



MR

MARGARET RIVER

READERS &
WRITERS

FESTIVAL

FUTURE TENSE

15-17 MAY 2020

2020 FESTIVAL HUB | MARGARET RIVER HEART

www.mrrwfestival.com

**arts** margaret river
the arts hub

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MARGARET RIVER




READERS & WRITERS

FESTIVAL

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15-17 MAY 2020

-  mrrwfestival.com
-  facebook.com/mrrwfestival
-  instagram.com/mrrwfestival

HOW TO BOOK

Before the Festival

Online

www.mrrwfestival.com

Phone

08 9758 7316

In Person

Arts Margaret River,
Community Centre, Tunbridge St,
Margaret River WA 6285
Open Monday to Friday,
10am - 4pm.

At the Festival

On the festival weekend, tickets
can be purchased from the
Margaret River HEART.
Pre-purchased tickets and
passes must be collected at
the Margaret River HEART on
the festival weekend.

FESTIVAL PASSES

3 Day Pass (LIMITED RELEASE)
\$195 / \$160 Arts Hub members

Day Pass

Friday

\$70 / \$60 Arts Hub members
Free for pension card holders.
Excludes Feature Events &
Workshops.

Saturday or Sunday

\$90 / \$80 Arts Hub members
Excludes Feature Events &
Workshops.

Individual Sessions

As listed.

Feature Events & Workshops

As listed. Not included in
3 Day Passes or Day Passes.

SUPPORT OUR FESTIVAL

Margaret River Readers &
Writers Festival is run by Arts
Margaret River, a not-for-profit
community organisation. If
you're passionate about the
importance of stories, ideas
and the arts, become an
Arts Hub Member for just \$44
(standard) \$28 (concession) or
\$165 (corporate) to enjoy
discounted festival passes
and the feel-good factor of
supporting a great community
organisation. Visit
www.mrrwfestival.com or call
08 9758 7316 to find out more.

FOLLOW US ONLINE

Find out more about the authors, share festival highlights
and join the conversation. Tag your comments, photos and
highlights with #mrrwf2020.

WELCOME

Arts Margaret River is proud to present the
Margaret River Readers & Writers Festival 2020.



The 2020 Margaret River Readers & Writers Festival, proudly presented
by Arts Margaret River, explores and shares visions for the future from
some of Australia's most renowned writers, speakers and thinkers.

This year's festival will consider both possible and highly imagined
futures through a literary lens. We welcome Los Angeles-based
author Matthew Reilly and Hong Kong-based author Antony Dapiran,
Australian icons Jane Caro, Benjamin Law, Bob Brown, Tracey Spicer,
Heather Rose and all the writers, presenters, readers, sponsors and
volunteers joining us for this year's event.

Covering an array of captivating futuristic fictional worlds as well as
questions raised by artificial intelligence, climate change, political
affairs and more - there is an intriguing blend of fiction, fact and
fiction based on fact to discover and explore.

We look forward to seeing you at this year's festival hub, the
Margaret River HEART, for a captivating weekend of stories,
conversations and ideas.

Tanya Perdue
Creative Director
Margaret River Readers & Writers Festival

Michelle Wright
Festival Event Manager

Welcome to Country

Kaya, Nala Maat Kaya Noonduk
(Hello, Our Family Welcomes You)
to Wadandi Boodja (Saltwater
People's Country) - we all come
together on Boodja (Country).

We Respect the presence of the
ancestors (Demmala Goomala)
who's Spirits (Djanga) reside on
country (Boodja) and walk their
feet (Djenna) on the land, their
heart spirit (Djanga Korda) flow
through all creation.

Whilst on Wadandi Boodja we
ask that you respect the land
by walking softly and take the
time to listen to Boodja as she
Wongi (Talks).

Isaac Webb
Wadandi / Pibulmun
Cultural Custodian





The McGowan Government is a proud sponsor of the Margaret River Readers and Writers Festival through its Regional Events Scheme.

The scheme was devised as a way for the Government to support smaller and emerging events in regional Western Australia to boost tourism, increase community vibrancy and participation, and develop regional areas.

The Regional Events Scheme plays an important role in positioning Western Australia as an exciting destination to visit and a great place to live by showcasing and promoting a region's unique and diverse attractions.

Sixty-eight regional events across the State have been funded through the 2019-20 Regional Events Scheme. This year's round includes the Regional Aboriginal Events Scheme with a funding pool of \$150,000 exclusively allocated to events delivering Aboriginal activities and experiences.

Tourism is a key part of the Government's plan to diversify the economy, create jobs and develop business opportunities, especially in regional Western Australia.

Events play an important role in this plan, with the Government sponsoring a range of sporting, cultural, arts and culinary events across the State, through Tourism WA, to attract more visitors, encourage them to stay longer, disperse further and do more while they are here.

We hope everyone enjoys the event and takes the time to explore the South West region.

HON PAUL PAPALIA CSC MLA
Minister for Tourism

HON ALANNAH MACTIERNAN MLC
Minister for Regional Development



Advocating for the State as a rich and vibrant arts, cultural and tourism destination is one of my priorities as Governor, so I am delighted to be the new Patron of the Margaret River Readers & Writer's Festival.

The Festival is an important event that contributes significantly to the arts scene in regional WA. It has grown from a grass-roots initiative to one which plays an important role in the promotion of new ideas, debate and discussion and the sharing of Western Australian stories within that.

The cultural, economic and social benefits that flow on from the Festival continue to increase and I am excited to be a part of its growth.

HON KIM BEAZLEY, AC
Governor of Western Australia,
Patron of the Margaret River Readers & Writers Festival



The Shire is a proud funding partner of the 2020 Margaret River Readers & Writers Festival. The event has grown from strength to strength since its inception and this year marks a first with the activation of new Margaret River HEART venue in its programming. We are delighted to welcome the community and visitors through its doors to share stories, ideas and learnings as part of this celebration of the written word. Soak up all that there is on offer and enjoy the challenge, entertainment and enjoyment of the sessions and workshops.

Thank you to Arts Margaret River for your dedication and creativity in coordinating the festival, and thank you to our fellow events partners and sponsors for giving us all this wonderful reading and writing occasion in which we can partake.

IAN EARL
President
Shire of Augusta Margaret River

GETTING HERE

FESTIVAL HUB

MARGARET RIVER HEART

MAIN STAGE, WRITERS' ROOM & OUTDOOR STAGE

51 Wallcliffe Road,
Margaret River

For all festival enquiries
contact Arts Margaret River
on 08 9758 7316

FOOD AND DRINKS

Food trucks will be available
for food and coffee.

ACCESSIBILITY

Margaret River HEART is
wheelchair accessible.
Phone Arts Margaret River
on 08 9758 7316 if you have
any questions and we will be
happy to assist.



PARKING

Festival parking will be available in a
designated areas. Walking or riding is encouraged.

ACCOMMODATION

Booking your Margaret River Readers & Writers Festival
escape has never been easier.

Visit www.mrrwfestival.com/specialdeals for
fabulous festival accommodation options.

OTHER VENUES

VOYAGER ESTATE

41 Stevens Road, Margaret River

MORRIES

2/149 Bussell Hwy, Margaret River

RIVERSMITH

122 Bussell Hwy, Margaret River

SOUTH REGIONAL TAFF

272 Bussell Hwy, Margaret River

SWINGS TAPHOUSE

85 Bussell Hwy, Margaret River

ROTARY PARK

Bussell Hwy, Margaret River

MARGARET RIVER LIBRARY

Fearn Ave, Margaret River

AUGUSTA LIBRARY

66 Allnut Terrace, Augusta

DAY ONE

FRIDAY 15 MAY

9.30AM **MAIN STAGE**
MARGARET RIVER HEART

Half The Perfect World

Half the Perfect World tells the story
of the post-war international artist
community that formed on the Greek
island of Hydra. Most famously, it
included renowned singer-songwriter
Leonard Cohen and his partner
Marianne Ihlen and Australian
literary couple, Charmian Clift and
George Johnston. Join authors **Paul
Genoni** and **Tanya Dalziel** as they
speak about their book which won
the 2019 Prime Minister's Literary
Prize for non-fiction.

PRESENTED BY: WILL YEOMAN

SPONSORED BY:
PEPPERMINT BROOK COTTAGES

\$20 OR INCLUDED IN FESTIVAL PASS

11AM **MAIN STAGE**
MARGARET RIVER HEART

In This Desert, There Were Seeds

Join **Alicia Tuckerman**, **Sabrina
Dudgeon-Swift**, **Tinashe Jakwa**
and **Leslie Thiele** as they speak
about this intimate collection
of past and future dreams.
From our shifting sense of
community and identity, to our
frustrations with existing political,
social and economic structures—
this anthology transcends
boundaries and captures the
persistence of ordinary lives in
deserts literal and metaphorical.

PRESENTED BY: WILL YEOMAN

SPONSORED BY:
MARGARET RIVER PRESS

\$20 OR INCLUDED IN FESTIVAL PASS

12PM **MAIN STAGE**
MARGARET RIVER HEART

Red Can Origami

Join T.A.G Hungerford award
winner **Madelaine Dickie** as
she talks about her latest
novel *Red Can Origami*. From
the rodeos and fishing holes
of northern Australia, to the
dazzling streets of night-time
Tokyo, the story follows a bitter
collision between a native title
group and a Japanese-owned
uranium mining company
which is ripping a community
in half.

PRESENTED BY: KIRSTI MELVILLE

SPONSORED BY:
FREMANTLE PRESS

\$20 OR INCLUDED IN FESTIVAL PASS

DAY ONE **FREE EVENTS**

1PM **MAIN STAGE** MARGARET RIVER HEART

High School Special: The Children are Coming

In the age of Greta Thunberg, young people are telling the world
that they have a voice — a voice which should be heard.

Join **Alicia Tuckerman**, **Anisa Nandaula** and **Lindsay Miles** for a
thought-provoking discussion with local high school students on
what the future looks like for the younger voices of Australia.

PRESENTED BY: JAMES LUSH

SPONSORED BY: DORAL MINERAL SANDS



1PM **WRITERS' ROOM** MARGARET RIVER HEART

White Horses

Join best-selling author **Rachael Treasure** as
she shares the story of her latest book *White Horses*,
about a young woman who has to overcome
terrible loss and trauma to find the
courage to live life on her terms.

PRESENTED BY: JENNIFER BOWDEN

SPONSORED BY:
IGA MARGARET RIVER

FREE EVENT,
BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL



ABC Radio will be
broadcasting live
from the festival
on Friday from
10am-11am.



DAY ONE

FRIDAY 15 MAY

2PM MAIN STAGE MARGARET RIVER HEART

Paris Savages

Paris Savages brings history to blazing life in a novel about three Badtjala people who sailed to Europe from Fraser Island in 1882 to perform to huge crowds. While their dances, singing, fights and pole climbing are fascinating to the crowds, the attention is relentless and the scientists intrusive. Author **Katherine Johnson** reflects on bringing the past into the present and future, through research, imagination and writing.

PRESENTED BY: WILL YEOMAN

SPONSORED BY: THE RIVER HOTEL

\$20 OR INCLUDED IN FESTIVAL PASS

9.30AM WRITERS' ROOM
MARGARET RIVER HEART

Local Writers Showcase

Join local writers for a journey into the complexities of navigating the future with love, after enduring loss. **Danielle Clarke** shares the story that was started by her mother, **Patricia Cashmore** over 22 years ago; **Ginn Fourie** recounts the loss of her daughter that sparked her to write her story, **Dr Annie Horner** delves into her fictional take on 'Forgotten Australians' while **Nina Angelo** speaks about her memoir spanning four generations from war and loss to peace and love.

PRESENTED BY: MARGOT EDWARDS

SPONSORED BY: LIONS CLUB OF COWARUMUP

\$10 OR INCLUDED IN FESTIVAL PASS

3.30PM MAIN STAGE MARGARET RIVER HEART

2062: The World That AI Made

2062 is the year by which we will have built machines as intelligent as us according to predictions by the majority of leading experts. But what will this future actually look like? Join one of 100 'rock stars' of Australia's digital revolution **Professor Toby Walsh** as he considers the impact Artificial Intelligence (AI) will have on work, war, politics, economics, everyday human life and, indeed, human death.

PRESENTED BY: JAMES LUSH

SPONSORED BY: MARGARET RIVER TOURING COMPANY

\$20 OR INCLUDED IN FESTIVAL PASS

11AM WRITERS' ROOM
MARGARET RIVER HEART

Bad to Worse

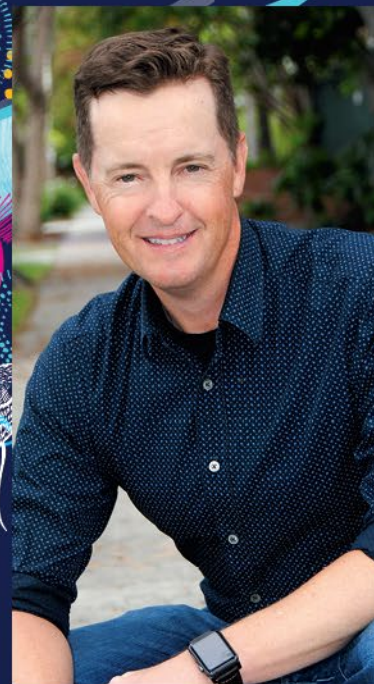
Join author **Robert Edeson** as he speaks about his novel *Bad to Worse*, where friendship and morality triumph over evil plots and cunning plans in a most entertaining way.

SPONSORED BY:
FREMANTLE PRESS

\$10 OR INCLUDED IN FESTIVAL PASS



FESTIVAL LAUNCH



7PM - 9PM MARGARET RIVER HEART MAIN STAGE

Festival Launch

Join us for the opening of the 2020 Margaret River Readers & Writers Festival. Enjoy Vasse Felix wines plus a delicious selection of canapes, while the sounds of **Tilly Kay & Dave Rastrix** fill the air. Guests will then be seated for a welcome to country by Wadandi man **Isaac (Waalitj) Webb**, an address by our new festival Patron the **Hon. Kim Beazley AC** and a talk by special guest and international best-selling author **Matthew Reilly**.

PRESENTED BY: JANE CARO

SPONSORED BY: STATE GOVERNMENT
OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA, VASSE FELIX,
MARGARET RIVER CATERING AND HIRE
& UNDALUP ASSOCIATION

\$40 / \$30 ARTS HUB MEMBERS



12PM WRITERS' ROOM
MARGARET RIVER HEART

Cautionary Tales

Fiction can have a profound impact on the way we perceive real-world issues. Join **Craig Ensor**, author of *The Warming* and **Midge Raymond**, author of *My Last Continent* as they remind us that literature has the power to shape ideas and reflect aspects of the environmental and political landscape in a new light.

PRESENTED BY: BEN MCKELVEY

SPONSORED BY:
VASSE VALLEY

\$10 OR INCLUDED IN FESTIVAL PASS

2PM WRITERS' ROOM
MARGARET RIVER HEART

Women of Words

Love, death, relationships, and family are the stuff of life and of great contemporary fiction, so why are most novels in the genre called Women's Fiction? Join **Rachael Treasure**, **Rachael Johns** and **Lily Malone** as they discuss their latest books, what makes a great read, and their thoughts on the genre going into the future.

PRESENTED BY: NICOLE SINCLAIR

SPONSORED BY:
ZANI PLACE ARTIST'S RETREAT

\$10 OR INCLUDED IN FESTIVAL PASS

3.30PM WRITERS' ROOM
MARGARET RIVER HEART

Storytime

Author and literary journalist **Jane Sullivan** takes us from Wonderland to Narnia; is enchanted by Winnie-the-Pooh and the Magic Pudding, amazed by Enid Blyton and frightened by the Tales of Terror. With experiences from prominent Australian writers, including Melina Marchetta and Trent Dalton, *Storytime* explores how the enchantment of books can shape the people we become.

PRESENTED BY: SARAH McNEILL

SPONSORED BY: VENTURA PRESS

\$10 OR INCLUDED IN FESTIVAL PASS

DAY TWO

SATURDAY 16 MAY

IMAGE: CHRIS CHERAR



9.30AM **MAIN STAGE**
MARGARET RIVER HEART

Green Nomads Wild Places

Visit some of the most remote and beautiful places of south and west Australia in *Green Nomads Wild Places*, about **Bob Brown** and partner **Paul Thomas**'s three-month adventure across Australia. Experience the spectacular Australian landscape through the eyes of two of our environments greatest activists.

PRESENTED BY: WILL YEOMAN
SPONSORED BY:
MAINBREAK TRAVEL
\$25 OR INCLUDED IN FESTIVAL PASS



11AM **MAIN STAGE**
MARGARET RIVER HEART

City on Fire

In *City on Fire*, **Antony Dapiran** provides the first detailed account of the Hong Kong protests, and how a leaderless, technology-driven protest movement defied a global superpower and changed Hong Kong, perhaps forever. Antony considers the city's long history of dissent, and looks at what the protests will mean for the future of Hong Kong, China, and China's place in the world.

PRESENTED BY: MERI FATIN
SPONSORED BY:
MARGARET RIVER BOOKSHOP
\$20 OR INCLUDED IN FESTIVAL PASS



12PM **MAIN STAGE**
MARGARET RIVER HEART

Bruny

A right-wing US president has withdrawn America from the Middle East and the UN. China is Australia's newest ally. When a bomb goes off in remote Tasmania, the story of *Bruny* unfolds. Join **Heather Rose**, winner of the 2017 Stella Prize, for her latest novel about family, love, loyalty and the new world order.

PRESENTED BY: WILL YEOMAN
SPONSORED BY:
HARLIQUIN DESSERTS
\$20 OR INCLUDED IN FESTIVAL PASS



2PM **MAIN STAGE** MARGARET RIVER HEART

Where to After #MeToo

Renowned for the courage of their convictions, passion for social justice and commitment to equality **Jane Caro**, **Tracey Spicer** and **Dr Lee Kofman** will look at the role of social media, the power of the hashtag in creating social change and take a glimpse into the future from a female perspective.

PRESENTED BY: MERI FATIN
SPONSORED BY: MARGARET RIVER BUSSELTON TOURISM ASSOCIATION
\$25 OR INCLUDED IN FESTIVAL PASS

IMAGE: GRANT TURNER



3.30PM **MAIN STAGE** MARGARET RIVER HEART

How to Be Human

Artificial intelligence can now write fiction and journalism, so what does this mean? Are we really going to be replaced by robots? Or become part-robot? Is it possible to retain what it means to be human? Join **Toby Walsh**, **Donna Mazza** and **Benjamin Law** for a must-see session that will get you thinking about our desire to be human in a rapidly changing world.

PRESENTED BY: JAMES LUSH
SPONSORED BY: ROTARY CLUB OF MARGARET RIVER
\$20 OR INCLUDED IN FESTIVAL PASS

5PM **MAIN STAGE** MARGARET RIVER HEART

PechaKucha Sundowner

Global performance phenomenon PechaKucha sees festival guests present 20 images for 20 seconds each. Full to the brim with intriguing ideas, captivating conversation starters and sure to be a festival favourite, buy yourself a glass of wine at the bar and come along to experience this unique and fast-paced storytelling format. Features: **Tracey Spicer**, **Madelaine Dickie**, **Robert Edeson**, **Toby Walsh** and **Anisa Nandaula**.

PRESENTED BY: SARINA KAMINI
SPONSORED BY: THE BREAK – MARGARET RIVER BEACH HOUSES
\$25 OR INCLUDED IN FESTIVAL PASS



FREE EVENT ALL WELCOME

1PM **MAIN STAGE** MARGARET RIVER HEART

Less Stuff

PRESENTED BY: JAMES LUSH
SPONSORED BY: LOTTERYWEST

Clutter impacts on our productivity, stresses us out and keeps us stuck. Why do we let our stuff stand in the way of the lives we dream about? **Lindsay Miles** speaks about her guide to a planet with less strain, a home with more peace and a life with more meaning, as well as the role social media can play in spreading the word.

FREE EVENT

1PM
MARGARET RIVER HEART
OUTDOOR STAGE

Kids Stories Live on Stage

See page 16 for details.

DAY TWO

SATURDAY 16 MAY

9.30AM **WRITERS' ROOM**
MARGARET RIVER HEART

Imperfect

Lee Kofman's illuminating book *Imperfect* blends memoir and cultural critique to cast a questioning eye on beauty myths and what it's like to live in a body that deviates from the norm. Join Lee for a thought-provoking glimpse that extends far beyond the clichés of social acceptance.

PRESENTED BY: SARAH McNEILL
SPONSORED BY: ROSILY WINES
\$10 OR INCLUDED IN FESTIVAL PASS

1PM **WRITERS' ROOM**
MARGARET RIVER HEART

Lit Live Performance: Future Tense

A great short story will provoke, inspire, enlighten and move us, and who better to bring the drama of stories to life than some of WA's best-known and best-loved actors? Inspired by New York's Selected Shorts performances, Lit Live explores relevant themes, the works of guest authors and introduces literature lovers to the short story form.

PRESENTED BY: SARAH McNEILL
SPONSORED BY: LIONS CLUB OF MARGARET RIVER
\$10 OR INCLUDED IN FESTIVAL PASS

11AM **WRITERS' ROOM**
MARGARET RIVER HEART

Paddock or Petri Dish

Our panellists share their thoughts on the future of food, sustainable agriculture and how best to live a no-waste life. Features author and regenerative agriculturalist **Rachael Treasure**, food journalist **Max Brearley**, Professor of Sustainability **Dora Marinova**, and author of *The Less Fuss, No Waste Kitchen* **Lindsay Miles**.

PRESENTED BY: SARINA KAMINI
SPONSORED BY: SEVEN SEAS TEA
\$10 OR INCLUDED IN FESTIVAL PASS

2PM **WRITERS' ROOM**
MARGARET RIVER HEART

Bringing Books to Life

Whether you're an aspiring author, a published writer, or a reader who is interested in a behind-the-scenes look at how some of your favourite books are created, here is your chance to hear from our experts and authors and to ask your questions! Featuring **Deborah Lee** from Ingram Content Group, bookseller and writer **Michael Earp**, ghostwriter & journalist **Ben McKelvey** and author and Regional Vice President of the NT Writers' Centre **Tanya Heaslip**.

PRESENTED BY: JENNIFER BOWDEN
SPONSORED BY: NIGHT HARVEST WINES
\$10 OR INCLUDED IN FESTIVAL PASS

12PM **WRITERS' ROOM**
MARGARET RIVER HEART

The Old Lie

Claire G. Coleman discusses indigenous speculative fiction and her latest book, *The Old Lie*. Taking us into the future, where Indigenous Australian characters have one desire: to return to their home, to country. But Australia's real history will repeat itself in this futuristic fictional world. Everything has changed, but nothing has changed.

PRESENTED BY: MADELAINE DICKIE
SPONSORED BY: ABC SOUTH WEST WA
\$10 OR INCLUDED IN FESTIVAL PASS

3.30PM **WRITERS' ROOM**
MARGARET RIVER HEART

Back to the Future

Join **Claire G. Coleman** and **Katherine Johnson** as they revisit history, disrupt cultural paradigms and discuss how collective memory can shape the future if it goes unchallenged. The authors reveal how they discovered their subjects, wrote engaging narratives, and the consequences of their writing.

PRESENTED BY: KIRSTI MELVILLE
SPONSORED BY: BETTENAYS MARGARET RIVER
\$10 OR INCLUDED IN FESTIVAL PASS

DAY THREE

SUNDAY 17 MAY



9.30AM **MAIN STAGE**
MARGARET RIVER HEART

Coffee & Papers

Start your morning with a coffee, the day's news and hot topics as told by our journalists, festival guests and local icons. Touching on topics from the past year including the Hong Kong riots, Greta Thunberg's declaration of a climate emergency and the Australian bushfires this event will make for a thought-provoking start to the day.

Features **Antony Dapiran**, **Kirsti Melville**, **Ben McKelvey**, **Nicky Lefebvre** and **Tinashe Jakwa** with live illustration by **Kelly Canby**.

PRESENTED BY: JAMES LUSH
SPONSORED BY: AUGUSTA MARGARET RIVER MAIL & POST NEWSPAPERS
\$20 OR INCLUDED IN FESTIVAL PASS



11AM **MAIN STAGE**
MARGARET RIVER HEART

Accidental Feminists

Women over fifty-five are of the generation that changed everything, without expecting or intending to. *Accidental Feminists* a celebration of grit, adaptability, energy and persistence written by renowned writer and social commentator **Jane Caro**. It is also a plea for future generations to keep agitating for a better, fairer world.

PRESENTED BY: SARAH McNEILL
SPONSORED BY: EMPIRE EVENTS
\$25 OR INCLUDED IN FESTIVAL PASS



12PM **MAIN STAGE**
MARGARET RIVER HEART

The Secret Runners of New York

From the author who has given his readers dragons, hovering cars and ancient wonders, join **Matthew Reilly** for a riveting time travel story centred on rumours of a coming global apocalypse. Joining us all the way from Los Angeles, join this bestselling international author as he talks about his latest novel and how the end of the world can be the perfect time for revenge.

PRESENTED BY: MERI FATIN
SPONSORED BY: CAPE LODGE
\$30 OR INCLUDED IN FESTIVAL PASS

FREE EVENT 10.30AM
MARGARET RIVER HEART OUTDOOR STAGE
Poetry for the People
See page 16 for details.

FREE EVENT

1PM MARGARET RIVER HEART MAIN STAGE

Kindred: #LoveOzYASeries

Twelve of Australia's best writers from the LGBTQ+ community were brought together in a ground-breaking collection of YA short stories. Three of them join us to speak about this fresh and exciting anthology on what it means to be queer, and indeed, human.

Panellists include: Benjamin Law, Michael Earp and Claire G. Coleman.

PRESENTED BY: ALICIA TUCKERMAN

SPONSORED BY: SETTLERS TAVERN

IN RECOGNITION OF TODAY AS THE INTERNATIONAL DAY AGAINST HOMOPHOBIA, TRANSPHOBIA AND BIPHOBIA.



2PM MAIN STAGE
MARGARET RIVER HEART

Culture of Connection

The digital revolution has changed the way we interact. It's than easier than ever to communicate across borders, in real-time, in different languages and even without words. What does the future hold for the way we communicate? Join **Jane Caro, Antony Dapiran, Tinashe Jakwa** and **Benjamin Law** for a thought provoking session on how technology is changing us and the world in which we live.

PRESENTED BY: JAMES LUSH

SPONSORED BY: REGIONAL ARTS WA

\$25 OR INCLUDED IN FESTIVAL PASS

3.30PM MAIN STAGE
MARGARET RIVER HEART

The Good Girl Stripped Bare

Tracey Spicer landed a dream role as a national television news anchor but the journalist found that, for women, TV was less about news and more about helmet hair, masses of makeup and fatuous fashion. Join Tracey as she speaks about her frank and funny 'femmoir'.

PRESENTED BY: MERI FATIN

SPONSORED BY: MARGARET RIVER WINE INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION

\$25 OR INCLUDED IN FESTIVAL PASS

4.30PM MAIN STAGE
MARGARET RIVER HEART

Closing Event Reasons to be Cheerful

While fear of climate change and political instability often prevails, we are also surrounded by an abundance of positive stories — but they don't always get the same attention. Join **Jane Caro, Benjamin Law** and **Bob Brown** for reasons to be cheerful in 2020 and beyond.

PRESENTED BY: JAMES LUSH

SPONSORED BY: ARTS MARGARET RIVER

\$20 OR INCLUDED IN FESTIVAL PASS

9.30AM WRITERS' ROOM
MARGARET RIVER HEART

Crime Fiction of the Future

Join two of Australia's finest crime writers **Dervla McTiernan** and **Sara Foster** for a captivating conversation about their latest novels. Sharing the ideas and inspirations behind their books, Dervla and Sara will also share their thoughts about how changes in crime might be reflected in crime fiction in the future.

PRESENTED BY: WILL YEOMAN

SPONSORED BY: MARGARET'S FOREST HOLIDAY APARTMENTS

\$10 OR INCLUDED IN FESTIVAL PASS

1PM WRITERS' ROOM
MARGARET RIVER HEART

The Bee and the Orange Tree

It's 1699, and the salons of Paris are bursting with the creative energy of fierce, independent-minded women. But outside those doors, the patriarchal forces of Louis XIV and the Catholic Church are moving to curb their freedoms. In this battle for equality 'fairy tales' are invented. Join **Melissa Ashley**, author of *The Bee and the Orange Tree* and *The Birdman's Wife*, to hear about the power of the imagination and where it can take us.

PRESENTED BY: JANE SULLIVAN

SPONSORED BY: AFFIRM PRESS

\$10 OR INCLUDED IN FESTIVAL PASS

11AM WRITERS' ROOM
MARGARET RIVER HEART

Fauna

Fauna by **Donna Mazza** is an emotionally engaging, literary and slightly futuristic novel for anyone who loves a heart-wrenching story of love and motherhood, corporate commodification and the surveillance state. Challenging the intrusive nature of genetic technologies and drawing on current research of de-extinction it imagines what might happen if we bring the extinct back to life.

PRESENTED BY: KIRSTI MELVILLE

SPONSORED BY: SOUL CAMPING

\$10 OR INCLUDED IN FESTIVAL PASS

2PM WRITERS' ROOM
MARGARET RIVER HEART

Future Tense Fiction

Join **Heather Rose, Donna Mazza** and **Craig Ensor** for a glimpse into imagined futures as told in their latest books. From politics to genetic modification, global warming to terrorism — is it really all doom and gloom? A must-see discussion that looks at the role writing and the arts has in exploring our future and it's impact.

PRESENTED BY: SARAH McNEILL

SPONSORED BY: MARGARET RIVER HOTEL

\$20 OR INCLUDED IN FESTIVAL PASS

12PM WRITERS' ROOM
MARGARET RIVER HEART

A Lifetime of Impossible Days

Tabitha Bird's stunning debut novel is a magical, life-affirming book about heartbreak, healing and learning to forgive yourself. Meet Willa Waters, aged 8 . . . 33 . . . and 93. Can the three Willas come together, to heal their past and save their future, before it's too late?

PRESENTED BY: NICOLE SINCLAIR

SPONSORED BY: TBC

\$10 OR INCLUDED IN FESTIVAL PASS

3.30PM WRITERS' ROOM
MARGARET RIVER HEART

Spice Stories

Join Australian-Kashmiri Spice Mistress, **Sarina Kamini**, as she evokes family, food, spice and memory through the stories of four dishes presented for you to taste. Share with The Spice Mistress how our senses and memories shape ideas about our present and future in a session full of flavour and fun.

SPONSORED BY: SUMMERSTAR TOURIST PARK

\$10 OR INCLUDED IN FESTIVAL PASS

FEATURE EVENTS

For the ultimate festival experience, book tickets to one or more of these feature events for emerging writers, avid readers and those who enjoy their books served with the region's best produce.

Please note, tickets to Feature Events are not included in Festival Passes. Bookings essential.

SATURDAY 16 MAY 7.30AM - 9AM
ROTARY PARK



Walk at Wooditjup Bilya

Join Wadandi Cultural Custodian **Isaac (Waalitj) Webb** for a walk along Wooditj Bilya (Margaret River), while he describes Wadandi knowledge and culture of the river, known as the Wooditjup Bilya. Our rivers are such a vital part of life which must be protected by all of us, for the future. Water is life. This is a unique chance to hear the cultural story behind a name we are all so familiar with, the 'Margaret River'.

Meet at the bridge at Rotary Park at 7.30am, walk departs at 8am.

PRESENTED BY: ISZAAC (WAALITJ) WEBB
SPONSORED BY:
UNDALUP ASSOCIATION INC
\$30 / \$25 ARTS HUB MEMBERS

SATURDAY 16 MAY 7.30AM - 9AM
MORRIES



Storytellers Breakfast

Join festival guests as they share their experiences of putting their imaginations and even their lives on the page. With fresh and compelling stories to tell, these writers will share some of the moments that have made them laugh along the way over this breakfast for literature lovers. Features **Heather Rose, Dervla McTiernan** and **Melissa Ashley**.

Breakfast from 7.30am, talk commences at 8am.

PRESENTED BY: JENNIFER BOWDEN
SPONSORED BY:
MORRIES
\$30 / \$25 ARTS HUB MEMBERS

SATURDAY 16 MAY 4PM - 5PM
RIVERSMTH



An Alice Girl

After a sell-out event at last year's festival, **Tanya Heaslip** joins us for the launch of her next book *An Alice Girl* in which she shares stories of her early years on a cattle station north of Alice Springs. Whether working with large mobs of cattle and stockmen, playing 'cattleduffing' on horseback or doing School of the Air, she led a childhood unimaginable to many Australians.

PRESENTED BY: MARGOT EDWARDS
SPONSORED BY: RIVERSMTH CAFÉ
\$15 / \$10 ARTS HUB MEMBERS
INCLUDES A GLASS OF WINE
ON ARRIVAL

FESTIVAL LAUNCH



FRIDAY 15 MAY 7PM - 9PM
MARGARET RIVER HEART MAIN STAGE

Festival Launch

Join us for the opening of the 2020 Margaret River Readers & Writers Festival. Enjoy Vasse Felix wines plus a delicious selection of canapes, while the sounds of **Tilly Kay & Dave Rastrix** fill the air. Guests will then be seated for a welcome to country by Wadandi man **Isaac (Waalitj) Webb**, an address by our new festival Patron the Hon. **Kim Beazley AC** and a talk by special guest and international best-selling author **Matthew Reilly**.

PRESENTED BY: JANE CARO

SPONSORED BY: STATE GOVERNMENT
OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA, VASSE FELIX,
MARGARET RIVER CATERING AND HIRE
& UNDALUP ASSOCIATION

\$40 / \$30 ARTS HUB MEMBERS



SATURDAY 16 MAY 7PM
VOYAGER ESTATE RESTAURANT



An evening with Matthew Reilly

Joining us from Los Angeles, **Matthew Reilly** is the internationally bestselling author of the *Scarecrow* series, the *Jack West* series and numerous standalone novels. His books are published in over 20 languages with worldwide sales of over 7 million copies. He has optioned the film rights to many of his novels to various major movie studios including Disney, Paramount, Sony and Fox. We talk to the legend himself in this once in a lifetime opportunity to get to know one of the most popular writers of our time.

PRESENTED BY: WILL YEOMAN
SPONSORED BY: VOYAGER ESTATE
\$110 / \$90 ARTS HUB MEMBERS

SUNDAY 17 MAY 9AM - 10.30AM
VOYAGER ESTATE RESTAURANT



Planet Earth

Bob Brown has taken a courageous, and often politically lonely, stand on issues around saving our planet for many years, whether they have a local or international focus. Join us for inspirations and thoughts from a planet warrior as told in *Planet Earth*, a book which is both an inspiration and a call to action. Includes breakfast.

PRESENTED BY: MERI FATIN
SPONSORED BY: VOYAGER ESTATE
\$50 / \$40 ARTS HUB MEMBERS



MORE FREE EVENTS

ALL
WELCOME

OUTDOOR STAGE

SATURDAY 16 MAY 1PM
MARGARET RIVER HEART | OUTDOOR STAGE



Kids Stories Live on Stage

Join authors from our Young Readers & Writers Festival **Kelly Canby, Mark Greenwood** and **Sabrina Dudgeon-Swift** as they talk about their books and their favourite moments from talking to local school students. Followed by an author 'meet & greet' this is the perfect chance to meet the authors and have your book signed.

SPONSORED BY: LOTTERYWEST
FREE EVENT | ALL WELCOME

LOCAL LIBRARIES

FRIDAY 15 MAY 2PM - 3PM
AUGUSTA LIBRARY

Don't Cry, Dance

A powerful memoir of love and resilience from Auschwitz to Australia. Janka and Alberto both survived the death camps of Europe. As a storyteller and community artist, their daughter **Nina Angelo** knew it was time for her to add her story to theirs, and weave a lasting memory and tale of forgiveness for future generations.

SPONSORED BY: SHIRE OF AUGUSTA MARGARET RIVER
FREE EVENT | ALL WELCOME | BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL



SUNDAY 17 MAY 10.30AM
MARGARET RIVER HEART | OUTDOOR STAGE



Poetry for the People

Join **Tabitha Bird, Melissa Ashley** and **Anisa Nandaula** as they share their poems on the importance of stories, wild places, ourselves, and the need to protect what we have for future generations.

SPONSORED BY: LOTTERYWEST
FREE EVENT | ALL WELCOME

SATURDAY 16 MAY 10AM - 11AM
MARGARET RIVER LIBRARY

If I Tell You

Alicia Tuckerman is a driving force for young LGBT voices within Australia. Alicia draws on her life experiences to explore the joys, triumphs and cruelties of modern day adolescence and considers there is no fantasy world she could create that is more terrifyingly beautiful than the one we're expected to live in. Join Alicia as shares the story of her debut YA novel *If I Tell You*.

SPONSORED BY: SHIRE OF AUGUSTA MARGARET RIVER
FREE EVENT | ALL WELCOME | BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL



FREE EVENTS FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY

LIVE MUSIC
STORYTELLING TENT
FOOD VANS
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1PM EACH DAY
AND MORE

For details visit
www.mrrwfestival.com



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PLUS EXPERIENCE THE VISUAL STORIES ART COMPETITION & EXHIBITION
FUTURE TENSE ARTWORKS BY LOCAL ARTISTS ON DISPLAY AT THE MARGARET RIVER HEART

COFFEE, SNACKS & FOOD

If all the entertainment has you feeling hungry, we have plenty of food options for you!



Margaret River
Catering & Hire

Taco Chef

Lazy Susan

IMAGES: MICHELLE TROOP

IMAGE: MICHELLE TROOP

FESTIVAL WORKSHOP SERIES

For full access to some of the festival's top writing talents, immerse yourself in the Festival Workshop Series to gain friendly tips and practical experience, whatever your writing passion may be.

FRIDAY

FRIDAY 15 MAY 9.30AM - 11AM
MR HEART COURTYARD



Let's Get Poetic

This intimate workshop is for anyone interested in learning how to own and share their story through the medium of spoken word. **Anisa Nandaula** is a nationally recognised spoken word poet, play writer, educator and published author. With this workshop you will gain a greater understanding of your story, by using poetic devices to examine your beliefs, values and identity.

SPONSORED BY:
TBA

\$30 / \$25 ARTS HUB MEMBERS,
BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL

FRIDAY 15 MAY 1.30PM - 3PM
SOUTH REGIONAL TAFF



Drawing a Story

Writer and Illustrator **Kelly Canby** applies her quirky style to the pages of everything from picture books, to chapter books, to early reader books, to colouring books and beyond! Here is your chance to be guided by Kelly herself, who is on the judging panel for the annual Shaun Tan Illustration Awards. Learn the basics of character design and composition and have a go at some drawing to create your own visual story.

SPONSORED BY:
TBA

\$50 / \$40 ARTS HUB MEMBERS,
BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL

FRIDAY 15 MAY 3.30PM-5.30PM
SWINGS TAPHOUSE



Write What Makes You Blush

Join author and editor **Lee Kofman** for an insightful workshop about writing an honest and authentic memoir. This workshop aims to help you find the courage to write about what matters by using discussions, theory and writing exercises as well as strategies to write with distance and self-reflection. With wine available for purchase, this is a great chance to unwind and get creative.

SPONSORED BY:
SWINGS TAPHOUSE

\$50 / \$40 ARTS HUB MEMBERS,
BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL

SATURDAY

SATURDAY 16 MAY 9.30AM-11AM
SOUTH REGIONAL TAFF



Women's Fiction Workshop

Rachael Johns is a best selling women's fiction writer, with over 25 books to her name. With themes of love, loss, family and more, her novels are multi-dimensional and have a strong focus on their characters. If you're curious about how to write a page-turning women's fiction novel, join this workshop for practical tips and hints with writing exercises to help perfect your fiction.

SPONSORED BY: TBA

\$50 / \$40 ARTS HUB MEMBERS,
BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL

SATURDAY 16 MAY 1.30PM - 3PM
SOUTH REGIONAL TAFF



Green Writing

From mountaintop removal to ocean plastic to endangered species, ecological issues are increasingly on our minds. Authors and small-press publishers **Midge Raymond** and **John Yunker** will discuss how to tackle these themes in fiction and poetry as we face a future of climate uncertainty. Get tips for writing about the environment in ways that are galvanizing and instructive, including how to engage, inspire and create change.

SPONSORED BY: TBA

\$50 / \$40 ARTS HUB MEMBERS,
BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL

SATURDAY 16 MAY 3.30PM - 5PM
SOUTH REGIONAL TAFF ARTROOM



Creative Disruption Workshop

Calling all fiction writers! If you are seeking to improve the content and originality of your ideas, let bestselling author **Sara Foster** guide you through a series of exercises designed to stretch your mind and help you push the boundaries of plot, character, setting and narrative. Come prepared to share your ideas, and leave with new insights to inspire your own work.

SPONSORED BY: TBA

\$50 / \$40 ARTS HUB MEMBERS,
BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL

SUNDAY

SUNDAY 17 MAY 9.30AM - 11AM SOUTH REGIONAL TAFF

Indie Publishing Workshop

Join **Julie-Ann Harper** from **Pick-a-Woo-Woo Publishing** to discover the tricks, tips and tools of the trade in becoming a successful indie publisher. If you see yourself as the creative director of your books, from concept to completion and beyond, then this workshop is for you. The future of publishing is here, and there are more opportunities and platforms available than ever before.

SPONSORED BY: INGRAM CONTENT GROUP &
PICK-A-WOO-WOO PUBLISHING GROUP

\$30 / \$25 ARTS HUB MEMBERS, BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL

SUNDAY 17 MAY 12PM - 2PM SOUTH REGIONAL TAFF

The Perfect Pitch

Whether you want to start writing travel or lifestyle articles, compile your experiences into a cohesive draft, or pitch articles to magazines, take this workshop with **Ben McKelvey** as your guide. Ben was the Senior Features Writer at *The Sydney Morning Herald* and the editor of *Sports&Style* and *Juice* magazines. He is currently the editor of *Mr. Jones* magazine. From blogs to commercial articles and magazines, Ben will help you to develop your writing skills to captivate your readers in print and online.

SPONSORED BY: TBA

\$50 / \$40 ARTS HUB MEMBERS, BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL

MEET THE AUTHORS & GUEST SPEAKERS

The 2020 Margaret River Readers & Writers Festival showcases an array of story-telling talent. With almost 60 writers, journalists, illustrators and presenters we invite readers to join writers as we hear stories brought to life in many forms.



NINA ANGELO

Nina Angelo is an artist and writer who works with multicultural and indigenous communities. Her personal and family memoir *Don't Cry, Dance* weaves her story with her parent's legacy as Jewish survivors of Auschwitz and the holocaust. Much of her book was written during two Margaret River residencies.



IMAGE: DAVID MERRYLEES

MELISSA ASHLEY

Melissa Ashley is the author of bestselling historical novels *The Bee and the Orange Tree* (Affirm Press, 2019) and *The Birdman's Wife* (Affirm Press, 2016).



KELLY CANBY

Kelly Canby is an award winning, internationally published illustrator and author of over two dozen books for children. Kelly is on the judging panel for the annual Shaun Tan Illustration Awards and Regional Advisor for The Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators (SCBWI). Kelly's picture book *The Hole Story* recently won the 2018 West Australian Premier's Prize for Writing for Children.



JANE CARO

Jane Caro AM, is a Walkley Award winning Australian columnist, author, novelist, broadcaster, advertising writer, documentary maker, feminist and social commentator. She has published twelve books, including three novels. Her latest book *Accidental Feminists* was launched in February 2019. Her latest documentary *New Dads* screened on ABC1 in August.



TABITHA BIRD

Tabitha Bird is a writer and poet who lives and works in the rural township of Boonah, Queensland. By day Tabitha may be found painting, working on her next book or with her husband, three beautiful boys and Chihuahua. *A Lifetime of Impossible Days* is her first novel.



MAX BREARLEY

Max Brearley is a food, drink and travel journalist, writing features for the likes of *The Weekend Australian Magazine*, delicious Australia, *The Guardian*, *Halliday* and *Gourmet Traveller Wine*. He is based in the Margaret River region.



IMAGE: CHRIS CREBAR

BOB BROWN

Acclaimed author, photographer and lifelong activist, Bob Brown led the campaign to save the Franklin River in the 1980s. After 10 years in the Tasmanian Parliament, Bob was elected to the Senate where he served for 16 years. He was leader of the Australian Greens from 2005 to 2012, when he retired to establish the Bob Brown Foundation.



DANIELLE CLARKE

Danielle Clarke, Margaret River resident, self-published *Giants Amongst Their Fellows* in late 2019. Completing her late mother's 20-year-old unfinished manuscript ignited an innate passion for writing within her.



IMAGE: JEN DANNER

CLAIRE G. COLEMAN

Claire G. Coleman is a writer from Western Australia. She identifies with the South Coast Noongar people. Her family are associated with the area around Ravensthorpe and Hopetoun. Claire grew up in a Forestry settlement in the middle of a tree plantation. She wrote her black&write! fellowship-winning book *Terra Nullius* while travelling around Australia in a caravan. *The Old Lie* is her second novel.



TANYA DALZIELL

Tanya Dalziel works in English and Literary Studies at the University of Western Australia. She writes on topics related to Australian literature, film, music and modernism.



ANTONY DAPIRAN

Antony Dapiran is an Australian, Hong Kong-based writer and lawyer, and the author of two books on Hong Kong including his latest, *City on Fire: The Fight for Hong Kong*. Antony has written and presented extensively on Hong Kong and Chinese politics, culture and business. A fluent Mandarin speaker, Antony has resided between Hong Kong and Beijing for over twenty years.



IMAGE: CHARLOTTE DICKIE

MADELAINE DICKIE

Red Can Origami is Madelaine Dickie's second novel. It was written on Balangarra country, in the Kimberley, and at Youkobo Art Space in Tokyo, Japan. She lives in Exmouth, WA.



SABRINA DUDGEON-SWIFT

Sabrina Dudgeon-Swift is descended from the Bardi people from north of Broome, and the Gija people in the East Kimberley. Inspired by her heritage and her children, Sabrina is passionate about writing and sharing stories.



MICHAEL EARP

Michael Earp is the editor of Kindred: 12 Queer #LoveOzYA Stories and contributor to Underdog: #LoveOzYA Short Stories. He has worked between children's bookselling and publishing for over seventeen years.



ROBERT EDESON

Robert Edeson has been a consultant anaesthetist and researcher, publishing in the neuroscience, biophysical and mathematical literatures. He is the author of two novels, *The Weaver Fish* and *Bad to Worse*.



CRAIG ENSOR

Craig Ensor is a partner at a leading commercial law firm. He lives in Sydney with his wife and two children. He has published numerous short stories and *The Warming* is his first published novel.



SARA FOSTER

Sara Foster has written five critically acclaimed novels: *Come Back to Me*, *Beneath the Shadows*, *Shallow Breath*, *All That is Lost Between Us* and *The Hidden Hours*.



GINN FOURIE

Ginn immigrating to Margaret River from South Africa in 2015. She completed her autobiography in November 2019 *The Lyndi Tree – An Autobiography of Hope*.



PAUL GENONI

Paul Genoni is an Adjunct Associate Professor with the School of Media, Creative Arts and Social Inquiry at Curtin University. His research and publishing includes Australian literary and cultural studies.



MARK GREENWOOD

Mark Greenwood is an award-winning author with a passion for history. His recent books include the *History Mysteries* series, *The Happiness Box*, *Moonwalkers* and *The Book of Stone*.



TANYA HEASLIP

Tanya Heaslip was raised on a cattle station in Central Australia. She has since written about both her bush life and travel experiences. Tanya lives in Alice Springs with her husband and is the Regional Vice President of the NT Writers' Centre.



ANNIE HORNER

A retired teacher, Annie Horner completed a PhD in creative writing in 2018 and her book *No One Was Watching* forms part of the doctoral thesis. She now lives in Margaret River.



TINASHE JAKWA

Tinashe Jakwa is a PhD Candidate in Political Science and International Relations at the University of Western Australia, and an emerging writer and playwright.



RACHAEL JOHNS

Rachael Johns, an English teacher by trade and a mum 24/7, is the bestselling ABIA-winning author of *The Patterson Girls* and a number of other romance and women's fiction books including *The Art of Keeping Secrets*, *The Greatest Gift* and *Lost Without You*.



IMAGE: JACK LLOYD-PARKER

KATHERINE JOHNSON

Katherine Johnson is the author of three previous novels; she has won Varuna awards and Tasmanian Premier's Literary Prizes. Her recently completed PhD forms the basis of *Paris Savages*.



LEE KOFMAN

Dr Lee Kofman is a Russian-born, Israeli-Australian novelist, short story writer, essayist, memoirist and former academic based in Melbourne.



IMAGE: DANIEL FRANCISCO ROBLES

BENJAMIN LAW

Benjamin Law is a writer and journalist. His memoir, *The Family Law*, was adapted for SBS TV. Ben is co-host of ABC RN's *Stop Everything*. His latest book is *Growing Up Queer in Australia*.



NICKY LEFEBVRE

Nicky is a journalist and photographer for the *Augusta Margaret River Mail*. As well as covering community-focused news, Nicky also runs a social media and marketing business, volunteers with the Margaret River Theatre Group and frequently finds herself onstage as a vocalist and presenter around the South West.



LILY MALONE

Lily Malone might have been a painter, except her year-old son put a golf club through her canvas. So she wrote her first book, *His Brand of Beautiful*, instead. Lily has now written six full length rural romance stories and a novella. Her latest book is *Last Bridge Before Home*.



DORA MARINOVA

Dora Marinova is Professor of Sustainability at the Curtin University Sustainability Policy (CUSP) Institute. She has more than 340 refereed publications and has completed 66 PhD students who now work in academia, industry and government. She has published in prestigious journals and edited an award-winning book on the impact of meat consumption.



DONNA MAZZA

Donna Mazza writes fiction and poetry. She lectures at Edith Cowan University and is author of *Fauna* (2020, Allen & Unwin) and *The Albanian* (2007, Fremantle Press), a TAG Hungerford Award winner.



BEN MCKELVEY

Ben McKelvey is an author, journalist and editor from Sydney. He has written or co-written five biographies, including the bestselling *Songs of a War Boy*, with Deng Adut and Archie Roach's *Tell Me Why*. As a journalist Ben has worked in Syria, Iraq, Iran and Afghanistan. Ben has two books scheduled for release in 2021; one about Australians drawn into the Global War on Terror and the other an autobiography.



IMAGE: JULIA DUNN

DERVLA M TIERNAN

Dervla is the bestselling and award-winning author of *The Ruin* and *The Scholar*. *The Ruin* won the Ned Kelly Award for Best First Fiction and the Davitt Award for Best Adult Novel, and was short-listed for several awards around the world. Screen rights have been optioned by Colin Farrell's production company and Hopscotch.



LINDSAY MILES

Lindsay Miles is a passionate zero-waste and plastic-free living spokesperson, writer and educator. She has been sharing ideas and strategies on her popular website, *Treading My Own Path*, since 2013, and has been featured by the ABC and BBC, Channel 9, *The Guardian*, Seven West Media, *The Sunday Times*, *TreeHugger*, TEDx and more.



ANISA NANDAULA

Anisa is a nationally recognised spoken word poet, play writer, educator and published author. She is the 2016 Queensland Poetry Slam Champion and Runner Up for the Australian Poetry Slam Championships. In 2017 she published her first book *Melanin Garden* and was featured in the poetry collection *Solid Air*.



MIDGE RAYMOND

Midge Raymond is the author of the novel *My Last Continent* and the award-winning short-story collection *Forgetting English*, and she is co-founder of the environmental publisher Ashland Creek Press.



MATTHEW REILLY

Matthew Reilly is the internationally bestselling author of the *Scarecrow* novels, the *Jack West* novels and the standalone novels *Contest*, *Temple*, *Hover Car Racer*, *The Tournament*, *Troll Mountain* and *The Great Zoo of China*. His books are published in over 20 languages, with worldwide sales of over 7 million copies.



HEATHER ROSE

Heather Rose is the Australian author of eight novels. Her seventh novel — *The Museum of Modern Love* — won the 2017 Stella Prize. Heather's latest novel is *Bruny*.



TRACEY SPICER

Author, journalist, broadcaster, and keynote speaker Tracey Spicer AM was named 2019 NSW Premier's Woman of the Year, awarded Sydney Peace Prize and won National award for Excellence in Women's Leadership.



IMAGE: PETER DORRETT

JANE SULLIVAN

Jane Sullivan is an author, literary journalist, feature writer and editor. She has published three books, and currently writes for *The Age/SMH* in a Saturday column, *Turning Pages*, examining the publishing industry.



LESLIE THIELE

Leslie is a writer based in the south west of Western Australia. Her short fiction centres around her characters reactions to the world they live in and social change. Leslie is a keen student of human nature in all its manifestations.



PAUL THOMAS

Paul Thomas, who is a farmer, has been a jackeroo, local sportsman, community worker, social activist, environmentalist and art curator. He served two terms as a Greens councillor on the Huon Valley Council (1996–2002). His farm overlooks Randalls Bay in southern Tasmania.



IMAGE: ALASTAIR BETT

RACHAEL TREASURE

Rachael Treasure lives in Southern Tasmania with her two teenage children and partner, Daniel. Together they are restoring farming landscapes using regenerative agricultural methods. Her first novel, *Jillaroo*, blazed a trail in the Australian publishing industry. *White Horses* is her seventh novel.

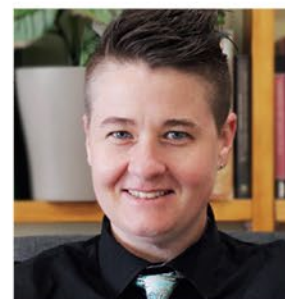


IMAGE: CLAUDIA MANCINI

ALICIA TUCKERMAN

Alicia Tuckerman is a driving force for young LGBT voices within Australia. Alicia is a lawyer and now lives in the Swan Valley region of Perth with her two children.



IMAGE: GRANT TURNER

TOBY WALSH

Toby Walsh is Professor of Artificial Intelligence at UNSW and Fellow of the Australia Academy of Science. He appears regularly on TV and radio. His most recent book is 2062: *The World that AI Made*.



JOHN YUNKER

John Yunker is author of *The Tourist Trail* and *Where Oceans Hide Their Dead*; editor of *Among Animals*, *Among Animals 2*, and *Writing for Animals*; and co-founder of Ashland Creek Press.

MEET THE PRESENTERS



JENNIFER BOWDEN

Jen Bowden is a writer, journalist and editor. She studied at Edinburgh University and the prestigious Journalism School at City University, London. She has written for a number of magazines and newspapers including *The Guardian*, *The Daily Mail*, *The Scotsman*, *Westerly* and *The List*.



MARGOT EDWARDS

Margot Edwards is a writer, storyteller, playwright and community artist, based in Margaret River since 1990, previously from NSW.



MERI FATIN

Former ABC producer and award-winning journalist, Meri Fatin specialises in finding the deeper story, to elicit a fresh experience for both guest and audience alike. Her podcast is called *Rare Air*.



JULIE-ANN HARPER

Julie-Ann has been involved with writing and publishing since 1997. As an author she has over 55 titles to her name including co-author of award-winning academic books and children's books. She has trade, indie, boutique published and is cognizant of the value of each. She shares her expertise via her company Pickawoowoo Publishing Group.



SARINA KAMINI

Sarina Kamini is a former international food critic and food journalist, turned author and *Spice Mistress*. The Kashmiri-Australian export and now Margaret River local, uses spice as a medium for storytelling, expression, connection and - of course - exploration of flavour.



JAMES LUSH

James started out at the BBC in the UK and has been a regular on ABC Perth over the past 12 years. He's Founder and Director of Lush the Content Agency.



SARAH McNEILL

Sarah McNeill is an actor, arts writer, MC and presenter. She is the arts editor for a Perth newspaper, covering theatre, arts, literature, film and food around Perth with interviews, previews and reviews.



KIRSTI MELVILLE

Kirsti Melville is an avid reader and a Walkley award-winning documentary producer for ABC Radio National's *Earshot*. Her love for audio stories is driven by a deep curiosity for untold stories, a strong sense of social justice and a desire to pick apart the complexities of human relationships.



ROSI MOORE-FIANDER

A regular MC on the Margaret River Readers & Writers Festival stage, Rosi also works internationally as a leadership coach to earn the money she needs to satisfy her two constant cravings, namely reading and travelling.



NICOLE SINCLAIR

Nicole Sinclair has a PhD in Creative Writing and her first novel, *Bloodlines*, was shortlisted for the 2014 TAG Hungerford Award. Nicole's short fiction and non-fiction has appeared in the Review of Australian Fiction, *Westerly*, *Indigo Journal* and Award Winning Australian Writing.



MEET THE PRESENTERS



IAN SMITH

Bookworm isn't necessarily a word you would associate with Ian, but give him a musician's biography or the latest Harlan Coben novel and he'll be hidden away for a good few days. Ian is honoured to have been asked to MC the Writers Room at this year's festival.



ISZAAC WEBB

Iszaac Webb is a Wadandi / Pibulmun Cultural Custodian and Undalup Association Board Chairperson. The Wadandi people have a long association with the environment of the South West and its natural resources, utilising the Country's natural resources according to our lore.



WILL YEOMAN

Former Literary Editor and Senior Arts Writer at the West Australian, William Yeoman is now a Travel Journalist with the West Australian and West Travel Club. He continues to write music criticism for Limelight and Gramophone classical music magazines.

FESTIVAL PODCASTS

Missed a session?

Or want to hear that again?

Some of the highlights from this year's festival will be available as podcasts soon after the event.

Listen at www.mrrwfestival.com/podcasts or download from **Apple Podcasts** or **Spotify**.



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Share your favourite festival moments to keep the story going.

WELCOME to AUSTRALIA'S SOUTH WEST REGION

Top 10 things to do in the Busselton-Margaret River Region

1. Walk or train to the end of the Busselton Jetty and come face-to-face with marine life at its underwater observatory.
2. Spot migrating humpback, southern right and blue whales on a whale watching tour from Augusta (June through to September) or Busselton and Dunsborough (September to December).
3. Picnic or camp among the karri trees in Boranup Forest and stargaze at Injidup Natural Spa.
4. Taste the region's finest drops on a winery, distillery or brewery tour, or go at your own paces with a self-drive cellar door hop. Finish your foodie adventure with a long table lunch.
5. Watch the sun set over the ocean from the picturesque Yallingup. Awarded Australia's best town in the 2019 Australian Traveller Magazine.
6. Get up close to wild stingrays and eagle rays at Hamelin Bay.
7. Head underground and explore four of the region's magical caves – Jewel, Lake, Mammoth and Ngilgi.
8. Walk a section of the 135km-long Cape to Cape Track (or all of it, if you're game!), and spot sea creatures, beautiful wildflowers and magnificent coast along the way.
9. Wade, cruise or swim with wild bottlenose dolphins in Koombana Bay.
10. Try your hand at a water sport – from water skiing at Lake Stockton, to stand up paddle boarding in Koombana Bay. Don't forget about kite surfing, white water rafting, fishing and swimming in rivers, natural pools or the sea!

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Special thanks to Flora, the Green Room caravan by brittasorenson.com



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SCHEDULE



FRIDAY 15 MAY

	MAIN STAGE MARGARET RIVER HEART	WRITERS' ROOM MARGARET RIVER HEART	FEATURE EVENTS	WORKSHOPS	FREE EVENTS
9.30am	Half The Perfect World, P5	Local Writers Showcase, P6		9.30am - 11am Let's Get Poetic MARGARET RIVER HEART COURTYARD, P18	10am - 11am ABC Radio Outside Broadcast MARGARET RIVER HEART, P5
11am	In This Desert, There Were Seeds, P5	Bad to Worse, P6			
12pm	Red Can Origami, P5	Cautionary Tales, P7			1PM High School Special, see Main Stage White Horses, see Writers' Room, P5
1pm	High School Special: The Children are Coming FREE EVENT , P4	White Horses FREE EVENT , P5		1.30pm - 3pm Drawing a Story SOUTH REGIONAL TAFE, P18	
2pm	Paris Savages, P6	Women of Words, P7			2pm Don't Cry, Dance AUGUSTA LIBRARY, P16
3.30pm	2062: The World That AI Made, P6	Storytime, P7		3.30pm - 5.30pm Write What Makes You Blush SWINGS TAPHOUSE, P18	
	Festival Launch, see Feature Events, P7, 15		7pm - 9pm: Festival Launch, P7, 15 MARGARET RIVER HEART, MAIN STAGE		

SATURDAY 16 MAY

	MAIN STAGE MARGARET RIVER HEART	WRITERS' ROOM MARGARET RIVER HEART	FEATURE EVENTS	WORKSHOPS	FREE EVENTS
7.30am			7.30am-9am: Walk at Wooditjup Bilya, (Margaret River), ROTARY PARK, P14		
9.30am	Green Nomads, Wild Places, P8	Imperfect	7.30am - 9am Storytellers Breakfast MORRIES, P14	9.30am - 11am Women's Fiction Workshop SOUTH REGIONAL TAFE, P19	10am - 11am If I Tell You MARGARET RIVER LIBRARY
11am	City on Fire, P8	Paddock or Petri Dish			
12pm	Bruny, P8	The Old Lie		1.30pm - 3pm Green Writing SOUTH REGIONAL TAFE, P19	1pm Less Stuff, see Main Stage, P16 Kids Stories Live on Stage MARGARET RIVER HEART OUTDOOR STAGE, P16
1pm	Less Stuff, FREE EVENT , P8	Lit Live Performance: Future Tense			
2pm	Where to After #MeToo, P9	Bringing Books to Life			
3.30pm	How to Be Human, P9	Back to the Future	4pm - 5pm: An Alice Girl RIVERSMITH CAFÉ, P14	3.30pm - 5pm Creative Disruption Workshop SOUTH REGIONAL TAFE ARTROOM, P19	
5pm	PechaKucha Sundowner, P9		7pm: An evening with Matthew Reilly VOYAGER ESTATE, P15		

SUNDAY 17 MAY

	MAIN STAGE MARGARET RIVER HEART	WRITERS' ROOM MARGARET RIVER HEART	FEATURE EVENTS	WORKSHOPS	FREE EVENTS
9.30am	Coffee & Papers, P11	Crime Fiction of the Future, P13	9am - 10.30am Planet Earth VOYAGER ESTATE RESTAURANT, P15	9.30am - 11am Indie Publishing Workshop SOUTH REGIONAL TAFE, P19	10.30am Poetry for the People MARGARET RIVER HEART OUTDOOR STAGE, P16
11am	Accidental Feminists, P11	Fauna, P13			
12pm	The Secret Runners of New York, P11	A Lifetime of Impossible Days, P13		12pm - 2pm The Perfect Pitch SOUTH REGIONAL TAFE, P19	1pm Kindred: #LoveOZYAStories See Main Stage, P12
1pm	Kindred: #LoveOZYAStories, FREE EVENT , P12	The Bee and the Orange Tree, P13			
2pm	Culture of Connection, P12	Future Tense Fiction, P13			
3.30pm	The Good Girl Stripped Bare, P12	Spice Stories, P13			
4.30pm	Closing Event: Reasons to be Cheerful, P12				



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