

'IMAGINING THE WEST'



# Williamstown [www.willylitfest.org.au](http://www.willylitfest.org.au) **LITERARY FESTIVAL** **2010** 27 - 30 APRIL NIGHTLY & WEEKEND OF 1-2 MAY Venue: Williamstown Town Hall, Ferguson Street, Williamstown

**A FESTIVAL  
FOR READERS  
AND WRITERS**

PROUDLY SUPPORTED  
BY VICTORIA UNIVERSITY



CATHERINE DEVENY



WILLIAM MCINNES



MISCHA MERZ



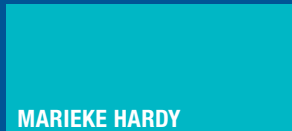
TOM CHO



WALEED ALY



DANNY KATZ



MARIEKE HARDY



FESTIVAL PARTNERS

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# FESTIVAL PROGRAM

## 17 APRIL - 16 MAY

SATURDAY 17 APRIL - SUNDAY 16 MAY

### The Independent Type: Books and Writing in Victoria

*The Independent Type: Books and Writing in Victoria* is a free exhibition that celebrates Victoria's literary history, from the first stories to the contemporary scene.

**Venue:** Altona Meadows Library. Ph: (03) 9932 3020.

THURSDAY 22 APRIL > 7.00PM

### Curator's Talk and Exhibition Opening

Join exhibition curator and director of Melbourne Writers Festival, STEVE GRIMWADE for an engaging introduction to the exhibition.

**Venue:** Altona Meadows Library. Ph: (03) 9932 3020.

FRIDAY 23 APRIL > 10.30AM - 11.15AM

### Story Telling Under The Elm Tree

**Venue:** Golden Elm Lawn, Williamstown Botanic Gardens Corner Giffard and Osborne Streets. Ph: (03) 9932 4173.

MONDAY 3 MAY > 11.00AM - 12.30PM

### Poetic Licence: Readings of original poetry and prose

**Venue:** Library, Building 7, Victoria University, St Albans Campus. Ph: (03) 9919 2980.

## 27 - 30 APRIL NIGHTLY

TUESDAY 27 APRIL > 8.30PM

### Poetry in the Pub

Join poet MICHAEL REYNOLDS of *Passionate Tongues* and top local poets for this pub poetry slam.

**Venue:** Prince Albert Hotel, Williamstown.

**Cost:** Free.

Register at 8.00PM for open stage.

WEDNESDAY 28 APRIL > 7.00PM - LATE

### Fighting Words with Mischa Merz

MISCHA MERZ and AMANDA SMITH talk about Mischa's book *Bruising*, followed by a special exhibition bout with BARRY MICHAEL.

**Venue:** Seaworks, 82 Nelson Place, Williamstown.

**Cost:** \$5 on the door. Tavern opens 6pm.

THURSDAY 29 APRIL > 7.00PM - 10.00PM

### Eat Write! With John Weldon

Eat, talk and write food with JOHN WELDON. Meal included. See website for details. Limited numbers.

**Venue:** Prince Albert Hotel, Williamstown.

**Cost:** \$60 includes three course meal.

FRIDAY 30 APRIL > 7.00PM - 9.30PM

### WLF Soiree and prize presentations

Join the ADA CAMBRIDGE and Seagulls Poetry entrants and prize winners, and the Willylitfest organisers to welcome in the 2010 festival.

With CHRISSY SHARP, CEO of the Wheeler Centre and ALICE GARNER.

**Venue:** Ballroom

**Cost:** gold coin on the door.

*Bookings essential*

## SATURDAY 1 MAY

9.30AM - 10.45AM > SUPPER ROOM

### People's Choice – Poetry

So you think you can write poetry? Contact us for the chance to read a short poem (max 4 minutes) to an appreciative audience, who then vote for the one they like best. Go to [www.willylitfest.org.au](http://www.willylitfest.org.au) to sign up. Sponsored by Port of Melbourne Corporation.

**Cost:** Gold coin at the door. *Bookings essential.*

10.00AM - 10.45AM > CARPARK MARQUEE

### Turning Animals into Dragons

DEAN JONES leads a workshop for children (9 - 13 years) on illustrating.

11.00AM - 12.00PM > BALLROOM

### People Like Us

STEVE BRACKS and WALEED ALY kick around some favourite topics including life, politics and the footy fortunes of two felines. With MICHAEL CATHCART.

11.00AM - 12.30PM > FOYER

### A Bed of Roses: Scriptwriting Workshop

JUTTA GOETZE'S credits include *Bed of Roses* and *McLeod's Daughters* and she returns to lead this workshop by popular demand.

11.00AM - 12.00PM > SUPPER ROOM

### I Love Saturdays!

A session for children, with RACHEL FLYNN, author of the much loved *I Hate Fridays* series.

**Cost:** Free (but must be booked).

11.30AM - 12.30PM > CARPARK MARQUEE

### BYOFB – Teen Book Chat

Bring your own favourite book and have a chat. Session led by VIN MASKELL.

*Produced by WLF Youth Sub-Committee.*

12.30PM - 1.30PM > BALLROOM

### West of the Yarra

History west of the bridge as described by historians and writers KRISTEN OTTO, BRUCE PASCOE and GARY PRESLAND.

*Sponsored by the Rotary Club of Williamstown.*

1.00PM - 2.00PM > SUPPER ROOM

### Catherine Deveny Live and Unfettered

Tony Abbott's favourite atheist is back by popular demand.

1.00PM - 2.30PM > CARPARK MARQUEE

### Character Building Workshop

SOFIE LAGUNA explains how to build believable characters in your writing.

*Produced by WLF Youth Sub-Committee*

1.00PM - 2.30PM > FOYER

### Writing for children

Budding authors, take that first step to follow your dreams. A practical hands-on session, notebooks and pens required. With KAREN TAYLEUR.

2.00PM - 3.00PM > BALLROOM

### Setting the Scene

Film makers discuss the importance of place in scripts and directing. With GENEVIEVE BAILEY and VANESSA CERNE.

2.30PM - 3.30PM > SUPPER ROOM

### Motherland

MICHAEL CATHCART, ANA KOKKINOS and DMETRI KAKMI discuss place and culture in film and literature.

3.00PM - 4.00PM > CARPARK MARQUEE

### Set the Poem Free: a Poetry Workshop

KAI JENSEN shares his long experience as a poet in this workshop subtitled 'A Personal Postmodern Poetic'.

3.00PM - 4.00PM > FOYER

### Romancing the West

Romance writing is one of the biggest selling genres in the fiction market. Renowned romance writers SARAH MAYBERRY and JOAN KILBY lead this workshop.

3.30PM - 4.30PM > BALLROOM

### Starting from scratch

At last! A publishing deal!

KATHY CHARLES, ENZA GANDOLFO and TOM CHO reflect on what happens next.

4.00PM - 5.00PM > SUPPER ROOM

### Let's be frankie

MARIEKE HARDY and BENJAMIN LAW discuss *frankie* and new journalism.

4.30PM - 5.30PM > CARPARK MARQUEE

### Tell me a story...

#### Before there were books, there were stories

JACKIE KERIN and GREG O'LEARY unite to bring you stories told.

5.00PM - 6.00PM > BALLROOM

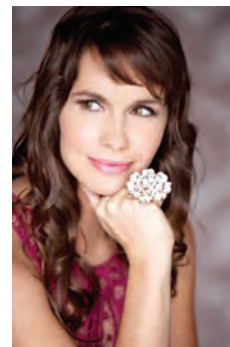
### Talking Publishing

Does the Great Australian Novel lie undiscovered on your computer? Best come and see what REBECCA STARFORD and GLENYS OSBORNE have to say about publishing.

5.30PM - 6.30PM > SUPPER ROOM

### Rotunda comes to Williamstown

VU's SHERRYL CLARK talks to actress, scriptwriter and artist TASMA WALTON about her moving debut novel *Heartless*. Brought to you by Victoria University's Rotunda in the West: Conversations with Australian Writers.



Tasma Walton is an actress and scriptwriter whose credits include *Blue Heelers*, *The Secret Life of Us* and *City Homicide*. Her debut novel *Heartless* was published last year.

7.00PM - 10.00PM > BALLROOM

### My First Wife

THOMAS CALDWELL talks to PAUL COX about his film *My First Wife*, followed by a screening, and then Q and A.

*In association with the Williamstown Film Society*

## SUNDAY 2 MAY

10.00AM - 11.15AM > SUPPER ROOM

### Peoples Choice – Prose

So you think you can write prose? Contact us for the chance to read a piece of prose (max 4 minutes) to an appreciative audience, who then vote for the one they like best. Go to [www.willylitfest.org.au](http://www.willylitfest.org.au) to sign up. Sponsored by Port of Melbourne Corporation.

**Cost:** Gold coin at the door. *Bookings essential.*

10.00AM - 11.00AM > CARPARK MARQUEE

### Writing and illustrating Workshop for children (5 to 9 years)

ADAM WALLACE leads a workshop for children 5 - 9 years on writing and illustrating.

10.00AM - 11.00AM > FOYER

### Do we still need Shakespeare?

With a new Shakespeare play 'discovered', does it matter anymore? ROBIN GROVE wants to know if it is all much ado about nothing.

11.00AM - 12.00PM > BALLROOM

### WWW: Women + Writing + West

Writers CLAIRE SAXBY and Miles Franklin nominee DEBORAH FORSTER discuss women writers in the West and what makes them special.

11.30AM - 12.30PM > SUPPER ROOM

### A very bad morning with Andy Griffiths

Come along and be one of the first to hear some of the very bad stories, bad riddles and bad jokes from *The Very Bad Book*, to be published in September. Andy will answer all questions and sign anything you want (bums excluded.)

**Cost:** Free (but must be booked).



**Andy Griffiths** is an author of children's books, well-known for his *Just!* series and *The Day My Bum Went Psycho*.

11.30AM - 12.30PM > CARPARK MARQUEE

### Unblocking

Writers block does not have to be the end. LUCIA NARDO leads a workshop showing how to get over the block and be creative.

*Back by popular demand, so book early as places are limited.*

11.30AM - 12.30PM > FOYER

### She wrote the book

DAGMARA GIEYSZTOR will cover all aspects of creating your own unique hand made book of illustrations, stories and photographs using mixed media. A workshop series follows.

*Sponsored by Wade Noonan MP.*

For more information, and bookings, go to [www.willylitfest.org.au](http://www.willylitfest.org.au)

12.30PM - 1.30PM > BALLROOM

### Literary Blogging

Two blogs are created every second of every day. It's not easy to stand out from the pack. But ANGELA MEYER and LISA DEMPSTER do.

1.00PM - 2.00PM > SUPPER ROOM

### Talking Cricket

'Cricket to us was more than play, it was a worship in the summer sun.' (Edmund Blunden). WILLIAM MCINNIS and GIDEON HAIGH tell us how they survive the winter without cricket.

*Sponsored by Stonehenge.*

1.00PM - 3.00PM > CARPARK MARQUEE

### Life into fiction Workshop

Does real life make real good fiction? How to survive losing your literary virginity and give your novel the best chance possible of getting published.

With BRENDAN GULLIFER.

2.00PM - 3.00PM > BALLROOM

### From the Quill to the Kindle

E-books are here to stay, it seems. CHRIS FLYNN, DMETRI KAKMI and SOPHIE CUNNINGHAM talk about whether they are a bad thing or a good thing for the written word. Your chance to handle a Kindle.

*Sponsored by Technology Matters.*

2.30PM - 3.30PM > SUPPER ROOM

### Manners maketh the man

Guru DANNY KATZ and MARK O'TOOLE talk about the demands of etiquette on modern man.

3.00PM - 4.00PM > CARPARK MARQUEE

### Misremembering History

BARRY DICKINS leads this workshop on writing about personal reminiscences.

3.30PM - 4.30PM > FOYER

### The Storyteller

GLENN SHEA developed this educational resource in board game format to provide knowledge and understanding of Aboriginal people, society and culture in a fun and interactive way.

There will be eight games for a total of 32 people so book early to ensure a place! Assisted by members of GetUp OutWest Reconciliation Group.

3.30PM - 4.30PM > BALLROOM

### On the Couch

Eavesdrop on JEFF SPARROW, CHRIS BECK and STEVE GRIMWADE as they discuss life, love and literature. We bring back CHRIS BECK'S famous couch.

4.00PM - 5.00PM > SUPPER ROOM

### Book Club

WARREN WHITNEY is a highly respected Book Club convenor (among other talents) and he will lead a discussion on two set books – DON DELILLO'S *Point Omega* and JOSEPH O'NEILL'S *Netherland*.

5.30PM - 6.30PM > SUPPER ROOM

### 21st Century Schizoid Woman

How does a woman keep herself nice and make a living these days? By diversifying and having good shoes. JANE CLIFTON and guest explain.

## FESTIVAL GUESTS

**Waleed Aly** is an acclaimed essayist, academic and social commentator. His first book, *People Like Us: How Arrogance is Dividing Islam and the West*, was published in 2007.

**Genevieve Bailey** is a writer and director of drama, comedy, documentary and music videos. Her first International multi-lingual feature project *Eleven* is in production.

**Chris Beck** is a freelance feature writer and photographer for print and television and a published author of three books.

**Haiku Bob**, aka Rob Scott, performs haiku at events around Melbourne.

**Steve Bracks** was Premier of Victoria from 1999 to 2007.

**Thomas Caldwell** is a film critic. He presents on Thursday Breakfasters (3RRR) and The Casting Couch (JOY FM) and writes for *The Big Issue*.

**Michael Cathcart** is an academic writer and broadcaster on ABC Radio National his latest book is *The Water Dreamers*

**Vanessa Cerne** has worked as a set dresser and decorator for City Homicide, and was art director for the Australian film *Redball*.

**Kathy Charles's** debut novel, *Hollywood Ending*, was published in 2009. She works in the film industry.

**Tom Cho's** first book, *Look Who's Morphing*, was published in 2009. It has recently been shortlisted for the 2010 Commonwealth Writers' Prize (for Best First Book in the South East Asia and Pacific).

**Jane Clifton** is an actress, singer and author. Her books include *A Hand in the Bush* and *Half Past Dead*.

**Paul Cox** is an award-winning Australian-based film director. His films include *My First Wife*, *Innocence*, *Human Touch* and, most recently, *Salvation*.

**Sophie Cunningham** is a writer of fiction, non-fiction and screenplays and is currently editor of *Meanjin*.

**Lisa Dempster** is a writer, editor, and the publisher at Vignette Press. She is the Director of the Emerging Writers' Festival. Her travel memoir, *Neon Pilgrim*, was published in 2009.

**Catherine Deveny** is a television comedy writer, stand-up comedian, author, social commentator, broadcaster and columnist in *The Age* newspaper. Her most recent book is *Free to a Good Home*.

**Barry Dickins** is a Melbourne identity, actor and author of several books and plays. He writes regularly for press.

**Deborah Forster** grew up in Footscray. *The Book of Emmett* is her first novel and has been longlisted for the Miles Franklin Award.

**Chris Flynn** is the editor of *Torpedo*, a literary journal published solely in e-book format. He writes reviews for *The Book Show* on ABC Radio National and *Australian Book Review*.

**Rachel Flynn** is well known for her hugely successful *I Hate Fridays* series including *I Hate Fridays*, *It's Not Fair*, *Worried Sick*, *I Can't Wait* and *Messing Around*.

**Enza Gandolfo's** debut novel, *Swimming*, was released in 2009. She works as a lecturer in Creative Writing at the School of Communication and the Arts at Victoria University.

**Andy Griffiths** is an author of children's books, well-known for his *Just!* series and *The Day My Bum Went Psycho*.

**Jutta Goetze** is a screen writer of considerable experience. Her credits include *Bed of Roses*, *McLeod's Daughters*, *Something in the Air* and *The Flying Doctors*.

**Steve Grimwade** is Festival Director of the Melbourne Writers Festival and Curator of *The Independent Type: Books & Writing in Victoria*.

**Robin Grove** taught literary studies at the University of Melbourne for many years. He has been Visiting Scholar at King's College, Cambridge, receiving a Fulbright Award.

**Brendan Gullifer** has worked as a journalist and is now in political communications. In 2000 he got a job as a real estate agent which led to his first novel, *SOLD*.

**Gideon Haigh** is a journalist, essayist and author. Gideon is acknowledged as one of the finest cricket commentators in Australia and his cricket books include *Cricket War* and *The Ashes 2009: Good Enough*.

**Marieke Hardy** is a writer, broadcaster and television producer. She is a regular panellist on the ABC's *First Tuesday Book Club*.

**Kai Jensen** is a performance poet.

**Dean Jones** works as an illustrator. He has collaborated on two books with Carole Wilkinson – the most recent of which was *The Dragon Companion*, published by black dog books.

# FESTIVAL INFORMATION

Book online at [www.willyitfest.org.au](http://www.willyitfest.org.au)

Festival information was correct at time of printing.  
For more information please visit the website.

## FESTIVAL GUESTS

**Dmetri Kakmi's** reviews and essays on film, literature and cultural issues have appeared in publications around the world. He works as senior editor at Penguin Books. His book *Mother Land* won the Douglas Stewart Prize for non-fiction in 2010.

**Danny Katz** is a newspaper columnist for *The Age*, the *Sydney Morning Herald* and *The West Australian*. He also writes the *Little Lunch* books.

**Jackie Kerin** is a storyteller and children's author. Her latest book, *Phar Lap the Wonder Horse*, was published by Museum Victoria in 2008.

**Joan Kilby** is an award winning romance novelist with nearly 20 books in print.

**Ana Kokkinos** is an Australian film director. Her films include *Antamasi*, *Only The Brave*, *Head On* and *Book of Revelation*. In 2009 she directed *Blessed*.

**Sofie Laguna** is an author, actor and playwright. Her many books have been published in US and the UK and in translation throughout Europe and Asia.

**Benjamin Law** is a Brisbane-based freelance writer and journalist. He is a senior contributor to *frankie* magazine.

**Vin Maskell** has written for *The Age* and *The Australian*, and has published a book of short stories as well as *Write to Publish: Writing Feature Articles for Magazines*.

**Sarah Mayberry** is a romance novelist. Her books include *Amorous Liaisons*, *Hot City Nights*, *Below the Belt*, *Burning Up*, *Island Heat*, *All Over You*, *Take on Me* and many more.

**William McInnes** is a noted film and television actor, and the author of three books – *A Man's Got to Have a Hobby*, *Cricket Kings* and *That'd Be Right*.

**Mischa Merz** is a Melbourne author, journalist, painter and boxer. Her book *Bruising*, about her experiences as a boxer, was published in 2000 and re-issued by Vulgar Press in early 2009.

**Angela Meyer** writes the *Literary Minded* blog, and is the acting editor of *Bookseller* and *Publisher* magazine.

**Barry Michael** is a former I.B.F. Super Featherweight World boxing champion. He was one of the four inaugural inductees into the Australian Boxing Hall of Fame in 2003.

**Lucia Nardo** is a writer and producer, who has twice been Highly Commended in the Ada Cambridge biographical short story prize.

**Glenys Osborne's** debut novel, *Come Inside*, was published in 2009. She has twice received second prize in *The Age Short Story Competition*.

**Mark O'Toole** is one of Australia's most experienced comedy writers. Contributing to sketch, sit-com, and light entertainment programs screened on all free-to-air TV networks and PayTV.

**Kristen Otto** has worked as a research assistant and curator. She now divides her time between bookselling and writing.

**Bruce Pascoe's** books include *Shark*, *Ruby-eyed Coucal*, *Ocean*, *Earth* and *Nightjar*. His most recent novel is *Bloke*.

**Gary Presland** is the author of *The Place for a Village: How Nature Has Shaped the City of Melbourne*.

**Michael Reynolds** is a poet and host of one of Melbourne's longest running regular poetry readings, 'Passionate Tongues'.

**Claire Saxby** is a writer of fiction, non fiction and poetry for children. Her recent books include *Sheep*, *Goat* and *the Creaking Gate* and *There Was an Old Sailor*.

**Glen Shea** is an actor, director and writer. Glen is a Wathurong Ngarrindjeri man and was the first Indigenous person to hold a degree from NIDA – the National Institute of Dramatic Art.

**Amanda Smith** presents Radio National's weekday arts and culture program *The Deep End*.

**Jeff Sparrow** is the editor of *Overland* magazine. His latest book, *Killing: Misadventures in Violence*, was published in 2009.

**Rebecca Starford** is deputy editor of *Australian Book Review*, and editor of the new literary journal *Kill Your Darlings*.

**Karen Tayleur** is a children's author. As a child, Karen was a constant audience for her father's boyhood recollections. His stories have grown larger than life over the years.

**Adam Wallace** is the author of many children's books, including the *How to Draw* series.

**John Weldon** is Lecturer, School of Communication and the Arts at Victoria University and was media manager for the Western Bulldogs. He is food reviewer for *The Age*.

**Warren Whitney** is a highly respected book club convenor. He is a senior English Teacher at Williamstown High School.

## TICKETING

Single ticket - **\$7 adults**.  
**\$5 concession** (inc. children and students)

*Booking fees may apply.*

## DISCOUNT TICKET PACKAGES

**5 session package:**  
Book 5 sessions for 10% off the total price.

**7 session package:**  
Book 7 sessions for 15% off the total price.

**10 session package:**  
Book 10 sessions for 20% off the total price.  
*Booking fees may apply.*

## FREE SESSION

ANDY GRIFFITHS and RACHAEL FLYNN sessions are Free but must be booked.

## FRIDAY NIGHT SOIREE & PEOPLE'S CHOICE

The Friday night Soiree (7.00PM), and the two People's Choice sessions (9.30AM Saturday and 10.00AM Sunday) are gold coin (or more) donation on the door, but must be booked. Please note that we will not be able to give change at these sessions, so please bring the donation amount you wish to give.

## HOW TO BOOK

**Online:** [www.willyitfest.org.au](http://www.willyitfest.org.au)

**Phone:** (03) 9932 4074  
(Monday to Friday 9.30AM – 4.30PM).

**Cash/in person:** Williamstown Library, 104 Ferguson Street (during library opening hours).

**On site:** There will be a box office on site at the Williamstown Town Hall the weekend of 1 and 2 May for ticket collection, and purchase.

**Conditions:** (please see your ticket for full conditions).  
*All sessions must be booked and entry is dependent on having a ticket. We cannot guarantee entry without a valid ticket. All bookings are final and no refunds or exchanges will be given.*

**Ticket sales** will close at 5.00PM, Thursday 29 April for phone and walk up sales. Online sales will close at midnight on Thursday 29 April. Tickets will then be available on site, 1 and 2 May.

## GETTING TO THE FESTIVAL

**Train:** Take the Williamstown line to North Williamstown Station, and walk down Ferguson Street.

**Bus:** SITA Coaches  
Route 471 – Williamstown <> Sunshine;  
Route 472 – Williamstown <> Moonee Ponds.

**Ferry:** St Kilda Pier to Gem Pier, Williamstown.

**Bike:** There are bike and shared paths throughout the western suburbs.

**Parking:** Street parking is available around the Williamstown Town Hall.

## ON SITE FACILITIES

Refreshments are available for purchase.  
A marquee is provided for relaxing between sessions.  
A box office marquee is provided for ticket collection and ticket purchase.

Toilets are available in the Town Hall.

All venues are wheelchair accessible. Please indicate when you book if you require particular seating for any hearing or access reasons.

**Festival Bookshop:** The Sun Bookshop will be on site all weekend with participating authors' books for sale. Authors will be available to sign their books after their sessions in the bookshop marquee.

## VENUES

All weekend sessions are at the Williamstown Town Hall, Ferguson Street.

The Festival is using three rooms inside the Town Hall; the Ballroom, the Supper Room, and the Foyer. The fourth space is the marquee erected in the Town Hall car park. Your ticket will indicate the session venue, and there will be signage and volunteers on hand to assist with any queries.

## FESTIVAL PEOPLE

**Founding Patron:** Joan Kirner AM.

**Committee:**

PRESIDENT: Angela Altair.

VICE PRESIDENT: Robin Grove.

SECRETARY: Kay Morrissey (till December, 2009).

TREASURER: Julie Noonan.

MEMBERS: Jessie Borrelle, Suzanne Gately, Enza Gandolfo, Pam Giumarra, Janet Howie, Brent McGregor, Meg Schneider, Chloe Wilson.

**Staff:**

Helenka King, Executive Officer.

## INFORMATION

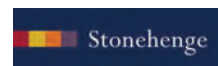
**Media:** Melissa Wallace, Phone 0437 362 089.

**Volunteering and general:** Phone (03) 9932 4033, [www.willyitfest.org.au](http://www.willyitfest.org.au) or [info@willyitfest.org.au](mailto:info@willyitfest.org.au)

## MEDIA PARTNER



## FESTIVAL SPONSORS



Rotary Club of Point Gellibrand



## FRIENDS OF THE FESTIVAL

Rotary Club of Williamstown



Williamstown Football Club



Wade Noonan MP  
State Member for Williamstown



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(03) 9397 0352

## COMMUNITY SUPPORTERS



Barlow McEwan Tribe

## FESTIVAL BOOKSELLER



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