

**Richard James Allen's** seventh book of poetry *Thursday's Fictions* (Five Islands Press) was shortlisted for the 2000 NSW Premier's Literary Award for Poetry, the Kenneth Slessor Poetry Prize. His poetry has been published and performed, screened and broadcast in many countries over the last twenty years. With Karen Pearlman, he is co-editor of *Performing the Unnameable: An Anthology of Australian Performance Texts* (Currency Press/Real Time: 1999).

**Antonia Banyard** was born in South Africa, moved to her mother's family farm in Zambia, and then immigrated to Canada (Nelson, BC) in 1974. Antonia has a BA in Creative Writing from the University of Victoria. Since then, she has worked in book publishing and graphic design. Her work has appeared in *Grain*, *The Backwater Review*, *Vintage 99* and *Seven Sisters* and is due to appear in *Room of One's Own*, *Imago* and *The Antigoniish Review*. Antonia attended the 1999 Banff Centre for the Arts Writing Studio.

**Christopher Brisson** was born and raised on Buzzards Bay in Massachusetts and is a graduate of Tufts University and Sarah Lawrence College. A writer and actor, he divides his time between literature, theatre, architectural history, and film work.

**S.M. Chianti** is an East Gippsland writer whose work has appeared in *Australian Multicultural Book Review*, *Famous Reporter*, *LiNQ*, *The Perfect Diary*, *Redoubt* and *Southerly*.

**R.L. Cook** is Scottish. His poems have appeared in a wide variety of magazines and periodicals in Britain, the U.S.A and elsewhere over the past five decades. Seven collections of his poetry have been published in Britain. He has also been a (spare-time) editor and publisher of poetry.

**David Cookson** lives in South Australia and has been writing poetry for several years. He is interested to portray the human figure within the Australian landscape, especially the effects of silence and isolation. David is currently the Convenor of Friendly Street Poets in Adelaide.

**Patricia Darby** is a West Australian writer whose work has been heard over the radio and appears in numerous anthologies and journals. She has recently launched Perth Poetry Quay for poets to embark on an internet voyage <http://skybusiness.com/jadarby> and is currently working on her third novel.

**Michael Hansen** is an American born writer whose goals in writing is to make a beautiful sound to the ear with a wealth of underlying texture. He will be leaving the USA permanently in June and settling in Auckland, a life-long dream, and is eager to offer poetry to the region.

## **Notes on Contributors**

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**Elizabeth Hart** was born in Melbourne in 1949 and moved to Townsville in 1999 to teach journalism at James Cook University. She was previously a regional press journalist in Victoria and a secondary school teacher of English and History. In 1998 her newspaper column "Our Say" won the Country Press Association Shakespeare Award for Excellence in Editorial Writing. She is currently working towards a PhD in journalism education. She has a grown-up daughter.

**Maree Hawken** is a poet, artist and feminist who lives for storms, mountains and rainforests. Maree is currently employed as a Digital Publishing Officer at James Cook University where she also recently completed a Bachelor of Arts. Several of her poems have been published including "A Time to Lose" which appeared in *North of Capricorn: An Anthology of Free Verse*.

**Greg Jericho** is 28 years old, was born in South Australia but has been living in Cairns for the past six years. He is currently undertaking a Masters by Research Degree in the School of Humanities at James Cook University, Cairns Campus, examining postmodern satire.

**Kathielyn Job** lives in western N.S.W.. After her commitment to writing, she is a part-time teacher of "English enrichment" subjects in the local TAFE Tertiary Preparation Certificate course. Her first collection, *Now, the Melaleuca* was published in the joint volume *Outskirts*, Penguin, 1995 and Highly Commended in the national Anne Elder Poetry Award.

**Carole Johnson** has been widely published in literary journals throughout Australia and has just completed a second novel. She writes because the alternative is more awful than the struggle to say something.

**Jules Leigh Koch** was born in Sydney in 1958 and raised in Adelaide. Jules is presently working as a part-time School Service officer at Ashford Special School and was a founding member of the Kensington Norwood writing group in 1986. Jules is also a long-time member of the SA Writer's centre. Jules' collection of poems *Strip of Negative* appeared in *New Poets 4* launched by Friendly Street at Writers Week 1998.

**Helene Kotzas** graduated from James Cook University with a Bachelor of Arts (Honours) and has an Associate Diploma in Speech and Drama from Trinity College London (ATCL). She is currently enrolled in a Graduate Bachelor of Secondary Education at James Cook University.

**Joel Kuper** lives on the shore of the once-great Lake Superior with his partner and two small children. He is a writer/actor who has performed both his and

the work of others at various dots on the map of North America. His work has appeared in *Nexus*, *Takahe*, *Hunger Magazine* and *The Praire Journal*.

**Mark Mahemoff** was born in 1965 in Sydney and has been writing poetry for fifteen years. He works full-time as a psychotherapist and recently completed an MA Writing Thesis *Near Life Experience* at the University of Technology, Sydney. Mark hopes to publish his thesis as a collection in the near future.

**Lorraine Marwood** has moved from dairying to a book franchise business—quite a contrast and consequently her poetry is undergoing change. She now also writes children's prose and has three books published in this genre.

**Jamie Edward McGraw** is a twenty-one year old writer residing in Mackay. His work has appeared in various Australian consumer publications and he is currently working on a literary novel entitled *There Are Angels*.

**Diane Menghetti** teaches History at James Cook University, is a member of the Queensland Heritage Council and a Fellow of the Queensland Museum. She has published books and articles on radical politics, immigration and various aspects of mining and technological history.

**Andrew Milson** is currently writing and surfing on the NSW South Coast. He is the Winner of the 1997 Northern Territory Literary Award (*Arafura Short Story*). His work has been published both here and in Europe.

**Mark O'Flynn** lives in the Blue Mountains where he writes fiction, poetry and playscripts. His second book of poetry *The Good Oil* is forthcoming from Five Islands Press.

**Philomena Van Rijswijk** lives in Cygnet, Southern Tasmania. Her poems and short stories have been published in anthologies and literary magazines. Her book of poetry *Trail of Bones and Godstones* was published by Esperence Press, Tasmania in 1997. Her first novel *The Time It Rained Fish* was launched in 1999. Her second novel *The World As A Clock Face* was published this year.

**Ken Smith** was born and raised in Brooklyn, New York, one of six children of Irish parents. Most recently, Ken was an Associate Dean at the Mount Sinai School of Medicine in New York City where he was charged with humanizing medical education. Currently he lives on a small farm in New York State. Since 1977, Ken Smith's poetry has appeared in the U.S., Austria, Canada, England, Italy, France, India, Italy, Japan and Wales.

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**Sue Taylor** was born in Horsham, Victoria on 9 June 1949. She was educated at Ringwood High School and Monash University. Sue was a senior executive in the Victorian public service until she resigned in 1998 in order to write full-time. She has won several competitions and published short stories, articles and book reviews on radio and in print.

**Lesley Walter's** poems were selected to preface each chapter in *The Natural Way to Better Birth and Bonding*, published by Random House in April, and her first collection of poetry, *Watermelon baby*, is being published by Five Islands Press later this year.

**Deb Westbury** has been a familiar and respected voice in Australian poetry since her work was first published in 1975. Her work has since been widely anthologised including the *Oxford Anthology of Women's Verse* (edited by Susan Lever, 1995). She was born and has spent most of her life on the NSW coast south of Sydney, developing a dual career as writer and teacher—with an undergraduate degree in teaching and a Master of Creative Arts degree in writing. In 1999 she was guest lecturer at the prestigious Catskill Poetry Workshop in the USA, and in August 2000 was writer-in-residence for James Cook University. In 1999 she was awarded a two-year grant from the Literature Board of the Australia Council to complete her fourth collection of poetry.

**Jane Williams'** poems have been widely published. Her first collection *Outside Temple Boundaries* (Five Islands Press 1998) received the Anne Elder award. Currently working on a second collection, she lives on a property in country Victoria with her family.