Alex Buzo
1944–2006
Australian author and playwright

Alex Buzo lived a few blocks away from Waverley Library where he spent countless hours researching his varied body of work until he passed away in 2006.

He was educated at The Armidale School, the International School in Geneva and the University of New South Wales. In 2005 he was awarded an Honorary Doctorate of Letters from the University of New South Wales for his contribution to Australian literature.

In 1968, Buzo’s infamous first play *Norm and Ahmed* was among the first to find a truly Australian voice and gained national attention primarily through a prosecution for obscenity. The exploration of alienation in the play remained a common theme in his work, often delivered with clever and stylish use of the Australian idiom and a tireless commitment to reflecting the true nature of Australian society.

In 1972, Buzo was awarded the Australian Literature Society’s Gold Medal for his play *Macquarie*. His other plays include *Rooted* (1969), *The Front Room Boys* (1969), *Coralie Lansdowne says No* (1974), *Martello Towers* (1976), *Makassar Reef* (1978), *Big River* (1980), *The Marginal Farm* (1983), *Shellcove Road* (1989) and *Pacific Union* (1995) His plays have been produced around the world including the USA, the UK and South East Asia. He was also writer-in-residence and at many theatre companies, schools and universities.