

HWC Newsletter - Feb/March 2014

Dear Members,

It is terrific to see all the **Travel Writing Competition** entries that have been submitted. We do not expect a huge number in this, the first, year so you have a good chance to win a prize. Remember, 1st prize is 2 nights at the Crowne Plaza and 2nd is Gortex jackets from Kathmandu. People's Choice Award has been donated by Maclean's Booksellers and you, the audience, will be able to vote for this winner at the Live Reading.

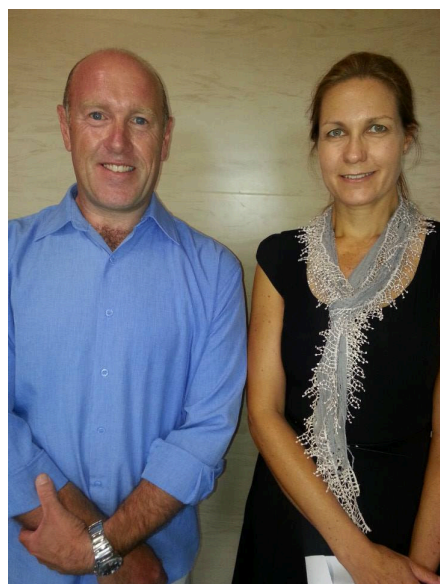


The Competition closes March 7 so enter soon - only 500 words to tell your tale. [Click here to enter](#)

Remember, our competition judge, Walter Mason, is presenting the **Travel Writing with Spirit** workshop on March 29. Walter is a very popular tutor so we expect this workshop to be booked out. [Click here to find out more](#)

Mentorships

HWC now offers a comprehensive mentorship service for members. We have brought together a terrific group of talented authors who are available to mentor you in your area of writing. Think about your goals and intentions with a mentor for your novel, children's book, short stories or other writing forms and we can link you with a mentor for a session. [All information is available here](#)



Congratulations

Congratulations to the finalists in the **She:True Stories** writing competition. So many of the winners were HWC members and our very own member, Anthony Wood (pictured), took out first place with his story 'Visceral'. [Here is the link to the Soundcloud on ABC1233](#) - Anthony reading his winning piece.

Congratulations to other HWC members who were placegetters: Ann Blackwell, Sarah Lason, Margaret McMahon, Joanna Atherfold-Finn (pictured), Bev Henwood, Morgan Bell, Kathleen Wurth and, our very own HWC board member, Justine Potter for photography.

Hurry, book now for Blogging

There are 4 places left in our Blogging and Social Media Workshop on **March 8**. [Book here](#)

Do you need a proofreader/editor?

The most frequently asked questions by members are:

Can you put me in touch with an editor/proofreader?

and

How can I get my book published?

I am pleased to announce that our member, Megan Buxton, has offered her editing/proofreading services for very reasonable rates. Megan has a B.A. with Honours and taught English in secondary schools for nearly thirty years. More recently she has worked as a tutor in the School of Education at Newcastle University. Now retired, Megan offers her services to fellow writers for copy-editing and proofreading at \$2.50-\$6.00 per page or from \$15.00 per hour. Substantive editing is also available if required. Contact Megan via meganbuxton711@gmail.com

Mark Maclean and Christine Bruderline are also local editors/publishers who can offer support to your final copy in a variety of ways. [Click here for their website](#)

As for trying to **publish your book**, remember it all starts with a well written query letter. [This link gives good advice about query letters.](#)

Your Centre

Once a month, our writers' centre board meets to discuss the finances, the strategic planning and the 'big picture' for your centre. Our next board meeting - March 19th - will be preceded by a Special General Meeting at 5.30pm. The **document attached** outlines that meeting's schedule and process. We hope you can attend.

Newcastle Writers Festival

It was great to assist with the launch of the festival last Friday. Wendy Harmer is the key speaker this year and a [packed program is now released](#). Well done HWC member, Rosemarie Milsom, for putting together a terrific program.

HWC members who are published authors are welcome to discuss with us our promotion of your titles in conjunction with Maclean's Booksellers. Reply to us here so we can ensure your books are made available for sale at the festival.

Coming Soon to HWC:

Robert Watson's [Marketing Your Book](#) - 22nd March

Poetry - 24th May - Poet Cassandra O'Loughlin will be running a workshop on Saturday 24 May: narrative voice, showing/telling, craft and technique. Cassandra is an Arts graduate from the University of Newcastle. She won the University Medal in 2010 and is currently completing a PhD in Ecopoetics. Her poems have appeared in Southerly, Overland, Mascara, Eureka Street, Antipodes, Earthlines, Catchfire Press publications, and others. She won the Catchfire Press regional poetry prize in 2004. Here is a link to three of her poems: <http://mascarareview.com/cassandra-oloughlin/> Registration is available soon via our website.



And she's back by popular demand: **Kerri Lane** (pictured) is holding a workshop on [Writing for the Education Market](#) - **Saturday 31st May**. This one will be teach you how to make money as a writer. Yes, it can sometimes happen.

Regards,
Karen Crofts
Director