



Writing Right

Publisher Writing Right

Volume No. 2

Issue No. 2

Date Feb 2006

WHERE THE HELL DID JANUARY GO!

**THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE
FRIDAY FEB. 17th**

**in the SA Writers' Centre
Rundle St,
2nd floor above**

Caffe Buongiorno at 6.30 pm

**THE FIRST SATURDAY
CRITIQUE SESSION ON Feb 4th
at 2.30pm 12 Sandford St.,
Kensington Gardens 83326085**

"Words are, of course, the most powerful drug used by mankind." – Rudyard Kipling

The year started well for us with a list of aims and objectives for 2006 for some of the brave writers who attended the first meeting during the heatwave.

If you haven't set your targets – it's still the right time and goal setting has proven to be the best motivation possible. Our first list is printed on the back pages.

Keeping the best news until last!

"A professional writer is an amateur who didn't quit." – Richard Bach

Why Go To Book Launches?

Every writer should go to as many book launches as possible - for different reasons.

When starting out, writers get a huge injection of motivation and enthusiasm while learning how they will do it when their turn comes.

Apart from networking, celebrating the craft and being involved in the process writers learn a great deal about marketing from attending book launches.

Writing Right members have attended a lot of launches lately to support other members who have become their friends.

When a book is launched at the SA Writer's centre, the mood, the culture and the feeling of 'being there' among other writers, reinforces the belief that we too are writers and proud to be in the writing culture.

There are many many reasons why the venue works for us and why we are proud to be part of the centre's outreach.

However every launch is different and we experienced the wonderful difference when member, Jennifer Di'ane, launched her book, Ghosts on the Ghan at the historic National Railways Museum at Port Adelaide

We were experiencing Adelaide's worst heat wave in 66 years, yet the



day, the weather and the place was totally appropriate for this book and for Jennifer.

This was where her father, John Tucker, was Station Master at Port Dock Station from where he retired after a lifetime of passionate involvement in trains.

With bags and bags of ice, fans along the track and water spraying over guests we realised what it was like shovelling coal into the furnaces of these powerful machines as they carved out Australia's history in the outback. And we saw the symbolism of her book cover which depicts the ghosts of Afghan and Aboriginal cameleers who forged the first tracks which the famous Ghan now follows.

The big red Ghan snaking through the desert like a huge Dreamtime snake is also pictured to show how history was carved through the heat, pain and beauty of the outback.

So this launch had all the symbolism of the book which reflected the author's own history. Although a murder mystery story, the research has uncovered slices of the history to layer the book.

Writers celebrate the lives of each other, because they reflect their own hopes, aspirations and ambitions to capture a slice of history or reflect in all its foibles, struggles and achievements.

"Outside of a dog, a book is a man's best friend.

Inside of a dog, it's too dark to read."
-Groucho Marx

Hope For eBooks

Although eBook account for only about \$10 million of the \$24 billion American publishing industry Sony expects to change all that with its new handheld Reader, just launched at the Consumer Electronics Show in America in January.

Within the next few months Americans will be buying a better product for under \$400.

Although publishers have been selling eBooks for almost 10 years the boom has not yet hit.

Americans can buy all books cheaper than Australians - at times it seems almost criminal the prices we are paying compared to what their larger market supports.

If eBooks can come up to the availability of iPods and iTunes writers and readers will be advantaged.

Sony's new reader stores about 80 books and memory cards expand storage to hundreds of books.

The handheld reader is less than 9 ounces, is about half an inch thick, with a six-inch gray-scale screen for easy reading. Don't ask me to translate those figures.

According to an article in USA Today bought back to Adelaide by John Clements, the LCED 'electronic paper' display is as easy to read as a printed page, and more comfortable to hold than a book.



Publishers are claiming that this new reader will make ebooks publishing take off like you wouldn't believe.

I thought the old ones were OK but out of my price range to get a good one.

So what does this mean for writers.

Here I get on the bank-waggon (sic) again. Get in with eBook publishers while you can. They are a great market and growing. And more importantly it allows writers to become published writers faster.

OK the money is not there initially, but its an important rung on the ladder. ALL the writers who have sold to eBook publishers have marvelled at how their careers have taken off. Mainly because the print publishers are getting the authors tried and tested for them.

Go eBooks!

TEN THOUGHTS TO PONDER FOR 2006 from Jo Walsh who is starting the next meeting with a quiz

Number 10

Life is sexually transmitted.

Number 9

Good health is merely the slowest possible rate at which one can die.

Number 8

Men have two emotions: Hungry and Horny. If you see him without an erection, make him a sandwich.

Number 7

Give a person a fish and you feed them for a day; teach a person to use the Internet and they won't bother you for weeks.

Number 6

Some people are like a Slinky.....not really good for anything, but you still can't help but smile when you shove them down the stairs.

Number 5

Health nuts are going to feel stupid someday, lying in hospitals dying of nothing.

Number 4

All of us could take a lesson from the weather. It pays no attention to criticism.

Number 3

Why does a slight tax increase cost you two hundred dollars and a substantial tax cut saves you thirty cents?

Number 2

In the 60s, people took acid to make the world weird. Now the world is weird and people take Prozac to make it normal.

AND THE NUMBER 1 THOUGHT FOR 2006:

They know exactly where one cow with mad-cow disease is located among the millions and millions of cows in America, but they haven't got a clue as to where thousands of illegal immigrants and terrorists are located. Maybe they should put the Department of Agriculture in charge of immigration.

MARKETING FROM FICTION FACTOR

You can find A Market Index here:

<http://www.fictionfactor.com/markets.html>

(Disclaimer: Check all guidelines in full before submitting)



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Zoetrope: All-Story

<http://www.zoetrope-stories.com>

Zoetrope: All-Story considers submissions of stories and one-act plays under 7,000 words; screenplays, treatments, and excerpts from larger works are not accepted. First serial rights and a film option are required. Submissions accompanied by an SASE will receive a response within five months. Send to 1350 Avenue of the Americas, 24th Floor, New York, NY 10019. The magazine does not accept submissions from June 1 through August 31.

Walking Bones

<http://www.walkingbones.com/>

Walking Bones is a non-themed online magazine. We accept Fantasy, Horror, Dark Horror, Speculative Fiction, Science Fiction, and Imaginative Fiction.

In short the odd, the strange, and the bizarre. We are also accepting Poems.

We pay accepted stories \$20.00 U.S. dollars for the rights to publication, along with the honor of being a published writer.

Electronic submissions should be sent to: walkingbonesmagazine@hotmail.com (remove spaces before sending)

Submissions must be in Microsoft word, RTF, or PDF format. NO OTHER FORMATS WILL BE ACCEPTED.

Hardcopy submissions should be sent to:

Walking Bones Magazine
210 North Summit
Ypsilanti, MI 48197

Arabella Magazine

<http://www.arabellamagazine.com>

Superb short romantic fiction of 750 to 4,500 words. Happy resolution or, in the hands of a very skillful writer, an ending that may not be considered the traditional HEA, but one that is emotionally transcending/empowering - if in doubt, go for the HEA. Sensual, but not graphic or gratuitous sex. And, naturally, lively dialogue - every word must count. Romance is the central theme of Arabella Romances and romantic tension between the hero and heroine is all-important. Make us laugh or make us cry - the read should be entertaining and/or cathartic. Currently, payment is 10 cents per word as published and will increase substantially as the magazine grows.

Currently in Short Supply:
Multicultural; Suspense;
Historical; Western; Spicy (not erotica); Medical; Time Travel; Paranormal

We will not be publishing stories dealing with adultery, real or imagined.



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Submissions may be made to
submissions@Arabellamagazine.com
If you do not wish to submit
electronically, please mail two
copies to:

Editor
Arabella Romances Magazine
1735 Market Street, Suite A-523
Philadelphia, PA 19103

Submissions sent by regular mail
must be accompanied by a SASE if
you wish to have your manuscript
returned. Please do not send
your only copy.

Submission Guidelines:
[http://www.arabellamagazine.com/
authors/guidelines.htm](http://www.arabellamagazine.com/authors/guidelines.htm)

Macabre

(Open to Australian and New
Zealand citizens and residents
only.)

We want the darkest, most
disturbing horror story you've
ever
written. It may be urban,
psychological, gothic,
supernatural,
blasphemous, taboo, or gory -
but above all else, we're
looking
for works that transcend the
hackneyed images of the genre.
We
want horror in its rawest form -
the unsettling, the terrifying.

Please note: Compelling stories
demonstrating a mature
vocabulary
are actively sought.
Original stories only - no

unsolicited reprints. Also, no
multiple or simultaneous
submissions.

Length: Up to 15,000 words
(query if longer).

Payment: \$50 advance on shared
royalties.

Format: Standard manuscript
format (12pt Courier font,
double-spaced lines, 2.5cm
margins, name & title in
header).

Submissions:

Address your submission to
Angela Challis and Marty Young,
with a
brief cover letter in the body
of the email confirming the
submission is an unpublished
original.

Send your story as a RTF or DOC
attachment to [macabre @](mailto:macabre@)

Submissions will be acknowledged
on receipt.

Deadline: 31 March 2006.

Full Guidelines:

[http://www.shadowedrealms.com.au/
macabre/](http://www.shadowedrealms.com.au/macabre/)

INTERESTING SITES:

[http://grammar.ccc.commnet.edu/g
rammar/](http://grammar.ccc.commnet.edu/grammar/)

[http://www.oneofus.co.uk/writing
_tips/index.htm](http://www.oneofus.co.uk/writing_tips/index.htm)

[http://sensualromance.writerspac
e.com/links.html](http://sensualromance.writerspace.com/links.html)

[http://www.wildandwoolley.com.au
/about/wild_and_woolley_internat
iona](http://www.wildandwoolley.com.au/about/wild_and_woolley_international)



**How To Get Noticed by
Editors And Publishers:
Make Your Strengths Shine**

by Shelley Wake

To be a successful writer and get noticed, being good often isn't good enough. You have to shine. You have to have something that puts you above all others. Of course though, nobody is perfect. Everyone has faults and flaws. But everyone has talents and abilities too. What's your talent? Find your talent and focus on it. Develop it. Showcase it in your writing so it really shines through. Remember, one thing that stands out is far easier to notice than ten things that are good, but not great. Make sure your best skill stands out.

Editor Says: "Forget Modesty"

Writing is not a business where you can afford to be modest. You have to get in there and show what you've got. Whatever you do better than everyone else, show it off. Build your work around your best skill. Otherwise, you're going to be lumped in with the rest of the writers that are good, but don't stand out.

Editor Says: "I'm Looking for One Thing"

Many writers make the mistake of trying to show me everything they do well. Forget it. I'm glancing at hundreds of

manuscripts a day. To catch my attention, you have to hit me between the eyes with one strong point that I can't not notice. There will be time later to show me your other strengths. For the first contact, focus on making one clear point about yourself and make it a good one.

**WE ASKED FOR FEEDBACK TO SHOW
US THE WAY IN 2006.....THIS IS FROM
RU.**

Just some feedback about the group in terms of planning for 06...

The things I have valued most have been:

- the motivation – simply by belonging to a group and particularly setting goals for the year
- information – having so many resources through so many people helps enormously
- critique groups – I haven't made the most of them in 05 but intend to commit to my little group in 06. Guidelines would be very very helpful and discourage the 'it's nice' factor.
- I would love to attend skills development workshops – particularly on marketing; developing a profile as a writer.

Many many thanks Ru – we do need feedback to know what everyone needs for the coming year.



SUGGESTIONS FOR 2006

- May 7th Sunday conference

POSSIBLE WORKSHOPS THIS YEAR

- INVESTING IN YOUR WRITING
- FROM CONCEPT TO BOOKSHELF
- TAXATION ADVICE
- WHAT SELLS & WHY
- WRITING FOR YOURSELF – OR TO SELL YOUR BOOK
- START RIGHT TO FINISH RIGHT – HOW TO DECIDE
- **WHAT TO WRITE..**
- **HOW TO WRITE**
- **WHO YOU ARE WRITING FOR – WHO WILL BUY YOUR WORK**
- **WHERE WILL YOU SELL YOUR BOOK – WHAT PUBLISHER WILL BUY WHAT IS YOUR MARKET**
- **WHEN WILL YOU WRITE – HOW LONG WILL IT TAKE**

The following list is a précis of possible workshops or articles – the list may trigger ideas about what you really need to get your work published.

Professional writing skills

- Show Don't Tell
- Dialogue
- Transitions
- Narration
- Scenes

Learning your craft

- Hooking your reader/publisher
- Writing natural dialogue
- Plotting a selling story
- Motivation is the key
- Transitions for work to flow

Networking

- Every professional networks within their industry
- Networking provides information
- Networking shows how to climb the ladder to success
- Networking shares your work and makes it more fun

Show me the money

- You wouldn't buy a house without finding the cost
- You wouldn't buy a business without checking the profit margins
- You don't start the business of writing without knowing about publishing if you are serious about selling your work – otherwise it's a hobby

Writing is a business – value your own time spent in your business



Where to get help

- Writer Centers
- Research the bookstore shelves to see How To Write books
- Network with other writers
- Find a strong critique group that suits you
- Read and learn about your subject

You can't do it alone

- You need help to learn if your writing is of value
- You need support to learn about the tools of writing
- You need help in finding publishers/agents/mentors

Check out the subjects and let us know **WHAT** you WANT. **WHEN** you WANT it and **HOW** you want these workshops and **WHERE!**

We are just beginning to plan the programs for the year and we want to be sure you get what you want and need from the group.

DON'T FORGET TO BUY THE ANTHOLOGY AND CHECK OUT WHAT OTHER MEMBERS HAVE BEEN WRITING - THE STANDARD OF WRITING IS HIGH! YOU WILL BE PROUD OF YOUR FELLOW MEMBERS.

Why You Must be on the Internet
(If you are serious about writing).

Reasons:

- Editors demand you be in contact
- Research is faster
- Networking
- Professionalism
- Market research
- Critiques
- Mentoring
- Information about publishers/editors/agents etc
- COSTS

YEARLY & MONTHLY GOALS FOR WRITERS 2006

TONY

(Year)WRITE HIS 2ND NOVEL
(ALREADY COMPLETED 11 OF 22 CHAPTERS. (Month)WRITE ONE OR MORE CHAPTERS EACH MONTH.

PAMELA

(Y) REPRINT & LAUNCH '*LINDEN GIRL*' .

(M) PREPARE FOR THE LAUNCH
APRIL/MAY

JOHN

(Y) BEGIN NON FICTION WRITING
(M) WRITE...something (laughing)!

LYNETTE

(Y) COMPLETE A NOVEL
(M) LEARN THE CRAFT OF A NOVEL AND WRITE THE CHAPTERS



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JENNIFER

(Y) FINISH BOOK 'THE BODY IN THE BOATHOUSE'

(M) GET ON THE INTERNET. SPEND 3 HOURS A DAY WRITING ON COMPUTER. ALREADY SUFFICIENTLY MOTIVATED FOR RESEARCH. -CAN WRITE QUICKLY ONCE THE RESEARCH IS DONE.

JO

(Y) FINISH FIRST DRAFT OF BOOK BY MARCH AND READY TO GO TO PUBLISHER END OF APRIL

(M) ONE CHAPTER (22 CHAPTERS IN ALL) KEEP A DAILY DIARY OF THE RESEARCH AND WRITING .. AFTER SOME MONTHS ANALYSE THIS TO CHECK THE BALANCE. THE BOOK IS CONSUMING HER, KEEPING HER AWAKE, STOPPING HER GOING OUT. WANTS TO GET IT OUT OF HER SYSTEM.

ROS

(Y) HAS A STUDY SCHEDULE, ASSIGNMENTS FOR ADVANCED DIPLOMA IN ARTS, PROFESSIONAL WRITING, TAFE. THIS SEMESTER 5000 WORD BIOGRAPHY. ALSO DOING FILM AND TV WRITING. HAS 2 ½ SUBJECTS TO COMPLETE COURSE. ALSO WRITING BOOK OF INTERVIEWS WITH PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES.

OWEN

(Y) THE AIM IS TO HAVE A SHORT STORY ACCEPTED BY A LITERARY MAGAZINE. WRITE

MORE WORTHWHILE WORK. THINK OF MORE, GREAT, TOPICAL IDEAS.

HALF YEAR FEATURE ON VIENNA (M) FIND EXCITING INTERVIEWEES.

CHRIS

WRITE DAILY FOR FIVE HOURS, FINISH ONE PARTIAL AND SUBMIT BY END OF FEB.

FINISH TWO BOOKS BY END OF JUNE

(M) FOLLOW UP ON PROMOTIONAL STRATEGY

LESLEY

FINISH NOVEL BY END OF JULY 5000 WORD PER MONTH 1500 PER WEEK. SEND TO AGENT

SUSAN

(Y) HAVE NOVEL FINISHED BY END OF YEAR (REWRITING AT PRESENT)

(M) A CHAPTER REWRITTEN EACH MONTH

DIANE L

GET A SHORT STORY PUBLISHED AND GET A COMMENDATION FOR THE SHORT STORY

START A COLLECTION OF SHORT STORIES.

BEGIN SCREEN PLAY BY JUNE PREVIOUS SCREENPLAY- EDIT AND SUBMIT

SOPHIE

CHILDREN'S STORIES - HAVE ONE OR MORE ASSESSED AND SENT OFF BUT MAKE SURE IT IS OF A HIGH, POLISHED STANDARD.



MAY KEEP A JOURNAL OF IDEAS AND OBSERVATIONS TO WRITE ABOUT LATER. FINISH EARLY CHAPTERS OF SAM AND GOLIATH AND TSUMAMI BABY

ANDREW

(Y) TRY AND MARKET HIMSELF AS A WEB PAGE EDITOR AND TECHNICAL WRITER.

DEVELOP FURTHER CREATIVE SIDE - POETRY 20 OR 30 POEMS WRITTEN

DO ASSIGNMENTS FOR TAFE POETRY COURSE

BRING FIVE POEMS TO SHOW JONATHAN AT NEXT MEETING

DIANE B

FINISH MANUAL BY MAY

JONATHON

WRITE A CHAPTER A MONTH FOR A NOVEL AND COMPLETE BY END OF YEAR

TELL US YOUR AIMS AND OBJECTIVES AND WE'LL ADD THEM TO THE LIST.

We have already had our first book launch of the year and there are at least three more in the near future....add your book to the list and let's celebrate with you.

MEMBERSHIP application FORM

Writing Right, 12 Sandford St,
Kensington Gardens SA 5068 8332
6085 dyoz@ozemail.com.au

**ANNUAL FEES.....\$15 A
YEAR..... DUE Jan
(Or \$3 a meeting)**

Name.....

Address.....

.....

.....

Tel:

Mobile.....

email.....



From Wendy the Witch

It doesn't hurt to take a hard look at yourself from time to time, and this should help get you started.

During a visit to the mental asylum, a visitor asked the Director what the criteria was which defined whether or not a patient should be institutionalized.

"Well," said the Director, "we fill up a bathtub, then we offer a teaspoon, a teacup and a bucket to the patient and ask him or her to empty the bathtub."

"Oh, I understand," said the visitor. "A normal person would use the bucket because it's bigger than the spoon or the teacup."

"No." said the Director, "A normal person would pull the plug. Do you want a room with or without a view?"

In The Name of Research

A SHORT GUIDE TO WORLD'S RELIGIONS:

1. **Taoism:** Shit happens.
2. **Buddhism:** If shit happens, it's not really shit.

3. **Islam:** If shit happens, it's the will of Allah.

4. **Protestantism:** Shit happened because you didn't work hard enough.

5. **Judaism:** Why does this shit always happen to us?

6. **Hinduism:** This shit happened before.

7. **Catholicism:** Shit happens because you are bad.

8. **Hare Krishna:** Shit happens rama rama ... want to buy incense stick?

9. **Atheism:** No shit.

10. **Jehovah's witness:** Knock, Knock ... shit happens.

11. **Hedonism:** There's nothing like a good shit happening.

12. **Christian Science:** Shit happens in the mind.

13. **Agnosticism:** Maybe shit happens, maybe it doesn't.

14. **Existentialism:** What is shit anyway.

15. **Stoicism:** This shit doesn't bother me.

16. **Asatru:** Shit happens get, over it or we will have to kill you.

17. **Wiccan:** Shit happens. Stop blaming us. It ain't our fault. Remember the burning times.

18. **Satanism:** Glory Be to the Shit Happening. Chaos Rulz.

19. **Rastafarianism:** Let's smoke this shit.

No political correctness will be entered into any further religious discussion on the subject!

20 Writers: Shit! What a great subject to write about. Shit is easy to characterise, great tensions, the conflict is obvious to everyone and everyone relates to this subject. Going to start plotting immediately