



Eva Hoffman Eva grew up in Poland, became a teenager in Canada, attended university in the USA and now as writer and lecturer spends much of her time travelling between Europe and North America with a home base in London. With such experience she is eminently suited to be the guest speaker at the Ex-Libris dinner on

the topic Homes and Homelands, Exiles and Nomads: Thinking about Belonging in a Mobile Age. This is her first visit to Australia, coming out specially for the Melbourne Writers' Festival and then on to the Ex-Libris Book Fair.

Elizabeth O'Callaghan Warrnambool author and historian, Elizabeth O'Callaghan, has a strong interest in the region. Author of 'The Great Warrnambool Exhibition' and 'The Leading Lights', the story of Warrnambool's lighthouses and keepers, Elizabeth's latest book, 'Early Times in the Otways', follows the early settlers who penetrated the hinterlands of the Otways. In a festival which celebrates 'Girt by Sea' it is timely to be reminded that just beyond the coast lay impenetrable forests which attracted the interest and enthusiasm of those who arrived by sea. Elizabeth's session Tales of the Hinterland is the other side of the coin from Sea Tales from the South West.

January Arnold is a Warrnambool performance poet who works in an antique shop when not performing. January, dressed in Medieval garb, is particularly fascinated by the dark side of human nature and in reinterpreting traditional stories including Cathy and Heathcliff from Wuthering Heights.



Graeme Base Both an author and illustrator, Graeme's books delight with their translucent illustrations and imaginative stories. 'Sign of the Seahorse', with its seaside colourings and 'Animalia', the much loved alphabet book, have established a loyal and dedicated following. Graeme's

verse and illustrations reveal the detailed perfection of the artist who wants to ensure that everything is as it should be. The viewer is the one who gains such richness from the viewing experience.



Alan Attwood was born in Scotland in 1957 and emigrated to Australia in 1961. In 1990 he was shortlisted for The Australian/Vogel Literary Award with 'Sinking Into Winter'; in 1997 his novel 'Breathing Underwater' was published, and this year 'Burke's Soldier' - a re-telling of the Burke and Wills story from the perspective of the

expedition's forgotten figure, John King - was published to an enthusiastic critical response. He has worked as a abalone-packer, mail-sorter and dishwasher but mainly as a journalist, including a stint from 1995-'98 as the New York-based correspondent for The Age and Sydney Morning Herald. He has now made his dog happy by concentrating on fiction writing.

Richard Crawley was given a Kodak Box Brownie on his seventh birthday and has been making photographs ever since. He has exhibited at the National Gallery of Victoria and many other galleries. He is author of 'The State of Common Life', which features photography from South-West Victoria. The State of Common Life has recently finished its four year tour at the Monash Gallery of Art, Melbourne, after visiting nine other Victorian regional galleries. Richard's photographs have been widely published in books and periodicals and his work is held at galleries throughout Australia and overseas. Current works in progress include colour panoramic photography from the Port Fairy region, and an in depth black and white study of the Western District town of Dunkeld over 2003/2004.



Barry Dickins reputation has developed from his early days in the northern suburbs of Melbourne where he was a keen observer of lowlifes, ratbags and angels. With numerous contributions to the 'Age' the 'Sun' and the 'Melbourne Times' over the years, Barry has used his acute observation to report far and wide. As playwright

and biographer, Barry's studies of the last man hanged in Victoria, Ronald Ryan, and controversial artist Brett Whitely, have greatly enriched our understanding of personalities, often only known by the sensational headlines in the media.