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Walleah Press Newsletter - February 2019

Welcome to our February 2019 newsletter. Emphasis? Offerings from the bookshop, literary news and jottings, new additions, items on sale....

Sampler — Michael Sharkey's 'Many Such As She: Victorian Australian Women Poets of World War One'

We've added a sampler pdf to the website (link <https://walleahpress.com.au/Sharkey-sampler.pdf>) from the anthology, 'Many Such As She' edited by Michael Sharkey. The book was published in November in time for the commemoration of Armistice Day on the 11th and features work by twenty-four poets including Nina Murdoch, Nettie Palmer, Lesbia Harford, Myra Morris and others....

Forthcoming titles

Two new poetry titles are forthcoming from Walleah Press, by **Nicola Bowery** and **Jan Colville**.

Nicola's book, *child in the wings*, follows on from previous titles *Bloodwood* (Bunda Press, 1996), *Goatfish* (Bunda Press, 2007) and *married to this ground* (Walleah Press, 2014). We're deep into typesetting the book which should be ready for publication late March-early April

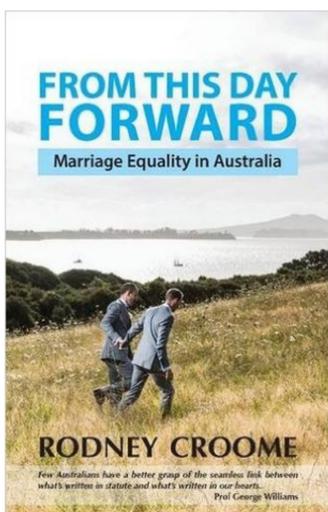
Jan's book, perhaps sixty or seventy pages in length, is due April-May.

February sales offer 1



Three Tim Thorne titles — 'Head and shin' (2004), 'The Unspeak Poems and other verses' (2014) and 'Running Out Of Entropy' (2018) — are on sale at a cost of \$27.50 for all three collections, inclusive of postage. The books normally retail for \$20 each.

February sales offer 2



Rodney Croome's 'From This Day Forward: Marriage Equality in Australia' (2015), is available for \$11.00 throughout February, inclusive of postage. (RRP is normally \$25.00).

- "Rodney Croome's advocacy for equality has always been patient and generous of spirit. This book about why Australia needs marriage equality is no exception. Like Rodney, I look forward to the time when it's no longer necessary to explain why all Australians should be treated fairly. Until then, keep this informative and valuable book close at hand."—Bob Brown, Australian Greens leader, 2005-2012

Anne Collins: 'Flights of Fancy and a Writer's Imagination'

There's a wonderfully reflective non-fiction piece from Anne Collins in the latest issue of ['Tulpa Magazine'](#)

- "A notice pops up in my inbox, something unexpected: a call for applications for a month's writer's residency in Granada, Spain, the city I first visited twelve years ago. Suddenly, I am transported there. I can fully imagine myself being the resident writer, speaking my intermediate-level Spanish, participating in local literary events, adding some more to the writing about Spain that I have already done."

Anne not only writes essays and reviews, she's a co-ordinator of the 'Seasonal Poets' quarterly readings in Hobart and her poetry collections include ["The Season of Chance"](#) (Walleah Press, 2005), 'Seasoned With Honey' (a four-poet collection along with the poetry of Gina Mercer, Lyn Reeves and Mary Jenkins (Walleah Press, 2008) and ["The Language of Water"](#) (Walleah Press, 2014). Ginninderra Press published Anne's poetry and non-fiction title, 'My Friend The Landscape' in 2011.

Kevin Brophy, poet of the month at ABR

Kevin Brophy is poet of the month for the December issue of ['Australian Book Review'](#) wherein he answers questions about poetry in general: which poets have most influenced you, which poet would you most like to talk to and why - [Leonard Cohen] - do you have a favourite Australian poetry collection?

And yes, I can well understand the inclusion of Myron Lysenko's name among the many fine poets who've influenced Kevin over the years. From the perspective of generosity alone ... I recall in 1987 sending the first issue of 'famous reporter' to Myron, co-editor and reviews editor at the time of Melbourne journal ['Going Down Swinging'](#). The first issue of 'famous reporter' was ... enthusiastic ... but ... well, hadn't much going for it in the way of production values, for example. No fancy typesetting generated by computer software, it was produced with a typewriter. (Some writers and readers might suggest that's not such a bad thing). Myron took it all on board, drew attention to the talents of two or three contributors, and wished the magazine well... Such random, rare generosity.

- Which poets have most influenced you?**
- John Keats, Gerard Manley Hopkins, Eric Beach, Myron Lysenko, Ania Walwicz, Elizabeth Bishop, Billy Collins, Charles Simic, Sylvia Plath, and Emily Dickinson – in that order through time, though tomorrow the answer would be a variation on this.

Nathan Curnow

Meanwhile, Kevin Brophy's co-author of the poetry collection ["RADAR"](#)—and another former editor of 'Going Down Swinging'—has been busily submitting new print and audio work to online journals both here and overseas. You can listen to the sound recording of his contribution to Canadian journal ["The Maynard"](#), take in the performances of Nathan and fellow Australian artist Geoffrey Williams in ["The Night Reverses"](#) (one hour and eleven minutes, filmed in Heidelberg, Germany last year), and read a 2016 dialogue of letters and conversation between Nathan and Kevin Brophy, published in the November 2018 issue of ["Axon"](#).

- You must have seen so many literary spot fires by now, these 'urgent' complaints and provocations that are usually aimed at the same soft targets. Have you ever been hauled into them? If not, how have you managed to steer clear? I read *Delinquent Angel*, the biography of Shelton Lea, which gives a terrific account of the turbulence in Australian poetry from 1969 and into the 70s. Passions were high in Sydney and Melbourne. I'd love to know how you navigated all that, and navigate it still.

These days, if I'm to have a conversation with other writers, I prefer it to be through the texts we produce, the mystory of how stories speak to each through time, for and against, across the bookstore shelves. And what is at the heart of this sustained conversation? Surely, it's something ancient. Something about the experience of being.

(Nathan Curnow, 'Axon' 8.2, Nov 2018)

And that's it for this month. Thank you.

Ralph Wessman, Walleah Press