



Dear members,

Welcome to the **February** newsletter of Hunter Writers Centre.

We have started the year with 2 very successful author visits and 2 workshops that were booked out: **Young Writers Workshop** and our **Newcomers Creative Writing Course**. There is a waiting list for the next Newcomers Course so, if you are interested, send a reply email.

Our next immediate course is **Editing on Saturday March 16<sup>th</sup>** with Gina Cranson. We expect this one to be popular so book now. For more information (hold your control button and click on this link): <http://www.hunterwriterscentre.com/events.html>

Have you visited our website lately? There are many members' profiles posted. If you have a recent book or website/blog about your writing, please email us and we will promote: <http://www.hunterwriterscentre.com/our-members.html> That part of our website is for worldwide visitors but don't forget the members' only section (login password Catch22) here: <http://www.hunterwriterscentre.com/401/login.php?redirect=/members-section.html>

## Newcastle Writers Festival

The launch of the NWF is nearly here: this Wednesday in fact. This means tickets are ON SALE for the ticketed events from this Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> February. Sixteen of the thirty five events require tickets to enter and you will be able to buy them via <http://www.newcastlewritersfestival.org.au/>

The weekend event, from April 5 to 7, brings together a diverse range of contemporary writers and established literary leaders. More than 50 Australian writers will discuss topics and genres including crime, climate change, horror, romance, poetry, history, YA, sport writing, law and 'why we read.'

The full program will be published in the Newcastle Herald on March 9.

The Newcastle Writers Festival, funded by Newcastle NOW and Newcastle City Council, is being organised by Newcastle Herald journalist Rosemarie Milsom who is working in partnership with Hunter Writers Centre.

## Regular Writing Groups

These continue throughout the year: Poetry, Prose, Children's Writing and Book Clubs. Open to members only.

Next page.....community announcements

The police can see me. They've got me. I feel cold and hard hands on me. He pulls me into a cell. It's tiny.

"What did I do?" I asked

"You're homeless. It's a crime"

"I can't breathe." I say, but softly. It's half true.

*Excerpt from Ruby Hackett's story written at the 11-13 years Young Writers Workshop; inspired by the Lock-Up Museum tour.*



**Community Announcements** – also listed on the website [www.hunterwriterscentre.com](http://www.hunterwriterscentre.com)

### **Hunter Fellowship of Australian Writers**

The Hunter FAW is calling for members. Membership is \$40 per annum which includes workshops to be facilitated by local authors such as Judy Johnson, Jacqui Wynn and Julie Simpson plus their quarterly journal *Writers Voice*. Non-members can also attend workshops for a fee of \$20. FAW meets at the Sydney Junction Hotel Beaumont St Hamilton at 10.15 a.m. on the First Wednesday each month. If you wish to join please send a \$40 cheque to Hunter FAW Treasurer: Luci Croci, 40 Francis Ave, Lemon Tree Passage NSW 2319

### **Arts and the Individual**

Accessibly Arts presents a forum to explore how the National Disability Insurance Scheme can assist artists with disability.

**When:** 10:00 am to 2:30 pm, Thursday 28 February 2013

**Where:** Newcastle Museum, Workshop Way, Newcastle, NSW 2300

**Who:** Preference given to people working or living in the Hunter region as numbers are limited

**Cost:** Free

**Bookings:** RSVP by 14 February

Register online at:

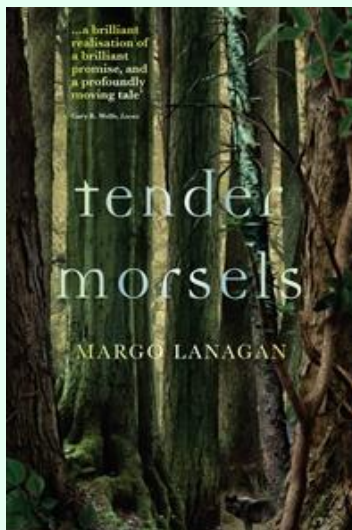
<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/G6Q6ZQZ>

### **Live Reading at Theatre Lane**

Some prose writer members of HWC are coming along to the monthly live reading event at the Theatre Lane hotel. If you are interested in reading or listening, reply email to this newsletter

### **Don't forget . . .**

To like us on facebook: [www.facebook.com/hunterwriterscentre](http://www.facebook.com/hunterwriterscentre) to keep up with the latest updates about our courses, Newcastle Writers Festival and lit news.



"She searched and searched for some object or dimple or unusual sensation underfoot. She searched until her teeth chattered and she could no more feel her feet, let alone the shapes beneath them. But all she found this time was squish and squash, fish-nibble and eel-whip and the flowering of mud up around her middle. A-dark said a frog to her; pok! said a fish; and a crane smoothed the air with its passing wing."

from **Tender Morsels** by Margo Lanagan,  
writer-in-residence January 2013

and a joke to end.....

The past, the present,  
and the future  
walked into a bar.  
It was tense.

Regards,  
Karen Crofts  
Director