

## New Team Members

The Red Room is pleased to present to you our three new staff members. Early this year, our dedicated and talented Education Officer and Researcher Dr. Bonny Cassidy moved on to focus on her academic and writing work. Her experience and abilities were of inestimable value to the company, and in her stead we have three new energetic and excited staff members.



Taking over the role of grant writing and copywriting, is Joel Scott, who has recently commenced a PhD at Macquarie University.

Taking care of administrative duties whilst simultaneously learning about Australian poetry and arts is our intern, Emilia Johansson. Emilia comes from Sweden, where she studies International Administration and English.

Our most recent addition is Fiona Curran, a PhD candidate in the School of English at the University of Sydney, where her area of expertise is the use of self-reflexive techniques in contemporary fiction. Fiona is taking over the position of Education Officer, coordinating and promoting our ever-expanding Papercuts program.

# The Red Room Company Quarterly



## Sea Things on ABC Radio National

The film, salted poems, and accrued paraphernalia of the 2009 Sea Things project will form part of an online exhibition

The collection of poetic cargo will be launched on our website to coincide with a Sea Things radio documentary recorded by ABC Radio National. The feature will air on Saturday 24th April at 3pm as part of a two-part Poetica special.

### Sea Things Poetica program

This Sea Things documentary was created by reporter Gretchen Miller as she followed the duffel bag on route to Thursday Island last year.

The Red Room Company will be working with the ABC Radio National again later in the year. In 2010, Sea Things will also be written into an education resource for high school students.



## Poems to Share

### Sydney Writers' Festival

**Free event:** Friday 21st May at 6 pm, upstairs, The Heritage Pier 2/3

The Red Room Company have been invited to host an event at the Sydney Writers' Festival to celebrate our work with Australian poets over the last seven years. The audience will be seated at tables with ten outstanding poets – including joanne burns, Judith Bishop and Keri Glastonbury – to hear readings as well as a discussion on sharing; perhaps an anecdote of a book lent or a page read aloud by a lover. Audience will be seated at tables with featured poets; to ensure your seat email [tamryn@redroomcompany.org](mailto:tamryn@redroomcompany.org) or phone **02 9319 5090**



### SUPPORT THE RED ROOM COMPANY

If you would like to chat with me personally about how you can support our organization, please call (02) 9319 5090 or email [johanna@redroomcompany.org](mailto:johanna@redroomcompany.org)

Poems to Share sets are selling fast. A limited number of the first print run are available through [www.redroomcompany.org](http://www.redroomcompany.org) for \$22 (inc. postage within Australia) and selected retailers.



Our Papercuts education program, of which Macquarie Fields High School is a part, is spreading poetry to all Australian states and territories. After a three-year pilot phase from 2007 to 2009, Papercuts has expanded significantly in 2010, reaching schools in Queensland, Western Australia and the ACT.



With over 24 participating schools, the growth of the program has necessitated the creation of a dedicated Education Officer to manage the program. This year also represents the second year of funding from the Ian Potter Foundation.

The full list of our participating schools for 2010 is available on our Education page. These include Forest Lake High School, QLD; Sheldon College, QLD; Belconnen High School, ACT; All Saints College, Perth, WA; Peninsula School, VIC; Hunter School of Performing Arts, NSW and Bankstown Girls High School, NSW.

## Another date to note: Wednesday 2nd June

## NSW Parliament Poetry Soirée

Following on from last year's incredibly successful poetry reading in Parliament House, we will be hosting another event with polities reading their own and favourite poems. There will also be opportunity for the public to register to read their own work. Time to be confirmed.

Hosted by the Honorable Virginia Judge, Minister for Fair Trading and Minister for the Arts, and emceed by Johanna Featherstone

## Poetry Scores at Swans Games



This most unlikely match proved to be a winner as Johanna Featherstone (a.k.a a Red Room's ruck rover) wowed a crowd of ex AFL players and fans at a Swans pre-match dinner. It was 'poetry in motion' as the audience absorbed similarities between playing sport and penning poems.

The Red Room Company was invited into the realm of agility, coaches, mouth guards and muscle while Jo welcomed AFL lovers into the world of poetry. AFL fanatic and prize-winning poet Alan Wearne also helped to bridge any remaining divide with his poem 'Memoires of a Former Eastern Districts Football League Seconds Boundary Umpire'.

The poem was read in his absence by John B. Fairfax, dinner host and esteemed Patron of The Red Room Company.

## Unlocked

Late 2010 will see an exciting development in The Red Room's education program, called Unlocked. Expanding on the success of Papercuts, we're in the process of developing a similar program to be implemented in Dyllwinia and John Moroney Correctional Centres on the outskirts of Sydney.

This project allows the Red Room to reach some of the most marginalised and disadvantaged members of the community, developing communication skills as well as self-esteem and confidence through the experience of writing poetry. We are working with teaching staff in the prisons, the Corrections NSW Audiovisual Unit, as well as with 2SER radio's jailbreak program to ensure that the project is successful both inside and outside.

## Welcome

Mr Bret Walker SC and Mr Matthew McCarron

We would like to extend a warm welcome to Bret Walker SC as new The Red Room Company's first ever Chairperson. Bret is one of Australia's leading barristers and we look forward to his guidance in the future.

We would also like to welcome and thank Mr Matthew McCarron, who has recently taken up a position on our board. Matthew is a Senior Manager in KPMG's Middle Market Advisory practice. He has been helping The Red Room Company with financial advice and services and we are honoured to have him serve on our board.

The Red Room Company would also like to thank our new supporters Graeme Wood and Kerr Neilson, our Patron and ongoing partners at AAP, Cato Counsel, Artsupport Australia, Arts NSW and other generous friends of The Red Room.



## The Sydney Conservatorium of Music

**'But small things still linger:  
shimmering jealousies  
or a glorified future  
fraying at its ends.'**

From 'Nine Visions for Citizens and Soldiers,'  
by students at Macquarie Fields High School

Amidst a symphony of sounds, students from Macquarie Fields High School took poetry to the stage as part of the Sydney Conservatorium of Music Open Day.

Their remarkable performance marks the beginning of a partnership between The Red Room Company and The Con. The nine-part poem helped celebrate the bicentenary of Governor Lachlan Macquarie's swearing-in and was created by the talented students at Macquarie Fields through a series of Papercuts workshops with poet Lachlan Brown.

Text, audio and video available online.