



THE NEW ZEALAND  
SOCIETY OF AUTHORS  
(PEN NEW ZEALAND IHO TE PUNI KATUHI O AOTEAROA)

## Assessor and Mentor Register 2019

### Pip Adam

### Mentor

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**Area:** Wellington      **Genre:** Fiction      Member of NZSA, Academy of New Zealand Literature  
**Contact:** Email, skype, phone, face to face (if possible)

Pip Adam's diverse work has appeared in *Sport*, *Glottis*, *Turbine*, *Landfall*, *Lumière Reader*, *Hue & Cry*, *Metro* and *Overland*. Her second novel *The New Animals* won the 2018 Acorn Foundation Fiction Prize at the Ockham Awards. She has been runner up for the Sunday Star Times Short Story Competition (2007), received an Arts Foundation of New Zealand New Generation Award (2012), and her first collection of short stories, *Everything We Hoped For*, won the NZ Post Best First Book Award (2011). Pip's short story collection, *Everything We Hoped For*, and novel, *I'm working on a building*, are both published by Victoria University Press. Several of Pip's pieces, responding to visual art, have been published in conjunction with exhibitions. In addition, her words were used by photographer Ann Shelton in her installation *House Work*.

In 2007, Pip gained an MA in Creative Writing with Distinction from Victoria University, followed by a PhD in 2012. Her PhD project explores how engineers describe the built environment.

Pip is a books reviewer on RNZ's Jesse Mulligan show and she produces *Better off Read* a podcast where she talks to writers and other artists about reading. She currently facilitates writing workshops in several universities and Arohata Women's Prison where she works with the Write Where You Are collective.

### Ivy Alvarez

### Mentor

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**Area:** Auckland      **Genre:** poetry and fiction      **Contact:** Email, skype, face to face (if possible)

Ivy Alvarez is keen to work with writers who value impactful words and memorable imagery. She can advise on both creative and practical concerns in the writing arena.

A three-time Pushcart Prize nominee, her poetry collections include *The Everyday English Dictionary* (London: Paekakariki Press). She received a 2018 Creative New Zealand grant, and a 2019 Michael King Writers Centre residency for the writing of her next work, *Diaspora*. Her editing credits include *a fine line* (NZ Poetry Society), and *Atlanta Review's* first New Zealand edition. Born in the Philippines, she has lived in Auckland, New Zealand since 2014. [www.ivyalvarez.com](http://www.ivyalvarez.com)

### Norman Bilbrough

### Mentor

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**Area:** Wellington      **Genre:** Novel, short story, children's literature, non-fiction      Member NZAMA  
**Contact:** Email, phone, face to face (if possible)

Norman Bilbrough has published nine books: *Man with Two Arms* (Random 1991) stories; *The Birdman Hunts Alone* (Penguin 1994) - Aim Book Award finalist; *Dog Breath and other Stories* (Mallinson Rendel 1998)-New Zealand Post Children's Book Award finalist; *Dump Giants* (Cape Catley 1997) picture book; *Desert Shorts* (CUP 1999) stories; *Star Thief* (Learning Media 2000) chapter book; *Dinosaur Detective*

(2002) and *Strike* (2001), both published by Learning Media. His latest novel is *A Short History of Paradise* (Penguin, 2005).

His stories have won prizes in NZ and Australia (including winning the Sunday Times Short Story Award twice). In 1999 he was Writer in Residence at Canterbury University. He has taught creative writing throughout NZ, and has mentored on this programme for over ten years. He has been a manuscript assessor for over twenty years. <http://www.msassess.com/>

## Diane Brown

## Mentor

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**Area:** Dunedin **Genre:** Memoir, poetry, fiction  
**Contact:** Email, phone, skype, face to face (if possible)

Diane Brown is a novelist, memoirist, and poet who runs her own creative writing school, Creative Writing Dunedin in Dunedin. She has taught creative writing for the past 20 years at a variety of institutions including Paremoremo Prison, Continuing Education Auckland University, Otago University and Aoraki Polytechnic.

Her publications include two collections of poetry - *Before The Divorce We Go To Disneyland*, (1997) - winner of the NZSA Best First Book of Poetry at the Montana Book Awards 1997 - and *Learning to Lie Together*, (2004); two novels, *If The Tongue Fits*, (1999) and *Eight Stages of Grace*, (2002) - a verse novel which was a finalist in the Montana Book Awards 2003; a travel memoir, *Liars and Lovers* (2004) and a prose/poetic work, *Here Comes Another Vital Moment*. Her latest book, *Taking My Mother To The Opera*, Otago University Press (2015) is an extended poetic family memoir, in part about post World War Two domestic life and the ageing of parents.

She has held the Buddle Findlay Sargeson Fellowship and was an inaugural fellow at the Michael King Writer's Studio. She won the Janet Frame Memorial Award in 2012 and the Beatson Fellowship in 2013.

In 2013 she was made a Member of the New Zealand Order of Merit for services to writing and education. She lives in Dunedin with her husband, author Philip Temple.

For further information go to <http://www.dianebrown.nz>

## Deborah Challinor

## Mentor

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**Area:** Hamilton **Genre:** Historical, contemporary, young adult and crime fiction  
**Contact:** Email, phone, skype, face to face (if possible)

I'm the bestselling author of two works of non-fiction, fifteen historical novels, and a young adult novel (for Scholastic Australia). My books sell in New Zealand, Australia, the UK, Germany and Russia, and in print, digital and audio formats. I've taught researching and writing historical fiction at university level for several years, and in 2016 received a distinguished alumni award from Waikato University.

I also have a Ph.D. in military history, specialising in New Zealand's involvement in the Vietnam War, from which came my first non-fiction book, *Grey Ghosts*. I was appointed a Member of the New Zealand Order of Merit for services to literature and historical research in 2018.

I write commercial/popular fiction, with a strong focus on well-developed characters and solid story arcs, and I set most of my novels in New Zealand and/or Australia in either the 19<sup>th</sup> or the mid-20<sup>th</sup> century. It's the history that fascinates me and I thoroughly enjoy researching all of my books.

I also enjoy writing series, including The Children of War series, The Smuggler's Wife series, and the Convict Girls series, and I'm currently working on my fourth now. I write full time and I'm published by a traditional publisher. [www.deborahchallinor.com](http://www.deborahchallinor.com)

## Frances Cherry

## Mentor

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**Area:** Wellington      **Genre:** Fiction, novel, short story, radio

**Contact:** Email, phone, face to face (if possible)

Frances Cherry is a writer and writing tutor. After running writing workshops for many years through various High school Community Education classes she now runs workshops on the memoir or novel in her own home in Wellington. She also mentors people privately and through NZSA.

Frances Cherry has had eleven novels published and has recently had her memoir, *To be Perfectly Frances*, published by Steele Roberts.

## Shirley Corlett

## Mentor

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**Area:** Masterton      **Genre:** Adult fiction, children's and young adult novels, short story

*Member NZ Book Council's Writers in Schools Scheme*

**Contact:** Email, skype, phone, face to face (if possible)

Published novels:- *The Hanging Sky* (Mallinson Rendel) for adults, and nine junior and young adult novels. *The Stolen* (Scholastic) won the Tom Fitzgibbon Award in 1999. *The Weathermakers* (Scholastic) was a finalist in the 2002 NZ Post Children's Book Awards. Two 'My Story' novels are *Abandon Ship* (the Wahine Disaster), and *Fire in the Sky*, about the Mt Tarawera Eruption. *You've Got Guts* Kenny Melrose (Scholastic) was a finalist in the 2005 NZ Post Children's Awards. Also: *Through Thick and Thin* (2007, Scholastic and DTD Junior Germany). In the Spotlight and *Addie Accident*. Her tenth novel, *A Catastrophe of Gigantic Proportions* is to be launched October 2018. She has been Writer in Residence at the Dunedin College of Education, is a creative writing tutor, and has visited dozens of schools over the years through the Writers in Schools programme. She is happy to mentor short story writers, children's or young adult novels, especially historical.

## Majella Cullinane

## Mentor

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**Area:** Otago Southland      **Genre:** Fiction, Historical Fiction, Short Stories and Poetry

**Communications:** Email, phone, face to face

Majella Cullinane was born and raised in Ireland, and has been living in New Zealand since 2008. In 2014, she was awarded the Robert Burns Fellowship at the University of Otago. She has previously received a Sean Dunne Young Writer's Award for Poetry, the Hennessy XO/Sunday Tribune Literary Award for Emerging Poetry, and also an Irish Arts Council Award to study for an MLitt. in Creative Writing at St. Andrew's University Scotland.

She has an MA in Publishing from Oxford Brookes University, and completed her BA in English and Italian at the University of Dublin. She's been short-listed for awards in historical fiction, short stories and essays, and has previously held Fellowship and Writer-in-Residence positions in Ireland and Scotland. In 2011, she published her first poetry collection *Guarding the Flame* with Salmon Poetry Ireland. This year she started a PhD in Creative Practice (short fiction) at the Centre for Irish and Scottish Studies at Otago University. She was recently shortlisted for the 2016 Dundee International Book Prize. Her second poetry collection 'Whisper Of A Crow's Wing' will be published by Otago University Press in 2018, and her novel 'The Life of De'Ath' has recently been accepted for publication and is due out next year also.

## Chris Else

## Mentor

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**Area:** Dunedin      **Genre:** Novel, short story, non-fiction Founder member NZAMA/NZALA

**Contact:** Email, phone, skype, face to face (if possible)

His publications include six novels - *Brainjoy* (1998), *Why Things Fall* (1992), *Beetle in the Box* (2001), *On River Road* (2004), *Black Earth/White Bones* (2007) and *Gith* (2008) - as well as two volumes of short stories (*Endangered Species* 1997 and *Dreams of Pythagoras* 1981). *Why Things Fall* was also published in Australia in 1993. His short stories have been widely anthologised.

He has worked as a creative writing teacher for over twenty years. In 1988 he set up TFS, a literary agency and assessment service, and is a founder member of the associations the NZ Association of Literary Agents and the NZ Association of Manuscript Assessors. Many new and experienced writers, including Alan Duff, Rachael Craw and Emma Neale, have acknowledged Chris's help in bringing their work to publication.

## Bronwyn Elsmore

## Mentor

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**Area:** Auckland      **Genre:** Adult fiction, short story, non-fiction, plays

**Contact:** email, phone, skype, face to face (if possible)

Bronwyn is a multi-award and prize winning writer of short stories, books, plays and articles. She is an occasional teacher of creative writing.

Bronwyn is the author of 10 books and hundreds of other publications. She has seen her short stories published in the Listener, Radio NZ, Takahē, and many other publications, and has had numerous plays staged. In a past life she was a university lecturer and has authored work for academic publications. These days, however, she concentrates on writing fiction.

## Michelle Elvy

## Mentor

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**Area:** Northland      **Genre:** fiction (novel, short story, flash fiction); creative nonfiction and travel; memoir; YA. Member of NZAMA      **Contact:** email Skype

Michelle Elvy is a writer, editor and manuscript assessor. She edits at *Flash Frontier: An Adventure in Short Fiction* and *Blue Five Notebook*. Recent book projects include the *Best Small Fictions series* (Assistant Editor since 2015), *Bonsai: The Big Book of Small Stories* (edited with Frankie McMillan and James Norcliffe, CUP 2018) and *Flash Fiction International* (associate editing team, W. W. Norton 2015; editors James Thomas, Christopher Merrill and Robert Shapard). Michelle's fiction, travel writing, creative nonfiction, poetry and reviews have been widely published in print and online journals and anthologies, and her work has placed in international competitions.

A Fulbright scholar and Watson Fellow, Michelle is also a Pushcart nominee and recipient of the NZ Society of Authors/ Auckland Museum Library grant and the NZSA Mentorship programme. She has judged various competitions hosted in New Zealand and abroad, including the South Island Writers' Association, the International Writers' Workshop, the Whangarei Poetry Walk, NorthWrite's collaboration competition, the NYC Challenge and the Bath Flash Fiction Award. Her work as a writer/ editor has always overlapped with her sense of community, reflected by projects such as *as 52|250: A Year of Flash* (2010-11), *An Aotearoa Affair: From Kiel to Kaitaia* (2012), the Tuesday Poem group, Whangarei's Pecha Kucha (2012/13) and *National Flash Fiction Day*.

## Laurence Fearnley

## Mentor

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**Area:** Dunedin      **Genre:** Adult fiction and non-fiction

**Contact:** email, phone, skype, face to face (if possible)

I am a novelist and non-fiction writer living in Dunedin. I have published ten novels and many of these relate to landscape and regional or rural parts of Aotearoa/ New Zealand.

*Reach*, was long-listed for the 2016 Ockham NZ Book Awards and my 2011 novel, *The Hut Builder* won the fiction category of the NZ Post Book Awards and was shortlisted for the international 2010 Boardman Tasker Prize for mountain writing. My novel *Edwin and Matilda* was runner-up in the 2008 Montana New Zealand Book Awards and my second novel, *Room*, was shortlisted for the 2001 Montana Book Awards. In 2004 I was awarded the Artists to Antarctica fellowship and in 2007 the Robert Burns fellowship at the University of Otago.

In 2015 I worked alongside mountaineer Lydia Bradey to write *Going Up is Easy*, a climbing memoir that was a finalist in the Banff Mountain Literature Award.

In 2016 I was awarded (with Paul Hersey) the Friends of the Hocken Collections award to edit an anthology of New Zealand mountaineering writing, to be published by Otago University Press in 2018.

I received the 2016 Janet Frame Memorial Award and the 2016 NZSA/Auckland Museum National Research Grant and I'm currently working on a book of essays and short fiction exploring landscape through scent. I have a PhD in Creative Writing from Victoria University of Wellington. I am most suited to mentoring novelists, or non-fiction writers with an interest in the natural environment, the outdoors or mountaineering.

## James George

## Mentor

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**Area:** Auckland      **Genre:** Adult Fiction, Short Story, Non-fiction, writing tutor

**Contact:** Email, phone, skype, face to face (if possible)

James George is a novelist, short story writer and manuscript consultant. He is the current chair of Te Ha - the Literature Committee of Toi Maori Aotearoa - the Maori Arts Council. He is also a very experienced creative writing tutor (currently at AUT and Unitec) and the co-director of The Story Bridge - a company which provides tuition on creative writing and independent publishing. George's published work includes the novels *Wooden Horse*, *Hummingbird* and *Ocean Roads*. *Hummingbird*, was short listed for the Deutz Medal in fiction (Montana NZ Book Awards) and chosen as Whitcoulls 'Book of the Month' in 2003. George is also the co-author of a biography, *Showbands - Mahora and The Maori Volcanics* published by Huia in 2005. Over the last ten years he has had numerous short stories published in various anthologies and he is currently working on two further novels under contract to Huia Publishers. [www.thestorybridge.co.nz](http://www.thestorybridge.co.nz)

## Mandy Hager

## Mentor

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**Area:** Paraparaumu, Wellington      **Genre:** YA and adult novels, non-fiction resources, scripts and shorter fiction      **Contact:** email, phone, skype, face to face (if possible)

Mandy Hager is a multi-award winning writer of fiction for young adults. She has won the LIANZA Book Awards for Young Adult fiction 3 times ('Smashed' 2008, 'The Nature of Ash' 2013, 'Dear Vincent' 2014), the NZ Post Children's Book Awards for YA fiction ('The Crossing' 2010), an Honour Award in the 1996 AIM Children's Book Awards ('Tom's Story'), Golden Wings Excellence Award ('Juno Lucina,' 2002), Golden Wings Award ('Run For The Trees', 2003) and Five Notable Book Awards. She has also

been awarded the 2012 Beatson fellowship, the 2014 Katherine Mansfield Menton Fellowship and the 2015 Waikato University Writer in Residence. In 2015 her novel 'Singing Home the Whale' was awarded the Margaret Mahy Book of the Year award, and the Best Young Adult fiction Award from the NZ Book Awards for Children and Young Adults. In 2017 Penguin NZ published 'Heloise', a historical novel for adults.

She is a trained teacher, with an Advanced Diploma in Fine Arts (Whitireia) and an MA in Creative Writing for Victoria University. Her 'Blood of the Lamb' trilogy has been published in the US by Pyr Books. She also writes adult fiction, short stories, non-fiction, educational resources, blogs and articles, and currently tutors the Novel Course for Whitireia's Creative Writing Programme.

## Siobhan Harvey Mentor

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**Area:** Auckland      **Genre:** Poetry, stories, novels, nonfiction (including creative nonfiction).  
**Contact:** Phone, email, skype, face to face (if possible)

Siobhan Harvey is a poet, fiction and creative nonfiction author, editor, mentor and Lecturer in Creative Writing at The Centre for Creative Writing, AUT. Her most recent books are *Cloudboy* (OUP, 2014) and, as co-editor, the bestselling anthology, *Essential New Zealand Poems* (Penguin Random House NZ, 2014). Her fiction has been published in *Griffith Review 49: New Asia* (Aus), *Landfall* and *Asia Literary Review 28* (HK), broadcast on National Radio and recently won the 2016 Write Well Award (US). Her creative nonfiction has been selected as highly commended in 2013 *Landfall* Essay Prize and runner up in 2011 *Landfall* Essay Competition, and published in *Atlas*, *Griffith Review 52: Imagining the Future* (Aus), *Landfall*, *Segue* (Miami University Press) and *Pilgrimage* (Colorado State University Press), and is forthcoming in the anthology, *Memoirs of the Feminine Divine* (US). Additionally, she is winner of the 2013 Kathleen Grattan Award for Poetry, runner up in the 2014 and 2015 New Zealand Poetry Society's International Poetry Competitions and shortlisted for the Janet Frame Memorial Awards (2012, 2014 & 2016), as well as runner up in 2012 Dorothy Porter Poetry Prize (Aus) and 2012 Kevin Ireland Poetry Competition. Between 2006 and 2013 she coordinated New Zealand's National Poetry Day.

Siobhan's work is often described as lyrical, engaging language, imagery and ideas in unusual and provocative ways. She has a Poet's Page on The Poetry Archive (UK), co-directed by Sir Andrew Motion.

## Jenny Haworth Mentor

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**Area:** Canterbury      **Genre:** Fiction, historical fiction, non-fiction, memoir.  
**Communications:** Email, phone, face to face

I write both fiction and non-fiction. In the last few years I have had three sell-out novels published and a number of works of non-fiction. I have also worked as a freelance journalist for most of the major newspapers and magazines in New Zealand. In recent years my main emphasis has been on writing nonfiction particularly history. I was shortlisted in the 2015 heritage nonfiction awards for Roads' the Mode the history of the road transport industry. Recently I have completed *Behind the Twisted Wire*, on the New Zealand artists of World War I, *Auckland Then and Now* and a yet unpublished biography of Robert McDougall a leading Canterbury philanthropist. I am currently writing a travel memoir on my experiences in Vienna, Budapest and Prague I am also part way through a novel which looks back to the New Zealanders in Italy in World War II. I also run a small publishing company Wily Publications Ltd which focuses on helping first time authors reach publication standard.

## Karyn Hay

## Mentor

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**Area:** Auckland      **Genre:** Literary fiction, short story, non-fiction, radio

**Contact:** email, mobile, face to face, facetime

**Karyn Hay** is an award-winning novelist: her debut novel *Emerald Budgies* won the *New Zealand Society of Authors Hubert Church Best First Book Award* in the Montana New Zealand Book Awards in 2001. She was awarded a Frank Sargeson Fellowship in 2004 with a six-month residency in the Frank Sargeson apartments in Auckland, and is currently a literary advisor to the Frank Sargeson Trust. Her latest novel *The March of the Foxgloves* was published in December 2016 and was a No.1 bestseller on the New Zealand Fiction list. She has worked as a copywriter, television front person, producer and director, radio announcer, newspaper columnist, and been General Manager of radio station Kiwi FM. She has also been on numerous boards and was the inaugural Chair of Women in Film and Television, Auckland branch. [Karyn Hay profile](#)

## Dr Susanna Lyle

## Mentor

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**Area:** Northland      **Genre:** Non-fiction (art, botany, biology)

**Contact:** Email, phone, face to face (if possible)

In addition to being an artist, Susanna is the author of numerous non-fiction books and magazine articles on a series of wide-ranging topics. Her first book “Discovering Fruit and Nuts” was published in 2006 and is released in NZ, Australia, USA and Europe.

She has extensive tutoring experience (including in creative writing) and hold a BSc Hons and PhD in Biological Science.

## Janice Marriott

## Mentor

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**Area:** Auckland      **Genre:** Children’s novels and picture books, adult novels, and memoir

**Communications:** Email, phone, face to face

Janice Marriott is a writer of fiction, poetry and non-fiction for adult and child readers. Her children’s novels have won the Supreme Award, Senior Fiction Award, the Junior Fiction Award, and been a finalist in the Non-Fiction section of the New Zealand Book Awards for Children and Young Adults. She has been awarded the Ester Glen Medal for her children’s writing. She’s written children’s material for TV, radio, and the educational market.

For adults she has written four books of memoir, *Common Ground* being the first, and *Changing Lives* the most recent. She has been a weekly columnist for the Herald on Sunday, and a columnist in *NZ House and Garden* for the last seven years. Her short fiction has appeared in magazines and on radio. Her most recent book is *Grandparents Talk*, published in 2016.

Her main focus now is helping others write their stories. She is a member of the NZ Association of Manuscript Assessors, and runs a popular online tutoring business for emerging writers, through [www.gowrittenow.nz](http://www.gowrittenow.nz) Several of her students have won book awards themselves.

## Lesley Marshall

## Mentor

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**Area:** Northland      **Genre:** Editing (non-fiction, fiction, short story)

*Member of NZAMA*

**Contact:** Email, phone, face to face (if possible)

Lesley Marshall runs Editline, a freelance editing service in Northland. She has over 35 years' experience in editing and assessing general fiction, short stories, thrillers, romances, historical novels, women's fiction, sci-fi, plays and family histories. She always tries to edit within the writer's voice and style.

Lesley has edited many award-winning short stories one of which was made into a film. As well as acting as outside assessor for the NorthTec and Whitireia Polytechnic writing programmes and mentor for Whitireia, she is currently teaching on-line writing and editing papers for NorthTec. On an occasional basis she has edited manuscripts for various publishing houses, and is a regular appraiser, assessor and mentor for the New Zealand Society of Authors. Lesley is a founding member of the NZ Association of Manuscript Assessors.

## Sue McCauley Mentor

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**Area:** Hawkes Bay/Wairarapa **Genre:** novel, short story, drama, screenwriting.

**Contact:** Email, phone, face to face (if possible)

Sue has spent over 40 years as a self-employed writer. Her published work includes four novels (*Other Halves*, *Then Again*, *Bad Music* and *A Fancy Man*), two short story collections (*It Could Be You*, and *Life on Earth*) and a non-fiction book, (*Escape from Bosnia - Aza's Story*).

Four times a finalist in Wattie/Montana Book Awards and winner of both NZ Book Award and Book of the Year (*Other Halves*). She has selected/edited three anthologies and written successfully for screen, stage, TV (adult and children) and radio. Sue has tutored creative writing and scriptwriting and worked as a script assessor/advisor/consultant.

## Rae McGregor Mentor

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**Area:** Auckland **Genre:** Fiction, and non-fiction.

**Contact:** Email, phone, skype, face to face (if possible)

Rae has written five books. Three biographies a children's story and a novel. She has also had short stories published.

Rae works as a full time writer and assessor and reviews regularly for National Radio both fiction and non-fiction work.

She is also closely involved with theatre and has directed several plays for Howick Little Theatre and for Dolphin Theatre.

## Cilla McQueen Mentor

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**Area:** Otago/Southland **Genre:** Poetry **Contact:** Email, phone, face to face (if possible)

Cilla (MA Hons, Hon Litt D (Otago) has published fourteen collections of her poetry, most recently *Markings* (2000), *Axis* (2001), *Soundings* (2002), *Fire-penny* (2005), a CD of poetry and music, *A Wind Harp* (2006), *The Radio Room* (2010), *Edwin's Egg* (2014), the letterpress book '*An Island*' (2014), '*In A Slant Light, a poet's memoir*' (2016). *Poeta* (Otago University Press) 2018 She has taught English, modern languages and creative writing.

Her poetry has won three New Zealand Book Awards and she has been the recipient of several travel awards and fellowships, notably the Robert Burns Fellowship in 1985 and 1986, the inaugural Australia-New Zealand Writers' Exchange Fellowship, a Fulbright Visiting Writer's Fellowship and a Goethe Institute scholarship to Berlin. She was the 2009-11 New Zealand National Library Poet Laureate and in



2010 received the Prime Minister's Award for Literary Achievement in Poetry. Cilla works full-time as a writer.

## Janine McVeagh Mentor

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**Area:** Hokianga Harbour      **Genre:** short and long non-fiction for children and adults

**Contact:** Email, phone, skype, face to face (if possible)

I've been published across a wide range of genres and media over the years: short and long non-fiction for children and adults; short and long fiction, including two novels for children and short stories on radio for adults; collaborated in writing plays for radio and early childhood readers in Te Reo Maori as well as reviews of fiction, non-fiction, poetry, films and websites for magazines and newsletters. In 2017 Grandad's Guitar was published by Makaro Press.

I conceived and developed the online Diploma of Applied Writing programme for Northtec and taught it for 20 years. I have now retired.

I live with my family in Rawene on the Hokianga Harbour and am involved in several local issues, all of which feeds my writing.

## Diana Menefy Mentor

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**Area:** Northland      **Genre:** Short story, novel, children's fiction, non-fiction, biography, education, history.      **Contact:** Email, phone, face to face (if possible)

In addition to being an experienced tutor and course designer, Diana has had novels and short stories published and numerous articles for newspapers, magazines and educational organisations. She has written five commissioned local histories, the last being the centenary history of Whangarei Hospital for Northland Health.

Her novel *Shadow of the Boyd* was shortlisted for NZ Post Children's Book Awards and won the LIANZA Esther Glen medal in 2011.

She last novel *1915 Wounds of War*, the second book in the Scholastic WW1 Series *Kiwis At War*, came out in April this year. Diana has another junior historical novel *Chasing Silver* with a publisher, is working on the final edits of a picture book, and is now working on a contemporary YA novel *Judging is Lethal*.

## Kyle Mewburn Mentor

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**Area:** Central Otago      **Genre:** Picture books, general children's fiction

**Contact:** Email, Phone, Skype, face to face (if possible), et al

Kyle Mewburn has published numerous picture books, junior fiction and School Readers. These books have been published in 23 countries and won numerous awards.

*Old Hu-hu* (Scholastic 2009) won the 2010 NZ Post Children's Book of the Year. *Melu* (Scholastic 2012) won the NZ Post Best Picture Book category at the NZ Post Children's Book Awards in 2013 and was a White Raven title for 2012. *Kiss! Kiss! Yuck! Yuck!* (Scholastic 2006) won both the Best Picture Book and Children's Choice categories at the NZ Post Children's Book Awards in 2007, as well as the *Flicker Tale Award* in North Dakota, USA. Kyle's best-selling junior fiction series *Dinosaur Rescue* has been sold into over 20 countries. Kyle was Children's Writer-in-Residence at Otago University in 2011 and was President of the NZSA till 2017. Kyle's first junior novel, *A Crack in the Sky* (Scholastic 2010), was written while participating in the NZSA Mentorship programme, under the guidance of David Hill.

## Julia Millen

## Mentor

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**Area:** Wellington      **Genre:** general non-fiction with specialities: NZ social history; Antarctica; mountaineering; military history

**Contact:** Email, phone, face to face (if possible)

Biographer of Ronald Hugh Morrison and Guthrie Wilson, Julia Millen's published works include *Colonial Tears & Sweat* and histories of the following: Kirkcaldie & Stains, Glaxo, IHC New Zealand, the NZ National Forest Survey, The Royal New Zealand Corps of Transport and law firm Bell Gully Buddle Weir.

She has also published family history, short story collections, and in *Dilemma of Dementia*, relates caring experiences with her mother who suffered from Alzheimer's disease. In 2010 she published *Te Rau Herenga, A Century of Library Life in Aotearoa, 1910-2010: the centennial history of LIANZA* (Library & Information Association of New Zealand Aotearoa) and a World War II old soldier's memoir: *North to the Apricots*; the escape stories of Sgt Bruce Crowley DCM.

In the past, Julia has tutored non-fiction writing workshops at Whitireia Polytechnic and is currently a mentor and manuscript assessor for writers. Julia is a Director of Writes Hill Press Ltd.

## Lee Murray

## Mentor

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**Area:** Tauranga      **Genre:** Fiction, adult/YA/MG, short story

**Contact:** email, phone, skype, face to face (if possible)

Lee Murray is a multi-award-winning writer and editor of science fiction, fantasy, and horror (Sir Julius Vogel, Australian Shadows). She is the author of the Taine McKenna speculative military series (Severed Press Australia) including *Into the Mist* (Winner Sir Julius Vogel Best Novel, finalist Australian Shadows, long-listed Bram Stoker Award), *Into the Sounds* and *Into the Ashes*; and speculative crime-noir series, The Path of Ra (Raw Dog Screaming Press, USA) co-authored with Dan Rabarts, including *Hounds of the Underworld* (Winner Sir Julius Vogel Best Novel, long-listed Bram Stoker Award) and *Teeth of the Wolf*. A third Path of Ra title is slated for late 2019. *Dawn of the Zombie Apocalypse*, the first book in her latest middle grade adventure series is forthcoming from IFWG Publishing Australia in 2019. In 2018, Lee's short fiction appeared in various venues including magazines *Breach* and *New Orbit*, and anthologies *Cthulhu Deep Down Under II*, *Cthulhu Land of the Long White Cloud*, *Kaiju Rising II: Reign of Monsters*, *Beneath the Waves: Tales from the Deep*, *Te Korero Ahi Ka*, and *Tales of Excellent Cats: A Monarchies of Mau Anthology* in the Pugmire gaming franchise. She is proud to have co-edited eight anthologies of speculative fiction, including six by New Zealand school students. Her latest edited work, *Hellhole: An Anthology of Subterranean Horror*, featuring stories by Jonathan Maberry, Michael McBride and Rena Mason was released in December 2018. Lee lives with her family in Tauranga, where she conjures up fiction from her office overlooking a cow paddock. Visit her at [www.leemurray.info](http://www.leemurray.info)

## James Norcliffe

## Mentor

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**Area:** Canterbury      **Genre:** Poetry, fiction for young people, short story

**Contact:** Email, phone, face to face (if possible)

James has had many years' experience as a writer and editor. He has published nine collections of poetry, most recently *Villon* in Millerton, *Shadow Play*, *Dark Days* at the Oxygen Café and a collection of poems for younger people *Packing A Bag for Mars*; eleven novels for young people, including the YA fantasy *The Loblolly Boy* which made the USSBY list of best foreign children's books published in the USA, its successor *The Loblolly Boy and the Sorcerer*, and more recently *The Enchanted Flute*, *Felix and the Red Rats*, *The Pirates and the Nightmaker*, and *Twice Upon a Time*.

He has written a collection of short stories, *The Chinese Interpreter*.

He is an editor for the on-line journal Flash Frontier and has edited anthologies of poetry and the annual ReDraft anthologies of writing by young people. He has co-edited major poetry and short fiction anthologies most recently Bonsai (with Michelle Elvy & Frankie McMillan).

He has twice won the NZ Poetry Society's International Poetry Award, been short listed for the Montana poetry awards for Letters to Dr Dee, and won an honour award for The Emerald Encyclopaedia at the NZ Children's Book Awards. The Assassin of Gleam was short listed for the Esther Glen Medal, and won the Sir Julius Vogel Award. In 2010 The Loblolly Boy also short listed for the Esther Glen Award and won the NZ Post Children's Book Awards Junior Fiction Award. The Loblolly Boy and the Sorcerer, Felix and the Red Rats and The Pirates and the Nightmaker were shortlisted for the NZ Post Children's Junior Fiction Awards.

James has been invited to a number of international poetry festivals and has been awarded a number of residencies including the Burns Fellowship, the Iowa International Writers Programme, and the University Of Otago College Of Education Creative New Zealand Fellowship for Children's Writing.

With Bernadette Hall, he was presented with a Press Literary Liaisons Honour Award for lasting contribution to literature in the South Island.

## Lawrence Patchett      Mentor

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**Area:** Wellington Genre: Novels, short stories, creative nonfiction

**Contact:** Email, phone, face to face (if possible)

Lawrence Patchett is a literary editor and writer. He has worked as editor of the nonfiction book, The Mermaid Boy by John Summers, literary co-editor of Hue and Cry journal, and as a fiction mentor and external assessor to creative writing students. His book of short stories, I Got His Blood On Me: Frontier Tales was recognised at the New Zealand Post Book Awards in 2013 with the NZSA Hubert Church Best First Book Award for Fiction.

## Vivienne Plumb      Mentor

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**Area:** Wellington      **Genre:** general fiction, poetry, drama

**Contact:** Email, phone, face to face (if possible)

Vivienne Plumb is Wellington-based and works as a professional writer and mentor, and writes poetry, fiction, and drama, and can mentor in all three areas. She holds a B.A. and M.A. (in creative writing), N.Z; and a Doctor of Creative Arts, AUST.

She has published nineteen books of poetry, short and long fiction, drama, and non-fiction. She has been the recipient of several Creative N.Z. grants, and has held a Sargeson Fellowship, and an Australian Post-Graduate Fellowship. She has been the recipient of residency positions at Massey University, University of Canterbury, University of Iowa (USA), Hog Kong Baptist University, and the 2016 University of Auckland/Michael King Centre Writing Fellowship.

Her most recent publications are 'SHIFT' (drama, Playmarket, 2016), and 'As Much Gold as an Ass Could Carry' (split/fountain, Auckland, 2017).

A new collection of her work in Italian translation is in preparation. Her writing has also been translated and published in Poland, Taiwan, China, Malaysia and in Slovenia.

## Jo Randerson

## Mentor

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**Area:** Wellington      **Genre:** Theatre, Short fiction, novel

**Contact:** Skype, email, face to face (if possible)

Wellington short fiction and theatre writer, dramaturg and director. Randerson was the Robert Burns Fellow in 2001, twice short listed for the IIML Prize in Modern Letters and won the Bruce Mason Playwriting Award 1997, New Generation Laureate Award 2008 and held the 2009 NZSA Beatson Fellowship.

Jo is an experienced theatre maker, writer, and has a great interest in work for young people and children. She collaborates internationally most recently with Goldin+Senneby for the Istanbul and Moscow Biennale. Her work is poetic, strongly voiced and often otherworldly and her first book of short stories *The Spit Children* was recently translated into a premiere work for Belgium's largest youth theatre. For further information see [www.barbarian.co.nz](http://www.barbarian.co.nz).

## Sue Reidy

## Mentor

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**Area:** Auckland      **Genre:** adult & crime fiction, memoirs, YA & children's fiction, personal development      **Contact:** Email, phone, Skype, face to face

Sue Reidy is an Auckland-based novelist, freelance writer, manuscript assessor and poet. Three of her novels have been published internationally (*The Visitation*, *Four Ways to be a Woman*, *L'Amore Secondo Miranda*). Her collection of short stories (*Modettes*) was published locally. Her novel *The Visitation* was shortlisted in the NZ Montana Book Awards. She is a former Buddle Findlay Sargeson literary fellow and a former BNZ Katherine Mansfield short story winner. She has also been runner-up in the *Sunday Star-Times* Short Story Award. Her short stories have been anthologised and broadcast on Radio National. Sue's poetry has been published in the *Listener*, *Landfall*, *Jaam*, *Takahē*, *Bravado* and *International Literary Quarterly*. She has participated in 15 local and three international literary festivals (Sydney, Brisbane, Wellington)

Sue has been a mentor and an external examiner on the AUT Creative Writing Programme (2009) and is a former mayoral speech writer (Manukau Mayor Sir Barry Curtis). She has had extensive experience assessing manuscripts in a wide range of genres, reflecting her broad reading background.

## Paddy Richardson

## Mentor

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**Area:** Dunedin      **Genre:** Short story, novel, Crime/psychological thriller, historical fiction

**Contact:** Email, phone, face to face, Skype

Paddy Richardson has taught numerous creative fiction writing courses, has been awarded three Creative New Zealand Awards, the University of Otago Burns Fellowship in 1997, the Beatson Fellowship in 2007 and the James Wallace Arts Trust Residency Award in 2011. In 2012 she was invited to and attended both the Leipzig and Frankfurt Book fairs.

As a writer of short fiction, her stories have been widely broadcast on New Zealand National Radio, published both locally and in Australia and short-listed for the 1997 BNZ Mansfield Awards, the international short story Best of Penknife 2006 and won a highly commended award in the Sunday Star Times Awards, 2005. She has published two collections of short stories, *Choices* and *If We Were Lebanese* and six novels, *The Company of a Daughter*, *A Year to Learn a Woman*, *Hunting Blind*, *Traces of Red*, *Cross Fingers* and *Swimming in the Dark*. *A Year to Learn A Woman* ('Der Frauenfanger'), *Hunting Blind* ('Komm Spiel Mit Mir') and *Traces of Red* (*Deine Schuld*) have been published by German publishers Droemer Knauer. *Through the Lonesome Dark* published in May 2017

## Joan Rosier-Jones      Mentor

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**Area:** Wanganui      **Genre:** YA & Adult Fiction, non-fiction

**Contact:** Email, phone, skype, face to face (if possible)

Joan Rosier-Jones writes fiction for adults and young readers and non-fiction. The true murder mystery, *The Murder of Chow Yat*, was published in 2009. She began her working life as a teacher, and now combines her two passions - writing and teaching by running classes and writers' retreats for adults and working with the NZA programmes for emerging writers. She has taught creative writing for several institutions - University of Auckland, UNITEC, and local community education services. Several of her students have gained success in the world of publishing. *So You Want to Write*, her guide for aspiring authors, is about to go into its 4<sup>th</sup> edition. Other similar subjects include family history writing, book publicity and marketing. She is the author of several courses for the NZ Institute of Business Studies, and has published a number of novels since her first book, *Cast Two Shadows*, described as a 'powerfully realistic novel', was released in 1985. Her last Novel, *Waiting for Elizabeth*, was set in Tudor Ireland. The latest publication is *Doing it My Way: an Egyptian Memoir*, which she co-wrote with Egyptian entrepreneur, Elhamy Elzayat.

## Tina Shaw      Mentor

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**Area:** Taupo      **Genre:** Fiction for adults & children, YA

**Contact:** Email, phone, skype, googleplus, face to face (if possible)

Tina Shaw is the author of literary novels: *Birdie*, *Dreams of America*, *City of Reeds*, *Paradise*, and *The Black Madonna*. She has held the Buddle Findlay Sargeson Fellowship, the Creative New Zealand Berlin Writers' Residency, and the University of Waikato Writer-In-Residence. Tina has published in the children's educational market, and her 2009 novel *About Griffen's Heart* (Longacre Press) was named a Storylines Notable Book for 2010 and was shortlisted for the 2010 LIANZA Children's Book Awards. Her latest publications are the *Bateman New Zealand Writer's Handbook* and *The Children's Pond*. Tina is a creative writing tutor, manuscript assessor, and worked as the NZSA Programme Manager for six years.

## Deborah Shepard      Mentor

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**Area:** Auckland      **Genre:** Memoir, journal

**Contact:** Email, phone, Skype, face to face (if possible)

Deborah Shepard is a biographer, oral historian, journaller and life writing mentor with many years of experience teaching memoir through the Centre for Lifelong Education at The University of Auckland and at the Michael King Writers' Centre. More recently she introduced a new course on journalling to the syllabus, 'The Journal Workshop'. Her books include: *Reframing Women: A History of New Zealand Film* (2000), *Between the Lives: Partners in Art* (2005) and *Her Life's Work* (2009) all of which were critically acclaimed for documenting the contribution of women to the arts in New Zealand. Deborah's journal, *Giving Yourself to Life: A Journal of Pain, Hope and Renewal* was published in 2015 with an endorsement from poet, journal writer and novelist Elizabeth Smither, "This lovely journal, not made lovely by chronic pain, but deepened because of it. Humane, delicate and bold as the journals of May Sarton or Elisabeth Tova Bailey's observation of her snail." In 2013 Deborah was awarded the autumn residency at the Michael King Writers' Centre and in 2015 and 2016 Deborah conducted a series of interviews with senior New Zealand authors for the New Zealand Society of Authors. The project was funded by an Award in Oral History from the Ministry of Heritage and Culture. Her book *The Writing Life: Twelve New Zealand Authors 2018* based on these interviews with: Joy Cowley, Chris Else, Marilyn Duckworth, Tessa Duder, Patricia Grace, David Hill, Witi Ihimaera, Fiona

Kidman, Owen Marshall, Vincent O'Sullivan, Philip Temple and Albert Wendt is due out in November 2018.

## Elizabeth Smither Mentor

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**Area:** New Plymouth **Genre:** poetry  
**Contact:** Email, phone, face to face (if possible)

**Elizabeth Smither** has published 18 collections of poetry, was Te Mata poet laureate (2001-3), and was awarded an HonDLitt by Auckland University and the Prime Minister's Award for Literary Achievement in 2008. She also writes novels, journals and short stories, and is widely published in Australia, Britain and USA. Her latest poetry collection, 'Night Horse' won the Ockham poetry award 2018.

## Vanda Symon Mentor

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**Area:** Otago **Genre:** Crime fiction/ general fiction / non-fiction **Contact:** Email, phone, face to face (if possible)

Vanda Symon has had four crime fiction novels in the Detective Sam Shepherd series and a stand-alone crime fiction novel, *The Faceless*, published by Penguin New Zealand. Her novels have also been translated into German and are being published in Britain. She is a three-time finalist for the Ngaio Marsh Award for Best Crime Novel.

Vanda is also involved in broadcasting - producing and hosting a monthly radio show on books and writers, and has reviewed books for National Radio. This has given her experience in critiquing both fiction and non-fiction work. She has been a book awards judge for the NZ Post Book awards, and the Ngaio Marsh Awards for Best Crime Novel. Vanda has a PhD in science communication, and a professional background in Pharmacy.

## Melinda Szymanik Mentor

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**Area:** Auckland **Genre:** Picture books, short stories and fiction, Children's and YA  
**Contact:** phone, email, face to face (if possible)

Melinda Szymanik has published children's and YA novels, picture books, and short stories (in both trade and educational publications). Her most recent picture book, *Fuzzy Doodle*, is a 2017 White Ravens selection, a 2017 Storylines Notable Book, a finalist in the 2017 NZ CYA Book Awards and was selected for the 2017 Queensland Premier's Reading Challenge. Her novel, *A Winter's Day in 1939*, won Librarian's Choice at the 2014 LIANZA Awards, was a Storylines Notable Book and was shortlisted for the 2014 NZ Post CYA Book Awards. Her second picture book, *The Were Nana*, won the 2009 NZ Post Children's Choice Award, was a Storylines Notable Book and was short listed for the 2010 Sakura Medal. Melinda was the 2014 University of Otago, College of Education, Creative New Zealand Children's Writer in Residence, and completed her first novel *Jack the Viking* (Scholastic 2008) while on the NZSA's mentoring programme in 2005. Melinda runs creative writing workshops for adults and children, blogs regularly on writing (at [www.melindaszzymanik.blogspot.com](http://www.melindaszzymanik.blogspot.com)) and is one of a group of New Zealand writers taking part in an innovative on-line novel writing experiment -[www.fabostory.wordpress.com](http://www.fabostory.wordpress.com)

## Geoff Walker Mentor

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**Area:** Auckland **Genre:** Biography, memoir, Historical writing and Fiction

**Communications:** Email, phone, Skype, WhatsApp, face to face

Geoff Walker was for many years Publishing Director of Penguin New Zealand, where he worked with many leading New Zealand authors whose books won a large number of awards. Geoff is now working as a freelance publishing consultant, editor and manuscript assessor. He is also a commissioning editor on the BWB Texts series of books published by Bridget Williams Books. Geoff offers sound and expert advice on manuscript assessment, writing, rewriting and editing. He can also advise on the best way to publish and which publishers to approach.

For authors who wish to 'indie' publish he offers a wide array of advice on how to proceed. He can also project manage a book from the original manuscript through its editorial and design stages to finished printed copies or e-books. Geoff's personal interests lie in contemporary fiction, biography, memoir and history but he also works with all kinds of books across a broad range.

## Philippa Werry Mentor

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**Area:** Wellington      **Genre:** children's literature, non-fiction  
**Contact:** Email, skype, phone, face to face (if possible)

Philippa is a Wellington writer whose non-fiction, poetry, stories and plays have been widely published and broadcast on radio. Her work has appeared in various anthologies as well as the *School Journal* and other educational publications, and several of her titles have been shortlisted for book awards or named as Storylines Notable Books. *Enemy at the Gate* was nominated in the Junior Fiction section of the 2009 NZ Post Children's Book Awards. *Anzac Day: the New Zealand story* was shortlisted for both the NZ Post Book Awards and Lianza Book Awards 2014. *Waitangi Day: the New Zealand story* was shortlisted in the Children's Choice section of the New Zealand Book Awards for Children and Young Adults 2015. "*The New Zealand Wars* was shortlisted in the Non-Fiction section of the New Zealand Book Awards for Children and Young Adults 2018."

Philippa was runner up in the Playmarket Plays for the Young Competition 2010 and a Finalist in the Storylines Joy Cowley Award 2015. She has been shortlisted for the Text Publishing Prize, the Manhire Prize for Creative Science Writing (three times) and was the recipient of the 2010 New Zealand Society of Authors Mid-Career Writers Award. She is an online writing tutor, maintains several blogs, is a frequent speaker at book-related events and seminars and visits schools around the country as part of the Writers in Schools programme. In December 2016 she went to Antarctica with the Antarctica NZ community engagement programme (formerly Artists and Writers to Antarctica). She is passionate about the need to tell our stories and our history to our children and young people.

## Ella West Mentor

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**Area:** Otago/Southland      **Genre:** Junior and Young Adult Fiction  
**Contact:** Email, skype, phone, Facebook, face to face (if possible)

Ella West is the pen name of Karen Trebilcock. She writes Young Adult fiction including *Night Vision* and the thriller series *Thieves*, and has been published here and overseas. She is a multi-award winning novelist and in 2010 was the University Of Otago College Of Education Creative New Zealand Children's Writer in Residence. She enjoys teaching in schools and helping people develop their writing skills.

## Alison Wong Mentor

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**Area:** Melbourne, Australia      **Genre:** Poetry, non-fiction, memoir, novel  
**Contact:** Email, skype, phone, FaceTime, face to face (if possible)

Alison Wong is a fourth-generation Chinese New Zealander. She currently lives in Australia but returns to NZ regularly, particularly to Auckland and Wellington. She writes novels, creative non-fiction/memoir and poetry. Her work has been translated and published in French, Spanish, Polish, Hungarian, Italian and Chinese.

Alison spent several years in China in the 1980s and 1990s. In 2014 she was the inaugural NZ writer on the Shanghai International Writers' Programme and in 2016 she held a Sun Yat Sen University International Writers' Residency. She was the 2002 Robert Burns Fellow.

Her novel, *As the Earth Turns Silver*, won the 2010 New Zealand Post Book Award for Fiction and was shortlisted for the 2010 Australian Prime Minister's Literary Awards. In 2018 it was voted by NZ booksellers as one of their top twenty bestsellers of the decade.

Her poetry collection, *Cup*, was shortlisted for Best First Book for Poetry at the 2007 Montana New Zealand Book Awards and her poetry appeared in Best NZ Poems 2015, 2007 and 2006. In 2018 she was one of the poetry judges for the Ockham NZ Book Awards. Her essays/memoir pieces have been published in Australia, China, the US and Mexico. She is working on a memoir, a novel and a collection of poetry.