Craig Dent Biography

Bachelor of Arts in Professional Writing, Bachelor of Teaching in Secondary English, Bachelor of Education Studies in Creative Industries, Certificate IV Training & Assessment

Vision Statement: Innovative thinking in immersive creativity through explorations of self-identity in the natural world, and new concepts empowering creative writing and visual arts.

2025: Parallel Wilds completes 15 workshops, including a 6-school project in Towong Shire with Mitta to Murray M2M Landcare, funded by Border Trust and FRRR. Parallel Wilds is commissioned by North-East CMA to develop Craig's 2016 book, *Released from the Wild*, as an interactive 3D project version engaging youth. This will be launched on 1 May 2026, featuring virtual reality headsets and 2 new songs from the original book.

Parallel Wilds sponsors work on a 3D project with Young Somerset, showcasing their Young Rangers program, then hosts their Youth Services Manager from Young Somerset on a 2-week Creative Exchange in partnership with Outdoor School Bogong. Parallel Wilds extends its workshop reach into the ACT schools, with 3 workshops in Jervis Bay in December. A workshop also commences with an indigenous school at Brungle NSW.

2024: Craig completed 15 projects as Creative Director of Parallel Wilds in 2024 with schools and councils in New South Wales and Victoria. www.parallelwilds.com Parallel Wilds and Young Somerset won the 2024 Group Category of the UK Creative Freedom Award via John Muir Trust, exhibited at Pitlochry National Park in Scotland.

Regional Arts Australia funded 3D interactive, *Thermonucleartantrumtime*, toured with Supanova Comic Con & Gaming in Melbourne and Sydney in 2024. Craig released a 2025 calendar, *To Fall Asleep on a Strangers Shoulder*.

2023: Craig completed a 3rd Creative Learning Partnership with Creative Victoria and Victorian Department of Education, a Regional Arts Victoria Foundation for Rural Regional Renewal funded project in a 3-school hub, and further *Parallel Wilds* projects with City of Greater Dandenong, Federation Shire, and Young Somerset UK. He was hosted by Young Somerset for visits to 5 UK National Parks in October 2023. Craig released a 2024 calendar, *To Wander Through a Thousand Worlds*.

2022: Craig extends *Parallel Wilds* as a 3D platform for youth writing and creating imagery about the future of wilderness, set in 2050, and expressing self-identity in the natural world. New projects are completed with the City of Greater Dandenong, Young Somerset, and Exmoor National Park UK. He released 2023 calendar, *A Theory of Evolution in a Plastic Bag in a Shopping Trolley*.

2021: Craig completed his 2nd Creative Learning Partnership with Creative Victoria and Victorian Department of Education at Bogong Outdoor School in North-East Victoria, creating 3D creative writing platform, *Parallel Wilds.* Craig had his 3rd book commission for the 50th anniversary of Outdoor School Bogong, *To Follow Footsteps Through Mountains*. He released a 2022 calendar book, *A Galaxy Forms in a Forest Glade*.

2020: Craig received a Sustaining Creative Workers grant from Regional Arts Victoria to develop online platforms for school's workshops. He received a Creative Recovery grant from Regional Arts Victoria to create a new virtual exhibition, *Bespoken*.
Craig graduated from a Bachelor of Education in Creative Industries Degree from Charles Sturt University, following on from his Bachelor of Teaching in English, and Bachelor of Arts in Professional Writing.

2019: Craig is engaged by Creative Victoria at Harrietville Primary School, creating *From the Glittering Snow*. He is engaged by Lockhart Shire for an E Book at Lockhart and The Rock.

2018: Craig is commissioned to create a book for Macquarie Primary's 50th Anniversary, *Moondust from the Blackboard*. He is showcased by Regional Arts Australia at National Gallery of Victoria. He appears as a guest author at Clunes Book Town Festival and Write Week, Wodonga Primary.

2017: Publishes first children's book, *The Laugh That Shook the World*, created with students throughout North-East Victoria. This is the first in a trilogy with *The Owl Who Travelled Through Time*, and *The Day Twoey Took a Screamer*.

2016: Releases a 1990-2009 collection of lyrical and photographic work, *Ghostology*.
He is commissioned by North-East Catchment Management Authority to write a book on Benambra, *Released from The Wild*.

2014: Releases first music album with music act [Insert Memory], for which he co-wrote the songs and created the visual imagery.

2013: Commissioned to write *To Name a River in Your Name* for Lake Hume Canberra Centenary Celebrations.

2006: Craig launches his creative website *Dreamfields* with a promotional set of 9 postcards, including a new project called *Superhumane*.

2002: Exhibits *Girl Called Novella* at National Multicultural Festival Canberra, *The Art is a Circus* Festival Horsham, and The Convent Gallery, Daylesford.

1999: Winner of a Drum Media short writing competition for a 21-day trip to Africa. He also produces *Atom to the Planet* at Albury Regional Art Gallery.

1995: Writer in Community, Western Plains Zoo, funded by the Literature Board of the Australia Council.

1992-1993: Writer in Residence at Macquarie Primary, Canberra, publishing *Short Sport Stories* and *The Spinning Tree*.

1990: Graduates from a Bachelor of Arts in Professional Writing from University of Canberra. Receives a $10,000 Writers Project Grant from Literature Board of the Australia Council, producing *Ghosts of the Living*.

1989: At age 23, publishes two books, *Broken Drought* (with David Adams) and *Silent Rebellion*, both with accompanying photographic exhibitions.