

Last week began with a fantastic life writing panel called Travels in Memory at The Meteor. Our audience of 85 people saw Diana Wichtel, Catherine Chidgey and Vivianne Flintoff in conversation with chair Tracey Slaughter. She had some great questions for our authors about being pulled into the stream of history, documenting memories, survivor testimony, transformative moments on the journey and difficulties represented by coming to the end.



Yesterday we had a travel writing workshop and participants learnt how to choose an angle, write a hook and select a relevant publication. Presenter Angie Belcher shared hints and tips with a great deal of humour and had attendees using their phones to record interviews and take photos for their stories.



Today's Bay

We loved having Carving in Ice theatre company present a staged reading of New Zealand work *Today's Bay* by Craig Thaine, directed by Gaye Poole with Mark Houlahan as script advisor. Written for the NZ Drama School in 1982, this play focussed on a group of university students studying Katherine Mansfield's short story *At the Bay*. There was an evening performance last night and this afternoon's audience was treated to a Q&A session with Gail Pittaway and playwright Craig Thaine. It was marvellous having the playwright and director answer questions that we often have after seeing a play!



This week is week 4 of Hamilton Book Month!

Michele A'Court talks about her new book, there's an Open Mic event and a poetry workshop for invited secondary school students on National Poetry Day plus you can attend the Waikato Children's Literature Association seminar. The Painted Stories exhibition continues at Waikato Museum.

Next week we have a fiction writing workshop (pre-registration needed) and our Fiction Three Ways panel.

Michele A'Court: How We Met and Other Stories

<http://hamiltonbookmonth.wixsite.com/2018/michele-a-court-how-we-met>

The Events Room 1, Gallagher Hub, Wintec City Campus
Anglesea St, Hamilton
Monday 20 August, 12-1pm, free event

Michele has a hunch about why people love telling—and hearing about—these often absurd, convoluted, scandalous, romantic moments of connection. 'These stories help to weave our lives together. Partly as 'proof' that we were meant to begin this couple-journey, and also because in each re-telling we go back to those first falling-in-love feelings and rekindle the passion.'

Michele is well known as a comedian but is also an author and storyteller. Come and hear her talk about how she researched and decided which couples to interview for her latest book *How We Met*.

This event is supported by the School of Media Arts at Wintec and Poppies Bookshop with books for sale and signing.



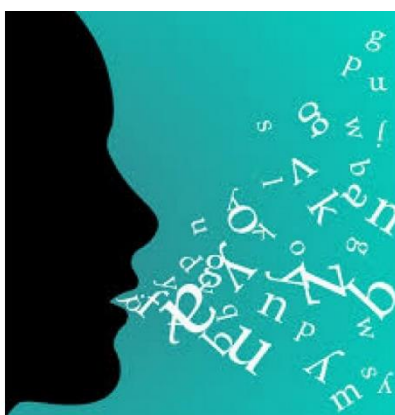
Poetry Open Mic

<http://hamiltonbookmonth.wixsite.com/2018/poetry-open-mic>

Event Space, Level 1, Central Library, Garden Place, Hamilton

Friday 24 August, 12-1pm, free event

Come and celebrate National Poetry Day with us this Friday. Bring one of your original poems (absolute limit 5 minutes) and register on the day to share it with our audience. There's a prize for the audience favourite so let us know who you think should win! Our MC is this year's Waikato University Writer in Residence, Therese Lloyd.



Waikato Children's Literature Association Seminar

<http://hamiltonbookmonth.wixsite.com/2018/waikato-children-s-lit-seminar>

Southwell School Library, 200 Peachgrove Road, Hamilton

Saturday 25 August, 10-1pm (registration from 9.30am)

\$20 students/\$30 members/\$40 non-members

Our friends at Waikato Children's Literature Association do great annual seminars and we fully recommend them. This year the seminar is called *Illustrators and Authors* and Nikki Slade Robinson and Deborah Hinde are the guest presenters. Nikki has written and illustrated an impressive range of books and *The little Kiwi's Matariki* won the 2016 Best Picture Book in the NZ Book Awards for Children and Young Adults. Deborah Hinde has illustrated more than 70 books and in 2018 Deborah received a Storylines Notable Book Award for illustrating *The Spaghetti Giraffe* (Flat Bed Press, 2017). More details on the seminar (including how to register and become a WCLA member) are on the seminar flyer at our webpage link above.

Competition

This week we have a copy of Michele A'Court's book *How We Met* to give away. To enter the competition, email hamiltonbookmonth@gmail.com with your answer to the question "What is the name of Michele's 2015 book"? The winner must be able to collect the book from one of our Hamilton Book Month events.



Last week's competition for the wonderful hard copy book *Dancing With The King: The Rise and Fall of the King Country, 1864-1885* by Michael Belgrave was won by Carol Jarman.

We'd love to see you at our events.

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