

# Interview with Jenny Old May 10<sup>th</sup> 2025

Jenny's writing journey began in a tin shed on a remote cattle station—sparked by loneliness, dingoes, and a lack of electricity.

## **Bio**

Grew up in Riverina, trained as a nurse, travelled to Europe in '68.

Returned “terribly fat” and in a purple mini dress to marry Rick.

Hosted 50–60 visitors yearly on the property—“I baked four loaves every morning!”

## **Writing advice:**

Write for one hour a day.

Get away from home to focus—she finished books on Stradbroke Island and in Manly.

“There's always washing to hang out,” she joked, on writing distractions.

## **Publishing Journey**

Jenny's first book, McAllister, was accepted by Allen & Unwin after she boldly sent the full manuscript.

She now prefers self-publishing:

Earns \$25 per copy (vs. \$3 traditionally)

Visited 35 libraries in 7 weeks

“You need 10,000+ followers to make marketing work.”

## **Advice:**

Use a professional editor

Don't share early drafts too soon

Keep your name out there—write blogs, build your platform

Honour historical context (like Barra Creek by Di Morrissey)