

BIOGRAPHIES

WRITERS

ALINKA SHARROCK plays bass, double bass, saxophone and sings in two bands. She loves surfing, painting and world travel; especially to England where she has an affiliation with punk music and culture. She aspires to be a film director/screen writer as she adapts many of her stories into short scripts.

ANDREW ROBERTS is a full-time writing student from the western suburbs who wishes to learn more about the craft and eventually get published. He is a mixture of east and west culture and works casually stacking shelves at a glorious establishment they call 'Coles.'

ASHLEIGH WILSON is a third year multimedia student with a major in Professional Writing. She loves being creative. Some of her favourite things are anime, manga and drawing; so drawing is one of the things she does most. She aspires to be a professional animator or illustrator.

BENJAMIN LYNCH was born and raised on the mean streets of Western Sydney, but is now a proud Moonee Pondsian and VU student and looks forward to supporting the Bulldogs when they recover the good common sense to change their name back to Footscray.

CASSANDRA L. OATES was born in Lilydale. She studied at Pembroke Secondary College, Victoria University and Deakin University, majoring in Visual Art and Photography. She is a young artist writing on subjects pertaining to the feelings undergone as a result of the human experience.

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CHARLES MALLIA is 30 years old and a full time student at Victoria University. He is studying Bachelor of Communications. He has already completed a degree in Liberal Arts. He hopes to become a web designer as that is his major.

DELIA SINNI is 23 years old. She completed a three year Paramedic Science degree at VU in 2008. She then worked as a Paramedic for a year but decided her talents were better served writing about childbirths and broken limbs than witnessing them. She aspires to be a published author.

EMILIE GOEGAN is a keen traveller and has lived overseas before starting university. She has always wanted to be an optimistic, open-minded person and has a strong belief that you must achieve your goals by yourself to fully reap the rewards.

FIONA PRICE decided she wanted to be a writer at the age of five, but the dark forces of academia led her astray from her chosen path. She is now trying to hack her way back to it, armed with a half-finished writing diploma and a thirst to publish novels, stories, songs and poetry.

G. RAYMOND LEAVOLD never knew what he wanted to be and still doesn't. He spends his days waking up alone (unless you count the pile of books on the other half of his bed) and roams around the house aimlessly, looking up at the ceiling, imagining words scrawled there for only him to see.

HUGH DEACON is 69 and is truly a mature age student. He is currently studying Professional Writing and Editing at the St Albans campus of VU. He hopes to have a collection of his short stories /poems published in the not too distant future.

JANET MANN is a Librarian living and working in Hong Kong. She is also a writer of mostly Young Adult fiction, and a member of the society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators [SCBWI]. Her aspiration is to have a collection of short stories published within the next 18 months.

JEN WATKINS is an MA student at Victoria University. She is a singer, songwriter and musician and, for a period of time, jumped out of cakes for a living. At the footy, Jen is one of few in the outer who can comment on the game in Welsh.

KAITLIN KUBAT is a Law/Arts graduate with a passion for literature and the elusive task of capturing an important moment or emotion through poetry. Kaitlin is currently preparing to be admitted to practice as a Solicitor.

KEVIN MOORE is a Youth Transitional Worker for the Salvation Army. He works with Indigenous Youth under the Wannik structure to give Aboriginal people better opportunities.

KIRSTY STUART is a writer first and foremost. It is her passion and life. Her lifelong aspiration is to be the next Dean Koontz or Stephen King – only female.

LISA NORMAN is currently tackling a puzzle - her life. She likes the bits that do not fit and her favourite meal is a bowl of quirky words that fulfil her with their snapping, crackling and popping.

LUCIA NARDO is a writer and producer. She writes prose, poetry and scripts, some of which have received awards in competitions. She's had short stories and non-fiction titles published. She also produces writing workshops and events.

LUKE APPLEBEE has been inspired by a rejection letter which claimed that a poem of his was 'unduly violent'. Since then he has vowed to push the boundaries of the literary landscape. When he's not fiddling with confidential documents for money he's either playing with computers or video games.

MATTHEW MAGRO is an aspiring science fiction author with delusions of sanity. He likes writing new and old ideas, twisting them to bring fresh perspectives. He's disdainful of wilful stupidity and deeply appreciative of people that carry conversation without exhorting dumbfounded looks of bovine-level intellect.

MATTHEW NAQVI is on the verge of completing the Bachelor of Arts (Professional Writing). Apart from editing *Offset no. 10*, he has had writing published in *Blood & Water*, *Analects* and *Seed*. He is obsessed with reading and writing and is excited about the future.

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MICHELLE AQUILINA is 21 years of age and a 2010 Professional Writing Graduate. She has always enjoyed English at school and aspires to continue this passion by becoming a creative writer for a newspaper or magazine. And she would love to get involved in editing further down the track!

NICHOLAS WAXMAN is the creative director of Wax Acts Theatre Company where he writes and directs new Australian works. His latest work, called *The Outsider*, is an adaption of Albert Camus' novel, of the same name. He also works quietly at home on his poetry, a great passion in his life.

NICK COWLING was born and raised in the Western Suburbs and intends to be a success with whatever his post-uni life holds. When not at uni he plays pool, works in a video store, and one day aims to conquer his fears of the dark, heights, and cephalopods simultaneously.

PAUL MAVROUDIS is an Arts (Honours) student, who hopes to stay in school forever. His work has featured in *Neos Kosmos English Weekly*, *Das Libero*, *Goal Weekly*, *Halftime Heroes*, as well as his own blog, *South of the Border*. He was also managing editor of *Offset* in 2009.

RICK RESTAINO is an easy-going, giggler who enjoys films, video games, and always likes to have a laugh. He works at Woolworths and is completing the Bachelor of Arts in Professional Writing and one day aspires to be a successful writer-director.

ROB SCOTT is a poet from Melbourne. He is currently doing his Masters thesis on the history of haiku in Australia. His poems have appeared in journals, newspapers and anthologies both here and overseas, including the first two Australian Haiku Anthologies.

RYAN SAMUELS, Mr. Samuels to you. The angriest poet of the last thousand years. Aspiring to get over poetry and do something useful.

SALVATORE CELIENTO is a counsellor and lecturer, who also facilitates workshops on sexual assault for high school boys. His paintings were published in *Offset no. 8* and *no. 9*. Salvatore wrote a master of counselling thesis on mindfulness and has been studying nine ryūha of classical martial arts since 1998.

SAMUEL PEARSON was a first year Arts student at Victoria University during 2009. He is now an undergraduate student at The University of Melbourne, continuing the learning journey. With a passion for writing, he believes an Arts degree will get him the right job, whatever that may be.

SCOTT McCULLOCH has written fiction and non-fiction for student media, blogs and Big West Festival projects. Scott was an editor for *Offset* in 2009 and is currently working as a non-fiction editor for *Voiceworks* magazine. Scott is also a self-taught, independent filmmaker – currently working on a documentary about Amiel Courtin-Wilson’s film *HAIL*; an educational lecture video about the life and times of indigenous activist Gary Foley; a documentary about an Aussie-pop-star-cum-drummer; and is trying to write his narrative film, *PANASH*: an ethnographic love story based on the poetry of T.T.O.

SHARON WELGUS is a former secondary teacher who has always wanted to be a writer. She is interested in prose and poetry but would also like to write the odd feature article. Her first novel will be based in a secondary school but there’ll be a murder to investigate.

SHARZOD HOSSIENI wrote a poem and then she sent it to you. She sits in a house and stares outside the window. Sometimes she writes. Mostly, she dreams.

TYRONE STUTTERD has always loved writing ever since his Grade 5 teacher told him to write “whatever the hell I wanted” for an English assignment. Hopefully, if all goes to plan, he can make a living from writing and be a happy man.