**Marisa Wikramanayake**

**0419 925 300 |** [**marisa@marisa.com.au**](mailto:marisa@marisa.com.au)

[**@mwikramanayake**](https://twitter.com/mwikramanayake) **| marisa.com.au**

**1/64 Euston St, Hughesdale, VIC 3166**



## Journalism experience [[portfolio of work]](http://www.marisa.com.au/journalism-portfolio/)

**Dec. 2018 (ongoing)** *Freelance journalist,* **South China Morning Post**

I cover Sri Lankan and Australian political news.

**Sept. 2018 (ongoing)** *Freelance journalist,* **The Guide, SBS**

I cover upcoming shows for the online TV guide.

**Sept. 2018 (ongoing)** *Freelance journalist,* **Owner Driver/ATN, Bauer Trader Media**

I write articles on transport and trucks and related products for Bauer’s transport magazines and websites.

**Jul. 2018 (ongoing)** *Freelance journalist,* **Audrey Daybook, Lovatts Media**

Covering fashion and lifestyle features for the magazine.

**Apr. 2018**  *Interviewee,* **3CR radio, Melbourne**

I was interviewed about my experiences as a queer freelance journalist and writer of colour.

**Oct. 2017**  *Freelance journalist,* **The New Daily, Australia**

I reported on China and their global strategy to build or invest in ports as part of their One Belt One Road scheme.

**Sep. 2017 (ongoing)**  *Books reviewer,* **Thorpe Bowker Australia**

Review proof copies prior to publication for the Books and Publishing newsletter online for a publishing industry audience.

**Oct. 2015, 2016**  *Arthur Lovekin Award Judge,* **MEAA WA / the University of Western Australia**

Judging best journalism work for 2015 and 2016 to be awarded at the annual MEAA WA Awards night.

**May.–Jun. 2016**  *Digital assets manager and researcher,* **Department of Water, WA**

Choosing and researching visual assets from Department’s collection; sourcing locations and other metadata via maps and other resources; digitally editing and cataloguing images in Department database for future use for publications and communications.

**Dec. 2015 –Feb. 2016**  *Journalist and Broadcast producer*,**Newsfirst**

Scripting and sourcing and editing audio and video for hourly radio and TV news bulletins; scripting, sourcing and editing footage for business news program; running supers and titles during live broadcasts; attending events and providing live updates and stand ups/pieces to camera; research work for interview programs; interviewing politicians and business leaders over phone for audio grabs or in person for pieces to camera.

**Oct. 2015**  *Finalist, Best Freelance Journalist 2015,* **WA Media Entertainment & Arts Alliance Awards**

**Apr. 2015**  *Work experience,* **ABC Perth**

Research, producing interviews, managing callers, editing audio in Netia, writing stories.

**Jan.–Mar. 2015**  *Work experience,* **6PR Radio**

Research, producing news stories for weekend overnight show.

**Dec. 2014–Jan. 2015**  *Senior journalist,* **Daily FT**

Covering events, interviewing members of business community and politicians, covering Presidential election campaign, transcribing and translating campaign speeches, producing news stories in print and online format for a daily national business paper. Also sub edited sports stories. **Result** drove traffic to online articles hitting about 1800 views per day per story and was able to produce several stories per day for both front page and spreads.

**Jul. 2014**  *Writer,* **Marketing Department, Curtin University**

Writing and editing copy for print, online publications, and editorial articles.

**Jun.–Dec. 2013**  *Online content contributor*, **Digital Media Unit, Curtin University**

Content creation for social media channels, websites & campaigns, news and events coverage, news and marketing photography, analytics, EDMs.

**Jun. 2013–Mar. 2014**  *Book reviewer,* **West Australian Newspapers**

Interviewing authors, reviewing books, and covering literary events.

**Aug. 2009–Sep. 2013**  *Journalist*, **Science Network WA (now ‘Particle’), an initiative of Scitech and the Department of Premier and Cabinet.**

Interviewing scientists and politicians, covering events, researching and writing news stories for online publication. Stories covered were picked up by other programs such as ABC’s Catalyst and drove high volumes of traffic to the site.

**2010 –2013**  *Journalist,* **RTR FM, Perth**

Album reviews, interview preparations, backgrounding, coverage of events.

**Aug.–Dec. 2012**  *Journalism tutor,* **Murdoch University, Perth**

Running tutorials for first year students, assigning work and grading assessments.

**2010–2011**  *Gaming journalist*, ***Specusphere***

Playing and reviewing fantasy genre games on all platforms.

**Editorial, mentoring & speaking experience**

**Jun. 2019** *Editor,* ***The Stories of Kulang Toat,* African World Books**

**Jun. 2019** *Speaker,* **Emerging Writers’ Festival, Melbourne**

I was invited to speak on the future of working in the creative arts and publishing and to be part of a podcast   
 on working conditions.

**May. 2019** *Presenter****,* 2019 National Institute of Professional Editors Conference, Melbourne**

I was invited to speak on two panels on the working rights of editors both in-house and freelance and on   
 the need for sensitivity readers in the publishing industry.

**Jan. 2019** *Presenter,* **Writers Victoria**

I ran a webinar on freelancing and how to set a business up as a writer, editor or journalist.

**Oct. 2018** *Speaker and presenter,* **Digital Writers Festival**

I have been asked to be part of particular events for the upcoming Digital Writers Festival.

**Sept. 2018** *Speaker and presenter,* **National Young Writers Festival, Newcastle, NSW**

I was invited to speak on writing, editing and publishing and working as a writer on three panels.

**Sept. 2018** *Mentor,* **Writers’ Victoria**

I became a mentor for Writer’s Victoria to mentor other writers in aspects of freelancing, writing, editing and   
 journalism.

**Jul. 2018** *Longlisted,* **Kill Your Darlings Unpublished Manuscript Award**

I was longlisted for the award for my novel *Sedition.*

**Jun. 2018** *Presenter,* **Writers’ Bloc**

I created and presented a webinar on freelancing for beginning editors for Writers’ Bloc as part of a webinar   
 series .

**Jun. 2018** *Speaker and presenter,* **Continuum Conference, Melbourne**

I was asked to chair and be part of five different panels on various aspects of editing, writing and publishing   
 for the science fiction convention Continuum held in Melbourne.

**Feb. 2018**  *Speaker and presenter,* ***Society of Editors, Canberra***

I was invited to speak on efficiency in editing and running an editing business as a freelancer.

**Jan. 2018**  *Writer,* **KSP–Varuna Inaugural Foundation Fellowship 2018**

I won the inuagural Foundation Fellowship to work on a new novel over two weeks at both the KSP Writers Centre in Perth and the Varuna Writers Centre in NSW in 2018.

**Sept. 2017**  *Speaker and presenter,* **2017 National Institute of Professional Editors Conference, Brisbane**

I was invited to speak on three panels on the business aspects of freelancing as an editor, on mentoring writers and editors and on advocacy and creating alliances between organisations as a representative of MEAA.

**May. 2017**  *Editor,* ***The Senses of Paris* byRobin Bower**

The book was edited in 2016 and was awarded the top prize in the Arts and Photography category at the Paris Book Festival 2017.

**May. 2017**  *Editor*, ***The Other One* by Amanda Jay**

The book was edited in 2017, published digitally on Amazon and won the 2018 National Fairway Literary Award.

**Jan. 2017**  *Editor,* ***The First Utterance* by Theena Kumaragurunathan**

The book was edited on a freelance basis two years ago but after publication was the 2017 winner at the Sri Lankan National Fairway Literary Awards.

**Aug.–Dec. 2016**  *Mentor (Short Fiction)*, **Centre for Stories**

Mentoring a competition winning writer in drafting and creating a short story from initial idea to complete first draft; editing short story draft; providing advice on publication and writing. Mentee Taku Mbudzi went on to win the Frankie Good Stuff Award for Writing in 2018.

**Jan. 2013 (*ongoing*)**  *Contributing editor (Nonfiction, Short Fiction, Poetry),* **Australian Women Writers Challenge**

Interviewing authors for podcasts & video, reading reviews, writing articles covering all work reviewed periodically, promoting Australian female authors.

**Dec. 2015 (*ongoing*)**  *Freelance editor,* **Hardie Grant Publishing**

Providing structural and copy editing for non-fiction titles as per briefs by commissioning editor; working with the author to resolve issues and queries; updating style sheet to ensure consistency at typesetting stage.

**Nov. 2014–Aug. 2015**  *Viva La Novella Editor and Judge*, **Seizure Online**

Judging competition entries and choosing submissions, assessing and editing winning work, preparing work for publication in August 2015. Competition winners went on to secure other publishing contracts and win prizes such as the Victorian Premier’s Award.

**Jun.–Dec. 2013**  *Editing and Publishing Tutor,* **Curtin University, Perth**

Assessing student work and offering feedback and critiques on submitted projects.

**Mar. 2011–Jun. 2013**  *Convenor*, **6th IPEd National Editors Conference**

Organising online promotion, booking sponsors, speakers and entertainment, creating the conference website, social media, & media & PR work. 215 delegates attended from across Australia and South East Asia generating a net profit of $20,000 AUD and creating tourist income for City of Fremantle.

**Mar. 2009–2013**  *Website officer,* **Society of Editors (WA) Inc**

Building databases, directories, forums, online promotion via social media & assisting with technical issues. Generated client queries and work for member editors via promotion and new website structure.

**Jan. 2012**  *Photographer and Media officer,* **Galle Literary Festival**

Editing and uploading images, social media promotion, organising author appearances and interviews with international media. Generated engagement on social media with an online audience of over 10,000 over the festival’s run of three days.

**2009–2011**  *Contributing editor,* **Centre for Policy Development, NSW**

Proofreading and editing articles on policy and politics for issues of Insight produced by think tank organisation.

## Administration Experience

**Jul. 2019 (ongoing*)*** *Victorian Media Section President,* **Media, Entertainment and Arts Alliance (MEAA)**

**Jul. 2017 (ongoing)** *Federal Council member,* **Media, Entertainment and Arts Alliance (MEAA)**

I attend meetings, represent member concerns and discuss issues within the industry and potential solutions and sit in on committees as necessary and help determine and decide the organisation’s future direction as required.

**Jan. 2017 (ongoing)** *National Freelance Committee member,* **Media, Entertainment and Arts Alliance (MEAA)**

I represent freelancer member concerns including those of editors and journalists and decide on solutions to be implemented and how MEAA can achieve such outcomes.

**Oct. 2013–Feb. 2018** *WA Media Section Committee member*, **Media, Entertainment and Arts Alliance (MEAA)**

I managed a mailing list of 130+ freelance members, organised professional development events and workshops and advocated on behalf of members on issues of diversity, rates and conditions and travelled to Sydney in February 2016 as a delegate for MEAA Federal Council and National Media Section meetings.

## Education

**2010–2014**  *Master of Communications, Science Journalism,* **Edith Cowan University, Perth**

**Thesis:**  *Accuracy and Errors in Print Reporting of Neuroscience Research.*

**Coursework:**  radio, science, political, and freelance journalism; media theory.

**2008**  *Bachelor of Arts (Honours), Archaeology,* **University of Notre Dame, Australia**

**Thesis:**  *Changes in urban land use in Fremantle from 1880 –1910.*

**2004–2008**  *Bachelor of Arts, English Literature and Geography,* **University of Notre Dame, Australia**

**Coursework:**  Poetry, Indigenous, Australian, & post-colonial literature, ethics, biology, philosophy, creative writing, theology, Western Australian history, South-East Asian development, natural resource management, coastal and marine geography.

## Skills

**Software**  Adobe Bridge, Photoshop, and InDesign; Microsoft Office Suite; Edius, Netia, Final Cut Pro, Audacity, Remote Producer, Octopus 7, Dreamweaver, Thirdlight, Lightworks, G Suite; Content/Customer/Client Management Systems (CMS), HTML5; Social Media Analytics (Facebook, Twitter, Wordpress); Electronic Document Management Systems (EDMS); Search Engine Optimisation (SEO); ArcGIS and GISViewer.

**Language**  English (native, first); Sinhala (native, second)

## Referees

**Tiffany Venning** *Regional Director WA*, **Media Entertainment and Arts Alliance**

[tiffany.venning@meaa.org](mailto:tiffany.venning@meaa.org) 08 9436 2412

**Robin Bower** *Publications Manager*, **WA Department of Mines and Petroleum**

[robinb@westnet.com.au](mailto:robinb@westnet.com.au) 0401 903 937

**Peter Collins** *External Affairs Manager*, **WA Department of Water**

[peter.collins@water.wa.gov.au](mailto:peter.collins@water.wa.gov.au)

**Rihana Ries** *Former Editor*, **Hardie Grant Publishing**

[rihanaries@gmail.com](mailto:rihanaries@gmail.com) *More references are available upon request.*