

February 2014

HUNTER
WRITERS
CENTRE



Dear Members

To access any links provided in this newsletter hold your Ctrl button then mouse click the link

New premises for Hunter Writers Centre

The past month has been busy and exciting at HWC. Our workshops for young writers and newcomers to HWC were a great success and Ramona Koval inspired so many of us on the 29th. Our most exciting news is that your writers' centre has relocated at Newcastle City Library in Laman Street. We vacated the Lock-Up at the end of January and we are excited about the opportunities our new location will bring. We would like to acknowledge all that the Lock-Up Cultural Centre has provided HWC during our tenancy there and we hope to continue our relationship with this heritage space in our city.

To celebrate our new location, we will be holding a live reading of your works. We invite poems, prose selections, short scripts or essays or just come along to hear works by some of our members. If you would like to read your work 'Live at the Lovett', please contact info@hunterwriterscentre.org for more information.

Upcoming Workshops and Events

The best way to receive immediate news from us is via our [Facebook page](#)

You have less than a month to [submit your Travel Writing story](#) of no more than 500 words. This competition is open to NSW residents and the top 20 stories will be read at our Live Reading on March 29th (where you can vote for the People's Choice Award) so, if you don't win first prize of 2 nights at the Crowne Plaza, Hunter Valley, you may make the shortlist and subsequent anthology. The wonderful Walter Mason will be our judge and he will conduct a 'Travel Writing with Sprit' workshop on that day. [Register here.](#)

There are a few vacancies left for these courses (follow the link to register):

[Autobiographical Fiction](#) with PhD Creative Writing Student Joanna Atherfold-Finn on 1st March
[Writing for Children](#) with Pamela Freeman on 22nd February
and
[Blogging and Social Media](#) on 1st March

And don't forget our regular writing groups:

Children's Writing - the first meeting for the year is next **Tuesday 18th February 2014** at City Library
Poetry Writing – meets 4th Saturday of the month 10am - 1pm
and Prose Writing – information about all these gatherings is found [here](#)
contact us at info@hunterwriterscentre.org and we will put you in contact with the co-ordinators of these groups.

And on Friday 14th February from 5.30pm, join us for the launch of the She: True Stories Exhibition and prize giving. Venue: Lovett Gallery

...continued next page

News from Our Members

Last year our Journalism / Writing intern from UON interviewed some of our members. You can now view these video interviews on [Our Members section of the website](#)

A group of member poets has formed to plan exciting events on 25th October – the Newcastle Poetry Prize ceremony day. If you are interested in joining to share your ideas, contact the poetry group co-ordinator Kathryn Fry via info@hunterwriterscentre.org

Our member Jean Kent is the editor of an upcoming Hunter/Newcastle poetry anthology. The deadline for submissions is 28th February so contact alicejean.kent@gmail.com for more information.

Our member Cassandra O’Loughlin has recently had her academic/ecocritical essay published in the *Australasian Journal of Ecocriticism and Cultural Ecology* (AJE), Vol. 3 (2013/2014). The essay evolved out of an address that Cassandra gave at the 2012 ASLEC-ANZ biennial conference hosted by Monash and RMIT universities: “Regarding the Earth: Ecological Vision in Word and Image.” Cassandra’s essay is titled ‘The Eco-poetics of Charles Harpur.’ Harpur was an Australian colonial writer.

Our member Phillip Everett was recently awarded 2nd prize in the 2013 Rolf Boldrewood Literary Awards for his story ‘Where’s My Dog At.’ It is a story about an uninitiated aboriginal man and told in his vernacular. His dog conspires with two elders in the camp to trick him into becoming initiated. Phillip is a past member of the Board of the South Australian Writers’ Centre and his prose and poetry have been anthologised in a number of literary magazines including our very own Newcastle Poetry Prize anthology. Phillip is currently working on a novel and screenplay as well as chewing over his short stories.

And our member Rosemarie Milsom is working hard at organising the Newcastle Writers Festival. The festival is seeking volunteers for 3 hour shifts. There are 2 volunteer briefings: 20th Feb and 6th March both at 6.30pm. Send your contact number to admin@newcastlewritersfestival.org.au

Regards,
Karen Crofts
Director