

# Author Biographies

**MICHAEL ANDERSON** has lived in Melbourne his whole life. He deferred his Arts course after half a year to work in a factory for CSL. He hopes one day to become an English teacher and a writer.

**ABHITHA ARUNAGIRI** is an Australian woman whose life spans India and Australia. In the early seventies she lived by the Arunachala Mountain in South India. She adopted an Indian daughter and initiated a process of reforestation on and around the mountain in which she remains involved.

**JARRAD BIGGS** is currently finishing the final year of an Arts Degree, after which he wishes to pursue his interests in film and screenwriting. Although previously unpublished, Jarrad has won several awards for filmmaking, including Audience Favourite and Best VU Film at last year's Queen Street Film Festival.

**AVRIL BRADLEY** is a passionate pioneer for the enjoyment of poetry everywhere. She currently has a rooku, *Transformations*, in the Moving Galleries Project and is soon to be published in *Melbourne Reflections* (Poetica Christi Press). She is compiling a poetry book *Western Port Whimsy* with grade six students from Mentone Grammar School. She lives in Frankston.

**AMIEL COURTIN-WILSON'S** debut feature documentary, *Chasing Buddha*, premiered at Sundance in 2000. *Chasing Buddha* was nominated for an AFI award for Best Direction and won a number of awards, including Best Documentary at the 2000 Sydney Film Festival's Dendy Awards and the IF Awards. Amiel's new feature documentary, *Bastardy*, won the Best Documentary Jury Prize at the 2009 Australian Film Critics Circle Awards and he is currently

developing the feature length version of his Cannes Directors' Fortnight selected short, *Cicada*, as well as completing the feature-length documentary *Catch My Disease* about Ben Lee.

**MICHAEL CRANE** has had more than 350 poems and stories published in literary journals and newspapers since 1994. He organises the Poetry Idol Final for the Melbourne Writers Festival, is co editor of the *Paradise Anthology* and performs musical poems with Trish Anderson of acclaimed band GIT.

Being a multimedia student and qualified artist, poetry isn't the only thing **TREVOR DONOGHUE** does. He likes to engage this world in many different forms with many different mediums such as film, sculpture, painting, scuba diving, and motor-bike riding. All of which are an art of their own, but are they all crafted?

**GREGORY A GOULD** has had poetry published in *First, Block and Page Seventeen*. He is the founder of Blemish Books, a Canberra based independent press. He grew up in far north Queensland.

**DAVID HALLIDAY** is a Melbourne writer/editor who is finishing a Masters in editing. He has written music videos for Universal Music, short films (including one starring Jason Alexander), reams of fiction, and was recently made editor of the forthcoming *Australian Scholarly Review*. He thinks robots and dinosaurs are under-represented in Australian writing.

**MARGARET HICKEY'S** first novel, *A Grand Prospect*, was published in 2008. She has been shortlisted for the National Crime Writers Award, The Scarlet Stiletto, and has written for many newspapers across the country. She lives in the North East of Victoria with her husband and three young sons.

After a long career as an English teacher - with stints as a journalist and truck driver - **MICHAEL HYDE** now lectures in Professional Writing at Victoria University. His many non-fiction works include being the series editor and writer for the national English series, *Englishworks*, a writer for the Macmillan series, *Mosaic*, and his own textbook *The Diary of my Secret Life - a guide to the craft of writing*. His recent novels for Young Adults, *Hey Joe*, *MAX* and *Tyger Tyger* have received critical success and continue to be widely read and taught in many schools. His most recent work, *Hey Joe* - about the Vietnam War, the movement against it and the sixties in Australia - was named as a Notable Book in the 2004 CBC Awards.

Michael also conducts writing workshops for students and teachers across Australia. He lives in Melbourne with Gabrielle and Zachariah, the youngest of his four children. He loves the bush, the desert, the sea, Aussie Rules footy (especially Collingwood), canoeing and encouraging others to write.

**JACOB LEGGE** was born in Melbourne and grew up in Eltham and Templestowe. He has recently recommenced an Arts Degree at Melbourne University after a hiatus. He is focusing on Political Science, Philosophy and Creative Writing. He also works part time in marketing. *Summer Holidays* is a largely true account of an event from his childhood.

**MARGARET MCCARTHY** writes fiction and poetry and has been widely published. Most recently, her poem, *Westgate Sister*, won the 2009 Williamstown Literary Festival People's Choice Award. Margaret holds an MA in Creative Writing from Melbourne University and teaches in the Diploma of Professional Writing and Editing at CAE and VU.

**SAMSON MCDUGALL** is a writer with a thirst. Quite possibly the thirstiest person on Earth, he's a very thirsty man.

**DIANNE MILLETT** grew up in country Victoria, but now lives happily in the People's Republic of Northcote. She is studying Professional Writing and Editing at RMIT. She has had poems published in *Page Seventeen*, *The Mozzie*, *Divan*, *The Leader* and in various Zines. This is her first published prose piece.

**ANASTASIA PARKER** really only uses 'Anastasia' for writing, and aspires to have her name on the front of a children's book. When her name isn't signing off a piece, it's Annie. Unfortunately, this name, and being blessed with red hair, has made for unfunny jokes about being a little girl with an afro and freckles.

**AMANDA ROBINSON** likes Saturdays, boiled eggs and toast soldiers, inspirational fridge magnets... and writing.

Stranded in suburban Queensland at the start of the year, **KATHRYN SULLIVAN** survived the week by feeding from a Bukowski collection. She hadn't realised poetry could be so meaty. Kathryn now majors in creative writing within a bachelor of Media Communications. She plans to study poetry abroad in 2010.

**DEB WATERHOUSE-WATSON** is completing her PhD in English at Monash University, focusing on the representation of footballers and rape in the media. She teaches Literature at Monash and Deakin Universities, loves fantasy and science fiction, hates bad grammar, and enjoys playing addictive board games.

**LES WICKS** has toured widely and has seen publication across 11 countries in 7 languages. His 8th book of poetry is *The Ambrosiacs* (Island, 2009).

When not trying to find new and interesting ways to explore the world, **ROBIN WILKINSON** spends his time saving and researching

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for further adventures. He also studies Creative Writing at the University of Melbourne and hopes that one day people will pay him to travel.

**SAM WILKINSON** was born in Melbourne in 1990, where he has lived his entire life to date. Exploring many different styles of writing, he made it to the state final of the Class Clowns stand-up comedy competition and has written songs for the satirical rock band *Andy Bear and the Bum Chums*.