



**National
Year of
Reading
2012**

Date: 17 October 2011

EMBARGOED UNTIL 18 OCTOBER

Be in at the start of Australia's biggest book group for the National Year of Reading 2012

Australia's National Year of Reading 2012 starts here, with the opportunity for you to vote for the book that you think should represent your state or territory as one of the eight on our national recommended reading list for 2012. You can help decide the eight books that *are* the National Year of Reading 2012 collection.

Margaret Allen, chair of the National Year of Reading founders and State Librarian of WA, explains, "For 2012, we're creating a collection of books which, read together, describe the Australian experience. We all know how very different it is if you're living in the city or in a remote community; in the Northern Territory or New South Wales. We're hoping that thousands of readers will take a journey around Australia through the pages of these eight books and come out of it with an even greater depth of understanding about what it means to be Australian."

The list of eight winning titles and the start of Australia's biggest book group for the National Year of Reading will be announced at the launch of the campaign on 14 February, 2012, at the National Library of Australia in Canberra. After that, existing book groups, new groups and individual readers can go online and register as a member of Our Story, joining in the discussion about the books the nation has chosen.

The state and territory shortlists, chosen by independent panels of readers, have been announced. The shortlist is available on the National Year of Reading website www.love2read.org.au. Voting commences 1 November 2011, online at www.abc.net.au/yearofreading and in participating libraries and book shops. The closing date is 6 January 2012.

For more information, contact

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National Year of Reading 2012

Shortlist for the ACT

- John Clanchy, Vincenzo's Garden, University of Queensland Press
- Alan Gould, The Lake Woman, Australian Scholarly Publishing
- Marion Halligan, The Fog Garden, Allen & Unwin
- Jack Heath, The Hit List, Pan Macmillan Australia
- Dorothy Johnston, The White Tower, Wakefield Press
- Kel Robertson, Smoke and Mirrors, Pan Macmillan Australia

Shortlist for New South Wales

- Peter Corris, Torn Apart, Allen & Unwin
- Kate Grenville, Lilian's Story, Allen & Unwin
- Ian Hoskins, Sydney Harbour: A History, New South Publishing
- John Hughes, The Idea of Home, Giramondo
- Ruth Park, The Harp in the South, Penguin
- Chris Womersley, Bereft, Scribe

Shortlist for the Northern Territory

- Ros Moriarty, Listening to Country, 2010, Allen & Unwin
- Daena Murray (editor), The Sound of the Sky, 2006, CDU Press
- Judy Nunn, Territory, 2003, Random House
- Alan Powell, Far Country: A Short History of the Northern Territory, 2009, CDU CDU Press
- Alan Powell, Shadow's Edge: Australia's Northern War (Revised Edition), 2007, CDU CDU Press
- Nicholas Rothwell, The Red Highway, 2009, Black Ink

Shortlist for Queensland

- Chloe Hooper, The Tall Man, 2008, Penguin
- Andrew McGahan, The White Earth, 2005, Allen & Unwin
- Alex Miller, Journey to the Stone Country, 2002, Allen & Unwin
- Estelle Pinney, House on the Hill, Penguin
- Ian Townsend, Affection, 2005, Harper Collins
- Matthew Condon, Brisbane, 2010, New South Publishing

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Shortlist for South Australia

- Max Fatchen, River Kings, Wakefield Press
- Kerryn Goldsworthy, Adelaide, 2011, New South Publishing
- Peter Goldsworthy, Three Dog Night, 2003, Penguin
- Scott Monk, The Never Boys, 2011, Random House
- Stephen Orr, Time's Long Ruin, Wakefield Press
- Alastair Sarre, Prohibited Zone, Wakefield Press

Shortlist for Tasmania

- Richard Flanagan, Wanting, 2008, Random House
- Anna Krien, Into the Woods: The Battle for Tasmania's Forests, 2010, Black Ink
- Julia Leigh, The Hunter, 1999, Penguin
- Kathryn Lomer, What now Tilda B?, University of Queensland Press
- Peter Timms, In Search of Hobart, 2009, New South Publishing
- Rohan Wilson, The Roving Party, 2011, Allen & Unwin

Shortlist for Victoria

- Robyn Annear, Bearbrass, 2005, Black Ink
- Brendan Gullifer, Sold, Sleepers
- Barry Heard, Well Done Those Men, 2005, Scribe
- Alice Pung, Unpolished Gem, 2006, Black Ink
- Jeff & Jill Sparrow, Radical Melbourne, Vulgar Press
- Maya Ward, The Comfort of Water, Transit Lounge

Shortlist for Western Australia

- Elizabeth Jolley, The Newspaper of Claremont Street, Fremantle Press
- Sally Morgan, My Place, Fremantle Press
- Howard Pederson & Banjo Woorunmurra, Jandamarra and the Bunuba Resistance, Magabala Books
- Kim Scott, True Country, Fremantle Press
- Craig Silvey, Jasper Jones, 2009, Allen & Unwin
- Tim Winton, Cloudstreet, 1991, Penguin

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Famous names behind the National Year of Reading

Australia's National Year of Reading officially kicks off on 14 February 2012 with a launch at the National Library of Australia (Canberra), hosted by the First Tuesday Book Club's Jennifer Byrne, much loved actor and author William McInnes, patron of the campaign, and award-winning children's author Boori Monty Pryor.

The campaign has been initiated by Australian public libraries, state and territory libraries and library associations. It is supported by school libraries and the National Library of Australia. TAFE, University, government and other special libraries are also behind the campaign.

All kinds of household names will be active in the National Year of Reading campaign – notably the ABC, Dymocks, Madman Entertainment, Scholastic and The Walt Disney Company – and in addition to Jennifer Byrne, William McInnes and Monty Boori Pryor, ambassadors will include Anita Heiss, Bryce Courtenay, Andy Griffiths, Morris Gleitzman, Susanne Gervay, Anh Do, Ted Egan, Robyn Archer, Anna Goldsworthy, Steve Parish and the Melbourne Football Club.

More than 200 writers, publishers and organisations involved in reading and literacy are partners with the National Year of Reading – organisations such as the Centenary of Canberra, the Indigenous Literacy Foundation, the Pyjama Foundation, Speech Pathology Australia, Student Edge, Vision Australia, Writing Australia.

Funding has come from the Australian Government, the Australia Council for the Arts, the Copyright Agency Ltd, the Sidney Myer Fund and Australian libraries.

For more information, visit the website www.love2read.org.au.

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