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NIGHT PARROT PRESS
ANNUAL
REPORT 2023

Financial year 2022-2023

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

Night Parrot Press acknowledges the Noongar people as the spiritual and cultural custodians of the land on which we publish. We honour and respect First Nations stories and express our gratitude for this heritage of powerful storytelling.

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OUR PURPOSE

To foster a new generation of creativity in publishing

OUR VISION

To build a community of empowered storytellers who innovate through new literary forms

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

To break down the barriers of traditional publishing and create opportunities for new emerging writers, new publishing professionals and diverse voices

We aspire to:

- Give opportunity to those who haven't had access to traditional writing and publishing avenues
- Empower young writers with lower literacy levels with the confidence to find their voices
- Position new young writers as leading lights to others in their communities
- Develop and celebrate unique stories by storytellers from diverse backgrounds across the state
- Celebrate emerging writers through the publication of their stories
- Be innovators in new storytelling forms and gain national and international recognition for our work in publishing flash and micro fiction
- Give opportunity to emerging publishing practitioners including designers, typesetters, illustrators
- Mentor emerging editors.

To achieve this, we will:

- Seek out grants and funding opportunities for projects
- Hold flash and micro writing workshops at schools and in community centres
- Mentor new writers, through development and editing
- Publish flash and micro anthologies of emerging youth writers
- Publish anthologies of adult emerging writers alongside experienced writers writing in new forms
- Collaborate with emerging industry professionals
- Provide editorial internships
- Appear at literary festivals and events
- Judge writing competitions



IMAGE CREDIT: RYAN GIBSON

‘With Night Parrot Press, WA has a nation-leading publisher whose devotion to the flash form is creating a unique, impactful, and inspiring galaxy of creativity that is opening new avenues of expression for emerging and established writers alike.’

David Allan-Petale, Author

‘There are limited publication opportunities for Western Australian authors. As a local writer, I feel very fortunate to have the opportunity of being published by Night Parrot Press. Its commitment to flash fiction has also provided a unique chance for writers to explore and develop this exciting genre.’

Alison Davis, Author

‘The Team at Night Parrot Press have given Western Australian emerging writers a rare but great opportunity. I can’t speak more highly of their devotion and continued efforts for our Western Australian writing community including the writing workshops they provide to the public and high schools.’

Sabrina Dudgeon-Swift, Author

FROM THE CHAIR

Over the last year, Night Parrot Press has continued to flourish, showcasing diverse writers from all walks of life who perhaps otherwise may not have an opportunity to be published within the traditional realms of publishing.

Night Parrot Press’s focus on publishing flash fiction and non-fiction means that writing as an art form can become welcoming, accessible and approachable, offering a pathway for those who have always wanted to write, but felt too intimidated. Or, for more experienced writers, flash presents a playground for experimentation and having fun with the brevity of the form. Flash can make us laugh, offer deep insights into the human condition, and provide the satisfaction of reading a complete story within a few short paragraphs. Night Parrot Press’s publications in 2023 are excellent examples of this.

Each year, Night Parrot Press publishes an anthology which provides a platform for sharing West Australian stories. ‘Three Can Keep a Secret’ was this year’s anthology. As well as celebrating the talent and diversity of our state’s writers, these anthologies play an important role in democratising publishing. Of the 80 or so writers who are published within each anthology, some are lesser known and some are well established, yet all are published within the pages of the same book. Very few publications can claim to have published so many writers in the same tome. Each anthology is not only a celebration of the contributing writers, but also the creation of a literary community and a new way of publishing.

I would like to thank all of the writers who entrust us with their stories, the designers and illustrators who make our books look so special, the booksellers who help us reach our readers, and the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries for supporting our projects.

Working with Linda, Laura and the Board since I commenced as Chair in December 2022 has been enriching and inspiring. Night Parrot Press would not exist without our co-publishers Linda Martin and Laura Keenan – thank you to both of you for your tireless commitment to Night Parrot Press, unwavering dedication to the authors you work with, and enduring passion for flash as a form. Thank you also to the members of our Board, who volunteer their time and wonderful skills to ensure Night Parrot Press continues to grow.

Meelee Soorkia

FROM THE CEOs

We are extremely grateful to work in a wonderful community of writers, readers and industry stakeholders and this past year has demonstrated to us just how fortunate we are.

This year we published two new books: 'Miniatures', by Susan Midalia, and 'Three Can Keep a Secret' by 83 new and established Western Australian writers. Both books received funding from the Department of Local Government, Sport and Culture and we can honestly say that these books wouldn't have gone into print without this support.

We thank the schools, community centres, libraries and festivals who have invited us to present workshops, sit on panels and present talks. Highlights of the year were being invited to the UBUD Readers and Writers Festival and the Perth Festival Writers Weekend where we got to talk about flash fiction, writers from our anthology read their stories to audiences, and readers could purchase our books.

Our third anthology 'Three Can Keep a Secret' was sent to international readers, courtesy of author Gillian O'Shaughnessy, extending our readership to Canada, Japan, the United Kingdom and the United States of America. In addition, it was positively reviewed in 'Smokelong Quarterly, one of the longest-running flash fiction online journals.

We were also fortunate to receive funding for our fourth anthology, Micro Memoirs, which will be edited by Laura Keenan and guest editor Casey Mulder. This will be the first collection of micro memoir published in Western Australia.

In 2023 we were fortunate to collaborate with Writing WA, The Literature Centre, Edith Cowan University, the Centre for Stories, and the Peter Cowan Writers Centre. We look forward to extending existing collaborations and to fostering new opportunities with other industry partners.

We thank all the writers who have trusted us with their work, and for promoting our books and publishing house to a broader audience. In addition to our readers, booksellers, schools, workshop participants, and publishing friends, we thank our amazing Board of Directors who continue to support all that we do, and guide us into new and exciting territories.

Laura Keenan and Linda Martin



LAURA KEENAN AND LINDA MARTIN

IMAGE CREDIT: JESS GATELY

SNAPSHOT OF 2022-2023

OUR SOCIAL MEDIA REACH

1162 FOLLOWERS ON INSTAGRAM



870 FOLLOWERS ON FACEBOOK



165 FOLLOWERS ON LINKEDIN



157 FOLLOWERS ON X



NIGHT PARROT PRESS

In facts and numbers

84

PUBLISHED WRITERS

210

PUBLISHED STORIES

2

PRINT PUBLICATIONS

1

BOOKS IN PRODUCTION

2

MENTORSHIPS

200+

WORKSHOP ATTENDEES

4

FESTIVAL APPEARANCES AND CONFERENCES

1

WEBINAR AND PODCAST

1

COMPETITION

10

LECTURES

76

WA SCHOOLS

3500

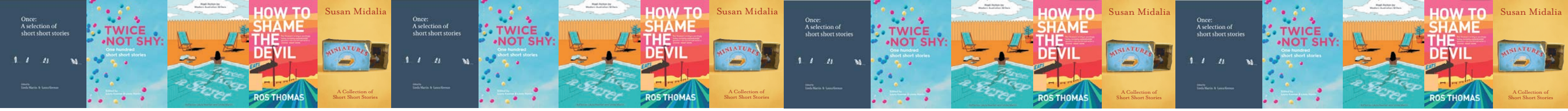
YR 12 ATAR ATTENDEES



OUR AUTHORS

In the last year, 84 Western Australian new, emerging and experienced writers had their work published in print by Night Parrot Press. Seven of these writers were Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander. We thank the following authors for being an integral part of Night Parrot Press.

- | | | |
|------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|
| Alicia Bakewell | Ines Zimmerman | Rashida Murphy |
| Alison Davis | Isabelle Biondi Saville | Rebecca Higgie |
| Alison Middleton | J R O'Shaughnessy | Rebecca M Newman |
| Ally Millington | Jacqueline Warner | Robyn Lunn |
| Alyssa Shapland | Janine Joy Fisher | Ros Thomas |
| Amber Moffat | Jay Chesters | Sabian Wilde |
| Amber Ugle-Hayward | Jeimer Ng | Sabrina Dudgeon-Swift |
| Amy Budrikis | Josephine Clarke | Sarah Martin |
| Anne Ryden | Lal Perera | Scott-Patrick Mitchell |
| Anne-Louise Dubrawski | Laura Keenan | Shannon Brie |
| Asha Burnett | Lauren Pratt | Shannon Meyerkort |
| Ashleigh Enness | Laurie Steed | Sophie McGeough |
| Barry Divola | Linda Martin | Stevie Sutton |
| Beth Kirkland | Lorraine Horsley | Susan Braghieri |
| Bianca Breen | Mabel Gibson | Tegan Huntley |
| Brody Stevens | Maria Cristina de Vicente | Tim Lorian |
| Caroline-Iris Nutter | Capua | Weng-Si Cheang |
| Carolyn Abbs | Maria Papas | Yann Toussaint |
| Chenée Marrapodi | Martin Lindsay | |
| Daphne Milne | Megan Anderson | |
| David (Ying Xiong) Goh | Megan Watson | |
| Diana Grove | Melanie Hobbs | |
| Donna Mazza | Melinda Tognini | |
| Ellie Fisher | Michael Burrows | |
| Emily Paull | Miriam Fisher | |
| Emily Tsokos Purtill | Nadia Heisler | |
| Emma Crook | Nakita Humes | |
| Emma Pignatiello | Nicki Blake | |
| Esme Wilmot | Nikki Wilson-Smith | |
| Fionna Cosgrove | Paul J Laverty | |
| Gillian O'Shaughnessy | Rachelle Erzay | |
| Glennys Marsdon | Susan Midalia | |
| Hannah Cockroft | | |



OUR 2022-2023 BOOKS

Miniatures

Miniatures: A collection of short short stories by Susan Midalia was launched in July 2022 at the Mount Lawley Bowling Club. Over 150 authors, friends and family attended the launch. Renowned poet Lucy Dougan launched the collection and Susan Midalia read some stories to the audience. This was the first single-authored collection of short short stories published in Western Australia. We were also delighted to have Ballardong Noongar editor Casey Mulder co-edit the work as part of her Creative Development Scholarship with Magabala Books.

Susan Midalia's very short shorts (well over one hundred of them) prove that it's possible to offer a story – that is, something with a narrative, with progression – within a few words. Some of these stories are a page, some a paragraph, while one is only a sentence. Witty, endearing, subversive, inventive, delightful – there are many apt adjectives for these beautifully polished gems.
[Debra Adelaide, Australian Book Review](#)

Midalia has created a book that pulls at the emotions and gets the mind working. These stories are beautiful, though-provoking, entertaining and funny, and each one deserves to be savoured.
[Westerly Magazine](#)

Miniatures is a compelling collection of short short stories that are both witty and full of suburban-life quirkiness [...] Miniatures exerts the power to surprise the reader from beginning to end.
[Writing WA](#)



Three Can Keep a Secret

Three Can Keep a Secret was launched at the Australian Short Story Festival held at the Fremantle Arts Centre in October 2022. Two hundred authors, friends, family and stakeholders huddled on a cold night to enjoy readings, food and drinks in celebration of Night Parrot Press's third anthology of flash fiction by Western Australian writers edited by Laura Keenan and Linda Martin. Ballardong Noongar Elder Len Collard began the evening with a Welcome to Country and didgeridoo performance that made the night even more special.

Three Can Keep a Secret packs a punch in the precision of its language, its agility as it sweeps through different genres and the natural smoothness of the transitions between one story and the next.
[Aakriti Karun, Smokelong Quarterly](#)

Three Can Keep a Secret is a smorgasbord of a fictional feast dealing with important contemporary issues and it deserves to be savoured rather than devoured. Entertaining and enthralling, it is a monument to the plethora of writing talent that lives and works within the borders of WA.

[Jen Bowden, Westerly Magazine](#)

Night Parrot publishers Linda Martin and Laura Keenan have done it again with their third flash-fiction anthology, *Three Can Keep A Secret*. 'It' in this case is a diverse, compelling and surprising collection of some of WA's best emerging and established voices.
[Writing WA](#)





writingwa IMAGE CREDIT: RYAN GIBSON



An afternoon with the author Ros Thomas

Shire of Augusta Margaret River Libraries





WORKSHOPS

Night Parrot Press continued delivering workshops at schools, community centres, and in libraries. Our workshops in micro memoir and flash fiction attracted over 200 participants. We thank all the participants who attended the workshops, and thank the following schools, centres, festivals and businesses who allowed us to share our stories and passion.

- Mater Dei College
- Rockingham Youth Centre
- Armadale Library
- The Australian Short Story Festival
- Melville Storylines
- Centre for Stories, Story Lounge
- State Library of Western Australia, Perth
- City of Perth Library
- The Claisebrook Bar



'I have learnt much about writing and reading short fiction through professional writers and editors Linda Martin and Laura Keenan. They provided uplifting feedback and responses to everyone's work and were extremely kind and friendly people. Through this, they created such an open and positive environment where lots of people were able to voice their works and feel accomplished for doing so. Mostly, this workshop gave me confidence in my voice and ability, as well as help me truly understand my passion for writing.'

Jacinta Dean, Student, Mater Dei College, Edgewater



writingwa IMAGE CREDIT: RYAN GIBSON

PANELS, TALKS, EVENTS

Ubud Writers and Readers Festival

Night Parrot Press authors were invited to be in a panel moderated by NPP publisher Laura Keenan. 'All in a Flash' was a discussion between WA writers Mabel Gibson, Amy Budrikis, Meg Anderson and Paul J Laverty. Over the weekend, Scott-Patrick Mitchell, Ros Thomas and Sabian Wilde delivered flash fiction reading between sessions through 'Flashes of Brilliance'.

Perth Festival Writers Weekend

Authors and editors of Night Parrot Press featured in the following sessions:

- Anthologise This!
- Women on Men
- Writer's Bloc
- Short and Sweet
- Dead Poets Society

Flash Lab

Flash Lab proved to be strong in 2022 providing an online publishing opportunity is for young people between the ages of 12 and 17. Selected stories were edited by student editors Asha Butcher and Emily Elliot. Stories were published on the Night Parrot Press website.



ANTHOLOGISE THIS!
WINNIE DUNN, RAFEIF ISMAIL & LAURA KEENAN

SHORT & SWEET
LAURIE STEED, ROS THOMAS, LINDA MARTIN & DAVID HARRIS

Love to Read Local Flash Fiction Competition

Night Parrot Press editors Laura Keenan and Linda Martin were once again judges of Writing WA's Love to Read Local Flash Fiction competition for the fourth year running. The theme this year was 'Flashcapes', which attracted over 100 entries.

Podstreet

In 2023, Laura and Linda were invited to talk with William Yeoman, CEO of Writing WA, to discuss flash fiction on Writing WA's Podstreet Podcast.

<https://www.buzzsprout.com/2193813/12905781-night-parrot-press-s-linda-martin-and-laura-keenon-on-the-art-of-flash-non-fiction>

Author events and talks

Ros Thomas and Susan Midalia both featured at the York Festival 2023. In addition, Ros Thomas attended numerous bookclubs and was a special guest at local and regional talks throughout the year.

Institute of Professional Editing, Casey Mulder and Susan Midalia

Casey and Susan discussed their editorial process and what they both learnt from each other during the editing process of 'Miniatures'.

Peter Cowan Writers Centre

Laura and Linda delivered a talk on Flash Fiction at Members Day at the Peter Cowan Writers Centre in Joondalup. The successful presentation was followed by questions.

Curtin University

Laura presented Microfiction and Imaginative Storytelling lectures at the 2023 English & Literature Conference, 19-23 June, which invited 3500 Year 12 ATAR students and teachers from across 76 schools in WA.



Income Statement

Night Parrot Press Incorporated
For the year ended 30 June 2023

	NOTES	2023	2022
Gross Profit from Trading			
Sales			
Book Sales		25,002	14,691
Workshops		5,490	2,180
Total Sales		30,492	16,871
Total Gross Profit from Trading		30,492	16,871
Other Income			
Grant Income		-	24,535
Other Revenue		219	62
Total Other Income		219	24,597
Total Income		30,711	41,468
Expenses			
Administration Expenses		11,515	7,000
Advertising and Marketing		1,660	1,803
Bank Fees		180	50
Consulting & Accounting		890	-
Entertainment		177	-
Freelancers		2,936	9,975
Illustration		585	1,500
Launch Costs		2,409	-
Meeting Expenses		406	45
Office Expenses		577	-
Parking		84	-
Postage		1,062	823
Printing & Stationery		8,362	7,542
Royalties		7,480	-
Subscriptions		310	722
Sundry Expenses		661	128
Telephone & Internet		439	-
Workshop Expenses		4,055	115
Total Expenses		43,787	29,702
Profit / (Loss)		(13,075)	11,767

Balance Sheet

Night Parrot Press Incorporated
As at 30 June 2023

	NOTES	30 JUN 2023	30 JUN 2022
Assets			
Current Assets			
Cash at Bank		12,893	22,257
Accounts Receivable		3,959	3,086
Sundry Debtors		80	72
Total Current Assets		16,933	25,415
Total Assets		16,933	25,415
Liabilities			
Current Liabilities			
Accounts Payable		-	1,155
Loan - Laura Keenan & Linda Martin		18,242	12,494
Total Current Liabilities		18,242	13,648
Total Liabilities		18,242	13,648
Net Assets		(1,308)	11,767
Equity			
Retained Earnings		(1,308)	11,767
Total Equity		(1,308)	11,767

FUNDING PARTNERS AND DONORS

Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries (DLGSC)

Night Parrot Press was successful in securing two publishing grants from DLGSC. The first was for the production, author payments and printing of *Three Can Keep a Secret*, and the second was for the production, editing and printing of *Miniatures*. Night Parrot Press is extremely grateful to DLGSC for the funding, which has enabled Night Parrot Press to operate in the past financial year.



Randal Humich

Randal Humich has provided Night Parrot Press with a temporary home in an upstairs office on the corner of Barrack and Murray Streets in the city. This has provided Night Parrot Press with a well-needed base from which to operate business. Night Parrot Press is extremely grateful to Randal for his generous support.

Bookshops

As a small, independent not-for-profit publisher, Night Parrot Press could not dream of reaching readers without the support of local booksellers. The amazing people who work at local bookshops have undoubtedly recommended NPP books to people who may not have known about our titles. They have gone above and beyond to position NPP books on the counter, near the till, or face out on the shelves to give our books a better chance of catching someone's curious eye. Night Parrot Press is incredibly grateful to all of the local bookshops in WA who have continued to support us and all of the writers published in anthologies and single-author titles.

Thank you to the following WA bookshops who support our books!

Beaufort Street Books
Boffins Books
Collins Booksellers
Crow Books
Diabolik Books and Records
Dymocks Karryinup
Dymocks Subiaco
The Lane Bookshop
Margaret River Bookshop
New Edition
Open Book
Paperbark Merchants
Planet Books
Rabble Books and Games
Text & CO
Typeface Books

NIGHT PARROT PRESS STAFF

Laura Keenan and Linda Martin are co-publishers and editors of Night Parrot Press. They met in 2010 when they worked as editors at UWA Publishing in Crawley, Western Australia. Since 2019, they have operated as Night Parrot Press, mostly on a volunteer basis.

Laura Keenan's career as an editor spans twenty years, working for publishers including the Perseus Books Group (USA) and UWA Publishing. She runs flash fiction writing workshops in schools, libraries and community centres, encouraging others to obsess over small, intense stories.



Linda Martin lectures in editing and publishing at ECU. She has edited for UWA Publishing, Fremantle Press and Magabala books, and her writing has been published in Westerly, Cordite Scholarly and international flash fiction journals.



NIGHT PARROT PRESS BOARD

Meelee Soorkia, Chair

Meelee has several years of experience in managing creative projects and teams. Meelee worked as a book editor in Melbourne for more than a decade. In 2019 she joined Community Arts Network in Perth, where, as General Manager she contributed her professional learning and lived experience to the cultural change being implemented at the organisation.



Casey Mulder, Deputy Chair

Casey is a Ballardong Noongar woman from Western Australia. She has a keen interest in First Nations storytelling in all its forms. She is First Nations Editor for Westerly Magazine in addition to recipient of a Creative Development Scholarship from Magabala Books (with Night Parrot Press) and a Writing Fellowship from the Centre for Stories. She recently taught at the School of Indigenous Studies (UWA) where she was also Coordinator of Teaching and Learning, and holds a Master of Leadership and Management in Education from the University of Newcastle.



Brendan Martin, Treasurer

Brendan is a Chartered Accountant and Manager at Dyson Advisory Group with experience in providing taxation advice and business advisory services to a wide range of clients from small businesses to large proprietary companies to high net wealth individuals. Brendan has worked with clients across varying industries including not-for-profit, pharmaceutical, hospitality, professional services and property development.



Romy l'Dell, Secretary

Romy is a third-year student at Edith Cowan University. She is studying a Bachelor of Arts, majoring in Creative and Professional Writing. She works as a usability analyst for people with disabilities, focusing on websites and mobile apps. She also provides contract administration work for small businesses, where she helps edit and manage important documents.



Mabel Gibson, General Member

Mabel is a Yamatji writer. She spent her childhood in Albany and moved to Geraldton as a teenager, before becoming a student at the University of Western Australia. Her flash and micro pieces have been published in Once: A selection of short short stories, Twice Not Shy: One hundred short short stories and Three Can Keep a Secret by Night Parrot Press, and maar bidi: next generation black writing by Magabala Books.



Cliff Allison, General Member

Cliff has over 40 years of experience in the finance industry and recently retired after a 35-year career with Wesfarmers. For the last 20 years he was Group Treasurer and was responsible for cash, debt and foreign exchange management for the Wesfarmers Group. He was a director of the not for profit Retail Employees Superannuation Trust (REST) Board from 2012 to 2014 and was elected to the Wesfarmers Superannuation committee as an employee representative for the Wesfarmers Superannuation Fund from 2015 to 2018.



NIGHT PARROT
PRESS