



20th DAVITT AWARDS CEREMONY

By Zoom

7pm Wednesday 23 September 2020

(To be broadcast on YouTube and Facebook 8pm Saturday 26 September 2020)

SCRIPT

WELCOME BY SUE TURNBULL

SUE TURNBULL:

Sisters in Crime, Brothers-in-Law welcome to the Davitt Awards, the night of nights for Australian women's crime... writing.

My name is **SUE TURNBULL** and, for my sins, I am Sisters in Crime's ambassador. Tonight is a milestone – the 20th anniversary of the awards which were first presented at SheKilda, Sisters in Crime 10th anniversary convention held at St Kilda Town Hall.

We had hoped to hold a gala dinner to mark this special occasion but the pandemic had other ideas. The one silver lining is that, thanks to the miracles of modern technology, **VAL MCDERMID**, Tartan Noir Crime Queen, is able to join us from Edinburgh to present the Awards.

Before I introduce **VAL**, I'd like to acknowledge the traditional owners of country throughout Australia and recognise their continuing connection to land, waters and culture. We pay our respects to their elders, past and present.

Welcome **VAL**, a very special friend of Sisters in Crime. **VAL** presented the Davitts in 2003 and 2010 and this is her 7th event with us. Shortly, **VAL** and I will be talking about her brilliant career for about 15 minutes before she presents the awards.

7.02pm But it is now my pleasure to introduce the Davitts' sponsor, **DR CAROLYN BEASLEY**, Deputy Department Chair, Media and Communication, Program Director and Senior Lecturer, Writing, from Swinburne University of Technology.

[CAROLYN BEASLEY'S SPONSOR SPEECH]

SUE TURNBULL: [Thanks Carolyn.]

Now let me now introduce **VAL** who has sold over 17 million books across the globe and is translated into more than 40 languages. She is perhaps best-known for her *Wire in the Blood* series, featuring clinical psychologist Dr Tony Hill and DCI Carol Jordan. Val has written three other series: private detective Kate Brannigan; journalist Lindsay Gordon; cold case detective Karen Pirie; and several standalone novels.

VAL has also written non-fiction, short story collections and a children's picture book, *My Granny Is a Pirate*. With more than 40 books under her belt, she continues to be a remarkably versatile writer for stage, airwaves and screen; and fronts a rock band at crime festivals and conferences. She has won many awards and is the recipient of five honorary doctorates. Just out is a Karen Pirie novel, *Still Life* (Hachette).

[SUE TURNBULL and VAL MCDERMID in conversation for 15 minutes]

SUE TURNBULL: [Thanks VAL]

AWARDS PRESENTATION

Now for the Awards presentation. Back in 2001, there were 7 books in contention although the awards didn't then extend to true crime – or what we're now calling non-fiction. This year an amazing 124 books have been battling it out.

More and more women are turning to crime – and for good reason. Crime stories have the ring of truth – whether they focus on the world of scientific experiments, bad banks or the disappearance of children. They touch our hearts and our intellects and they challenge our notions of justice. They compel us to think about what is happening in our society.

It is particularly gratifying to see the Davitts becoming a springboard to global success.

To mark the 20th anniversary, the trophies feature a brand-new design by crafted by Simon Wrangles.

Let's now hear from **MORAIG KISLER**, this year's Judges' wrangler.

JUDGES' REPORT

A virtual good evening to sisters-in-crime and brothers-in-law. I'm Moraig Kisler, judge wrangler for the 2020 Davitt Awards, and I'd like to thank my fellow judges: **KARINA KILMORE, PHILOMENA HORSLEY, BEC KAVANAGH, PAULINE MEANEY** and **DEBBIE STEPHEN** for their insight and lively debate. Hats off to those judges, who during difficult times in lockdown, juggled home schooling, work and multitude other tasks while reading a tsunami of crime books for this year's 20th Davitt Awards.

The judges applaud authors for their hours of word tussling to create this year's list of outstanding fiction and non-fiction. Deciding winners for the various category was difficult. The standard of writing was excellent and diverse. The judges would like to acknowledge all Australian female crime writers: winners, short-listed authors, and those who didn't make the short list but not through lack of talent. Thank you.

Sisters in Crime Australia encourages the future endeavours of crime writing. There are so many creative and talented Aussie female crime writers, so please keep it up. Praise too goes to publishers for supporting and encouraging their authors, both established and debut, when the importance of the arts has been neglected and relegated to the Department of Transport.

Like last year, this year brought a wealth of talent in the non-fiction category. Deciding the winner in this category was difficult with two books of particular merit. Again, the debut category included a list of outstanding books, however, the winner was agreed unanimously by the judges. The Young Adult category, was another line-ball and challenging decision – it's heartening to see YA crime fiction covering such diverse and interesting topics.

Congratulations to all authors, and to readers — what a feast of talent to be found in both the winning and shortlisted books. Enjoy reading these books, and to our virtual guests enjoy the night celebrating our home-grown talent.

SUE TURNBULL: [Thanks **MORAIG.**]

DAVITT (BEST NON-FICTION CRIME BOOK)

SUE TURNBULL: 19 books competed this year for the Davitt (Best Non-Fiction Book) with 5 shortlisted.

VAL MCDERMID: It is my great pleasure to announce that the judges highly commended **JESS HILL** for *See What You Made Me Do: Power, control and domestic abuse* (Black Inc.)

JESS HILL is an investigative journalist who has been reporting on domestic abuse since 2014. Prior to this, she was a reporter and producer for ABC Radio, and a Middle East correspondent for The Global Mail. *See What You Made Me Do* is her first book, and was awarded the 2020 Stella Prize.

SUE TURNBULL: The judges said: “*See What You Made Me Do* documents and exposes the many guises of the perpetrators of domestic crimes and abuse and at the same time gives strength and power to the stories of the victims involved. This is a remarkable book; an intimate and deep look at the impact of domestic control and abuse – a must-read for every Australian.”

JESS HILL:

“Thank you so much for this award – it’s so important to honour women writing stories about crime, both fiction and non-fiction, because by and large, the female perspective on crime is that a murder is not just a plot-point, but something that has tragic effect on an entire community.

“We’re also uniquely sensitive, I would say, to the fact that the system so often fails to properly protect women and children. So I’m honoured to be recognised in this cohort of dedicated writers. Thank you to Chris Feik, Kirstie Innes-Will and Marian Blythe at Black Inc for backing the book 100 per cent, my family for looking after my gorgeous little girl, the victim-survivors for teaching me about agency and resistance, and my husband for editing every word and making this book possible.”

SUE TURNBULL: [Thanks **JESS.**]

VAL MCDERMID: And the winner of the Davitt (Best Non-Fiction Crime Book) is **ADELE FERGUSON** for *Banking Bad: Whistleblowers. Corporate cover-ups. One journalist's fight for the truth* (ABC Books, an imprint of HarperCollins Publishers Australia).

Adele Ferguson is a multi-award-winning journalist for *The Age* and *The Sydney Morning Herald* and a regular guest reporter on ABC's Four Corners and 7:30. She is the author of the best-selling unauthorised biography on Gina Rinehart and her book *Banking Bad*. Some of her exposes include the 7-Eleven wage fraud scandal which so far has resulted in compensation payments of more than \$160 million to thousands of vulnerable foreign workers and her investigations into the banking sector which helped bring about a royal commission.

Adele has a Bachelor of Economics and Arts degrees from Adelaide University. Her journalism awards include eight Walkley awards including the Gold Walkley for her Four Corners program *Banking Bad* and the Graham Perkin Journalist of the year. In 2019 Adele was awarded a Member of the Order of Australia (AM).

SUE TURNBULL: The judges reported:

“*Banking Bad* by Adele Ferguson showcases her deep research and thorough knowledge about mass financial crimes in Australia for several decades. Despite being a true crime book, it reads like a frightening thriller. Ferguson uses great empathy and skill to explain the injustices and dishonesty that impacts every single Australian household not just in the past or at the time that these crimes were committed but that will continue to cause harm for generations to come. The bad behaviour by financial institutions and their advisers saw people lose their homes, whittle away their superannuation and generally destroy the trust and confidence in our financial system. An important and outstanding book!”

Let’s hear from **ADELE FERGUSON.**

ADELE FERGUSON: “I’m delighted and honoured that my book *Banking Bad* has won the prestigious Sisters in Crime’s Davitt Non-Fiction award. My first award for crime writing!

“While this book is non-fiction, it often felt like I was writing fiction. A financial system we trusted had for decades been developing unconscionable business practices and committing criminal acts. Ethics, decency

and morality were shunted to one side and a toxic business culture flourished. Some executives behaved like psychopaths, making decisions that destroyed peoples' lives, in the quest to fill their pockets.

"Nothing was off limits---even a grave yard sting of charging fees to dead people and selling insurance policies that were impossible for sick and dying people to claim.

"There were many victims, many thousands in fact. Some lost everything, including their lives. The regulators allowed the criminal behaviour to fester.

"For all the villains, there were heroes who at enormous personal cost spoke up. These brave whistleblowers, including Jeff Morris and Dr Ben Koh, not only lost their jobs but became the subject of smear campaigns.

"I would like to thank everyone who spoke up, including retired politician John Williams, whose relentless push for a royal commission was inspiring.

"Finally, I would like to applaud Sisters in Crime for promoting women's crime writing - and thank the judges for selecting me for a Davitt.

"*Banking Bad* is living proof of that old adage that evil can only prosper when good people fail to act."

SUE TURNBULL: [Thanks **ADELE**]

7.25 PM DAVITT (BEST CHILDREN'S CRIME NOVEL)

SUE TURNBULL: This year 12 crime books competed for the Davitt for Best Children's Crime Novel. 4 were shortlisted.

VAL MCDERMID: And the Davitt for the Best Children's Crime Novel goes to **JENNY BLACKFORD** for *The Girl in the Mirror* (Eagle Books, an imprint of Christmas Press)

JENNY BLACKFORD is an award-winning Australian writer and poet. Her poems and stories for adults and children have appeared in *Asimov's*, *Westerly*, *The School Magazine* and many more Australian and international journals and anthologies. She won two prizes in the Sisters in Crime Australia Scarlet Stiletto awards 2016 for a murder mystery set in classical Delphi, with water nymphs. Eagle Books published her spidery, ghostly middle-grade novel *The Girl in the Mirror* in October 2019. It's based on a story that originally appeared in *The School Magazine*. Pitt Street Poetry published her third poetry collection, *The Alpaca Cantos*, in April 2020.

SUE TURNBULL: This is what the judges had to say:

"Separated by more than a hundred years, and brought together through a mysterious mirror, Maddie and Clarissa provide comfort and wisdom at a time when they feel desperately alone. The girls band together to defeat a creeping evil that threatens the lives of their families.

"*The Girl in the Mirror* is a refreshingly contemporary time-slip mystery. Maddie and Clarissa are intensely relatable with their shared frustrations at the way in which they are dismissed by the adults in their lives. Jenny Blackford has captured the pains of early adolescence – loneliness, fear, uncertainty – in a gripping mystery that is perfectly pitched to the middle readers who will love it."

Over to you **JENNY**.

JENNY BLACKFORD:

"I'm so delighted! The Sisters in Crime do an amazing job of encouraging and supporting Australian crime readers and writers. In 2016 I won two prizes in the Scarlet Stiletto awards, run by the Sisters in Crime, for a

murder mystery set in classical Delphi, and that has certainly encouraged me to write more crime fiction and poetry. And now this, the Children's Crime Novel Davitt for *The Girl in the Mirror*. Thank you, Sisters!

"I must thank Christmas Press Commissioning Editor Beattie Alvarez, who pulled my submission out of the slush and turned it into a real book. Eagle Books is the adventure story imprint of Christmas Press, based in Armidale and run by Sophie Masson, Fiona McDonald and David Allan. Huge thanks to them all. They were the perfect publishers for my mix of crime, ghost story and mystery, with added spiders. The design of the book is amazing, thanks to Beattie and Fiona – there are tiny redback spiders on every page, and gloriously creepy black and white illustrations sprinkled through it. And thanks to illustrator Liz Anelli, who launched it at MacLean's Booksellers and at Maitland Library.

"My friends and family have been admirably patient whenever I've stopped doing whatever I was halfway through and looked blankly into space. Many of them have also helped with proofreading and editing for many drafts of the manuscript – especially my husband Russell.

SUE TURNBULL: [Thanks JENNY.]

7.31pm: DAVITT (BEST YOUNG ADULT CRIME NOVEL)

SUE TURNBULL: 8 Young Adult crime books were in contention this year with 3 shortlisted.

VAL MCDERMID: The winner of the Davitt for Best Young Adult Crime Book is **ASTRID SCHOLTE**, for her debut novel, *Four Dead Queens*, (Allen & Unwin).

Raised on a diet of Spielberg, Lucas and Disney, **ASTRID SCHOLTE** knew she wanted to be surrounded by all things fantastical from a young age and has spent the past fourteen years working in film, animation and VFX production. Despite her sunny demeanour, she's inexplicably drawn to murder mysteries, true crime, Agatha Christie, and Cluedo. Her international bestselling debut, *Four Dead Queens*, combines this love of fantasy and whodunnits.

Her second novel, *The Vanishing Deep*, was released on 3 March 2020 with Allen & Unwin. Up next is a return to crime and fantasy with *League of Liars* in 2021.

SUE TURNBULL: And now for the judges' report:

"*Four Dead Queens* is an action-packed journey into the world of Quadara where four queens jointly reign over its quadrants of agriculture, technology, commerce and the arts. Keralie Corrington is a feisty, resourceful young thief who is shadowed by the guilt of past deeds. She finds herself in a dangerous race against time when she uncovers a plot to assassinate all four queens.

"**ASTRID SCHOLTE** enhances the gripping narrative by offering rich insights into her characters and the cultural tensions that exist between the diverse quadrants. Her story culminates in a genuinely shocking twist. An outstanding debut and inventive world-building at its peak."

Let's now hear from **ASTRID**.

ASTRID SCHOLTE:

"I am so thrilled that *Four Dead Queens* has won the Sisters in Crime's 2020 Davitt Award for Best Young Adult Novel! Thank you so much to all the Sisters in Crime Australia judges for this incredible honour.

"I've been a fan of crime stories ever since I was a child, in particular, the whodunnit. In *Four Dead Queens*, I wanted to create an Agatha Christie-style murder mystery with my take on a Poirot-like investigator, set in a unique fantasy world with many twists and turns.

“I’d like to thank my agent, Hillary Jacobson, my editor at Penguin Random House, Stacey Barney, and Jodie Webster, Sucheta Raj and the entire team at Allen and Unwin for their incredible support. I’d also like to thank my friends and family for their unwavering belief in me over the many years I spent trying to break into publishing. Especially, my fiancé and my parents. It’s been a long journey, but it’s been so worth it!

“After many years of admiring, and ravenously consuming, books in the crime genre, I’m so excited to be a part of the Australian crime writing community. I hope to write many more books full of chills and thrills in the years to come!”

SUE TURNBULL: [Thanks **ASTRID.**]

7.34pm: DAVITT (BEST DEBUT CRIME BOOK)

SUE TURNBULL: The judges shortlisted 9 books for the Davitt (Best Debut Crime Book) from 41 debut books across all 4 categories.

VAL MCDERMID: And the winner is **SUSAN HURLEY** for *Eight Lives*, (Affirm Press).

“**DR SUSAN HURLEY** is a writer and medical researcher. She studied pharmacy, then trained as an epidemiologist, health economist and statistician. Her research focus has been the cost-effectiveness of medicines and public health programmes such as mammographic screening, HIV prevention and tobacco control. She worked in universities and the pharmaceutical industry for more than thirty years and her research has been published in medical journals like the *Lancet*.

“Susan’s essays, stories and travel journalism have appeared in literary journals and newspapers. She was shortlisted for the 2017 Peter Carey Short Story Award. Her debut novel, *Eight Lives* (Affirm Press, 2019) originates from a real-life drug trial that ended tragically. Acclaimed as ‘an intricate thriller’ and ‘a clever, sobering book’, *Eight Lives* has been shortlisted for numerous awards.”

SUE TURNBULL: The judges said:

“*Eight Lives* is a ground-breaking medical thriller which was also shortlisted for best novel, a tremendous achievement by a highly skilled debut writer. This thoroughly researched and stunning debut, blends fact and fiction. The novel documents a drug test gone horribly wrong and its effects on the lives of eight very different people. *Eight Lives* contains enough plot twists to mislead the most avid crime reader, with an unexpected kick-arse ending.”

Over to you **SUSAN.**

SUSAN HURLEY:

“I’m delighted that my novel *Eight Lives* has won the 2020 Sisters in Crime Davitt Award for Best Debut Crime Book.

“*Eight Lives* shines a light on the world of medical research and drug development, a world characterised by optimism and life-changing discoveries, but also competitiveness, financial pressures and setbacks. Now, our hopes for an end to the pandemic centre on that world, where scientists are working tirelessly to develop vaccines and treatments.

“Sadly, *Eight Lives* has its origins in an instance where such work was flawed – a real-life drug trial that ended tragically. Condemned as a fiasco, the trial highlighted the inherent riskiness of drug testing, the ever-present potential for human error and a moral dilemma. We need safe, effective medicines, but new drugs have to be tested. Who should take the unavoidable risks that testing involves?

“The men who volunteered for the drug trial that seeded the idea for my novel suffered a cytokine storm, one of the causes of death from Covid-19. There’s tragedy in *Eight Lives* too, but there’s also triumph. One of the

characters even invents a treatment for a pandemic virus – it’s called Pandaid. So, let’s hope that in that regard, fact emulates fiction.

“Thank you to my fellow sisters in crime for honouring me and my book with this award and for all you do to promote writing by women and reading by all.”

SUE TURNBULL: [Thanks **SUSAN**.]

DAVITT (BEST ADULT CRIME NOVEL)

SUE TURNBULL: Tonight, a record, astonishing 85 novels compete for the Davitt Best Adult Novel for the best crime novel with 7 books shortlisted. It sounds a lot but what a lot of talent is presented in this list!

VAL MCDERMID: And the winner of the 2020 Davitt Award for Best Adult Crime Novel is **MEG MUNDELL** for *The Trespassers* (University of Queensland Press).

MEG MUNDELL is an author, journalist and researcher from Melbourne, via New Zealand. *The Trespassers*, her second novel (but first foray into crime) was shortlisted for the Norma K. Hemming Award and an Aurealis Award (for best science fiction novel), and has been optioned for TV. *Black Glass*, her first novel, was also shortlisted for several prizes. Meg is the editor of *We Are Here: Stories of Home, Place & Belonging*, a collection of true stories by people who have experienced homelessness. Her writing has appeared in *The Guardian*, *The Age*, *The Monthly*, *The Big Issue*, and *Best Australian Stories*.

SUE TURNBULL: And here’s what the judges reported:

“Judges were mesmerised from the novel’s opening page to the very last word. Each sentence is poetry, and the story enthrals from start to finish. *The Trespassers* is presciently set during a global pandemic, and is speculative, literary fiction at its finest. It tracks the deprivations and fears of passengers sailing from London to Melbourne as new infections break out on board. Its themes of murder, indentured labour and corporate sabotage conclude in a chilling and haunting finale.”

And now let’s hear from **MEG MUNDELL** herself.

MEG MUNDELL:

“Hello everyone. I’m really honoured and grateful to accept this award. Congratulations to all the shortlisted authors, and the other category winners.

“Thanks to the judges, the organisers, and my fellow Sisters in Crime. Everyone knows crime writers are the cool ones, and female crime writers are the coolest of all. So thank you for welcoming me into the sisterhood!

“I know we’d all rather be celebrating in person. But one year ago, when *The Trespassers* was published, I never dreamed that my fictional global pandemic would become reality. Curfews, sick people trapped on ships, conspiracy theories, outsourced quarantine...it’s been a surreal year. I hope next year’s Davitt Awards will be held in person, so we can all safely clink our glasses together.

“Thanks to my brilliant agent Martin Shaw, my amazing publisher Aviva Tuffield, my wonderful editor Vanessa Pellatt, and everyone at UQP. Thanks to my lovely partner Andi Pekarek, and my book-loving family. Thanks to fellow authors Anna Krien, Favel Parrett, Jane Rawson, Graeme Simsion, Tony Birch, and Jed Mercurio for their support.

“In celebrating the work of Australia’s female crime writers, the Davitts are both unique and invaluable. The shortlists show the sheer diversity, the breadth of talent, of the women working in this field.

“For me, this honour confirms what we writers already know: crime fiction can be literary. Literary fiction can be crime fiction. Genre is a tool, not a pigeonhole.

“To my sisters in crime: stay shady! All power to your pens.”

SUE TURNBULL: [Thanks **MEG.**]

READERS’ CHOICE AWARD

SUE TURNBULL: It’s now our great privilege to present the final award, the Davitt (Readers’ Choice) award. All 124 books competed for this award as decided by the 500+ members of Sisters in Crime.

VAL MCDERMID: For the first time ever, the vote was tied so two awards are being presented – to **EMMA VISKIC** [VIS-KITCH] for *Darkness for Light* (Echo Publishing) and **DERVLA MCTIERNAN** for *The Scholar* (HarperCollins Publishers Australia). As you’ll hear, both are serial offenders when it comes to the Davitt Awards.

EMMA VISKIC’S [VIS-KITCH’S] critically acclaimed Caleb Zelic series has won numerous awards, including a Ned Kelly Award and five Sisters in Crime Davitt Awards. Her debut novel, *Resurrection Bay*, was also shortlisted for the UK’s prestigious Gold Dagger and New Blood Dagger, and the US’s Barry Award. Emma learned Australian sign language in order to write the character of Caleb, who is profoundly deaf. Formerly a classical clarinet player, her musical career has ranged from performing with José Carreras to playing at an engagement party that ended in a brawl.

SUE TURNBULL: Over to you **EMMA.**

EMMA VISKIC:

“I’m thrilled to accept the Davitt Readers’ Choice Award for *Darkness for Light* tonight, and honoured to be joint winner with Dervla. I’m deeply grateful to everyone who voted for *Darkness*, and to all my readers. I write because I love it, and because I’ve got ideas and stories I want to explore. But that’s only the beginning. Readers breathe life into written words. Without you, there’s nothing but strange little glyphs on a page. So thank you all for giving *Darkness for Light* your time and attention. For giving it life.

“I’ve been writing the next Caleb Zelic book through the seemingly endless Melbourne lockdown, and this award has really encouraged me to keep doing what I love most – torturing Caleb.

“My sincere thanks to Sisters in Crime, too. Your tireless efforts to support women writers have changed the landscape of Australian crime fiction, as evidenced by the wonderful books honoured here tonight. I didn’t know anyone in the writing world before my debut novel, *Resurrection Bay*, was published; the Sisters’ support, and the Davitt Awards, have been instrumental in building my career. You’ve inspired me to pay it forward, by mentoring women and underrepresented writers. Because, if I’ve learnt one thing from the Sisters, it’s that everyone’s stronger when we’re a community: readers, writers, publishers and booksellers.

“Thank you all once again.”

SUE TURNBULL: [Thanks **EMMA.**]

VAL MCDERMID: Now let’s hear about the other joint winner, **DERVLA MCTIERNAN.**

DERVLA’S debut novel, *The Ruin*, was a critically acclaimed international bestseller published around the world. *The Ruin* won the Ned Kelly Award for Best First Fiction, the Davitt Award for Best Adult Fiction and the Barry Award for Best Original Paperback; and was shortlisted for numerous other awards. It was on the Amazon US Best Book of the Year list in 2018 and screen rights were snapped up by Hopscotch Features.

Dervla’s second book, *The Scholar*, debuted into the Nielsen Bookscan Top 5 on release in 2019, and her third, *The Good Turn*, went straight to no.1, confirming her place as one of Australia’s best crime writers. *The Scholar* won the International Thriller Award for Best Original Paperback and has been shortlisted for the Ned Kelly Award for Best Crime Fiction.

SUE TURNBULL: Let's hear from **DERVLA** now.

DERVLA MCTIERNAN:

"I'm thrilled that *The Scholar* is the joint winner of the reader's choice award. To win any award is an honour, but I feel that there's something very special about the reader's choice – and doubly so to be a joint winner with Emma Viskic because I'm such a fan of her books. I'm so grateful to the readers who voted for *The Scholar*, and grateful to the Sisters in Crime for their enthusiastic support for female crime writers. So many of us writing today can point to a moment in our careers where the Sisters in Crime encouraged us with a shortlisting or a win when that kind of encouragement really mattered."

SUE TURNBULL: [Thanks **DERVLA**.]

That's the last award and it would be wonderful if all the other winners could join us on screen now.

Congratulations to you all. It's a shame the pandemic means we couldn't celebrate in person but at least this will be on the Sisters in Crime YouTube channel in perpetuity. Anyone from anywhere in the world can view the ceremony. And we have had the pleasure of **VAL MCDERMID'S** company.

Let's raise a glass to each other, the Davitts and women's crime writing.

Just a couple of things to go.

MEG, could you please choose a number between 1 and x for the 'Be Immortalised in Fiction' competition?

MEG MUNDELL: [chooses number]

SUE TURNBULL: Hooray, that means that **JANE PATRICK** will have her name in the next novel by **MEG MUNDELL**.

And now for the traditional Sisters in Crime raffle. **VAL**, could you please choose 3 numbers between 1 and x. Each winner will receive a book pack of books worth around \$300 – all winning books plus *Still Life*.

VAL MCDERMID: [chooses 3 numbers]

SUE TURNBULL: And congratulations to **NATALIE CONYER**, **ULLA SVENSSON** and **JAN MULCAHY**.

Let's now thank the judges, **KATHRYN LAMONT** from Swinburne University for her work on the video, the Davitts sponsor, the publishers and Sisters in Crime convenors.

You can buy all books online from the Sun Bookshop, our long-term supporters.

Special thanks to **VAL MCDERMID** for making the 20th Davitt Awards so special.

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