

Dear HWC members,

So much is happening at **Hunter Writers Centre** that I need to write a second newsletter this month.

AGM

This Wednesday (28th May) is the HWC AGM: from 6pm at City Library, Laman St, Newcastle

All members are welcome to attend for a summary of 2013 and the election of the new board.

Upcoming Workshops

There are still vacancies in our next 2 workshops:



Writing for the Education Market.

Book: <http://www.hunterwriterscentre.org/writing-for-the-education-market.html>

Life Writing. Book: <http://www.hunterwriterscentre.org/life-writing-with-patti-miller.html>



The **2014 Grieve competition** has been launched and this year we welcome both stories up to 500 words and poems up to 36 lines. There are 8 prizes to be won including a members' only award. **Enter:**

<http://www.hunterwriterscentre.org/grieve-writing-comp.html>

Poetry

Don't forget the **Newcastle Poetry Prize competition** closes June 20th.

Enter: <http://www.hunterwriterscentre.org/newcastle-poetry-prize.html>

Note: This year there is a members' only award

And HWC Members Jean Kent and Kit Kelen have been busy publishing a poetry collection by Newcastle and Hunter region poets. I don't want to reveal too much but watch this space for the announcement of the launch and news about who features in this book.

Kathryn Fry, co-ordinator of the HWC poetry group, is working with a team of other HWC members to present an **In Conversation on October 25** - the day of the Newcastle Poetry Prize Ceremony. Judith Beveridge, Mark Tredinnick and Jennifer Compton are all confirmed. Stay tuned for more information.

Volunteer?

If you have time, we would appreciate some help in the HWC office with clerical and admin work. Nothing too strenuous and we will ply you with tea and coffee and chocolates! Contact us if you can spare a few hours.



Members of HWC have formed the **Newcastle Shakespeare Society**

The society meets 3rd Saturday of the month 2-5pm and has created a facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/NewcastleShakespeareSociety>

This is not an HWC activity but we are helping support it. It is free of charge to attend.

There is clearly an interest as we have 21 followers in the first hour of opening the page.

Maitland Writing Group

We are also helping HWC members who reside in or near Maitland get together to write/share/celebrate all things literary. Reply to us if we have not reached you about this new group yet. Or spread the word if you live up the valley and we hope to see a little branch develop up your way.

The Write Buddy!

Are you suffering writer's block? Feeling too alone whilst continuing with your novel? Want to meet another blogger/poet/essayist just to bounce some ideas around?

We are developing a Writer's Buddy system - send us an outline of the kind of writing buddy you are seeking and we will let everyone know.

Examples:

I have been wanting to start a blog. I know what I want to write about but I need someone to read my first few posts to help me stay on track. Please contact:_____

or

I have finished my first draft and now want someone to read it for flow and voice. I'm happy to read yours in return. My interest areas are:_____. Please contact:_____

Congratulations HWC member **Brenda Proudfoot** who entered the Peter Cowan 600 Short Story competition and received a commended. This is a national competition which awarded 3 prizewinners, 5 highly commended and 5 commended stories. It was judged by Dr Ken Spillman.

Send us your news so we can share it.

Don't forget to read all about some of our members listed [on the webpage built just for you](#)

Regards

Karen Crofts

Director