



JULY NEWS FROM YOUR LIBRARY

OPENING HOURS

COVID-permitting, the library will reopen from Tuesdays to Saturdays from Tuesday 6th July. At this stage it will remain closed on Mondays. We are hoping to reschedule our postponed music events as soon as possible and will continue to keep members informed.



SCARLET STILETTO READINGS IN THE LIBRARY

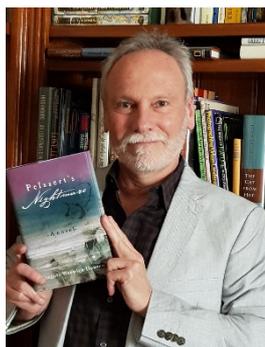
We remain very hopeful that the library will be able to host the entertaining Body in the Library readings on Friday 9th July – and tickets are still available.

Scarlet Stiletto recipient Blanche Clark will introduce authors Jane Clifton and Susanna Lobez (both pictured) and Julia Gardiner, who will bring to life three stories – *Deadly Ernestine* by Fin J Ross (much of this story is set in the Melbourne Athenaeum Library), *At Length I Would be Avenged* by Blanche Clark and *The Irony of Silence* by Kristin Murdock. Each of the stories has won the Scarlet Stiletto Awards' Body in the Library category, which is sponsored by the Melbourne Athenaeum Library.



Bookings for the readings (5.30pm for a 6pm start) can be made at [TryBooking](#). Tickets are \$10 for library members and \$15 for guests and include a glass of wine or sparkling water. In the event of a cancellation, tickets will be refunded.

LIBRARY MEMBER WINS INTERNATIONAL BOOK AWARD

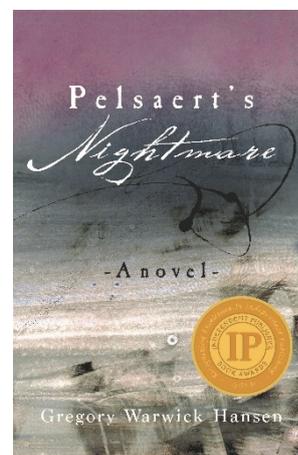


Congratulations to library member Greg Hansen whose debut novel, *Pelsaert's Nightmare*, has won a gold medal in the 25th annual Independent Publisher Book Awards in the USA. The novel, which is on the library's shelves, won the medal for Best Regional Fiction in the Australia/New Zealand/Pacific Rim region.

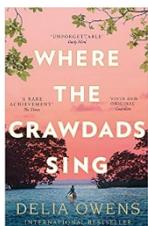
An early manuscript of *Pelsaert's Nightmare* was shortlisted for the inaugural 2016 First Novel Prize in the United Kingdom, and a later draft was a first place category winner in the 2018 Chaucer Book Awards for Pre-1750s Historical Fiction



Pelsaert's Nightmare tells the story of a journey in the quest for redemption. In the antipodean winter of 1629, the Dutch East Indiaman 'Batavia' was wrecked on the desolate cays of the Houtman Abrolhos, an island chain lying beyond the sea horizon of what is now Western Australia. One year later her merchant commander, Francisco Pelsaert, lies dying in a mildewed room outside the walls of Batavia Castle, the stigma of the shipwreck and bloody mutiny foreclosing on his legacy. With only a servant-carer and the occasional visitor to relieve his solitude, he passes the hours in haunted reflection of events which have shaped his life. From the Netherlands and its colonial outposts to Mogul India and the coastal wildernesses of the Great South Land, Pelsaert's tale is one of many parts and places, of exotic encounter and shrouded pleasure to unnerving dreams and thwarted certainties.



BOOK CLUB READS



Our book clubs will this month be discussing *Mayflies* by Andrew O'Hagan, *Three Hours* by Rosamund Lupton, *Where the Crawdads Sing* by Delia Owens and *Out of our Minds* by Sir Ken Robinson. You can find each of these titles on the library's bookshelves.

NEW BOOKS ADDED TO THE COLLECTION

The library purchases more than 100 new books each month, and new book lists are added to the library website within the first few days of each month. Please check the website soon for June's new books or contact the library for the book list.

