



Dear Members

In this newsletter:

- Writing Courses
- Newcastle Poetry Prize
- NPP ebooks now only \$5
- Newcastle Writers Festival
- Spotlight on our members' achievements: Mark Liston, Ted Bassingthwaighte, Joanna Atherfold, Wendy Gunthorpe.

March is always an active month on the literary calendar. Have you seen how many competitions close this month? Be sure to visit the other parts of this members' page of our website.

We have only a few spots left in our **Editing Course** on March 16 so book now to avoid disappointment. Experienced sub-editor, Gina Cranson, will not only concentrate on punctuation and grammar. She will have various exercises to work on that cover continuity, structure and tips and tricks for avoiding common mistakes. Only \$44 for HWC members.

The next **Newcomers Course** will be held on March 27. This is a repeat of the February course and we already have several bookings but there is room for more writers. This course is for anyone new to writing or if you have been writing for some time and now want to know where to go next with your work. This course makes a great gift to a friend or relative.



March is also the month of the **Newcastle Poetry Prize**. Entries open on **World Poetry Day**: Thursday 21 March and will be accepted until Friday, 7 June, 2013 at 5pm AEST. Go to [newcastlepoetryprize.com](http://newcastlepoetryprize.com)

Buy a NPP ebook: Both the 2012 NPP Anthology 'Coastline' and the 30 Year Anthology 'Completely Surrounded' are now available online

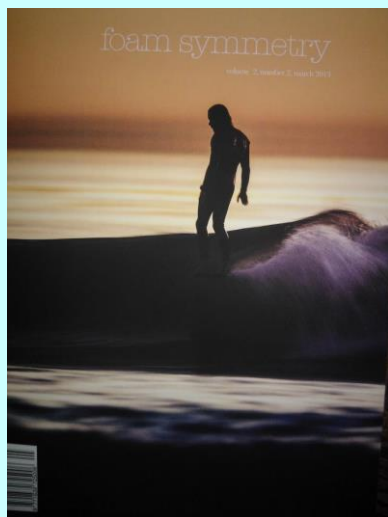
at <http://yellamundi.com.au/> This is the self-publishing site built by our member James Stevenson and we thank him for all the work he has done converting our anthologies into ebooks. At only \$5 this is a terrific price for the country's best collection of poetry.

HWC Children's Writing Group is on hold at the moment while we wait for the Newcastle sub-branch of the Children's Book Council to be established. HWC member Katrina McIlvey is the contact for this new group for Newcastle, email: [alanandkatrina@bigpond.com](mailto:alanandkatrina@bigpond.com)

And March is the month that the full program of the **Newcastle Writers Festival** is announced. Remember to buy your Newcastle Herald this **Saturday March 9** for all the sessions and events held during April 5-7. Congratulations to HWC member Rosemarie Milsom who has created a fabulous program. Hunter Writers Centre is proud to be a cultural partner in this inaugural festival.

Next page: news about our members' writing achievements.

## Member news:



HWC member, Mark Liston, is about to launch his new book. Please show your support and come along to the Theatre Lane Hotel on Monday March 18 at 7.30pm. Mark's book is published by Picaro Press and will be launched by Jean Kent. Congratulations, Mark.

HWC member, Ted Bassingthwaighte, has an article in the March edition of an alternative Australian surf mag, *Foam Symmetry* (left)

New HWC member, Joanna Atherfold, has 2 stories shortlisted for the Carmel Bird Long Story Award. The winner is being announced by Marion Halligan in Canberra tonight. All the best, Joanna. Joanna is currently completing her PhD in Creative Writing at UON and will be 'In Conversation' with Robert Drewe at the Newcastle Writers Festival.

And, well done, Wendy Gunthorpe. Her story has been shortlisted for the Stringybark Humorous Short Story Fiction Award 2012. Anthology out soon.

Did you know a number of our members maintain blogs? Here's a list:

Phoenix de Carteret: <http://www.peripheralnews.blogspot.com.au/>

Anthony Wood: <http://wantforwords.wordpress.com/>

Kate Moore: <http://katiecrackernuts.blogspot.com/>

Brendan Lawrence: <http://brendanlawrence.blogspot.com.au/>

James Turvey: <http://suburbansnakes.tumblr.com/>

Rob Towner: <http://robt.info/>

Cathering Moffat blogs to the Meanjin, Overland and if: Book project: <http://meanland.com.au>

Mark Laclea: <http://hamiltonnorth.wordpress.com/>

Hollie Pich: [holliereads.wordpress.com/](http://holliereads.wordpress.com/)

Let us know about your publications and achievements.

Regards,

Karen Crofts

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[www.newcastlepoetryprize.com](http://www.newcastlepoetryprize.com)