

WELCOME TO EYRIE TALES

## *The Vindigo Press Newsletter*

In this issue, we're excited to share some updates and reflections from the last month, including the launch of the Vindigo Press blog (with an open call for contributions from you, our readers), thoughts on the Franschhoek Literary Festival, and a free-shipping promo for local orders.

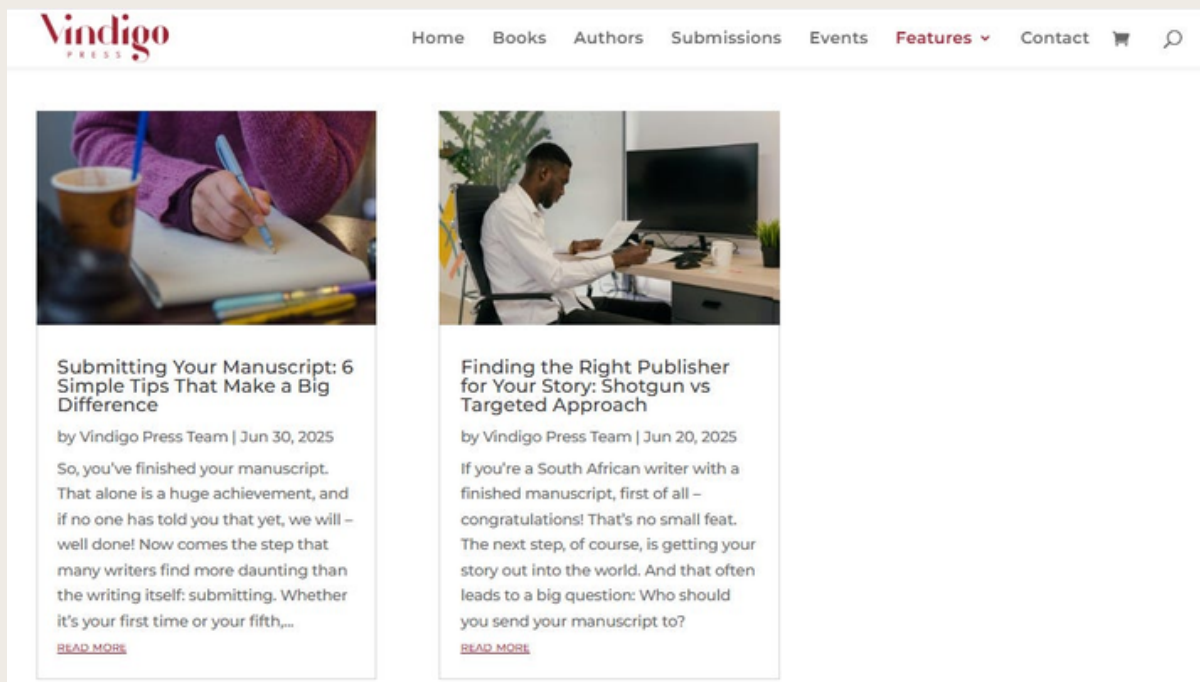
Thank you for staying connected with Vindigo Press!

# Vindigo Blog Launch & Call for Contributions

We're excited to announce the launch of [our new blog on the Vindigo Press website](#)! The blog is dedicated to thought leadership in the publishing industry, offering insights and practical advice for writers and publishing enthusiasts alike.

## Our first two posts cover:

- The difference between finding a publisher with [a shotgun approach vs. a targeted approach](#)
- Six tips for [submitting your manuscript successfully](#)



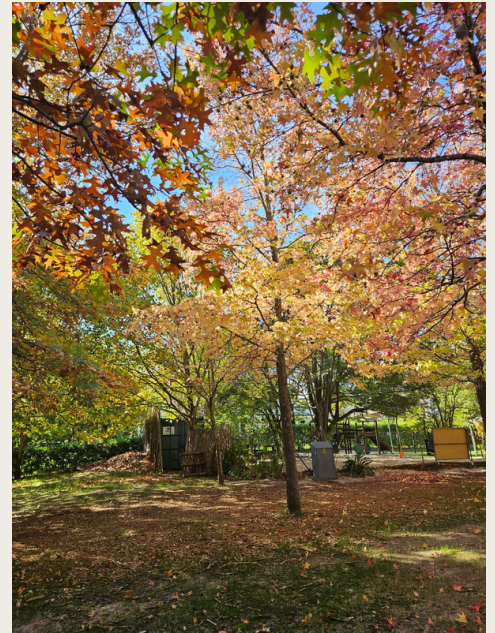
## We welcome contributions from Vindigo Press readers!

If you have written a blog post or article on a book-related topic and are keen to share, feel free to send it to us to be considered for publication on our website. Send your contributions to [media@vindigopress.com](mailto:media@vindigopress.com) for a chance to be featured.

Visit [our blog](#) to read these posts and stay tuned for more thoughtful content in the coming months.

# Industry Reflections: Franschhoek Literary Festival 2025

Ethereal, was the thought that came to mind looking down Franschhoek's autumn-hued Main Road, past the festival banners and gathering throng, to the mountains, before attending the first session of the **Franschhoek Literary Festival**. What a treat, from start to finish.



In May, the annual festival once again transformed the Winelands into a buzzing hub of storytelling and creative exchange. With panel discussions, readings, and casual chats over coffee and wine, it was a welcome reminder of how lucky we are to have such a rich South African literary scene.

Just a couple of memories to give you a taste: In the **“Skop, Skiet, and Fauna”** panel, adventure writers **Tony Park** and **Justin Fox** – both engaging speakers and excellent writers with many successful novels under their belts – shared about the joys and trials of research, and how to write action and keep a tight plotline going.

Also highly memorable was the **“Writing Herstory”** session, featuring British writer **Kate Mosse** and Zimbabwean **Siphiwe Gloria Ndlovu**—the title of the discussion (led by Pippa Hudson) alluding to the “bond of defiance” linking their latest novels.

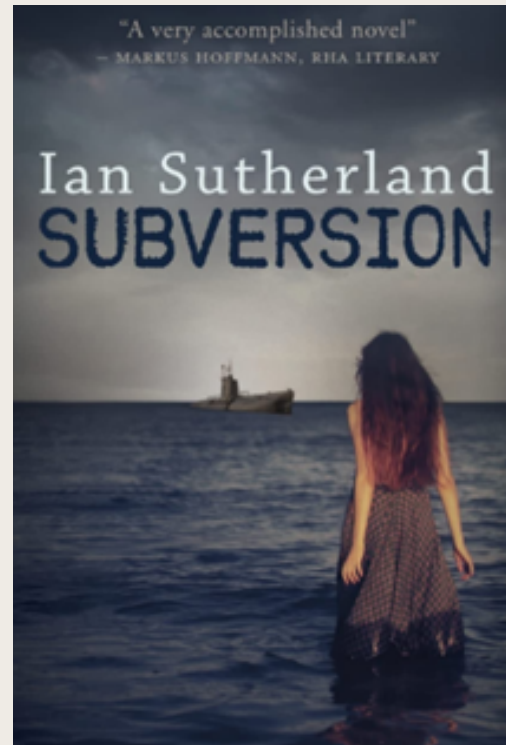
Hats off to the organisers for providing such a literary feast of diverse authors, voices, and genres—from politics to poetry to crime novels and everything in between. Just one cautionary tale for next year: get in early and book your sessions quickly. Several of our choices were sold out—a nice problem for any literary festival to have!



## Community Spotlight: Reader Reviews of *Subversion* by Ian Sutherland

This month, we're turning the spotlight on *Subversion*, the quietly haunting debut novel by Ian Sutherland. Originally released under the title *Featherstream*, the page-turning WWII historical drama follows a South African pilot grappling with duty, disillusionment, and identity in the shadows of war. It's a novel that moves beyond the mechanics of plot to explore the complex spaces between loyalty, memory, and the cost of silence.

Ian Sutherland brings a unique blend of perspectives to his fiction—straddling the academic, business, and literary worlds. After completing an MA in Creative Writing at the University of Cape Town under the supervision of acclaimed novelist Professor Etienne van Heerden, *Subversion* was born.



The novel reached #2 on Exclusive Books' bestseller list and was awarded Best Novel at the 2019 National Independent Publishers Awards.

### Here's what some readers have shared:

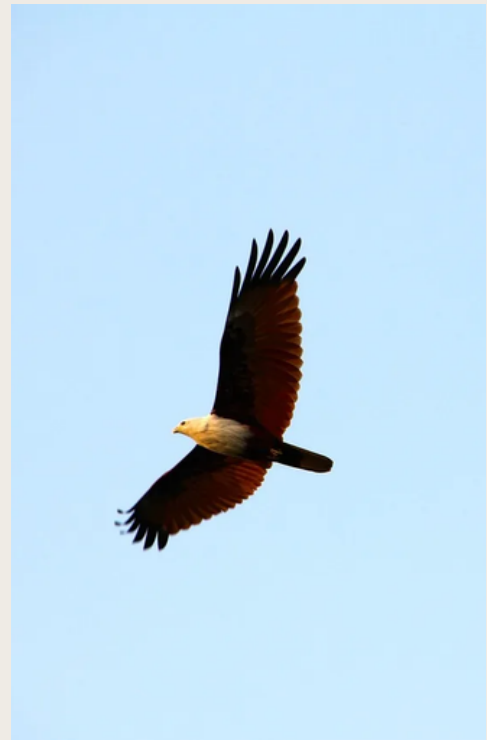
- "A tale charged with intrigue, tension, and wrenching emotion...an absorbing and entertaining read." – Tony Grogan, Artist, Cartoonist & Author
- "This is an intriguing, well-researched historical novel that sheds some light on life in South Africa during the war years. This book could appeal to fans of Barbara Mutch's *The Girl from Simon's Bay*." – Wordsworth
- "The novel is fantastic and had me hooked to the end!" – Alison Gwynne-Evans, English Alive
- "An impressive read! Well researched and riveting." – Michael Bampffield-Duggan, Wine Concepts
- "Sensitively written prose gently evoking the mood of the local landscape." – Sally Ann Watkins

*Subversion* is available in print and e-book formats via [our bookshop](#), with free shipping throughout South Africa. It's also stocked on [Amazon](#) and through Ingram-supported bookstores internationally, and can still be ordered from bookstores countrywide.

## Reminder: Submissions Open

We remain open for submissions on a rolling basis. As we grow, our aim is to cultivate a home for thoughtful, authentic voices across Southern Africa. Whether fiction or nonfiction, we are looking for manuscripts that reflect depth and originality.

If you're a writer with a strong track record or a compelling portfolio, and you believe your story aligns with the spirit of our press, we'd love to read it. Our submission process is clear and easy to follow – visit [our submissions page](#) to begin.



## Stay Connected

We love hearing from our you, our fellow book lovers. Follow us for updates, reviews, insights, and comment at:

- [Instagram](#)
- [Facebook](#)
- [LinkedIn](#)

## New developments

We're in the early stages of building out our X (formerly Twitter) and Substack presence. If you're the kind of reader who likes the in-between moments – thoughts on publishing, excerpts, recommended reads, behind-the-scenes reflections – you'll want to follow along as we grow:

- Follow us on [X](#)
- Subscribe to our [Substack](#)

And as always, you can reach us at [media@vindigopress.com](mailto:media@vindigopress.com) or visit [www.vindigopress.com](http://www.vindigopress.com) to browse our catalogue or send us your manuscript.