



Mary Ann Napper spent thirty five years working in mental health as a registered nurse. Never in her wildest dreams did she imagine that she would write a book, let alone publish one.

BORN TO FLY commemorates the work of Cath McCarthy, who pioneered treatment interventions in autism in the 1940s and 50s when autism was unheard of. Mary Ann was inspired by Cath's documented case history about a profoundly autistic child who was removed from an asylum in 1951 and placed in her care.

Writing this novella has been a personal journey for Mary Ann in her resolve to come to terms with having an autistic twin and appreciating his uniqueness. Mary Ann first met Cath McCarthy in 1958 when her then twelve year old brother was sent to live with Cath in Queensland.

'Born to Fly' has given Mary Ann the opportunity to publicly acknowledge Cath McCarthy (in memoriam). Her pioneering work is largely unknown - she was a woman before her time and this is her story.

Mary Ann's debut novella demonstrates her strong voice and undeniable talent for creative writing. She is a member of The Australian Society of Authors (ASA), The Fellowship of Australian Writers NSW (FAW) and The Society of Women Writers NSW (SWW). Mary Ann is currently working on her second book, a biography.