Brian Matthews joined the staff of Flinders University in 1969. He founded Australian Literature courses and in 1994 was appointed to a Personal Chair – the first to be awarded in English at Flinders University.

He has taught Australian literature in many British and European universities. He was Chair of the Literature Board of the Australia Council from 1990 - 1992. While Director of the Menzies Centre for Australian Studies at the University of London (1993 - 1996) he supported or helped establish Australian Studies courses throughout Europe.

A multi-award winning writer, journalist and scholar, Brian is also well known for his broadcasts, informal addresses and keynote speeches. In 1988 Louisa, was named as the best Commonwealth non-fiction book and Manning Clark A Life won the 2010 National Prize for Biography. These days, he is working on a book about Richie Benaud.

Gillian Dooley and Graham Nerlich will respond briefly after the launch.

Never Mind about the Bourgeoisie

The Correspondence between Iris Murdoch and Brian Medlin 1976 -1995

Edited by Gillian Dooley and Graham Nerlich

Launched by Professor Brian Matthews

Brian Medlin met the novelist Iris Murdoch at Oxford in 1961 when he joined New College as a Research Fellow, and they remained friends for the remainder of her life, though after he left Oxford they only met once again. Their correspondence covers a period of more than twenty years, and includes discussions of language, ecology and politics: they finally agreed to disagree about Marxism and the bourgeoisie. The letters record an affectionate relationship between two intelligent, articulate and philosophically sophisticated beings.

Gillian Dooley and Graham Nerlich will respond briefly after the launch.

Please rsvp by Monday 9 June to joy.tennant@flinders.edu.au or 8201 5841