**Annual General Meeting
2017 Proxy Voting Form**

The 28th Annual General Meeting of Writers Victoria Incorporated (ABN 18 268 487 576) for the 2016 Calendar Year will be held on **Wednesday 5 April 2017 at 6pm** (at the Wheeler Centre, 176 Little Lonsdale Street, Melbourne).

If you wish to appoint a proxy, please fill in and return this form to:

Email: info@writersvictoria.org.au (preferred)

Post: Writers Victoria, Level 3, the Wheeler Centre, 176 Little Lonsdale Street, Melbourne 3000

so that it is received no later than 6pm on Tuesday 4 April 2017.

I, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ [**print name**]

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being a financial member of Writers Victoria Inc, hereby appoint [**select option (1) or (2) of the following**]:

\*(1) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**[print name and address],** being a financial member of Writers Victoria Inc;

**OR**

\*(2) the Chairperson of the Committee of Management of Writers Victoria Inc;

as my proxy, to vote for me on my behalf at the Annual General Meeting of the Association to be held on Wednesday 5 April 2017 and at any adjournment of that meeting.

Signature : \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date : \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

My proxy is authorised to vote as follows (see over the page):

Election of Committee of Management

**[select option (a) or (b) of the following]**

\*(a) in favour of [**select four nominees**]:

* ANTOLOS, Hayley
* CARRAZZA, Donata
* DOYE-VELLA, Kylie
* EDWARDS, Astrid
* FENNESSY, Kit
* HENDRY, Lorna
* HORNBY, Kristy
* KIRKWOOD, Nada
* LAWSON, Annie
* LYNCH, Fiona
* MALONEY, Eleanor
* MORGAN, Maggie
* MURPHY, Fiona
* PRADOLIN, Sarah
* SCOTT TUCKER, Michelle

**OR**

\*(b) at his/her own discretion for four nominees.

Please note: you must vote for four nominees. Selecting more or fewer than four nominees will make this ballot form invalid.

**Annual General Meeting
Committee of Management nominees**

**ANTOLOS, Hayley**

I am an avid lover of poetry, short fiction and fantasy novels, a long-term member of Writers Victoria, and a writer who adores storytelling in all its forms. I have a Bachelor of Creative Arts (Film and Television) from Deakin University, however my interests are broad, contributing to many creative outlets such as screenwriting, photography, marketing and roles such as producer, floor manager, editor etc. I have had poetry published in the ‘All These Presences’ poetry anthology, others online, and l'm currently working on a young adult dystopian novel alongside various film crew roles. Writers Victoria has provided me with many valuable seminars and workshops in an environment that nurtures my growth as a writer. I would so appreciate the opportunity to contribute to this organisation on the committee, where not only the advancement of its writers is a focus, but also the progression of Writers Victoria in its entirety. It is a testament to Writers Victoria that members themselves are called upon to embrace the management of the organisation.

**Statement:**

As a Committee member for Writers Victoria, I will bring to the table skills relating to effective storytelling, brand marketing, and knowledge of the various outlets available for reaching Victorian writers. Aside from this, I promise to contribute positive energy to the team. I would truly value the opportunity to work alongside other creative minds, as I have always viewed this as an enriching experience for all. Collaboration has been a significant aspect of my film projects, and l find that the unification of unique personalities, when utilised the right way, results in exciting outcomes.

**CARRAZZA, Donata**

* Chair of Mildura Writers Festival (MWF) since 1996: responsibilities have included chairing sessions, interviews with authors, coordinating logistics, hosting writers such as Kate Jennings, Clive James, Luke Davies, Helen Garner, etc <http://www.artsmildura.com.au/Writers-Festival/HOME.aspx>
* Assistant artistic director of MWF since 1996: working closely with artistic director Paul Kane to deliver a new program every year. The festival has grown to include an indigenous writers award in association with PEN Melbourne and a month-long residency in Mildura since 2015
* Current student of RMIT associate degree in professional writing and editing
* Member of Writers Victoria since 2015 and volunteer in 2017
* Part of Mildura writing group since 2015 (group member of WV)
* Over 25 years experience as owner/operator of Stefano’s Restaurant, Stefano’s Café, The Avoca Paddleboat Restaurant, Mildura Brewery
* Over 20 years experience as collaborator with celebrity cook, environmentalist and business owner Stefano de Pieri

**Statement:**

This role would give me an insight into the workings of a respected organisation that consistently fills its brief to its members and seeks to maintain a vibrant, relevant and compelling range of programs. I have the time, the maturity and the energy to take on this role with my full attention. I could contribute the following:

* Valuable regional experience from an arts and business perspective
* Passion about literature and nurturing the writing community
* Interest in current trends in publishing and writing
* Solid network of friends and associates to call on for assistance and guidance
* More than 25 years in the hospitality industry that could be helpful in the planning of fundraisers/dinners/etc
* Previous governance and board experience with artsmildura

**DOYE-VELLA, Kylie**

I have a Bachelor of Education – Primary (Deakin), Bachelor of Arts (Deakin) and a Master in Education – School Leadership (Monash). I have worked as a Primary School teacher, curriculum policy writer, eLearning project officer and currently work as an eLearning advisor at Monash University. I am a reader, a book club member and an aspiring writer who has completed courses with Writers Victoria. Presently I am completing a six month online course ‘Write Your Novel’ with The Australian Writers Centre and am working on the third draft of my first novel – a Young Adult, Urban Fantasy. I am a regular attendee of the Melbourne Writers Festival and was on the Audience Advocate Committee for the 2016 MWF. I am also a mum of two boys, six and seven years old, and at the moment I’m rediscovering children’s story books at bedtime with my boys.

**Statement:**

Being a Writers Victoria member has provided me with a new lens to view the worlds of writing, publishing and books as well as introducing me to authors and a community of story lovers like me. I see myself being a Writers Victoria member for many years to come and view the opportunity of a position on the Committee of Management as a way I can contribute to and learn more about Writers Victoria. To the committee I would bring: a solid knowledge of and networks in education (Primary), policy and eLearning, an understanding of the interests of young children and their parents; good organisational skills; reliability; and a willingness to assist in any way.

**EDWARDS, Astrid**

Astrid is a Director at Bad Producer Productions, a bespoke media production company that produces independent podcasts (including The Garret, in partnership with the State Library of Victoria, Readings, Swinburne University and Writers Victoria). She is also a sessional writing teacher and guest podcast lecturer at RMIT University.

Astrid is also active in the not for profit sector. She serves on the Committee of Management at Writers Victoria (Since 2014) and as a National Advocate for MS Australia. She was awarded a scholarship for Leadership Victoria's Igniting Leadership Program in 2016, which focussed on governance and leadership.

Prior to these roles, she was a management consultant for eight years.

Astrid has a Master of International Business (cum laude) and a Bachelor of Arts (Honours)/Bachelor of Commerce (Honours) from the University of Sydney, as well as a Graduate Diploma of Law from the University of Melbourne.

**Statement:**

Astrid has served on the Committee of Management since late 2014, and as Vice Chair of the Committee of Writers Victoria for the last year. She understands how the organisation works, what the priorities are, and is eager to continue to build on the organisation’s strengths.

Astrid is involved in Melbourne’s literary community.

Her current project, The Garret, is a literary podcast publishing in-depth long form interviews about the craft of writing with Australia’s best writers. The podcast is supported by the State Library of Victoria, Readings, Swinburne University and Writers Victoria, and demonstrates her ability to create new partnerships and produce literary creative work.

In 2016, she judged the Aurealis Awards (Short Story and Novella), as well as the Grace Marion Wilson Emerging Writers Prize (Fiction). In 2015, she was awarded a Hot Desk Fellowship at The Wheeler Centre for her project We Don't Talk About.

**FENNESSY, Kit**

Kit is the Director of Blue Vapours Creative Studios in Fitzroy, where he has worked for the last fourteen years. He has a degree in English from the University of Melbourne and also studied marketing at RMIT.

Kit has published three books including ‘The Floatation Tank’, ‘Tales of the Dark’ and ‘The Hidden People’; writes comedy for television; has been the editor of serial publications including ‘Disco Volante’ and maintains an interest in a food blog (Kit’s Cucina Culinaria).

**Statement:**

A Writers Victoria member of three (or is it four?) years standing, as well as a published author with books in stores around Australia, I have good industry knowledge and a familiarity with Writers Victoria, the Wheeler Centre and the Victorian Premier’s Literary Awards. I’ve also worked with Voiceworks on various projects.

Our studio manages communications projects with universities and government departments, as well as small businesses and a number of authors, so I can bring to the table an understanding of corporate communication campaigns, lend a professional eye to design concepts and provide strategic business management skills. Plus, I’m also good fun and easy to talk to!

**HENDRY, Lorna**

I have been a member of Writers Victoria since 2010, when I enrolled in a Creative Nonfiction short course with Tony Birch. This course was a starting point for me, and led directly to the writing and publication of my travel memoir. I was helped along the way with a Wheeler Centre Hot Desk Fellowship, a Writing@Rosebank fellowship and the thrill of coming second in the Grace Marion Wilson Emerging Writers Competition. In 2015, I judged the GMW non-fiction awards and ran one of the WV Year of Memoir workshops. I have written 13 non-fiction children’s books for Wild Dog Books and work as a freelance writer, editor and graphic designer, as well as teaching in the Professional Writing and Editing program at RMIT. I hold a Postgraduate Diploma in Management from the Melbourne Business School and a Diploma of Professional Writing and Editing from RMIT University.

**Statement:**

I am very familiar with Writers Victoria, its programs and members, not only from my years of membership and attendance at many events, but also from my brief stint as an intern. As a published author and professional editor, I would bring a great deal of industry knowledge as well as relevant personal experience to the committee. I was an Editors Victoria committee member for two years, so I’m also comfortable with the role of a management committee and I have an appreciation for the amount of work and time that this would entail.

I am efficient, organised and committed to taking this on. (I nearly put my hand up last year but changed my mind at the last minute because I was worried about not being able to dedicate enough time. I’m confident about that this year.)

**HORNBY, Kristy**

I am tertiary qualified with a Masters of Business Administration and a Bachelor of Arts (English and Philosophy. For the last five years as a management consultant I have advised government, not-for-profit and private sector executives and managers on their complex problems. Earlier I spent four years in a global law firm working on environment and planning matters. In my personal time, I am a voluntary director of the Doxa Social Club. I have been in this position for over one year. For two years prior, I was the voluntary Secretary of the Darfur Australia Network. I have been a financial member of Writers Victoria for over nine months and have attended, and am due to attend, seven events and courses over the last two years, as well as being an integral part of an informal writers group, established following one of Writers Victoria’s courses. My [LinkedIn](https://www.linkedin.com/in/kristyhornby/) has more information.

**Statement:**

Writing and reading is part of my blood and soul. Due to some personal challenges over the last decade, I have been unable to write much, but was re-energised by a Writers Victoria program in 2015 and again in 2016. Writing is now part of my day to day once again, and I seek the opportunity to help someone else achieve that fulfilment too. I am experienced on boards and in working with a variety of stakeholders and peers. My interpersonal and strategic consulting skills would benefit both the way Writers Victoria works and the outcomes it hopes to achieve, by bringing a fresh, industry perspective, which is founded in my passion for writing. My specific skills include: management, communication, mentoring/capability development, business development/proposal and grant writing, stakeholder engagement, critical thinking, strategy development, procurement and program evaluation. All of these skills would benefit Writers Victoria and I would love to prove it.

**KIRKWOOD, Nada**

I began my career as a corporate lawyer (Freehills) specialising in employment law, then worked in the union movement.

I also spent many years as a senior political adviser, chief of staff and policy director in state and federal politics (more detail in attached CV).

In recent years I have been a communications and stakeholder relations consultant.

I was also part of a small team which set up Daniel Andrews’ office and staff when he was first elected Premier (November 2014-November 2015).

I was appointed by the Victorian government to serve as a member of the board of the Melbourne Market Authority from 2010-2013 and was also President of the East Brunswick Kindergarten and Child Care Centre.

I am also an emerging writer with an unpublished, novel-length fiction manuscript.

**Statement:**

I joined Writers Victoria several months ago and am excited to provide the ‘rookie’ perspective to the Committee, as well the benefit of my extensive professional experience.

I have been both a paid and voluntary board member in the past, and attended the AICD Foundations of Directorship course. Both of my board experiences included a wide range of complex challenges, including funding constraints, construction of new facilities, managing executive and non-executive staff performance and recruitment and competing stakeholder management issues.

As an enthusiastic new writer, Writers Victoria has provided me with a key portal to the world of writing and publishing and I’m keen to contribute to its ongoing success. I believe that all organisations have to have a clear vision to ensure they adapt and grow in a rapidly changing world and I’d like to be a part of that for Writers Victoria.

**LAWSON, Annie**

I have had an extensive career as a journalist and editor, most recently as editor of a national daily subscriber publication on workplace relations at Thomson Reuters. Previously, I worked as a features writer, columnist and business reporter at the Age and as a journalist covering politics, courts and business at the Herald Sun. I have had stints in federal and state government departments and agencies, as well as the not-for-profit sector as a strategic communications advisors and a manager where I grew accustomed to writing via committee and navigating complex and slow-moving bureaucracies. I also worked at the Guardian in London as a business reporter in 2004. I have twice participated in nanowrimo and while I successfully reached the goal of producing 100,000 words, I have yet to finesse them into something resembling a manuscript – due to the above job. I have been a Writers Victoria member for some years.

**Statement:**

I have much to contribute to Writers Victoria in helping strengthen its profile and reach among existing and prospective members. Some compelling case studies could be promoted via social and traditional media to help publicise key events on the Writers Victoria calendar. The publication I edit has nearly 2,000 followers who rely on workplace daily updates and I believe I could apply this knowledge to building your organisation’s visibility. A greater social media presence will also help members feel more connected given the isolation associated with writing. I have an extensive network of media contacts that have helped in my former roles in communications and could be beneficial in this position. I hope you will seriously consider me as candidate for the committee of management as I believe I have many skills that could benefit the organisation.

**LYNCH, Fiona**

I have benefitted directly from undertaking WV short courses, a year-long program, and have accessed the manuscript review service. I greatly value the calibre of support provided by WV.

I have written television comedy (The Comedy Company) and, more recently, poetry.

Publications/awards include:

* 2012 Fish Anthology Ireland – Poetry Section – ‘Masterclass’ (Publication)
* 2012 Northern Territory Literary Awards – Dymocks Red Earth Poetry Award – ‘One Shoe’ (Publication)
* 2013 Williamstown Literary Festival Ada Cambridge Poetry Prize – Highly Commended – City Lullaby (Publication)
* 2013 Fish Publishing, Ireland, Short Story Award – Shortlist – ‘The Repair’ & ‘A Family Dance’
* 2015 Fish Publishing, Ireland, Poetry Award – Longlist- ‘Monsoon’ and ‘The Fledgling’
* Selected for residential program at Varuna in 2013 – Poetry
* Selected for residential program at Anam Cara, Ireland 2013 – Poetry
* Selected for residential program at Varuna in 2015 – Poetry

**Statement:**

I am keen to contribute and work with others to continue to build WV’s vibrant, connected writing community. I believe it is critical for writers of all levels of experience to draw on and contribute to WV.

I have over 20 years’ experience in senior/executive management roles. I currently work as an executive in a large not-for-profit service, which supports people with disabilities and older adults to live independently. I am accustomed to reporting to a Board and have a sound understanding of Board/Committee responsibilities. I have direct responsibility for a budget of $47m, and manage a workforce of over 1400 staff in Vic & NSW.

I completed the Australian Institute of Company Directors course, so I have a sound knowledge of corporate governance. I seek the opportunity to apply this experience and my background in strategic planning to WV.

I am a member of the Society of Children’s Book Writers and Illustrators and subscribe to numerous literary publications.

**MALONEY, Eleanor**

My academic qualifications include a BA/BSc (hons.), a Diploma of Professional Writing and Editing, Masters of Teaching and Graduate Diploma in Psychology. Professionally, I have been a teacher for just over eight years and in that time I have taken on roles including Learning Area Coordination, managing the Wellbeing program and being a staff representative for the consultative committee as well as the school council. This has given me experience working with young people, supporting individuals and families dealing with mental health issues, collaborating with teaching staff and communicating with other adult educational stakeholders.

I first joined Writers Victoria 10 years ago when I was writing short stories and poetry. While I was establishing myself as a teacher, most of my writing was academic or curriculum focused. I have, however, recently begun investing time back into more creative writing projects.

**Statement:**

I am looking for ways to get more involved in the writing community in Victoria. I know from past experience that being around people who enjoy writing makes me more creatively productive.

I hope the committee can benefit from my previous experience in similar committees, knowledge of the education sector and passion for ensuring young people find their voice. I often come across students who have well developed writing skills but lack both the knowledge about how to get their work out there and an understanding of the benefits of doing so. I would love to help to encourage young people to be a part of Writers Victoria and make the most of what it offers. I can also offer the perspective of a member who lives in the outer suburbs and needs to journey a little farther to make the most of many of the courses and workshops offered.

**MORGAN, Maggie**

I hold a B.A. (Modern Languages), Dip. Ed., B.Ed. (Intercultural Studies and Peace Education), M. Ed. (International Education & TESOL). I am a multi-media artist, a writer, have attended events at the Wheeler Centre and recently presented at the Beechworth Writers’ Festival. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yz00-Vxzodc One of my recent stories has been translated into Spanish on the site of prominent Cuban artist, Martha Jimenez. http://marta-jimenez.com/app\_dev.php/ critica/57/ Before coming to Australia, I lived on military bases in Britain, Canada and Germany; in big cities and in villages. Surprisingly, this did not prepare me for 1970s Australia. Feminism and a sense of alienation took root, contrasted with a sense of beauty and the ephemeral. And that is why I write. www.magzmorgan.com/ After destroying all my work 10 years ago, I recently started writing again. My muses are: Margaret Atwood, Charmian Clift, Isabel Allende, Allan Bennett and Laurie Lee.

**Statement:**

I have worked on many committees both within the educational context and in community groups, in activist groups and pressure groups. In addition, I am a voracious and serendipitous reader in four languages, have proven organisational and presentation skills, excellent networking skills as well as reasonable I.T. skills. I see creative expression as a counterbalance to contemporary social tendencies; a way of resisting populist thinking and, at the same time, of inspiring creative responses, when logic seems to have little effect. As such, I would like to see these issues addressed both at committee level and in the structure and program offerings of the Writers’ Centre itself. I am a very task-oriented person who is, at the same time, very flexible and a wildly lateral thinker. It takes quite a lot of self-discipline to prioritise decisions under these circumstances, but I manage this quite well. Because I am a persistent critical thinker and listener, I feel I could encourage others to contribute their best ideas. I am particularly interested in ways we might be a tool for public outreach.

**MURPHY, Fiona**

I’ve been a member of Writers Victoria since moving to Melbourne in 2015. I have attended several seminars, all of which I’ve found extremely valuable. Moreover, WV has helped to widen my social circle! I started proofreading ‘The Victorian Writer’ at the end of 2016.

I’m a Production Editor at the publishing house Therapeutic Guidelines (TGL). I’m enrolled in RMIT’s Associate Degree of Professional Writing and Editing. With the support of that program, I’m working on my first novel.

I am a radio broadcaster for Vision Australia and one of the co-creators of the podcast Literary Canon Ball (launching in May), which is book club for people who want to read beyond the western canon. I’m also developing a comedy routine about my experience of having a disability through Comedy Lab – an initiative set up by Women with Disabilities Victoria, the University of Melbourne and the Victorian College of the Arts.

**Statement:**

I have found the support of Writers Victoria invaluable and I want to step up my contribution to the organisation. I have held many volunteer positions, from Meals on Wheels to various environmental organisations; I understand the importance of taking volunteer positions seriously. Throughout my career, I have worked with several non-profits and have held positions on quality improvement commitments so I have experience developing strategies with limited resources.

As a member of the publishing industry, I can offer my perspective of corporate writing and publishing. I have developed social media campaigns for RMIT’s Bright Sparks program and the non-profit organisation Friends for Good. Lastly, I can offer my perspective as an enthusiastic albeit emerging writer and mature aged student.

**PRADOLIN, Sarah**

* Member of Writers Victoria for over two consecutive years
* Completed the Writers Victoria Editing workshop in January 2017
* Would like to become a Writers Victoria volunteer to support and learn
* Obtainment of a Bachelor of Arts (Literary Studies and Public Relations) degree
* Ongoing internship with Segmento Magazine (Proofread all articles for current and upcoming issues)
* Strong interests in books and playing guitar
* I have a personal WordPress blog titled ‘Sarah Pradolin’ (commenced January 2017) to write creatively, analytically and practice my proofreading and copyediting skills

**Statement:**

To be a Committee member of Writers Victoria would be an absolute pleasure and fantastic opportunity. For just over the past two years, I have been a member of Writers Victoria and thoroughly enjoy it. It has a very strong community feel, the staff are extremely helpful, the e-newsletters and monthly magazines are an insightful read and the workshops are professionally run.

I would love to be a Committee member – it will be a great way to learn, be further involved in the community and work in a team-focused environment. I am passionate about books and aim for a career in novel publishing. I can contribute my enthusiasm and knowledge of literature, my willingness to offer ideas and support, and passion to help with events and meetings.

**SCOTT TUCKER, Michelle**

I live in regional Victoria and work as an Executive Director of ACIG, a specialist consulting firm (www.acig.com.au). I provide services to government and not-for-profit (NFP) clients in the areas of governance, process improvement, evaluation and review, change management and policy development. My clients include all three levels of government within Australia and organisations from health, education and NFP sectors. I also work internationally, with governments from around the world.

Business qualifications:
• Bachelor of Arts (BA, English and History)
• Master of Business Administration (MBA)
• Graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors (GAICD).

I am finalising a biography of Anglo-Australian colonist Elizabeth Macarthur (1766-1850), to be released by Text Publishing in 2018. My agent is Jacinta Di Mase Management.

Writing qualifications:
• 2015 – selected, HARDCOPY Professional Development Program
• 2012 – shortlisted, Hazel Rowley Literary Fellowship
• 2012 – Varuna Fellowship for Writing
• Piece recorded for ABC RN’s 360 Documentary program
• Blog - AdventuresInBiography.wordpress.com
• Member Writers Victoria since 2007

**Statement:**

Writers Victoria continues to expand and enhance the services it provides to regional writers and, as a regional writer myself, I would like to be part of that process. As a result of my career in government and business, I believe the skills I could contribute to the committee of management include:
• Expertise in governance, review and process improvement.
• Extensive experience in managing and writing grants and government tenders
• A track record of achieving positive outcomes in complex, multi-stakeholder environments.
• Thorough understanding of marketing and communications processes (my role at ACIG encompasses all our marketing and business development activities, including the development and maintenance of the company website and social media strategy).
• A career spent working with and for government agencies (I speak fluent bureaucrat and am happy to liaise with Writers Victoria’s government partners and stakeholders).
• A friendly, pragmatic and practical approach, and a genuine desire to foster a supportive and collegial working environment.