

Poetry: History & Appreciation with Chris Wallace-Crabbe

6-week course commencing 22 October 2009

This highly successful workshop from 2008 will run again in October 2009. Poetry: History & Appreciation is a 6-week course on the art of poetry and its long history, ranging from the storytelling and choric roles of pre-literate cultures, to our own time. We will look at how Classical cultures, Christianity, the rise of printing and of the electronic media affected poetry's themes and its forms. The course will also show how Australian poetry rose out of Western traditions, and will speculate on where poetry might be going next. Some key poems will be looked at in detail, but the broad, changing picture will be kept in mind. All interested readers or writers are welcome.



Chris Wallace-Crabbe, poet and essayist, was born in Melbourne. Altogether he has sixteen volumes of poetry, a novel, and numerous prose works. His *Selected Poems 1956-1995* (Carcanet Oxford Poets) won the Age Book of the Year Prize. In 1987 he won the quinquennial Dublin Prize for the Arts and Sciences, while in that year he also went to Harvard as Professor of Australian Studies. His latest book is *Telling a Hawk from a Handsaw* (Carcanet 2008).

The course text is John Leonard, ed., *Seven Centuries of Verse in English* (OUP, Melbourne), which is in print and readily available. Other materials will be provided at times for discussion.

6 sessions from Thursday 22 October 6.00pm-8.00pm until 26 November
Venue: The Centre for Books Writing and Ideas, State Library of Victoria
Cost: APC members \$280, non-members \$300

To book phone: 03 9527 4063 or email: admin@australianpoetrycentre.org.au
Book fast, places are limited