

30 March 2011

Author talks on how to write for young men

Adult fiction writer Shane Thamm will present two workshops – including a session on writing for young males – in Shoalhaven Libraries Nowra as part of Youth Week 2011.

Mr Thamm is the author of several junior adult fiction books including, *My Private Pectus*.

Shane Thamm is visiting the Shoalhaven to share his thoughts on writing the perfect short story. Shane also touches on issues of gender and body image among young males. Shane's first novel, *My Private Pectus*, offers an authentic view of what it's like growing up as a young male in Australia.

Shane studied masculinities as part of a Master of Arts at Queensland University of Technology. A focus of this research was the emergence of body image as a key concern for today's young men and how it is portrayed in Australian young adult fiction.

The library will hold two sessions on Tuesday 5 April. The first session will deal with creative writing. Mr Thamm will talk to students about what makes a good short story. This is excellent for students who are studying English extension, preparing for competitions or those who are interested in writing a great story.

The second session, *About those boys*, from 5.30pm focuses on the challenges of creating male characters in young adult fiction. Shane will give his reflections on some of the theories about gender identity, look at a number of male characters in Australian young adult fiction, and talk about how to create a character that is both real and compelling.

This session will be open to all students, parents, authors, and anyone interested in writing.

For further information on Council's Youth Week activities, you can contact Nowra Library on (02) 4429 3712.

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