SYDNEY WRITERS' FESTIVAL



LIVE & LOCAL

LIVE STREAM SCHEDULE 22–25 MAY

THURSDAY 22 MAY

| 12-1PM | GINA CHICK: WE ARE THE STARS |
|--------|---|
| 2-3PM | DAVID NICHOLLS: YOU ARE HERE |
| 4-5PM | PAST AND FUTURE OF INDIGENOUS RECOGNITION |

FRIDAY 23 MAY

| 12-1PM | HELEN GARNER: THE SEASON |
|--------|---|
| 2-3PM | ALAN HOLLINGHURST: OUR EVENINGS |
| 4-5PM | COLM TÓIBÍN: FROM <i>Brooklyn</i> to <i>long island</i> |

SATURDAY 24 MAY

12-1PM **A.C. GRAYLING ON CANCEL CULTURE**

SUNDAY 25 MAY

12-1PM TRUMPOCALYPSE NOW









SYDNEY



WRITERS' FESTIVAL

One of Australia's most loved forums for literature, ideas and storytelling, Sydney Writers' Festival will livestream its headline events from Sydney to Harry Bailey Memorial Library on Thursday 22, Friday 23, Saturday 24 and Sunday 25 May.

Prepare to be invigorated and engaged by conversations, debates and discussions featuring some of the world's finest writers and thinkers. Audiences can also participate in live Q&A sessions at each event, sending questions straight to the Sydney stage.



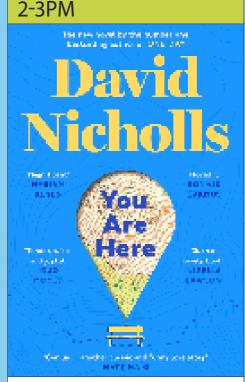
GINA CHICK: WE ARE THE STARS

Finding solace and wisdom in the wilderness

Endearing herself to Alone Australia audiences with her vulnerability and unflappable strength, Gina Chick fought to become the inaugural winner after 67 days in the Tasmanian bush.

In her memoir, We Are the Stars:
A misfit's story of love, connection and the glorious power of letting go, Gina traces her connection to nature, from her unconventional childhood through to her time in the wilderness, where she found solace and wisdom.

As the granddaughter of writer Charmian Clift and daughter of memoirist Suzanne Chick, Gina's literary lineage shines through in her own memoir. Let Gina regale you with evocative stories of jungles, dancing, love and loss. With host Rosemarie Milsom.



DAVID NICHOLLS: YOU ARE HERE

When feeling lost, let love rewrite the map

Bestselling author David Nicholls is known for his love stories, including Us, longlisted for the Booker Prize, and One Day, which has sold 5 million copies and was adapted into a Netflix series.

His latest, You Are Here, mixes first encounters and second chances for its midlife protagonists. Marnie feels life is passing her by. Michael burrows into himself after his wife's departure. Both find romantic redemption in the English countryside amid pithy observations and pop culture references.

Let David help you find your way on the winding road through life's most encompassing emotion – love – in conversation with Jennifer Byrne.



PAST AND FUTURE OF INDIGENOUS RECOGNITION

Reflecting on the past and building towards the future

The fight for First Nations rights in Australia is ongoing, most recently frustrated by the lost 2023 Voice to Parliament referendum.

Indigenous leader and author Thomas Mayo's newest work, Always Was, Always Will Be:
The Campaign for Justice and Recognition
Continues, is a guidebook to action for
Indigenous recognition and a rallying cry
for those working to close the gap.

Historian Clare Wright's conclusion to her democracy trilogy, Näku Dhäruk The Bark Petitions: How the People of Yirrkala Changed the Course of Australian Democracy, tells the story of how the Yolnu of Arnhem Land created the Yirrkala Bark Petitions in 1963 and gave birth to the land rights movement.

Join Thomas and Clare as they explore these important struggles and what we can learn from them. With host Lorena Allam.

THURSDAY 22 MAY

SYDNEY



WRITERS' FESTIVAL



HELEN GARNER: THE SEASON

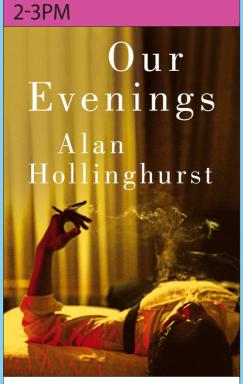
Observing football, life and family from the sidelines

Iconic Australian writer Helen Garner turns her curiosity to 'the greatest game', Aussie rules football, in honour of her grandson.

With careful attention and quiet observation, Helen stands on the sidelines of training sessions and games across a season, collecting moments of connection with the next generations and witnessing the epic theatre of sport. Her first full length book in a decade, The Season combines her customary warmth and talent for measured detail to produce a loving and humorous portrayal of an Australian tradition.

Listen in as Helen reflects on football and the cycles of life in conversation with David Leser.

Supported by UNSW Sydney.



ALAN HOLLINGHURST: OUR EVENINGS

A tender portrait of an English life from the 60s to today

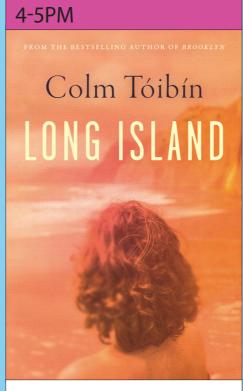
The seventh novel of beloved chronicler of English life Alan Hollinghurst, Our Evenings, takes a life span as its material.

From the perspective of late middle age, Dave Win reflects on his life, from his childhood through to the self-discovery of the theatre stage and his attempt to understand his Burmese heritage. As a delicate exploration of identity, race, class and sexuality over a lifetime, this novel hones the craft of one of the finest writers of our age with tenderness and pleasure.

Credited with bringing queer literature to the mainstream with his Booker Prizewinning A Line of Beauty, Alan reflects on the complexity of self-exploration with Georgina Godwin.

Alan Hollinghurst appears thanks to the support of the Cuffley Foundation.

Supported by ARA.



COLM TÓIBÍN: FROM BROOKLYN TO LONG ISLAND

Returning to Brooklyn in a long-awaited seguel

Colm Tóibín returns to the world of Brooklyn - adapted into a BAFTA- and Oscarnominated film starring Saoirse Ronan - with the long-awaited sequel, Long Island.

Set 20 years after Rose Lacey's death, Long Island follows Eilis Lacey after an unknown Irishman unexpectedly brings a baby into her family's midst. Full of longing and regret, the book exhibits the hallmarks of a master storyteller's restraint and Colm's customary wit.

In conversation with Kate Evans (ABC Radio National's The Bookshelf), Colm discusses his latest portrait of the people of picturesque Enniscorthy, which is being heralded as his best work yet.

Colm Tóibín appears thanks to the support of Rosie Williams and John Grill AO.

Supported by the Consulate General of Ireland and Culture Ireland.





A.C. GRAYLING ON **CANCEL CULTURE**

Contemporary culture wars: as affective as they are ancient

'Cancel culture' may seem like a 21st century invention sparked by contemporary politics and stoked by social media, sometimes with deadly consequences.

However, as philosopher A.C. Grayling illustrates in Discriminations: Making Peace in the Culture Wars, disagreement and public shaming are ancient traditions.

Learn how 'cancel culture' evolved and what effect it's having on intellectual discourse. Festival favourite A.C. Grayling searches for a middle ground in an environment where everything is up

Supported by UNSW Sydney.

THE HOT MESS SHOW WITH JEFF KINNEY

Join Diary of a Wimpy Kid author Jeff Kinney live onstage for The Hot

the latest Wimpy Kid book in the series, Hot Mess, while satisfying your craving for family fun!

of friendly competition. Make your next family outing a HOT one! Recommended for ages 7-12.

A deliciously entertaining and interactive event

Mess Show. Jeff serves up laughs and celebrates

Audience members will have a chance to join Jeff on stage for a family-style feast

SUNDAY 25 MAY

FRIDAY 23 MAY

SATURDAY 24 MAY