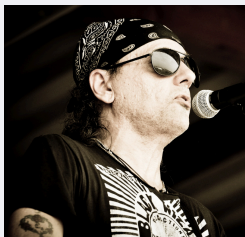


PROGRAM



11.00AM

Louder Than Words Joe Matera

Joe Matera is an Italian-Australian singer/songwriter, guitarist, recording artist, music journalist and author.

As an author, he has written two non-fiction books, 'Backstage Pass: The Grit and The Glamour' (2021) and 'Louder Than Words: Beyond The Backstage Pass', both published by UK publishing house, Empire Publications.

12.00PM - COMPETITION

Announcement of winners of the Mount Beauty Youth Short Story Competition, sponsored by AGL. Open to all student residents of the Upper Kiewa Valley.



12.30 - LUNCH

Enjoy menu selection at the venue or a number of cafe and restaurants located in town, within 5min walk.



THINGS TO KNOW

Venue

All author talks will take place at Mountain Monk Brewers, 1 Lakeside Ave, Mount Beauty

Author Talks

Duration of author talks is 30min, plus 15min Q&A time, followed by a 15min break to visit the festival book shop, have books signed or enjoy a tea break (*self serve free tea and coffee available all day*)

Festival Book Shop

Located at Mountain Monk Brewers, open Saturday, 8.30am to 6.00pm. Purchase your favourite authors books here to have them signed on the day



SPONSORS



Community Bank
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THE Bright BOOKSHOP



pizzini

KING VALLEY WINEMAKERS



Mount Beauty Writers Festival

Everyone has a story...



**18 OCTOBER 2025
FESTIVAL LINEUP**

Peter FitzSimons
Chris Hammer
Courtney Collins
Ashley Kalagian-Blunt
Joe Matera
Peter Norris
Ruth Pollock

mountbeautywritersfestival.com



PROGRAM



9.00AM

Hard Women
Ruth Pollock

Meet local author Ruth Pollock and author of the fictional novel 'Clouds and Sunshine', the story of two daredevils with dreams of the future.

Her new book 'Hard Women' is a biography on Ruth's three generations of family members, offering a journey through time.



10.00AM

The Legend of
Albert Jacka
Peter FitzSimons



The former Wallaby has become one of the nation's most successful media and publishing gurus and corporate presenter.

Currently a columnist for the Sydney Morning Herald and Sun-Herald as well as a presenter on Nine's Sports Sunday.

The Legend of Albert Jacka is an unforgettable story of the bravery and sacrifice of one extraordinary soldier that takes us from the shores of Gallipoli to the battlefields of France, all brought to vivid life by Australia's greatest storyteller, Peter FitzSimons.



1.30PM

The Bank Robber's Boy
Peter Norris

In this compelling memoir, Peter exposes the truth of his turbulent upbringing.

As the youngest son of Clarence "Clarry" Norris, a notorious bank robber, Peter recounts the powerful love and loyalty that bound him to his father, creating a profound inner struggle between the allure of the underworld and the desire for normalcy.

Peter rises from the ruins of his troubled past, embarking on a remarkable journey of self-discovery and growth.



2.30PM

Bird
Courtney Collins

Courtney Collins is an author, screenwriter, and producer.

Her first novel, The Burial (Allen & Unwin, 2012), was published in ten countries and shortlisted for prizes including the Nita B Kibble Literary Award, NSW Premier's Literary Awards, and the Stella Prize.

The novel is currently being adapted as a feature film. Her second novel, Bird, was published in August 2024 by Hachette.



3.30PM

The Valley
Chris Hammer

Chris Hammer is a leading Australian crime fiction novelist, author of the internationally bestselling Martin Scarsden series: Scrublands, Silver and Trust. Scrublands was an instant bestseller upon publication in 2018, topping the Australian fiction charts.

Chris's books are well known for their atmospheric Australian settings, a range of colourful characters, intricate plots, descriptive language and emotional depth.

'The River' a non fiction account of the Murray Darling Basin, plus his latest fiction 'Legacy' to be released on the 30th September 2025, will be discussed at the festival.



4.30PM

Cold Truth
Ashley
Kalagian-Blunt

Ashley Kalagian Blunt is the number one bestselling author of Dark Mode, which was shortlisted for the 2024 ABIA General Fiction Book of the Year, the Ned Kelly Awards for Best Crime Fiction, and the Danger Award for Debut Fiction.

Her latest thrillers are Cold Truth and Like, Follow, Die.

