

**'The Nib': CAL Waverley Library Award for Literature**  
**Shortlist Announced – Wednesday 3 November, 7pm**



Waverley Mayor Sally Betts has announced this year's shortlist for 'The Nib,' CAL Waverley Library Award for Literature.

Now in its ninth year, 'The Nib' is one of Australia's premier literary awards acknowledging excellence in research by published Australian authors.

This year's shortlisted works are:

- *Vital Signs: Stories from Intensive Care*, Ken Hillman, UNSW Press
- *Breaking News: The Golden Age of Graham Perkin*, Ben Hills, Scribe
- *Shoes for the Moscow Circus*, Leta Keens, Murdoch Books
- *Capital*, by Kristin Otto, Text Publishing
- *The March of the Patriots*, Paul Kelly, University of Melbourne Press
- *William Charles Wentworth*, Andrew Tink, Allen and Unwin

All shortlisted authors were awarded the Alex Buzo Prize in honour of the late Bondi-based writer who achieved success in most literary genres, his most famous being the play 'Norm and Ahmed'.

Mayor Betts said it was important that the distinguished playwright and author was honoured in this way.

"It pays tribute to Mr Buzo's pivotal role in the development of this national literary award, prior to his untimely death in 2006."

"Waverley Council is very appreciative of the support of CAL as the award's major sponsor, a strong sign that the award has wide acceptance and relevance across the writing and publishing industries".

"Last year's literature award was won by poet Robert Gray for *The Land I Came Through Last*, a moving biography of his family, in particular his father. Robert Gray spoke at last night's shortlist function, which was MC'd by Lex Marinos OAM."

Mayor Betts said the calibre of previous winners such as Tim Low (2002), Barry Hill (2003), Geoffrey Blainey (2004), Helen Garner (2005), Gideon Haigh (2006), John Bailey (2007) and Christopher Koch (2008) continued to prove that excellent research is important for great literature,

"Waverley Library is the cornerstone on which Waverley builds its cultural programs and we are really fortunate to have many home grown great writers in our community. We're really proud of our Library which is home to one of the largest local library collections in NSW and the CAL Waverley Library Award for Literature is Council's way of supporting writers and promoting the value of research."

Judges culled the list from 158 nominations. The winner will be announced at a breakfast event in Bondi on Wednesday 24 November.

The \$20,000 Prize was established in 2002, to acknowledge and reward the role of research in fiction and non-fiction.

'The Nib' is part of the Waverley Words Literary Festival, which runs until December. For more information go to [www.waverley.nsw.gov.au/library/whats\\_on](http://www.waverley.nsw.gov.au/library/whats_on).

For an invitation to CAL Waverley Library Award for Literature award night, please call Felicite Briggs on 9386 7709.

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