

STONNINGTON
LITERARY
FESTIVAL

[UNTITLED]

OUR WRITERS, READERS AND STORIES



18 – 20 NOVEMBER 2022



stonnington.vic.gov.au/Litfest



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Stonnington's annual literary festival

[UNTITLED]

OUR WRITERS, READERS AND STORIES

**returns in person this year and
we're inviting you to help us celebrate.**

We've gathered some of Australia's brightest storytellers to share their books, writing, stories and ideas over one literary long weekend from 18 to 20 November.

With twelve free or low-cost and live events to choose from, at venues including Stonnington's iconic Chapel Off Chapel, libraries and online, we invite you to browse the full program and join us in November for our eleventh literary festival.

Reconciliation Acknowledgement Statement

We acknowledge we are on the Traditional Lands of the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung and Bunurong peoples of the East Kulin Nations and pay our respect to their Elders past, present and emerging. We extend that respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. We acknowledge their living connection to Country, relationship with the land and all living things extending back tens of thousands of years.



FREE



Sneaky Little Revolutions: selected essays of Charmian Clift

Friday 18 November, 11am–12pm

Online

"I know it's a daring suggestion, but I'll make it anyway."

In 1964, Charmian Clift returned to Sydney, with husband George Johnston, after years in the cosmopolitan community of Hydra (Greece) – and discovered that her progressive opinions were rare in 1960s Australia.

In these 'sneaky little revolutions', as Clift once called her essays, she supported rights for women and migrants, social justice for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, opposed conscription to Vietnam, fought censorship – and set a new benchmark in Australian literature.

Editor and biographer **Nadia Wheatley** discusses the life, myth and work of Charmian Clift with host **Claire Halliday**.

FREE



First Nations Advocacy for Change

Friday 18 November, 1pm–2pm

Online

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people continue to experience higher levels of illness and rates of imprisonment, and lower levels of life expectancy, than Australia's non-Indigenous population.

Writers and unionists **Celeste Liddle** and **Thomas Mayor**, together with activist, lawyer and storyteller **Teela Reid**, discuss their advocacy to bring about meaningful and systemic change for First Nations peoples.



\$15



Photo credits: Kirsten Krauth: Penny Ryan, Charles Jenkins: Steve Cook, Fiona Lee Maynard: Tameika Brumby

Almost a Mirror: a mixtape of 80s pop and post-punk

Friday 18 November, 7.30pm–9.15pm (includes 15 mins interval)

Chapel Off Chapel

If you could make the soundtrack to your life, a mixtape, what songs would you choose?

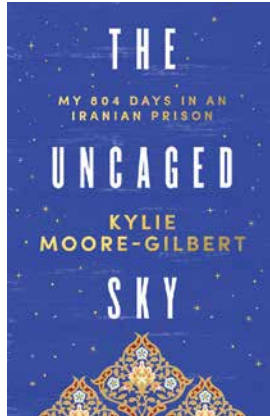
Almost a Mirror is an edgy mashup of live music and storytelling, based on Kirsten Krauth's popular and critically acclaimed novel and podcast series of the same name.

Press play on Side A and take a journey through music from the late 70s/80s – where the post-punk world of St Kilda's Crystal Ballroom collides with the pop icons of Countdown.

Join **Kirsten Krauth** and extraordinary ensemble on this deep dive into the iconic songs of the era, veering from Planet Earth to Wide Open Road, from Shivers to Barbados – from the elegantly wasted to the neon lights.

The show is a collaboration with some of Australia's top musicians including **Sarah Bedak** (Lolo Lovina), **Paul Haigh**, **Charles Jenkins**, **Fiona Lee Maynard** (Dalicados), **Joshua Gitsham** and **Michael Simic** (Mikangelo).

\$15



The Uncaged Sky

Saturday 19 November, 11am–12pm

Chapel Off Chapel

Kylie Moore-Gilbert speaks to **Belinda Hawkins** about **The Uncaged Sky**, her fight to survive 804 days imprisoned in Iran, the complex game of global politics and what it means to be free.

In 2018, British-Australian academic **Kylie Moore-Gilbert** was arrested by Iran's feared Islamic Revolutionary Guards and sentenced to ten years in prison for espionage.

Incarcerated in Tehran's Evin and Qarchak prisons for 804 days and subjected to relentless interrogation, Kylie was pushed to the limits of her endurance by extreme physical and psychological deprivation.

After more than two years of struggle, Kylie was released in 2020 in a high stakes three-nation prisoner swap deal orchestrated by the Australian government. This is her story.



\$15



The abuse in our homes

Saturday 19 November, 1.30pm–2.30pm

Chapel Off Chapel

Women are nearly three times more likely than men to experience violence by a current or former partner, and one woman is killed nearly every week in Australia due to family violence.

In the lead-up to the 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence campaign, **Nicole Lee**, family violence survivor and public advocate for the prevention of family violence, together with cross-cultural consultant **Tasneem Chopra OAM**

and writer **Bri Lee**, discuss gender based and domestic violence, how far we've come and how far we've got to go to confront the crisis of abuse in our homes.

Event warning This event has potentially triggering content or themes, including sexual abuse, domestic violence and violence against women. It is recommended for mature audiences.

\$15



How we talk about consent

Saturday 19 November, 4pm–5pm

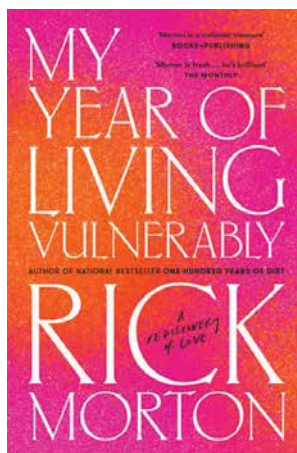
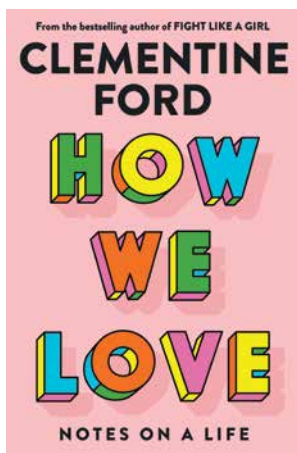
Chapel Off Chapel

Clementine Ford, Bri Lee and **Nicole Lee** discuss how we talk – and don't talk – about personal relationships, boundaries, sex and consent in this urgent and sensitive conversation.

Event warning This event has potentially triggering content or themes, including sexual abuse and rape culture, domestic violence and violence against women. It is recommended for mature audiences.



\$15



Love and Vulnerability

Saturday 19 November, 6.30pm–7.30pm

Chapel Off Chapel

Clementine Ford is a person who has loved deeply, stangely, and with curiosity. She is fascinated by love and how it makes its home in our hearts, believing that the way we continue to surrender ourselves to love is an act of great faith and bravery. **How we Love** is Clementine's tender and lyrical memoir that explores love in its many forms, through her own experiences.

In early 2019, **Rick Morton** was diagnosed with complex post-traumatic stress disorder – which, as he says, is just a fancy way of saying that one of the people who should

have loved him the most during childhood didn't. **My Year of Living Vulnerably** charts Rick's journey to betterness (not cured, not fixed, just better) and his rediscovery of love. What love is, how we see it, what forms it takes, how we practice it in our lives, what it means to us, and how we really can't live without it, even if, like Rick for many years, we think we can.

Clementine Ford and **Rick Morton** discuss their books, and the push, pull and power of love, with host **Mimi Kwa**.

FREE



Young Voices of the Pandemic

Sunday 20 November, 11am–12pm

Chapel Off Chapel

COVID-19 has changed our lives in countless ways. It has had an impact on everyone in our community, including young people.

Stonnington's **Young Voices of the Pandemic** project captures the stories, observations, experiences and reflections of local children, in their own unique words.

Join us to hear **Way Back When Consulting Historians** share some of the hilarious and heart-warming ups and downs of this extraordinary period in history, through the eyes of children and young people.

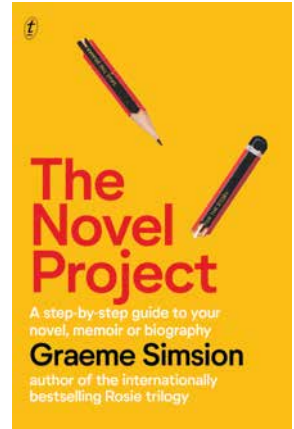


\$45

includes a copy of **The Novel Project**



Photo credit: Darren James



Writing your novel, memoir or biography, with Graeme Simson

Sunday 20 November, 1pm–4.30pm

Toorak/South Yarra Library

Bestselling author **Graeme Simson** shares his process and techniques to writing a novel, memoir or biography.

This lecture will cover the end-to-end process of writing, from premise to proofreading, as described in Graeme’s book *The Novel Project: A step-by-step guide to writing your novel, memoir or biography*.

Participants will learn:

- how to plan the writing process
- how to take control of their creativity
- how to create credible, complex characters

- how to structure their novel using proven storytelling principles
- how to deal with crises and problems, including writer’s block and,
- how to work with beta readers and editors.

Note: this session will be delivered in a lecture-style set up, participants will not have desks, and no writing exercises will be undertaken or workshopped on the day. Questions and discussion will, however, be encouraged.

Each participant will receive a copy of **Graeme Simson’s *The Novel Project*** on the day (RRP \$32.99, included in the ticket price).

\$15



Photo credit: Proud Minority

Writing trans lives

Sunday 20 November, 1.30pm–2.30pm

Chapel Off Chapel

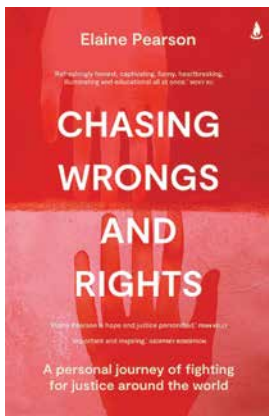
While there has been unprecedented trans visibility in Australia in the last decade, this visibility has not always been positive, shadowed by transphobic misinformation and extremist rhetoric.

Quinn Eades and **Nevo Zisin** write about their bodies and lived experiences, sharing their stories into the mainstream and in the process, giving readers insight into the challenges and joys of trans experience.

With host **Jess Walton, Quinn** and **Nevo** discuss their life writing and stories, the rich diversity of gender diverse and trans experiences, and what was easy and difficult about introducing their stories into the mainstream.



\$15



Chasing Wrongs and Rights

Sunday 20 November, 4pm–5pm

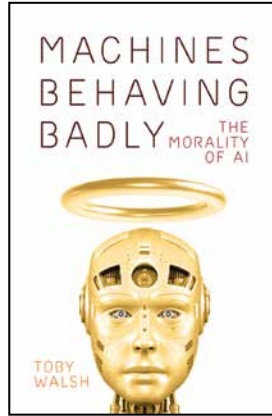
Chapel Off Chapel

In **Chasing Wrongs and Rights**, **Elaine Pearson**, Australia Director at Human Rights Watch, shares her experiences defending human rights – from human trafficking in Nepal to the ‘drug war’ in the Philippines, the atrocities of Sri Lanka’s civil war to the treatment of asylum seekers in Australia – taking us on a panoramic survey of human rights across the world and showing humanity at its best and worst.

Elaine discusses human rights and abuses, her work as a human rights advocate, how much needs to change and how we can make a difference. With host **Claire Halliday**.

Event warning This event has potentially triggering content or themes and is recommended for mature audiences.

\$15



The Morality of AI

Sunday 20 November, 6.30pm–7.30pm

Chapel Off Chapel

Artificial intelligence is an essential part of our lives – for better or worse. It influences what we buy, who gets shortlisted for a job and even how we vote. Without AI, medical technology wouldn't have come so far, we'd still be getting lost on backroads in our GPS-free cars, and smartphones wouldn't be so, well, smart. But as we continue to build more intelligent and autonomous machines, what impact will this have on humanity and the planet?

Professor Toby Walsh, a world-leading researcher in the field of AI and author of **Machines Behaving Badly: The Morality of AI**, discusses the ethical issues we face in a future dominated by artificial intelligence, and the decisions that need to be made now to ensure the future of AI is a force for good, not evil. With host **Scott Stephens**.



Author and artist biographies

For a full list of authors and artists, visit stonnington.vic.gov.au/Litfest

Tickets

Bookings are required for all events and open at **10am Monday 10 October**.

To book tickets and view events: stonnington.vic.gov.au/Litfest

Ticket prices are inclusive of GST. Per ticket booking fees apply.
See our refund policy on our website.

All sessions run on AEDT.

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We are committed to making the festival accessible for everyone.
To discuss your accessibility requirements for this event, please email libraryevents@stonnington.vic.gov.au

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Our program is subject to change. Program and event changes will be listed on our website and reasonable endeavours made to notify ticket holders of changes. In the event of a cancellation, tickets will be refunded.



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Chapel Off Chapel

12 Lt Chapel Street, Prahran

8290 7000

Malvern Library

1255 High Street, Malvern

8290 1366

Phoenix Park Library

30 Rob Roy Road, Malvern East

8290 4000

Prahran Square Library

Prahran Square, (northern end), Prahran

8290 3344

Stonnington History Centre

1257 High Street, Malvern

8290 1360

Toorak/South Yarra Library

340 Toorak Road, South Yarra

8290 8000



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