

Orange Readers and Writers Festival

2021 PROGRAM

**SATURDAY
31 JULY 2021**

**READERS AND
WRITERS FESTIVAL**

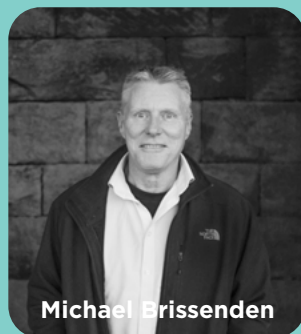
**Tickets: \$95
(\$75 early-bird
ending 1 July)**



Robert Tickner



Petronella McGovern



Michael Brissenden



Helen Ennis



Todd Alexander



Kay Soderlund

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CentralWest Libraries

**FRIDAY
30 JULY 2021**

WORKSHOP

**Care for your
Collections and
Family Heritage
with Kay Soderlund**

Tickets: \$35



WORKSHOP FACILITATOR

Kay Soderlund

Care For Your Collections and Family Heritage

Kay Soderlund has worked as a paper conservator since 1982 and collected objects and materials all her life. She has always been entranced with how objects can tell stories and trigger memories – along with the physical beauty of ‘old things’.

Kay has completed a Bachelor of Applied Science in the Conservation of Cultural Material at the University of Canberra. Then led the Bicentennial project to conserve the Journals of the First Fleet at the State Library of New South Wales. She studied Preventive Conservation with the Getty Conservation Institute in Los Angeles which laid the strong conservation basis for her work at Preservation Australia.

Join Kay for this informative workshop on preventive conservation. Kay will share her knowledge on how to preserve and care for your collections. Please bring along an object or photograph from your family treasures for discussion.

WORKSHOP PROGRAM

9.30am – 10am **Arrival**

10.00am **Morning session**

- Deterioration of collections - what elements damage your objects?
- Collection storage - materials and methods, how do you choose?
- General care for your collections. Types: photos, artworks objects, textiles and metal.

12.30pm **Lunch**

1.30pm **Afternoon session**

- General care for your collections continued.
- Significance - how do you decide what to keep?
- Conservation - when to ‘conserve’ and when to ‘preserve’ (and why we don’t ‘restore’!)
- Display, handling and transport.

2.30pm Questions and discussion about objects

3.00pm **Close**



FESTIVAL GUEST SPEAKER

Robert Tickner

AUTHOR

Ten Doors Down: The story of an extraordinary adoption

Robert Tickner had always known he was adopted, but had rarely felt much curiosity about his origins. Born in 1951, he had a happy childhood — raised by his loving adoptive parents, Bert and Gwen Tickner in the small seaside town of Forster, New South Wales. He grew up to be a cheerful and confident young man with a fierce sense of social justice and the desire and stamina to make political change. Serving in the Hawke and Keating governments, he held the portfolio of minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander affairs. Among other achievements while in government, he was responsible for initiating the reconciliation process with Indigenous Australians, and he was instrumental in instigating the national inquiry into the stolen generations. During his time on the front bench, Robert's son was born, and it was his deep sense of connection to this child that moved him at last to turn his attention to the question of his own birth. Although he had some sense of the potentially life-changing course that lay ahead of him, he could not have anticipated learning of the exceptional nature of the woman

who had brought him into the world, the deep scars that his forced adoption had left on her, and the astonishing series of coincidences that had already linked their lives. This was only the first half of a story that was to lead to a reunion with his birth father and siblings. This deeply moving memoir is a testament to the significance of all forms of family in shaping us — and to the potential for love to heal great harm.

Robert Tickner grew up a country boy on the New South Wales mid-north coast and became an Aboriginal Legal Service lawyer and an alderman of the Sydney City Council. In 1984 he won the federal seat of Hughes, and in 1990 he became the federal minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander affairs. He is Australia's longest serving minister in that role, and served in a period of great reform during the Hawke and Keating governments. He then became CEO of Australian Red Cross and led the organisation for a decade from 2005 to 2015.



FESTIVAL GUEST SPEAKER

Petronella McGovern

AUTHOR

The Good Teacher

Kindness. Good intentions. Betrayal. Who can you trust in a small suburban community? New domestic suspense novel, *The Good Teacher* looks at what makes us human in our dark and difficult world. Allison's personal life is in disarray. Not only has her husband abandoned her but she has resorted to watching his new house every night. Everyone says she's a good teacher, yet this stalking displays a new side to Allison - one that highlights a tiny crack in her usual self-control. A late enrolment in her kindergarten class brings sick little Gracie, and Allison smothers the girl with the love she's unable to give her own son. As Allison's personal life becomes more complicated, she uses Gracie as an outlet for compassion and control. When Gracie is given an opportunity to go to America for treatment, Allison galvanises her small Sydney beachside community into action to raise over a hundred thousand dollars. But others begin to question Allison's judgement and wonder if she has crossed a line. How far will the good teacher go to save a life? And whose life will that be?

The Good Teacher is another gripping domestic suspense from Petronella McGovern, bestselling author of *Six Minutes*. It is a compelling tale of our times as it threads together health and wellness, kindness, betrayal and the danger of good deeds. *The Good Teacher* will keep readers guessing until the very last twist.

Petronella McGovern is a writer and editor who grew up on a family farm outside Bathurst, NSW. After living in Canberra for a number of years, Petronella moved to northern Sydney where she now lives with her husband and two children. Petronella's bestselling first novel, *Six Minutes* was published in 2019, longlisted for the Australian Independent Bookseller Awards and recently shortlisted for the Davitt Awards. *The Good Teacher* is her second novel.



FESTIVAL GUEST SPEAKER

Michael Brissenden

AUTHOR

Dead Letters

A dead politician. A decades-old unsolved murder. A hornet's nest is about to be stirred. Counter terrorism expert Sid Allen knows nothing good ever comes from a phone call at 5am. Politician Dan LeRoi, Chairman of the Joint Committee on Intelligence and Security, has been shot. Four bullets to the head. The crime scene is chaotic. Homicide. Counter Terrorism. Media. And for Sid, hunting the killer is going to get complicated. Journalist Zephyr Wilde is complicated. She's tenacious and she's got Sid's number. Sid knows the gossip: how Zephyr's mother was murdered when Zephyr was a kid. He doesn't know that Zephyr is still getting letters from her long-dead mother. But when he learns that Dan LeRoi was helping Zephyr look into her mother's death, he realises that lines are going to be crossed. A cop should not be talking to a journalist. As they both ask too many questions, Sid and Zephyr stir up a hornet's nest of corruption. Knowing who to trust is going to mean the difference between solving a crime and being a victim.

The question is: which side will they end up on? A compulsive thriller that takes up from the seedy streets of Sydney to the corridors of power in Canberra. For readers who love Peter Temple and Michael Connelly.

Michael Brissenden has worked for the ABC for more than thirty years. He has been a political journalist and foreign correspondent for the ABC since 1987. He began his career covering Federal politics and has been a correspondent in Moscow, Brussels and Washington. Michael covered many of the biggest international stories of the 1990s and early 2000s from all corners of the globe. He was the political editor for the 7.30 Report in Canberra from 2003 to 2009, the ABC's Defence and National Security Correspondent and most recently he has worked as host of AM national radio program. A two-time Walkley Award winner, Michael is now a reporter on the ABC'S 4 Corners. His debut novel *The List* was published in 2018. *Dead Letters* is his second novel.



FESTIVAL GUEST SPEAKER

Helen Ennis

AUTHOR

*Olive Cotton:
A Life in Photography*

A landmark biography of a singular and important Australian photographer, Olive Cotton, by an award-winning writer - beautifully written and deeply moving.

Olive Cotton was one of Australia's pioneering modernist photographers, whose significant talent was recognised as equal to her first husband, the famous photographer Max Dupain. Together, Olive and Max were an Australian version of Frida Kahlo and Diego Rivera or Ray and Charles Eames, and the photographic work they produced in the 1930s and early 1940s was bold, distinctive and quintessentially Australian.

But in the mid-1940s Olive divorced Max, leaving Sydney to live with her second husband, Ross McInerney, and raise their two children in a tent on a farm near Cowra - later moving to a cottage that had no running water, electricity or telephone for many years. Famously quiet, yet stubbornly determined, Olive continued her photography despite these challenges

and the lack of a dark room. But away from the public eye, her work was almost forgotten until a landmark exhibition in Sydney in 1985 shot her back to fame, followed by a major retrospective at the Art Gallery of New South Wales in 2000, ensuring her reputation as one of the country's greatest photographers.

Intriguing, moving and powerful, this is Olive's story, but it is also a compelling story of women and creativity - and about what it means for an artist to try to balance the competing demands of their art, work, marriage, children and family.



FESTIVAL GUEST SPEAKER

Todd Alexander

AUTHOR

You've Got to be Kidding: A Shedload of Wine and Farm Full of Goats.

They say it takes 10,000 hours to master a new skill. Well 60,000 hours since Todd and Jeff's tree change, they should have nailed country life, right? Sure, they've made great wine, built stunning villas and even learnt how to look after rescued farm animals - but how does anyone plan for the fury of Mother Nature? Bushfires, drought, sick animals, failed crops, snakes, broken machinery, insurmountable debts, the unstoppable breeding of peafowl ... Just when they think they're on top of things, they find another hurdle in their way. Despite fierce determination, a willingness to evolve and irrepressible humour, these boys find themselves down for the count. But they aren't ready to throw in the towel just yet ... are they? Beloved storyteller, Di Morrissey has called it '*an unvarnished, hilarious peep behind the scenes of country life from Australia's favourite tree-changer.*'

Todd Alexander is the author of the bestselling memoir *Thirty Thousand Bottles of Wine and a Pig Called Helga*, which was longlisted for the Australian Independent Bookseller Awards. His latest book is *You've Got to be Kidding: A Shedload of Wine and Farm Full of Goats*, and he has written two novels, and eight non-fiction books.

Todd began his career at Dymocks Sydney before becoming Head of Buying at Dymocks Franchise Systems. He then spent 12 years at eBay, becoming a leading online expert and helping thousands of Australians sell online. In 2012, he threw away his corporate career to run a vineyard and accommodation business with his partner, Jeff, in the Hunter Valley of NSW called Block Eight.

Program

Workshop with Kay Soderlund - Friday 30 July 2021 - \$35

10.00am - 12.30pm	Collection care and storage
12.30pm - 1.30pm	Lunch
1.30pm - 3pm	Object conservation, display and questions

Orange Readers and Writers Festival - Saturday 31 July 2021 - \$95

10am	Welcome by Master of Ceremonies
10.05am - 10.10am	Welcome to Country
10.10am - 11am	Robert Tickner author <i>Ten Doors Down: The story of an extraordinary adoption</i>
11am - 11.15am	Banjo Paterson Writing Awards Announced Mayor of Orange Reg Kidd
11.15am - 11.45am	Morning Tea
11.45am - 12.25pm	Petronella McGovern author <i>The Good Teacher</i>
12.25pm - 1.05pm	Michael Brissenden author <i>Dead Letters</i>
1.05pm - 2pm	Lunch
2pm - 2.40pm	Helen Ennis author <i>Olive Cotton: A Life in Photography</i>
2.40pm - 3.20pm	Todd Alexander author <i>You've Got to be Kidding: A Shedload of Wine and Farm Full of Goats</i>
3.20pm - 3.30pm	Farewell and Close



We'd love to hear from you!

Scan the QR code to share your feedback on this year's event.