



To Whom it May Concern,

I am writing this letter to enthusiastically support the publication of Natalie Damjanovich-Napoleon's "Axe Marks in Tree Trunks" collection upon its completion with Life Before Man Books.

I worked with Natalie recently in editing and publishing her 2023 release *If There Is a Butterfly That Drinks Tears*. She was a pleasure to work with, professional and astute with a keen sense of story and metaphor. In addition to this, she works hard in promoting her own work, along with the publisher of the Life Before Man imprint, Gazebo Books. She conducted a book tour in March/April 2024 and WA readings and workshops, resulting in her book going into a second pressing.

Natalie is an active poet, who continually contributes to Australian poetry, with poems from this collection already published in journals in print and online such as *Westerly*, *Cordite*, *Red Room Poetry* and *Australian Poetry Journal*. This publication will add to the collective of diverse and challenging publications by Life Before Man Books. At Life Before Man Books we seek out work that reflects the diversity of our community, is artistically challenging, innovative and speaks to multitudinous, unheard stories. This is what Natalie's work achieves.

I look forward to working with Natalie in the future and publishing the Axe Marks in Tree Trunks collection. With recent awards such as being shortlisted for the Peter Porter Poetry Prize and receiving a Red Room Poetry Fellowship the time is ripe to support this burgeoning talent.

Yours sincerely,

Phil Day (21/02/2025)
Poetry editor, Life Before Man Books
gazebobooks.com.au

Spearwood Dalmatinac Sport & Community Club Inc.

ABN 17 226 084 374
Lot 2 Azelia Road Spearwood Western Australia 6163
P.O. Box 174 Hamilton Hill 6963
Telephone: (08) 9418 1021 • Facsimile: (08) 9418 5911 • Email: dalies@bigpond.com

To Whom it May Concern

13/09/2024

RE-Support of Natalie Damjanovich-Napoleon's Proposal to Undertake a 'Poem Reading and Writing Workshop' at the Spearwood Dalmatinac Club on a Sat or Sun in Aug/Sept 2025.

Documenting the lives and experiences of Croatian Migrant Women Pioneers is an extremely important project if we are to appreciate and better understand how these women were able to endure at times extreme hardship and loneliness and still contribute immensely to supporting their husbands and children in improving their education and living standards.

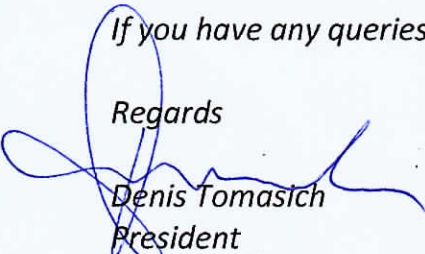
There is some information in books and interviews on this subject but there is so much more that can be gathered. The proposal by Natalie Damjanovich-Napoleon's Proposal to undertake a 2-3h 'Poem Reading and Writing Workshop' at the Spearwood Dalmatinac Club is to be commended and worthy of wide support from the Croatian Community.

The Spearwood Dalmatinac Sport and Community Club has been in existence for over 60y and the Club is considered as being one of the most successful volunteer Clubs in WA. We have over 500 full members and over 500 associate members and we provide a range of sporting, cultural and social activities to the people of Spearwood and the surrounding suburbs.

The Club is very supportive of Projects such as the one proposed by Ms Damjanovich-Napoleon and will co-operate and provide facilities for the proposed Workshop to proceed with in-kind support to the value of \$600.

If you have any queries on this matter, can you please contact me.

Regards


Denis Tomasich
President
0417179685



University of Western Australia (M204)
35 Stirling Highway
Crawley 6009
dennis.haskell@uwa.edu.au

20 February, 2025

To Whom It May Concern:

I am pleased to write in support of the application by Natalie Damjanovich-Napoleon for a Creative Australia grant for her project “Axe Marks in Tree Trunks”. I have known Natalie for many years, firstly as an undergraduate in my classes at The University of Western Australia; later when she worked at the University in an administrative role, in the same section as my wife; and in more recent years through our participation in the Perth writing community. This community is very strong – Western Australian poetry is thriving – and Natalie is a key part of it, as a writer, an organiser of readings, and a teacher. In all this time and in all these roles I have known her to be intelligent, conscientious and purposeful. I taught hundreds of students during my academic career and inevitably I have forgotten most of them, but I always remembered her.

These qualities, as well as her social conscience, are reflected in the project she is pursuing, and this funding would give her the opportunity to spend her time doing what she does best, which is write exquisite poetry. Natalie has enough writing and publishing experience to know what she is doing, and her creation of poems about and partly in the voices of pioneer Croatian women marks something new for her and for Western Australian poetry altogether. She has found an ingenious way of entering the lives of these women, obviously drawing on her own experience but doing much more than that to empathise with their lives and as yet untold experiences in a new land. I have offered to work with Natalie and edit her collection upon completion. The quoted fee is \$500 for editing a 100-page collection with \$250 given in-kind to assist an emerging writer.

Natalie is an honest and conscientious person, and this shows through in her writing. I can guarantee that any grant she is given will be put to good use. As can be recognised from her life as it is, she knows how to make the most of limited time. She is a poet who is very worthy of this funding.

Emeritus Professor D J Haskell, AM
General Editor, WA Poets Publishing, Poet, Editor and Literary Critic

19 February, 2025

Dear Panel Members,

Re: Creative Australia, Arts Projects for Individuals and Groups - Natalie Damjanovich-Napoleon

I am pleased to offer my support to this application by Natalie Damjanovich-Napoleon, also known as Natalie D-Napoleon, for funding for an Arts Project for an Individual via Creative Australia, for her poetry project 'Axe Marks in Tree Trunks'. I worked with Natalie as Associate Supervisor to her doctoral studies in Creative Writing at Edith Cowan University, which she commenced in 2019 and completed in 2024, and she teaches in the undergraduate major in Creative and Professional Writing, where I am coordinator. She was the recipient of a prestigious RTP Scholarship to support her doctoral research.

Natalie is an innovative and dynamic poet working in an avant-garde form and engaging with little-known historical and archival material which reveals truths about the lives of Croatian immigrants to Western Australia. These histories have been neglected, especially those of women, and Natalie's poetry is important work intent on capturing this material while the cultural memory of post-war European migrants is still somewhat intact. In this respect, her project is time sensitive and will benefit considerably from this funding to complete her project, which will also contribute to her pursuit of a sustainable artistic career.

I highly recommend Natalie Damjanovich-Napoleon for a grant for Arts Projects for Individuals. This project will forward her career and increase understanding of the challenges faced by non-English speaking migrant women, currently a gap in the nation's literary heritage. She is an experienced poet with a clear direction, a publishing track record and a strong work ethic so this opportunity will undoubtedly produce a unique and valuable body of work.

If you have any further questions, I am happy to discuss Natalie's application with the panel.

Yours sincerely



Dr Donna Mazza
Coordinator Creative and Professional Writing and Senior Lecturer
E: donna.mazza@ecu.edu.au

Writing to the Ancestors workshop at MOG

Kirsty Brooks <kirsty.brooks@museum.wa.gov.au>
To: Natalie Damjanovich-Napoleon <ndnapo@gmail.com>

Fri, Feb 28, 2025 at 1:03 PM

Hi Natalie,
Please see attached Venue hire Price Structure.
Generally, if its during the day and you don't require any assistance from us, we don't charge.
You could just use the rates above for your grant.

Kirsty Brooks
Operations Manager

P. 9021 8533 M. 0492 145 030
museum.wa.gov.au    Join us @wamuseum

From: Natalie Damjanovich-Napoleon <ndnapo@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, 28 February 2025 11:10
To: Kirsty Brooks <kirsty.brooks@museum.wa.gov.au>
Subject: Re: Writing to the Ancestors workshop at MOG

[Quoted text hidden]

 **Venue Hire Price Structure 2025.pdf**
226K

Kalgoorlie-Boulder
Tuesday 14 January 2025

To whom it may concern:

Letter of Support: “Writing to the Ancestors” Workshop

I am pleased to offer the Museum of the Goldfields’ support for the proposed “Writing to the Ancestors” workshop, planned for October or November 2025 as part of the *Axe Marks in Tree Trunks* project. This initiative celebrates the stories of Croatian immigrant women in Western Australia, many of whom contributed significantly to the history of the Goldfields.

This workshop strongly aligns with our values of respect, inclusivity, accountability, and innovation. By offering participants the opportunity to connect with their heritage through creative expression, it fosters understanding, preserves cultural narratives, and demonstrates an innovative approach to storytelling.

The project also reflects the goals of the Creative Australia's Arts Projects for Individuals and Groups, supporting connected communities, promoting cultural diversity, and encouraging personal well-being through the arts.

The Museum is proud to offer a venue in-kind for the workshop, with availability anticipated in October and November 2025. We will collaborate to ensure all logistical and accessibility needs are met.

We believe this workshop will make a meaningful contribution to the cultural life of the Goldfields, and we are excited to support its success.

Kind Regards,



Marta Perona

Regional Manager
Museum of the Goldfields

Museum of the Goldfields

17 Hannan Street, Kalgoorlie 6430 WA

PO Box 25, Kalgoorlie WA 6433

P: +61 8 9021 8533 **E:** goldfields@museum.wa.gov.au

Museum of the Goldfields Venue Hire – Pricing 2025



Venue	Number of People	Short Function 4:30pm to 7:30pm			Medium Function 4:30pm to 10:30pm			Long Function 4:30pm to midnight		
		MON-FRI	SAT	SUN	MON-FRI	SAT	SUN	MON-FRI	SAT	SUN
The Courtyard or Concourse - For concourse bookings, please note external lights to be brought in	100	\$600	\$900	\$1,050	\$950	\$1,425	\$1,663	\$1,200	\$1,800	\$2,100
	100-200	\$850	\$1,275	\$1,488	\$1,100	\$1,650	\$1,925	\$1,600	\$2,400	\$2,800
	200-300	\$1,000	\$1,500	\$1,750	\$1,390	\$2,085	\$2,433	\$1,900	\$2,850	\$3,325
The Head Frame Cocktail parties for up to 50 people only	50	\$660	\$900	\$1,050	\$950	\$1,425	\$1,163	\$1,200	\$1,800	\$2,100
De Bernales Boardroom Prices can be discussed on an individual need basis	Starting from \$50.00 per hour inclusive of set up and tea/coffee station (tea/coffee/milk/sugar/cups)									
Extras										
Festoon Lighting (headframe and courtyard ONLY)		100 per event								
Dry Bars (4)		\$30 each								
Outdoor Heaters (4)		\$45 each								
Trestle table with tablecloth (black only)		\$5 each								
Chairs		\$1 per chair. (Chair Colours: White, Mustard Yellow & Blue/Grey)								
Interactive whiteboard (includes Wi-Fi)		\$20.00 per event								
PA Includes speaker & microphone Bluetooth connection		\$50.00 per event								

Prices include GST and 2 Museum staff on site for security purposes throughout the function.

All material hired will be available upon your arrival, it is the hirer's responsibility to set up and pack up functions unless otherwise agreed.

Should the event need a Liquor License, the hirer is responsible for the engagement of security guards according to licensing requirements. Liquor License application is the responsibility of the hirer. All information can be found at

<https://www.dlgsc.wa.gov.au/racing-gaming-and-liquor/liquor/liquor-licensing/>

Please note,

Public Holidays incur an increase of 100%

We allow around 30 minutes for pack up however, if a function goes significantly beyond the booked time, we reserve the right to charge any additional hour at \$200.00 until midnight and \$400.00 per hour after midnight.

Museum of the Goldfields Venue Hire – Pricing 2025



Cancellations will incur following charges.

4 weeks out FREE

3 weeks out 25% cancellation fee

2 weeks out 50% cancellation Fee

1 week out 75% cancellation Fee

Week off 100% fees charges

For bookings and enquiries, please email goldfields@museum.wa.gov.au or call site on (08) 9021 8533.