great to be receiving entries earlier than ever this year. We certainly hope this is the start of a flood of entries for the Open and Upper Murray writing categories and especially for our new Photo Story section – a single striking image and approx. 100 words on what the photo means to you. What could be simpler?

Don't forget that entries close at 5.00pm Thursday 22nd August 2019; Shortlist Announced 23rd September 2019; Winners announced at the Awards Presentation (see over for details).

Winter in our part of the world is a time of reflection and new beginnings. It is a time when Elyne looked forward to snow falling in the High Country. After the busy summer months, winter was Elyne's creative time when her stories began to take shape.

Some inspiration for a “New Beginnings” story with a twist from Elyne's writing ...

Elyne described her first day on skis as a 'nightmare' that she 'could never forget.'

'We went out of the chalet into the snow. Tom and his friend Graeme Austin, had probably arranged between them that I should learn the hard way, and they vanished through the tall mountain ash, a wake of flying white powder behind them, and left me to get into my ski entirely alone. In those days beginners' skis had Alpina bindings, with leather toe straps and leather straps to hold the heel clip. I undid every buckle in sight, which was totally unnecessary. When finally buckled, and the heel clip closed, I slid tentatively forward, and fell over. Then the struggle began. I sank further and further in with every effort to get upright and onto the skis again. Maybe it was the next day that he showed me how to get up.'

Isn't it remarkable that Elyne didn't tell Tom what he could do with skiing? Especially since she went on to win the 1938 Canadian downhill skiing championship and was reportedly the first woman to descend the entire western side of the Snowy Mountains.

Upcoming Festivals:

About 270 people attended the Jugiong Writers' Festival, demonstrating the depth of interest in reading, writing and ideas in regional Australia.

Coming up in the next few months:

Outback Writers' Festival, Winton QLD (25-27 June 2019) www.outbackwritersfestival.com

Bendigo Writers Festival (9 – 11 August 2019)

Canberra Writers Festival (22-25 August 2019)

And for something a bit different for crime and thriller writers with a fantastic line up of presenters this year....

Terror Australia, Huon Valley TAS (31 Oct-3 Nov 2019)

2 – 5 April 2020, the Man from Snowy River Bush Festival will be celebrating its 25th anniversary in Corryong! Although not strictly a literary festival, it showcases many rural pursuits and has fantastic Poetry, Art & Photography events. Watch this space for our contribution to this important local event in 2020.

Please let us know about any writers' festivals or any special news from your area so that we can support them via Facebook, our website and in our newsletter.

Publicity:

Thanks to everyone who has passed on a flyer or shared an FB post. So many of our entrants say they heard about the Awards "from a flyer I picked up somewhere". This sort of word of mouth, local publicity is what keeps the Awards dynamic and growing and, we believe, contributes to the intimacy you find in the entries submitted.

Special thanks to our volunteers and friends of the Awards who make that extra effort to promote the Elyne Mitchell Awards at literary and community events across the country and NZ. Please keep up the good work – we can't exist without you.

Feedback from emails:

We love hearing from new and experienced writers. Post your comments on Facebook or drop us a line via www.elynemitchell.com.au

'I have always had a very deep relationship with horses (having grown up with them), and The Silver Brumby has always been my favourite (I may have already mentioned that!). It's a story that I re-read frequently, and I have been reading it to my daughter in the hopes that she develops the same obsession with it that I have!'

Another writer mentioned remembered during her childhood reading all the Silver Brumby books her 'memories of being lost in the Thowra's Secret Valley!'



\$20 per person Finger food, tea & coffee included. Bar service
Bus available from Corryong \$5 – departure from CNC 12.45pm

Guest Speakers: Award winning children's author - Dianne Wolfer
Rural life photographer - Amanda Swaney
Last year's winning local story – read by Tallangatta College students

Bookings Essential
Ph CNC on 02 6076 2176 or email
admin@corryongnc.org

This event is made possible by Writers Victoria and the Grace Marion Wilson Trust

