

# Alison Reynolds



## Welcome to my June 2023 newsletter.

### Time for a catch up!

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**Well winter is now truly upon us but every year it catches me unawares. I'm always surprised how cold it can be waiting around for Rosie the dog to do her business so I can run back inside. The local kennel now calls her an old gal in the written report they send her home with and she gets to stay in the geriatric wing. Personally, I'm insulted on her behalf!**

**Despite the cold weather, Melbourne can still surprise. The walk out to the viewing platform from Sandridge Beach is one of my and Rosie's faves. I'm always impressed at how exciting Melbourne looks.**



# KidLitVic 2023.

KidLitVic was held at the Melbourne Town Hall on Sunday the 30th of April with over 200 attendees plus publishers and agents, helping to make this the best one ever. I have only heard good things about everyone's experience, which made all the planning and work from all of us on the committee so worthwhile. Thanks yet again to the wonderful Nicky Johnston, Coral Vass and Julie Grasso. And no party can really swing without a couple of attempted gatecrashers for excitement. It truly was a day when new friendships were formed, new skills and knowledge gained and maybe new careers started!



# Daphne News.



Believe it or not, but the end of June will see the one year anniversary of the publication of *The Near Daphne Experience*. What an amazing twelve months of visiting bookshops, attending and presenting at numerous festivals and literary talks and events. The loveliest thing has been meeting so many engaged supportive readers. And so many insightful and entertaining conversations! I already knew how fabulous the children's literary community is and now I know how wonderful and generous the adult writing world is.

Keep an eye on my social media as I will be running a competition for a free signed copy of *Daphne* to celebrate her one year anniversary.



# Cresfest 2023.

In early May, I attended Cresfest 2023 which is a three day folk and roots festival in the historic goldfields town of Creswick. What an impressive choice of artists playing in a variety of intimate venues including pubs, cafes and churches. Two of my highlights were the Weeping Willows and Ami Williamson. If you are looking for a weekend of great music in a beautiful setting then I highly recommend it for next year.

I also managed to sneak in a talk by the articulate Cate Kennedy in the local Courthouse.

Creswick is always special for me as it's the town where my dad was born and much of my family lived at various stages. Redheap, Norman Lindsay's novel was based there. My grandmother always used to tell me how her much older sisters weren't allowed to mix with the Lindsay boys as they were too fast. Apparently the book was very autobiographical.

While up that way I caught up with the legendary Alicia at the Collins Bookshop in The Mall Ballarat. I love visiting this shop and Alicia and her team have always been great supporters of my writing. She has a fantastic children's section and has lots of plans for future events. Check it out!

Ballarat is lucky to have not one but two fabulous Collins Book Shops and it was so nice to meet Ruby at the old world Lydiard Street store. To visit there is stepping back into a grander age.



**ROMANCE WRITERS OF AUSTRALIA  
CONFERENCE  
11 - 13 AUGUST 2023**



I am thrilled to be presenting a workshop at this year's [Romance Writers Australia Conference in Sydney August 11-13](#). It has a fantastic line up of presenters including my dearest friend and writing buddy Anne Gracie. If you have any interest in writing romance then you should definitely consider attending and if you want to know

about the art of writing an epistolary novel then I would love to see you at my session.



### **Words & Nerds Podcast.**

I had the great pleasure of being interviewed by the amazing Julie Grasso as part of the fabulous Words & Nerds podcast created by Dani Vee. If you are looking for 30 minutes of fun book chat here is the [link](#). While you are there you can also check out Dani's hundreds of fascinating podcasts.

## **Future Regional Visits.**

I am planning one of my frequent visits to Western Victoria in late November.. If you reside down that way and would like me to do a talk at your local library or a presentation at a school please let me know. Meeting readers both old and young is one of the great joys of being an author.

## **What I am Listening to.**

### **The Bookseller's Podcast.**

Hosted by the fabulous Jaye Chin Dusting and Mark Rubbo, this podcast is fascinating for people in the literary industry and everybody else as well. It's so honest about the Australian publishing industry.



## **What I am watching.**

### **Occasional Wife.**

Occasional Wife. Yes I know it is a TV show from the sixties that was even outdated when I first saw the repeats, but it can still make me smile. It only lasted one season and the whole premise is so ridiculous but it is one of those shows that for some reason



stayed in my consciousness.  
Especially the line "To the lasting confusion to the man in between"  
All episodes are now on [YouTube](#) if you want a trip down memory lane. Also the fashion and dance moves are sublime!

Interesting fact, the actors playing the two lead roles actually married in real life a year after the show finished. Unfortunately their marriage only lasted about the same time as their TV Show!

## Following the Snail Trail.

It was so much fun to see the Big Snail (Yitsak) at the end of its five day snail trail around Hobsons Bay to Truganina Park Altona. There was something so special about a blue sky Melbourne day, the sea nearby and a snail gliding majestically up a hill, accompanied by the beautiful Newport choir. The snail has now gone back to its giant letterbox at the Kinetic Theatre Company! If you want to know more about these amazing street performers check out their [website](#).



## Wrap up.

If you have been wondering, my second novel is well on the way. For those who have been asking, it's not a sequel to Daphne but I hope to follow up on those crazy characters one day. In the meantime, my next novel will take you on a completely different journey all together. Sorry, but you'll just have to wait.

**Stay warm, until next time... Alison**

Alison's Website



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