22 - 24 August 2025 I Wrest Point, Tasmania

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ATE ROMANCE CONFERENCE

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PROGRAM RELEASE!WITH SPECIAL GUESTS:



FRIDAY 22 - SUNDAY 24 AUGUST 2025

PITCHING TIMES

	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY				
Wellington Room 2	9.00am to 4.00pm	10.30am to 4.30pm	10.30am to 3.30pm				
	Pitching bookings will be available via the conference website in 2025 www.romancewritersconference.com.au/2025						
	FRIDAY 2	2 AUGUST	2025				
	Tasman A	Tasman B&C	Wellington Room 2				
8.00am	From Vision to Action: Creating Your Dream Life Roadmap Sarra Cannon	Mastering the Art of Great Conflict Sarah MacLean	Romancing Academia: Placing Romance More details can be found on the website				
10.00am	Morning Tea						
10.30am	From Vision to Action: Creating Your Dream Life Roadmap Sarra Cannon	Mastering the Art of Great Conflict Sarah MacLean	Romancing Academia: Placing Romance More details can be found on the website				
12.30pm	Lunch						
1.30pm	From Vision to Action: Creating Your Dream Life Roadmap Sarra Cannon	Mastering the Art of Great Conflict Sarah MacLean	Romancing Academia: Placing Romance More details can be found on the website				
3.00pm	Workshops & Symposium finish						
4.30pm	RWAus Book Signing: <i>Boardwalk Gallery</i>						
6.30pm	Newbies Welcome: <i>Birdcage Bar</i>						
7.00pm	Writer Wonderland Cocktail Party: Exhibition Foyer						

SATURDAY 23 AUGUST 2025

7.00am	Registration open: <i>Exhibition Foyer</i>			
7.15am	Write Like The Wind Bullseye Writing Productivity Session <i>Clare Connelly</i>			Tasman A
	Auditorium			
8.00am	Welcome to Country & Opening			
8.20am	The Romance Revolution: The Power and Purpose of the Romance Novel in a Fast-Changing World <i>Keynote:</i> Sarah MacLean			
8.50am	2025 RWAus Anthology Launch and First Sale Ribbons			
9.15am	Writers Australia Overview			
9.45am	Mini Break: Exhibition Foyer			
	Auditorium	Tasman A	Tasman B	Tasman C
10.00am	Lifting the veil on social media marketing <i>Stacey McEwan</i>	Ten Things Your Publisher Wants You to know about your Manuscript Jo Mackay Sponsored by HQ	Creating Better Monsters: A Guide for Paranormal Romance Writers Jack Bridges	The Fine Print of Romance. Legal Must-Knows for Authors <i>Marina Kelly &</i> <i>Caroline Hayward</i>
11.00am	Morning Tea: Exhibition Foyer			
11.30am	The Perfect Match: Demystifying the Agent Search Process from Query to Call Sharon Pelletier	So You Want to Write A Rom-Com <i>Amy Andrews</i>	Give Me The Pretties: Creating and Marketing Special Edition Books and Author Merch <i>Steff Green</i>	Eight Essential Elements to Save the Cat <i>Amy T Matthews</i>
1.00pm	Lunch: Exhibition Foyer Lunchtime panel session: Tasman A An Indie, Trad and Hybrid Author Walked Into a Conf Rachael Johns, Amelia Shaw & Clare Connelly			

SATURDAY 23 AUGUST 2025

	Auditorium	Tasman A	Tasman B	Tasman C	
2.00pm	The course of true love never did run smoothand the same could be said for a career in publishing <i>Brenda Novak</i>	From Idea to Page <i>Ally Blake</i>	Writing Neurodivergent Characters <i>A.K./Ali Mulford</i>	Tackling the Fabulous Insanity that is Indie Publishing <i>Elizabeth Stevens</i>	
3.30pm	Afternoon Tea: Exhibition Foyer				
	Auditorium				
4.00pm	Spotlight on Agents and Publishers More information coming shortly				
5.00pm	Queer Beers (or soft drink) - LGBTQIA+ and allies networking event: Green Room Bar				
7.00pm	RWAus Gala Dinner: <i>Tasman Rooms</i>				
	SUNDA	Y 24 AU	GUST 202	25	
7.30am		Registration open: Exhibition Foyer			
7.45am	Write Like The Wind Bullseye Writing Productivity Session Clare Connelly Tasman A				
	Auditorium				
9.00am	Deep dive into how social media has shaped the genre of late, and how/if public perception has shifted <i>Keynote:</i> Stacey McEwan				
9.30am	Panel: I don't know how they do that Sarah MacLean, Brenda Novak, Stacey McEwan & Sarra Cannon				
10.30am	Morning Tea: Exhibition Foyer				

SUNDAY 24 AUGUST 2025

	Auditorium	Tasman A	Tasman B	Tasman C
11.00am	Art of Distraction <i>AJ Blythe</i>	Troubleshooting the Saggy Middle <i>Rachel Bailey</i>	Going Global: How to Get Involved in International Book Signings <i>Tanya Nellestein</i>	
12.00p m	Lunch: Exhibition Foyer			
1.00pm	Getting thy language right. Making historical dialogue sing! Pamela Freeman	Writing the Heart of Trauma <i>Alicia Leigh</i>	Lust In Translation: Skyrocket your author earnings with AI Translations <i>Catherine Bilson</i>	Setting Up Your Series Shannon Curtis
2.00pm	Movement between rooms			
2.15pm	The Courage To Create Sarra Cannon	Use astrology to get to know your characters, understand their motivations and deal-breakers, and create believable conflicts. Joanne Tracey	What to expectthe first time you're traditionally published. <i>Maxine Fawcett,</i> <i>Holly Brunnbauer &</i> <i>Leearna Shaw</i> <i>Hosted by Maya</i> <i>Linnell</i>	Widen Your World Dan Wood Sponsorsed by Draft2Digital
3.15pm	Afternoon Tea: Exhibition Foyer			
	Auditorium			
3.45pm	Raffle draw and Silent Auction Winners			
4.00pm	Launch of 2026 Conference			
4.15pm	A Dream is a Wish Your Heart Makes <i>Keynote:</i> Brenda Novak			