



We finished this year's Hamilton Book Month with two well attended events. We needed to close registrations for the fiction writing workshop early as we had so many people keen to come. Catherine Robertson led an eager group of writers through novel structures, character arcs, the difference between plotters and pantsers, how to write great dialogue, editing and a range of useful writing resources.



Our 20th and final event for this year was the Fiction Three Ways panel at The Meteor on Friday night with an audience of 104. Kiran Dass masterfully chaired authors Dame Fiona Kidman, Julie Thomas and Catherine Robertson. She asked about New Zealand settings, the difficulties of writing about people and events in our recent past, the types of characters our authors were drawn to and how they did their research. It was wonderful to hear them read from their latest work and to hear it in their own voices. Poppies Book Shop were kept busy selling the authors' books ready for people to have them signed afterwards.





## So many people to thank!

We are passionate about providing access to as many free and easy to attend events as possible. We are exceedingly grateful for the financial and in kind support we receive that enable us to do this.

This year we received grant funding from Creative New Zealand's Creative Communities Scheme, WEL Energy and the HCC Community Event Fund. This money was used for travel, accommodation, appearance fees and hospitality.

We value the partnerships we have including: Friends of Hamilton Public Library and Kathryn Parsons and Sonia Wells; Wintec's SPARK Festival and Megan Lyon; Wintec's School of Media Arts and Cate Prestidge, Sam Cunnane, Chelsea Duck, Louwela Pegarido, Leonard Walker and Brad Morgan; Waikato Children's Literature Association and Gerri Judkins, Yvonne Milroy and Sarah Johnson; Auteur House and Richard and Janine Swainson; Hamilton City Libraries and Su Bradburn; Waikato Museum and Dan Silverton and Sandra Sesto-Dekic; The Lido Cinema and Cynthia Cote; The Meteor and Deb Nudds, Benny Marama, Guy Coker and Hannah Mooney; Carving in Ice Theatre Company and Gaye Poole and Mark Houlahan; NZ Book Awards Trust and Pirate and Queen and Emma Anderson and Andrew Laking; Press Club and Steve Braunias, Angela Cuming and Oskar Howell; Olivia Mead for design work; Olivia Mead and Nikki Crutchley for proofreading; Mike Mather, Gary Farrow, Kelly Tantau, Tom Rowland, Sophie Iremonger, Jeff Neems and Dean Taylor, Free FM and Kelli Pike and Cate Prestidge and Waikato Writers and Associated Artists.

We have had helpful and generous support from publishers including Sandra Noakes from Harper Collins NZ, Harriet Allan from Penguin Random House and Mary Varnham from Awa Press. We were very fortunate to have Liz Sheppard and Jane Caddy from Poppies and Megan Lindsay from Books For Kids who had books at our events enabling many people to get their books signed by our authors. Poppies very generously sponsored wine for our fiction panel event.

We are grateful to Wintec, University of Waikato, Books For Kids, The Londoner, Chartwell and Central libraries, Waikato Museum, The Meteor, Lido Cinema and Southwell School for venue use and technical assistance.

Many other people have provided advice and suggestions and we appreciate their help. Finally thank you to our authors, illustrators and audiences!

Catherine Wallace & Gail Pittaway, Hamilton Book Month committee

## Feedback for us

We are keen to hear from you. Please can you either hit Reply to the email or email us at [Hamiltonbookmonth@gmail.com](mailto:Hamiltonbookmonth@gmail.com)

- What did you enjoy?
- How could we improve?
- Do you have any author and event suggestions?

Last week's competition for Catherine Robertson's book *Gabriel's Bay* was won by Helen Thomas.

Our website will be updated closer to the time with next year's events. You can find out about other book related events before then that we share on our Hamilton Book Month Facebook page. Here are some events we have heard of either on now or in the near future.

## ***Painted Stories***

<http://hamiltonbookmonth.wixsite.com/2018/paintedstories>



The Waikato Museum's Painted Stories exhibition is on till Sunday 23 September and is a wonderful collection of New Zealand illustrators' work. Free event.

## ***Between The Lines***

[www.betweenthelinesexhibition.weebly.com](http://www.betweenthelinesexhibition.weebly.com)



From 3 to 28 September 2018, the Between the Lines exhibition of Waikato writers and illustrators will return to Hamilton Central Library. Between the Lines was last staged in the library during 2014.

The 2018 exhibition features 13 children's book authors and illustrators, all of whom live and create in the Waikato. Donovan Bixley, Kat Merewether and Matt McKinley are among the better-known illustrators taking part, while the writers' side is well represented by kids-lit superstars Dawn McMillan, Feana Tu'akoi and Judi Billcliff.

Large individual displays will explain the process and inspiration behind the featured writers' and illustrators' books, providing a fascinating insight into the creative process and hard work that goes into crafting them.

## **Frank Sargeson Talk**



### **16<sup>th</sup> Annual Frank Sargeson Memorial Lecture**

**Kate Camp: Who cares about your memoir?  
Who cares about anything else?**



Join award-winning poet and memoir writer Kate Camp as she gives this year's Frank Sargeson Memorial lecture at the University of Waikato.

As a poet there has always been an element of autobiography in Kate Camp's work, but on the Katherine Mansfield Menton Fellowship in 2017, she turned to memoir rather than poetry. Writing autobiographically raises lots of questions – about fact and fiction, ethics and ego, what one hides and what one chooses to reveal.

In this lecture, Camp examines an even more difficult and interesting question – why bother with memoir at all?

With her trademark mix of intellect and irreverence, she considers whether memoir writing is a symptom of modern self-obsession, or a profound way to access what it means to be human.

The Annual Frank Sargeson Memorial Lecture is hosted jointly by the University of Waikato and the Friends of Hamilton Public Library and commemorates one of New Zealand's most important writers.

## **The 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Frank Sargeson Memorial Lecture**

Monday 10th September 2018

Lecture begins 5.30pm. Light refreshments to follow from 6.30pm.

FREE admission

S.1.04, S Block, University of Waikato

*Co-hosted by Friends of Hamilton Public Libraries Association Inc.*

RSVP for catering purposes - <http://bit.ly/rsvpkate>

Hamilton Book Month is on Facebook. Like us to hear about our latest news and to learn more about August 2019 authors and events. Our current website is <http://hamiltonbookmonth.wixsite.com/2018> and has details of the 20 different events held this year. If you think others will be interested in the newsletter, please share it with them. They can email [hamiltonbookmonth@gmail.com](mailto:hamiltonbookmonth@gmail.com) to join our mailing list. If you wish to unsubscribe please email [hamiltonbookmonth@gmail.com](mailto:hamiltonbookmonth@gmail.com) with the subject line "unsubscribe".