Welcome

*Literature is one of the most interesting and significant expressions of humanity.* P.T. Barnum

It is a pleasure to welcome you to the Abbotsleigh Literary Festival. Imparting a love of reading and literature is so important for our young people and I am delighted that our literary festival at Abbotsleigh has this as its aim.

Our theme for 2018 is *The Story Within*, as we are aware that literature gives voice to ideas and questions that promote a deeper understanding of place and identity. We also know that literature promotes critical and creative thinking, which are key competencies in our modern world.

Indeed, literature in its many forms, has always been an important vehicle for people to understand the world and their place in it. Literature also goes well beyond this. According to C.S. Lewis, ‘literature adds to reality, it does not simply describe it. It enriches the necessary competencies that daily life requires and provides...’

Offering the opportunity to hear a wonderful array of over 40 authors, illustrators, poets and literary experts who will share their skill and insight with us, we trust that our girls, students from other schools, and all parents and staff involved, will enjoy the opportunity to share ideas about composing and responding to literature.

With 43 sessions open to the public, participants will have the opportunity to hear outstanding and much-loved authors such as Deborah Abela, Belinda Murrell, Jacqueline Harvey, Anna Fienberg, Sarah Davis and Cath Crowley to name but a few. Philip Wilcox, 2015-2016 Australian Poetry Slam Champion, who presents literature in a very unique style, is sure to be a great hit with senior school students, and Abdi Aden whose story *Shining: The Story of a Lucky Man* tells of his amazing journey as a refugee from war-torn Somalia, will also feature.

Additionally, this year, two performances have been included in the program. These are: Boori Monty Prior, an Indigenous Australian writer who is best known as a storyteller, and an interactive Shakespeare session, featuring Romeo and Juliet, which is designed to enthuse students with the power of Shakespeare’s work.

There also will be two sessions just for adults: our own Darcy-Lee Tindale, dramatic arts teacher, actor and author, will present a writing workshop for adults on writing historical fiction, and author Anna Fienberg will present to parents on the advantages and importance of reading for students of all ages.

The 2018 Abbotsleigh Literary Festival will run concurrently with a special exhibition: **ANZAC Illustrated: an exhibition of illustrations from contemporary Australian books for children about war and conflict.** Mark Wilson and Michael Camilleri who are speaking at the Festival, will have some of their work exhibited. Visits to the Gallery are offered at no charge.

We are especially pleased to have multi award winning current affairs host, broadcaster and author, Stan Grant, joining us for a very special dinner event. Stan Grant’s Aboriginal heritage has shaped his dynamic, resilient personality. He is the author of *The Tears of Strangers, Talking To My Country* and his latest book, *The Urgency of Now*. Along with his many other roles, Stan is special advisor to the Prime Minister on Indigenous constitutional recognition.

With such a rich and varied program, we are confident that this year’s festival will spark much creativity and invite every participant to use their own creative and critical thinking skills.

I would like to thank Mrs Bronwyn Foxall, Head of the Archdale Library, and Mrs Tania Moriarty, Teacher Librarian in the Palmer Library, and their teams for bringing this wonderful array of talent together and allowing us the opportunity to share more deeply in the delights of literature at Abbotsleigh.

‘Literature is the art of discovering something extraordinary about ordinary people, and saying with ordinary words, something extraordinary.’ Boris Pasternak

*Megan Krimmer*

Headmistress
Abbotsleigh hosted its first Literary Festival in 2003, to celebrate literature and the joy of reading. This biennial festival offers students from all over New South Wales the opportunity to be inspired by renowned Australian authors, illustrators, poets, journalists and playwrights.

Over the years, the festival has hosted a number of high profile Australian authors such as Andy Griffiths, Aaron Blabey, Jackie French, John Marsden and Morris Gleitzman.

The festival has become the highlight on the literary calendar for students and schools throughout NSW and has instilled a love of books, reading and writing in thousands.
Abdi Aden has penned an inspirational and uplifting memoir. Abdi’s world fell apart when he was only thirteen and his home was destroyed in Somalia’s vicious civil war. Effectively an orphan, he fled Mogadishu. His book reveals his journey of struggle, hardship and survival against all odds and his unwavering optimism.

**Deborah Abela**

Deborah Abela, an Australian author of children’s books, specialising in a range of genres. She has won a number of awards including the USBBY Outstanding International Book Award, KOALA and YABBA Awards. Her notable books include the Max Remy Super Spy series and Jasper Zammit Soccer Legend series. Deborah has most recently published the picture book, Wolfie: An Unlikely Hero.

**Abdi Aden**

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**Liz Anelli**

Liz Anelli is a professional illustrator and children’s author who previously worked in Britain and moved to Australia in 2012. She won an Australian Council grant to visit and research Kati Thanda-Lake Eyre. She has also been awarded ASA and NAVA grants and a May Gibbs Fellowship. Her most recent book is Grace & Katie.
Tristan Bancks
Tristan Bancks has a history of acting and filmmaking as well as being an award-winning children’s author. His books include the My Life series, Mac Slater and Two Wolves. Tristan’s new books are My Life & Other Weaponised Muffins and The Fall. Tristan is a writer-ambassador for literacy charity Room to Read.

Book session 6  Tuesday 5 June 12 noon-1 pm
Book session 14  Wednesday 6 June 9.30-10.30 am
Book session 19  Wednesday 6 June 10.50-11.45 am

Michael Camilleri
Michael Camilleri creates books, comics and visual theatre. Michael’s illustration work can be seen in One Minute’s Silence by David Metzenthen. He also illustrated The Devil You Know by Leonie Norrington and the album art and accompanying picture book for Martin Martini’s Vienna 1913.

Book session 1  Tuesday 5 June 8.55-10.05 am
Book session 20  Wednesday 6 June 10.50-11.45 am
Book session 37  Thursday 4 June 10.50-11.45 am

Cath Crowley
Cath Crowley is an award-winning author of young adult fiction. Her novels include Words in Deep Blue, Graffiti Moon, Chasing Charlie Duskin, A Little Wanting Song, the Gracie Faltrain trilogy and Rosie Staples’ Magical Misunderstanding, as well as the newly released Take Three Girls.

Book session 26  Wednesday 6 June 2.10-3.20 pm
Book session 38  Thursday 7 June 11.25 am-12.25 pm
Book session 43  Thursday 7 June 2.10-3.20 pm

Sarah Davis
Sarah Davis began illustrating picture books in 2008. She has an honours degree in literature, and her love of language and narrative underpins her illustration work. Sarah has illustrated more than 37 books and been short-listed for 30 major awards in Australia and New Zealand.

Book session 21  Wednesday 6 June 11.50 am-12.50 pm
Book session 32  Thursday 7 June 9.45-10.30 am
Book session 36  Thursday 7 June 10.50-11.45 am
Book session 41  Thursday 7 June 11.50 am-12.50 pm
Tara Eglington
Tara Eglington grew up in Byron Bay, Australia, and now lives in Sydney. Tara is the author of *How to Keep a Boy from Kissing You*, *How to Convince a Boy to Kiss You* and *My Best Friend is a Goddess*. Her books have been published in Australia, New Zealand and the USA.

**Book session 39**
Thursday 7 June 11.25 am-12.25 pm

Mick Elliott
Mick Elliott is a children’s television producer, scriptwriter and animator. Since 2001 he has worked at Nickelodeon Australia, overseeing award-winning series for kids of all ages. His book trilogy, *The Turners* is fun and entertaining and hugely popular with an ever-increasing audience of young readers.

**Book session 7**
Tuesday 5 June 12 noon-1 pm

**Book session 11**
Wednesday 6 June 8.20-9.30 am

Fleur Ferris
Fleur Ferris’s colourful and diverse background has given her a unique insight into today’s society and influenced her writing. She grew up on a farm and has been a police officer and a paramedic. The darker side of life can be seen in her edgy young adult novels including *Risk*, *Black* and *Wreck*.

**Book session 3**
Tuesday 5 June 10.40-11.50 am

**Book session 10**
Tuesday 5 June 2.10-3.20 pm

Anna Fienberg
Anna Fienberg is an award-winning and popular Australian author of young adult fiction novels, children’s literature and picture books. Her best selling books include the *Tashi and the Minton* series.

**Book session 15**
Wednesday 6 June 9.45-10.30 am

**Book session 18**
Wednesday 6 June 10.50-11.45 am
Erin Gough

Erin Gough is a fiction writer, whose award-winning short stories have been published in a number of journals and anthologies. *The Flywheel*, published in 2015 and written for young adults, was shortlisted for numerous awards and subsequently won the Ampersand Prize. Her most recent novel is *Amelia Westlake*.

**Book session 9**  Tuesday 5 June 2.10-3.20 pm  
**Book session 25**  Wednesday 6 June 12 noon-1 pm

Jacqueline Harvey

Jacqueline Harvey knew she wanted to be an author at a young age. In 2012, the first book in her best-selling Alice-Miranda series was awarded a YABBA, and since then, she has had an Alice-Miranda title on the REAL Awards shortlist every year. Jacqueline continues to write further stories for the hugely popular Alice-Miranda and Clementine Rose series and these books continue to feature on bestseller and awards shortlists. In March this year, Jacqueline launched *Kensy and Max*, an action-packed spy-adventure series for boys and girls.

**Book session 5**  Tuesday 5 June 10.40-11.40 am  
**Book session 31**  Thursday 7 June 9.30-10.30 am

Will Kostakis

Will Kostakis is an award-winning author for young adults and a journalist. As a high school student, Will won The Sydney Morning Herald Young Writer of the Year for a collection of short stories. His debut novel, *Loathing Lola* was released when he was just 19 and met with critical acclaim while his second novel, *The First Third*, won the 2014 Gold Inky Award.

**Book session 34**  Thursday 7 June 9.50-10.50 am  
**Book session 42**  Thursday 7 June 2.10-3.20 pm

John Larkin

John Larkin has a BA in English Literature and a MA in Creative Writing from Macquarie University. John is the author of over 23 books for children, teens and adults. *The Shadow Girl* received the 2012 Victorian Premier’s Literary Award for Writing for Young Adults. *The Pause*, was nominated for the Prime Ministers’ Literary Awards 2015 and won the Queensland Literary Awards.

**Book session 27**  Wednesday 6 June 2.10-3.20 pm
Jaclyn Moriarty
Jaclyn Moriarty is the prize-winning, best-selling author of novels for young adults and adults including Feeling Sorry for Celia, The Year of Secret Assignments and the newly released Extremely Inconvenient Adventures of Bronte Mettlesome. Jaclyn grew up and lives in Sydney, but has also lived in England, the US, and Canada.

Book session 8  Tuesday 5 June 12 noon-1 pm

Belinda Murrell
Belinda Murrell is a bestselling, internationally published children’s author with a history of writing in her family that spans over 200 years. She grew up in a book-mad household on the Sydney’s North Shore and her books include the Lulu series, The Sun Sword series and many more. Her most recent publications are the Pippa’s Island books.

Book session 2  Tuesday 5 June 8.55-10.05 am
Book session 4  Tuesday 5 June 10.40-11.40 am

Glenda Millard
Glenda Millard is the author of multi award-winning children’s literature such as Isabella’s Garden, The Naming of Tishkin Silk and A Small Free Kiss in the Dark. Her latest novel for young adult readers is called The Stars at Oktober Bend. Glenda’s most recent publication is the picture book Pea Pod Lullaby.

Book session 30  Thursday 7 June 9.30-10.30 am

Louise Park
Louise Park is a highly accomplished author with over three million books sold and her titles regularly feature on bestseller lists. She has created blockbuster bestsellers that include Harriet Clare, Zac Power Test Drives and Boy vs Beast. Louise writes under her own name as well as the very popular names: H I Larry, Mac Park and Poppy Rose.

Book session 35  Thursday 7 June 10.50-11.45 am
Judith Rossell
Judith Rossell is the multi-award-winning author-illustrator of the bestselling Stella Montgomery series, Withering-by-Sea and Wormwood Mire. Judith has written 13 books and illustrated more than 80, and her work has been published in the US, UK and translated into more than 20 languages.

Book session 40  Thursday 7 June 11.50 am-12.50 pm

James Phelan
Author of 25 books, James Phelan’s passion for writing was inspired by the geo-political thrillers he read as a teenager. His bestselling and award-winning thrillers for young adults and children include The Hunter, Liquid Gold and Patriot Act. His series The Last Thirteen with its cliffhangers, plot twists and conspiracy theories has become a popular choice for middle school readers.

Book session 12  Wednesday 6 June 8.20-9.30 am

Boori Monty Pryor
Boori Monty Pryor is an Indigenous Australian writer best known as a storyteller. He has co-written many books with Meme McDonald. Meme and Boori began their writing partnership with Maybe Tomorrow in 1998. In 2012 he was named the inaugural Australian Children’s Laureate.

Book session 28  Thursday 7 June 8.20-9.30 am

Tohby Riddle
Tohby Riddle is an award-winning writer, illustrator, cartoonist, designer and sometime editor based in Sydney. He has written and illustrated numerous well-loved picture books; written a young adult novel; was the cartoonist for The Good Weekend for nearly 10 years; and is a former editor of The School Magazine, a literary magazine for children published by the NSW Department of Education.

Book session 16  Wednesday 6 June 10.45-11.45 am
Mark Wilson

*Book session 23*  
Wednesday 6 June 11.50 am-12.50 pm

Shakespeare Interactive
Performing parts of *Romeo and Juliet* in an interactive session designed to thrill and enthuse students with the power of Shakespeare’s work.

*Book session 29*  
Thursday 7 June 8.20-9.30 am

Nova Weetman
Nova Weetman has written for various literary magazines, children’s TV and short films. Nova has published young adult novels such as *The Secrets We Keep*, and *Everything Is Changed*. Her novel *The Haunting of Lily Frost*, was shortlisted in the 2014 Aurealis Awards for Best Young Adult Novel.

*Book session 33*  
Thursday 7 June 9.50-10.50 am

Philip Wilcox
Philip Wilcox is the current Australian Poetry Slam Champion and two time NSW Poetry Slam Champion. He has performed at the Sydney Opera House and literary festivals both nationally and internationally.

*Book session 17*  
Wednesday 6 June 10.45-11.45 am
### Visitor Sessions

**Open for bookings for schools and individuals**

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<th>Speaker or event</th>
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<td>1</td>
<td>Michael Camilleri</td>
<td>Yrs 5-8</td>
<td>Peter Duly Concert Hall, Senior School</td>
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<tr>
<td>8.55-10.05 am</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Belinda Murrell</td>
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<td>10.40-11.50 am</td>
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<td>Fleur Ferris</td>
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<td>Belinda Murrell</td>
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<tr>
<td>12 noon-1 pm</td>
<td>7</td>
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<td>Jaclyn Moriarty</td>
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<td>James Phelan</td>
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<td>9.30-10.30 am</td>
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<tr>
<td>9.45-10.30 am</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Anna Fienberg</td>
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<td>10.45-11.45 am</td>
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<td>Tohby Riddle</td>
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<td>10.50-11.45 am</td>
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Gala evening dinner with Stan Grant

Stan Grant is the Indigenous Affairs Editor for the Australian Broadcasting Corporation and special advisor to the Prime Minister on Indigenous constitutional recognition.

A multi-award winning current affairs host and author, Stan Grant’s Aboriginal heritage has shaped his dynamic, resilient personality.

He has written *The Tears of Strangers*, *Talking To My Country*, and, his latest book, *The Urgency of Now*.

Stan has won many major awards including an Australian Logie, a Columbia University Du-Pont Award (the broadcast equivalent of the Pulitzer Prize), and the prestigious US Peabody Award.

Dining Room
Abbotsleigh Senior School
Tuesday 5 June | 7 pm
$70 per adult
Book for this event here

Adult workshops

Writing historical fiction with Darcy-Lee Tindale

Let the irrepressible Darcy-Lee Tindale help you discover your writing skills in a workshop designed to ignite your passion for writing historical fiction.

Betty Archdale Library
Abbotsleigh Senior School
Thursday 7 June | 9 am to 12 noon
$40 per person
Book for this event here

The Importance of reading for pleasure with Anna Feinberg

Anna is an award winning author, her books include the 17 titles in the *Tashi* series and the *Minton Goes* series.

She will present a talk for parents on the importance of reading for pleasure.

Find out, from an author’s perspective, the advantages of promoting reading with students of all ages.

Abbotsleigh Junior School, Lower Everett
Thursday 7 June | 12 noon
$20 per person
Book for this event here
General information

With up to 4,000 students expected to take part over the three-day period, it is going to be a very busy week at Abbotsleigh. With this in mind, please note the following information that we hope will make your visit as easy and organised as possible.

Tickets on sale now

Tickets are $10 per student per session; and $15 per adult per session.

Sessions have limited numbers so please book early to avoid disappointment.

For adult sessions, workshops and the gala evening dinner, please refer to individual event information. Bookings are available online. Please note there is no allocated seating.

Tickets can be reserved for up to 10 days without payment but bookings can only be processed on receipt of full payment. Bookings can be accepted online or via an invoice, which is available through the booking system. There are no refunds or exchanges once bookings are processed.

Tickets are provided through the online booking system.

You must present your ticket to gain entry.

School bookings and reservation policy

One complimentary ticket is provided to teachers with each group of up to 10 children. Additional staff will need to purchase tickets. All payments must be finalised at least seven days prior to the Festival. If payment has not been received, the booking will be cancelled and the tickets released.
On the day
Please arrive at least 30 minutes prior to your session’s scheduled time. This will allow time to visit author signings and locate session venues.

Food and drink
There will be food and drink available for purchase on the Senior School campus.

Festival bookshops
There will be bookshops on both campuses during the Festival, with books by the authors and illustrators available for purchase. At the end of each session, speakers will be available for book signings.

Check your location
Final venue allocation is determined according to the number of tickets purchased for each session. Be aware that Abbotsleigh has two campuses and that sessions are spread across both.

Please check the website prior to your visit to determine the location of your sessions.

Junior School
22 Woonona Ave, Wahroonga
Senior School
1666 Pacific Highway, Wahroonga
Parking and bus drop-off points

Parking on both campuses is not available. You are strongly encouraged to take public transport. Wahroonga train station is a very short walk to both campuses. Please check the maps for drop-off points if required.

Photography and videography permissions

The Abbotsleigh Literary Festival will be photographing and recording sessions throughout the event. These are for archival and marketing purposes and purchase of a ticket implies permission to use the photos for these purposes.

Supervision policy

All students must be accompanied by a supervising adult at all times while on campus. Accompanying staff/adults will have duty of care for their students while visiting the Abbotsleigh Literary Festival.

Insurance information

Abbotsleigh follows a comprehensive risk management program. As such, the campus is as safe as is reasonably practicable. Visiting schools are reminded of their responsibility to conduct their own risk assessment and to mitigate risks that are reasonably foreseeable. This may involve a representative of the school visiting Abbotsleigh prior to an event to identify and assess hazards and associated risks.

Find out more

Mrs Bronwyn Foxall
Head of the Betty Archdale Library
+61 2 9473 7774
literaryfestival@abbotsleigh.nsw.edu.au
The Grace Cossington Smith Gallery is delighted to present a touring exhibition from Books Illustrated in Melbourne. In acknowledgement of the Anzac centenary, this exhibition presents a range of Australian picture books capturing the theme of war and the Anzac spirit.

Many books have been published in Australia marking the centenary of the start of World War I in 1914 and the beginning of the Anzac legend with the landing of Australian and New Zealand troops at Gallipoli in 1915. This exhibition celebrates unique approaches to creating illustrated books for children on these themes.

The books are varied, including picture books for young and old, a graphic novel and illustrated fiction. Thirteen illustrators are represented, with a feature on work by author/illustrator Mark Wilson, showing a range of books associated with different wars – from World War I to Afghanistan.

The themes and illustrated stories include two very famous songs, a couple of favourite Anzac legends, a journal, and some fascinating historic adventures. The display of original illustrations, developmental sketches, reference images, and art materials, reveal the artists process in translating these complex themes and stories for children.

ANZAC illustrated
30 May to 30 June 2018

Book illustrators:

Michael Camilleri | One Minute’s Silence by David Metzenthen
Belinda Elliott | Jack’s Bugle by Krista Bell
Greg Holfeld | An ANZAC Tale by Ruth Starke
Frane Lessac | Midnight by Mark Greenwood
Andrew McLean | Along the Road to Gundagai by Jack O’Hagan
Andrew Plant | The Poppy by Andrew Plant
Brian Simmonds | Light Horse Boy by Dianne Wolfer
Craig Smith | I was only Nineteen by John Schumann
Owen Swan | Anzac Biscuits by Phil Cummings
Shaun Tan | Memorial
Jane Tanner | The Soldiers Gift by Jane Tanner and Tony Palmer
Annie White | Gallipoli by Kerry Greenwood
Mark Wilson | Digger, My Mother’s Eyes, Afghanistan Pup all by Mark Wilson and A Day to Remember by Jackie French
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Stan Grant booked through Celebrity Speakers – www.celebrityspeakers.com.au