

# Friends Summer News



Many Friends joined in the celebration of Mem Fox in December

enthusiasm that we have decided to make it an annual tradition. This year it will be held on Thursday 30 January, 5.30 – 7.00 pm, and all members who have joined since February 2002 are eligible and welcome to attend. Remember that this is strictly a social occasion, so leave behind thoughts of broken resolutions, droughts and water restrictions, and come and meet new Friends whilst enjoying the Committee's hospitality.



Finally, a big thank you to everyone who came to help celebrate the life and work of Mem Fox. This was a tremendous event, not to mention well attended, and Mem was her usual infectious and ebullient self, informal and witty, charmingly signing tons of Celebration publications in addition to her own books. A great expression of gratitude must also go to Jennifer Moran, who compiled the Celebration publication, and to Professor Belle Alderman, who not only contributed to the publication, but was also a most eloquent and gracious celebrant on the day. Don't forget, the committee is always interested in ideas from the membership regarding whom they might like to see celebrated by the Friends this year. Submit your ideas to the Friends Office by the end of March; anyone who has made an outstanding contribution to Australian literary and cultural life will be considered. In the past we have celebrated authors (David Malouf, Tim Winton), cartoonists (Michael Leunig), and publishers (Katharine Brisbane), so be creative!

JAMES HALLIGAN  
Executive Officer

Greetings to Friends new and old. I hope the New Year finds you refreshed and hopeful, and ready to face any challenges. At the time of writing, I am unable to introduce you to our new committee, so you'll just have to wait until next month for a formal announcement. I can tell you, however, that we have brand-new office bearers, and that we can look forward to some interesting new initiatives, activities and events in the year to come.



Last year the Friends Committee held a Welcome to New Members reception to enable members who have joined over the past year to meet one another and discover mutual interests inside and outside the National Library. It was an enjoyable event and received with such

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

January – February 2003

### Welcome to New Members

An opportunity for members who have joined since 1 February 2002 to meet and socialise with the new Committee.

Date: Thursday 30 January

Time: 5.30 – 7.00 pm

Venue: Friends Lounge

Refreshments.

Bookings essential on 6262 1698,

or email: [friends@nla.gov.au](mailto:friends@nla.gov.au)

### Robert Helpmann and All the Rest

Michelle Potter, Curator of Dance at the National Library of Australia, will give a presentation on her work as curator, on her book *A Collector's Book of Australian Dance*, and on the Library's dance collections.

Date: Sunday 16 February

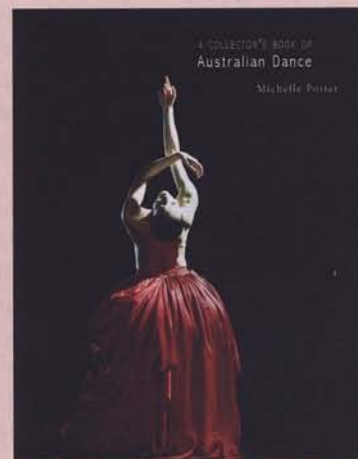
Time: 2.30 – 4.30 pm

Venue: Friends Lounge

Admission: Friends \$10; others \$12 (afternoon tea included)

Bookings essential on 6262 1698,

or email: [friends@nla.gov.au](mailto:friends@nla.gov.au)



### For bookings, details of membership and subscriptions, contact:

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