



Festival Program 2025
May 30 – June 1

WORDS WINTER

CENTRAL GOLDFIELDS

Maryborough, Victoria
<https://wiwgcg.com.au>

About

Welcome

The world has changed suddenly, shifting in ways we never expected. But in times of change, stories and ideas become more vital than ever. This festival is a space to excite, stimulate, and engage; to spark conversations, challenge perspectives, and celebrate creativity.

Join us as we explore new possibilities, embrace bold voices, and immerse ourselves in the power of storytelling. Let's inspire and be inspired together.

Patty Brown & Janice Simpson

Words in Winter Central Goldfields Coordinators

Venues

Friday writing workshop, **Millhouse**, 88-90 Burke Street, Maryborough

Friday launch, **Bull & Mouth Hotel**, 119 High St, Maryborough

Saturday sessions, **Senior Citizens Hall**, Phillips Gardens, 52a Alma Street, Maryborough

Sunday sessions, **Highland Society**, 35 High St, Maryborough

Friday 30 May

9.00 – 12.30pm	Schools Program Invitation Only	Maryborough Education Centre
10.00 – 4.00pm	Writing Workshop: Crafting Complex Characters	Millhouse
5.30 – 6.30pm	Launch	Bull & Mouth Hotel

Friday Workshop



Acclaimed author Tania Chandler will lead a workshop on **Crafting Complex Characters**. “Through discussion, activities and inspiring writing exercises, we will learn tools and techniques for building complex, vivid characters; deepening characterisation; uncovering all-important character motivations; choosing the best point of view; and writing convincing dialogue. We will breathe life into our characters and also let them surprise us.’

10.00am – 4.00pm

Friday 30 May, Millhouse

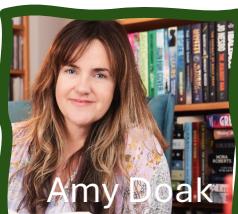
Saturday Panels



Richard Mayes



Isis Jordan



Amy Doak



Christine Keighery



Adrian Hyland



Ramona Koval



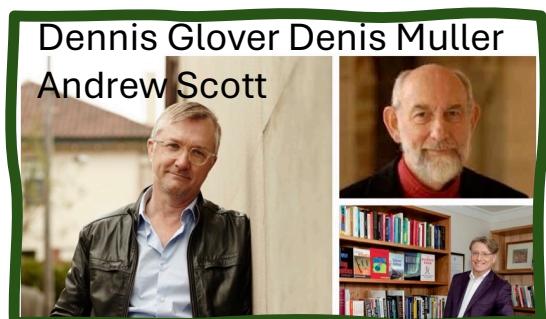
Lee Kofman



Gail Rice



Ann Jones



Dennis Glover Denis Muller

Andrew Scott



Lynne Kelly



Barry Golding

Saturday 31 May

9.15 – 10.15	Are you well?*	Dr Richard Mayes is a GP who works in conjunction with link coordinator Isis Jordan to connect and introduce people with groups that may assist a person regain health and vitality. It's called Social Prescribing and it may be just what the doctor ordered.
10.45 – 11.45	Animal Matters	This session features Dr Ann Jones, scientist, broadcaster and podcaster. Ann will discuss how birds communicate. With sound effects. Dr Ann Jones appears by arrangement with Claxton Speakers International.
12.00 – 1.00	Six Peaks Speak: A journey in southern Dja Dja Wurrung Country through the eyes of six iconic mountains*	Barry Golding will be in conversation with Lynne Kelly about the geography and land use in Victoria's central goldfields area. This is a story across time, cultures, contested histories and unsettled relationships, uniquely traversing First Nations and settler, history, geology, ecology, anthropology and reserve management.
1.00 – 1.45	LUNCH	Available as a morning tea and lunch package for \$25.

Saturday 31 May

1.45 – 2.45

Not Dead Yet!

Lead by Lee Kofman, Ramona Koval and Gail Rice will regale us with stories and views that will be refreshing, intelligent and provocative about why getting older is SO good.

3.00 – 4.00

The State We're In

Join Dennis Glover, Denis Muller and Andrew Scott, esteemed writers, thinkers and analysts who will discuss our general sense of despair with the modern world.

4.15 – 5.15

Crime Pays!

Jacqueline Bublitz, Amy Doak, Christine Keighery and Adrian Hyland, all award-winning crime writers, will talk about their ideas, their books and their views on crime writing.

5.30 – 6.30

KICK BACK

Relax with a \$5 drink, some nibbles, good conversations and laughs aplenty.

Sessions marked * = \$5

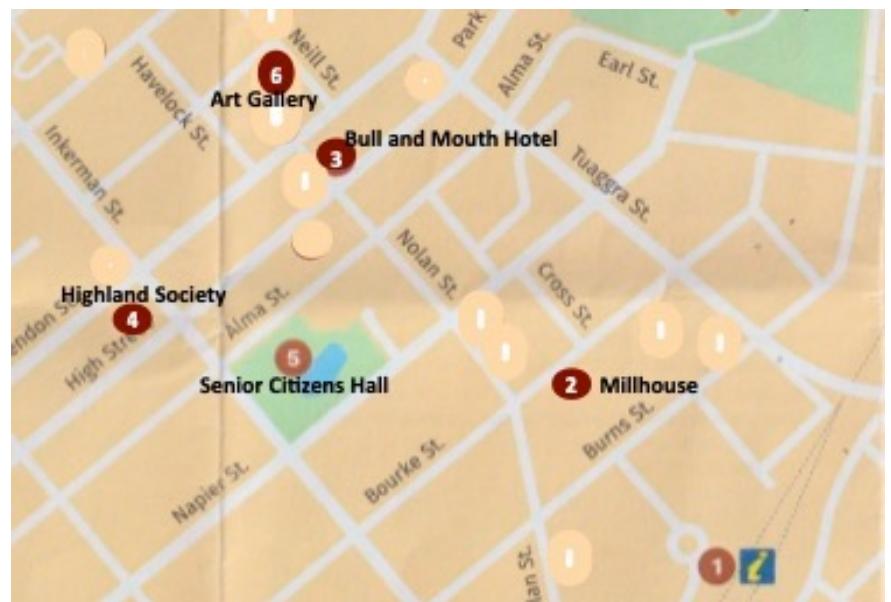
All other sessions = \$20

Morning tea and Lunch = \$25

Sunday Panels



Finding
your way
around
town



Sunday 1 June

9.45 – 10.15	My Word	Join our local librarians Bec Clark and Maree Stephenson for a romp through words. There are a lot we no longer use for whatever reasons; new words and words that become “word of the year”; the commonly mispronounced and more. Oh, and by the way, they are not your typical librarians...
10.30 – 12.00	Crime Scene Investigation for Real	Forget what you see on the TV. Real crime scene investigators are highly skilled scientists who go about their business professionally and doggedly. Victorian Coroner Audrey Jamieson will persuade Dr Linda Iles and Dr Joanna Glengarry from the Victorian Institute of Forensic Medicine to reveal all about what’s involved when a death is investigated. It will not be gruesome. It will be funny, though.
12.15 – 1.00	LUNCH	The Highland Society famous Sunday roast. Drinks at bar prices
1.15 – 2.30	The Great Debate	Locals and not so locals engage in a battle of words and wits.

Package = \$70, no individual session sales, includes lunch

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