



# Writing Right Newsletter

## SKILLS FOR WRITERS

At the next meetings in the SA Writers' centre and in The Cottage we will be launching, testing and celebrating Ross Duffy's generous gifts to members.

Inevitably in a writer's life they will have to speak publicly. Starting from a critique group and hopefully launching their book and public speaking to groups as a successful writer.

At the next meeting Chris Ostermann will run a brief workshop to enable us to assess and work on our strengths and weaknesses when speaking to a group. The workshop will be fun and enlightening.

Ross Duffy gave Writing Right members Speaking Stands to help writers read their work more clearly and make themselves heard in critique groups. The stands can be folded into carry bags, they are light to carry and easy to unfold. Barbara Brockhoff already tested a stand at the last critique group and we found them enormously successful.

**We need to ask ourselves these questions.**

- CAN I LAUNCH MY BOOK PROPERLY?
- AM I FRIGHTENED OF SPEAKING TO A GROUP?
- DO I READ STRONGLY AT CRITIQUE SESSIONS?
- CAN I MAKE MY VOICE HEARD IN AN INTERVIEW?
- DO I MAKE MYSELF HEARD IN DISCUSSIONS?
- CAN I PUBLICISE MY BOOK/MYSELF PROPERLY?



### INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

'Living Presence' By Gillian Cichowski	2
Our Anthology 2007 Members Published in 2006 & 2007	3
A Common Pitfall by Laura Backes	4
Eight Words With Two Meanings	5
News & Invitations	6
Web Sites	7
Griffin Press To Merge With McPhersons	8
Macmillan New Writing Submissions Opportunities For Writers	9
Membership Form	10
Contact Us	11

**Critique Session on  
SATURDAY  
JULY 7th**  
at 12 Sandford St,  
Kensington Gdns  
(in cottage at rear)  
Ph: 8332 6085  
at 2.00pm

\*\*\*

**Next Meeting on  
FRIDAY  
JULY 20th at the  
SA Writers' Centre  
Rundle St,  
2<sup>nd</sup> floor above  
Cafe Buongiorno  
at 6.30pm**

**THE NEW WRITING RIGHT ANTHOLOGY FOR 2007  
"UNCENSORED" HAS SOLD OUT. WE ARE CURRENTLY PRINTING 10  
MORE COPIES SO DON'T MISS OUT — ONLY \$20.00 EACH OR \$25.00  
INCLUDING POSTAGE**

## *OUR APOLOGIES*

*We sincerely apologise to Gillian Cichowski for failing to include her lovely poem in the 2007 Anthology. Our poem was in the two four entries and as the first two entries scored equal first and Gillian's was just below that score. The omission was a total mistake and we have no idea how the error occurred but we seriously regret the mistake. Not that dear, gentle Gillian complained – but we were mortified when we discovered the mistake. We are currently printing another 10 copies which will include this poem and Gillian will receive one of those copies. This is her brilliant poem. Diane*

### *Living Presence*

*By Gillian Cichowski*

*Here in the church there is a deep, deep silence,  
It absorbs all sound and movement and so I stand in stillness,  
The outside world is muted, remote,*

*The agony of my mother's recent passing etched into my mind,  
I wonder why we are created  
To live so briefly amongst a few bright moments  
Only then to suffer and die,*

*I search for answers on the faces of glowing stained glass images  
But they are frozen and cannot speak,*

*The sense of mystery is heavy here,  
It seeps into my body, takes over my mind,  
Stills all thought and I stand in thrall,  
Suddenly embraced by a sense of immensity  
In which all questions fall away,*

*There are so many dead,  
In the graveyard outside, in the vaults beneath my feet,  
But I become aware of a feeling of living Presence,  
Infusing all of this,  
Holding everything within it, everything,  
And suddenly I know that nothing is ever lost,  
All lives, all experiences, have value even if I do not see it,*

*I turn and walk away,  
Back out into the bright sunlight of the waiting world,  
I will always remember what I found in this cold, dark church,  
Not death but life.*

## OUR ANTHOLOGY

The Anthology sold out and we are printing 10 more copies.

This is quite an unusual thing to be able to do in publishing and it is all due to Roger Gibbs and Kerrinda Printing.

Print On Demand is a relatively new innovation, yet we are doing it here in Adelaide.

If you go to any printer/publisher they will all tell you that small print runs are terribly expensive and way beyond the realms of possibility unless you pay a great price for each copy.

However Kerrinda is doing just that – for us! Generally the smallest print run that Kerrinda will do is 50 books – and that is remarkable in the publishing trade at the very remarkably low prices Kerrinda is charging. But in the case of our Anthology *Uncensored*, Roger is doing a short print run especially for Writing Right.

We can't go on asking him to do print runs of only 10 copies so we will take orders now for those copies and then call it a day.

So if you haven't got a copy ordered yet – order now. We are holding a few copies for members who have already ordered their book, but are unable to collect at present or are out of town. We are also printing the copies to enable us to showcase them on our new booksales website.

Order now by emailing [dyoz@ozemail.com.au](mailto:dyoz@ozemail.com.au) or write to 12 Sandford Street, Kensington Gardens. SA 5068.

## MEMBERS OF WRITING RIGHT PUBLISHED LIST 2006/2007

Chris Ostermann	5
Roger Gibbs <i>Jodie Series</i>	5
Romona Hillinger	2
Astrid Cooper	2
Helen Chilcott <i>Conways' Women &amp; Trunk in the Basement</i>	2
Jennifer Di'ane <i>Ghosts On the Ghan &amp; Gypsy Rover</i>	2
Pamela Rajkowski <i>Tracks of the Camelmen &amp; Linden Girl</i>	2
Diane Beer <i>Silly Spells</i>	1
Anthology 2006 <i>Members</i>	1
<b><u>TOTAL FOR 2006</u></b>	<b><u>22</u></b>

Chris Ostermann	4
<i>Princess Series &amp; Operation Imposter</i>	
Tony Bran <i>Ravens of Ravensgate</i>	1
Monika Hein <i>The Secret</i>	1
Helen Chilcott <i>Waiting For Misty</i>	1
Nicholas Fourikis <i>Hollywood Amaroo</i>	1
Diane Beer <i>Writing Made Easy</i>	1
Jill Millburn <i>Broken Swallow</i>	1
Anthology 2007 <i>Members</i>	1
Romona Hillinger <i>Peacock Emerald &amp; .....</i>	2
<b><u>TOTAL FOR 2007</u></b>	<b><u>13</u></b>

## THAT MAKES A TOTAL OF 35 BOOKS IN 18 MONTHS

Writing Right and Kerrinda Printing printed 17 books in 18 MONTHS and there are several more in the pipeline. This list is a work in progress – let us know your details so we can update this list.

## A COMMON PITFALL: EXPOSITORY DIALOGUE

by [Laura Backes](#)  
[Children's Book Insider](#)

Dialogue adds to the narrative by allowing your characters to speak for themselves. It's not simply narrative surrounded by quotation marks. I've read manuscripts where the main character says something like:

"I don't know where I am. I've never been in this part of the city before. I think I'll walk down the street and turn left at this corner. Maybe I'll see someone who I can ask for directions. It sure is cold out."

When the character is explaining his actions to the reader, the dialogue is not adding to the story. Dialogue should hint at events in the plot by showing your character's reaction to his situation. It also encompasses broad strokes of action. Any small details necessary to the story can be shown through brief narrative passages. If you were this character, what would you say out loud, what would you think, and what would you simply

do? Here's how the above example could be rewritten:

Josh looked at the unfamiliar buildings and finally admitted that he was lost. "Where are all the people?" he asked himself. "Maybe I'll find someone around the corner who can tell me how to get home." He blew on his hands, trying to warm them. "Mom told me to bring my coat", he thought. "I hate it when she's right."

By showing your character's reaction to his situation, you give details to the reader about who this character is. You can also provide information about other characters in your story through the main character's speech, as Lois Lowry does in "Anastasia on Her Own":

(Anastasia)dropped her schoolbooks on the kitchen table with a thump. "What's for dinner?" she asked her mother. "Why are you just standing there with that sort of frown on your face? And your lips are green. Why are your lips green?"

Because Anastasia doesn't miss a beat before

asking her mother about her green lips, the reader gets the impression that this is not an unusual event in the Krupnik household.

When writing for young children, it's especially important that the dialogue be very active, constantly moving the story forward. Consider this example from "The Cat in the Hat" by Dr. Seuss. The cat has just walked in and asked the children why they are sitting around on a rainy day.

"I know some good games we could play," Said the cat. "I know some new tricks," Said the Cat in the Hat. "A lot of good tricks. I will show them to you. Your mother Will not mind at all if I do, "

In this brief passage we learn a bit about the cat's personality, what he has planned for the afternoon and how he feels about parental rules, all without a drop of narrative.

**From the [Write4Kids...a brilliant website for people wanting to write children's books successfully](#)**

## EIGHT WORDS WITH TWO MEANINGS

### 1. THINGY (thing-ee) n.

Female..... Any part under a car's hood.

Male..... The strap fastener on a woman's bra.

### 2. VULNERABLE (vul-ne-rah-bel) adj.

Female.... Fully opening up one's self emotionally to another.

Male.... Playing cricket without a box.

### 3. COMMUNICATION (ko-myoo-ni-kay-shon) n.

Female... The open sharing of thoughts and feelings with one's partner.

Male... Leaving a note before taking off on a fishing trip with the boys.

### 4. COMMITMENT (ko-mit-ment) n.

Female.... A desire to get married and raise a family.

Male..... Trying not to hit on other women while out with this one.

### 5. ENTERTAINMENT (en-ter-tayn-ment) n.

Female.... A good movie, concert, play or book.

Male..... Anything that can be done while drinking beer.

### 6. FLATULENCE (flach-u-lens) n.

Female.... An embarrassing by product of indigestion.

Male..... A source of entertainment, self-expression, male

bonding.

### 7. MAKING LOVE (may-king luv) n.

Female..... The greatest expression of intimacy a couple can achieve.

Male.. Call it whatever you want, just as long as we do it.

### 8. REMOTE CONTROL (ri-moht kon-trohl) n.

Female.... A device for changing from one TV channel to another.

Male... A device for scanning through all 375 channels every 5 minutes.

AND;

He said . . . I don't know why you wear a bra; you've got nothing to put in it.

She said . . . You wear pants don't you?

He said . . . Shall we try swapping positions tonight?

She said . That's a good idea - you stand by the ironing board while I sit on the sofa and fart!

He said . . . What have you been doing with all the grocery money I gave you?

She said . . . Turn sideways and look in the mirror!

He said . . . Why don't you tell me when you have an orgasm?

She said . . . I would but you're never there.

He said . . . Why don't women blink during foreplay?

She said . . They don't have time

He said . . How many men does it take to change a roll of toilet paper?

She said . . We don't know; it has never happened.

He said . . Why is it difficult to find men who are sensitive, caring and Good-looking?

She said ..... . They already have boyfriends.

She said...What do you call a woman who knows where her husband is every night?

He said . . . A widow.

He said . . . Why are married women heavier than single women?

She said . . . Single women come home, see what's in the fridge and go to bed. Married women come home, see what's in bed and go to the fridge.

SEND THIS TO A SMART WOMAN WHO NEEDS A LAUGH AND TO THE GUYS YOU THINK CAN HANDLE IT!

## INVITATION

### The Wagner Society of SA - July Meeting

Dr Nicholas Fourikis will present

"The Gang of Three: Wagner, Schopenhauer & Nietzsche"

Nicholas would outline the work of the three men and trace their stormy relationships. While Wagner the master composer left us with memorable 'music dramas' and the two philosophers with revolutionary propositions, our three heroes were human, all too human.

Date and time: 8.00 p.m.

Thursday 19 July 2007

Venue: Irish Harp Room, 128 Prospect Road, Prospect

[ part of the Prospect Council Chambers]

Members \$5, very welcome  
non-members \$7

Tea, coffee, nibbles and discussion to follow

### GETTING A START

Writers start with an idea. And usually the idea takes hold until you are longing to write – to communicate that idea with others.

Of course everyone gets ideas. But the difference between writers and others is that writers want to write about their idea.

So the main problem writers face is how to develop and communicate that idea in a form that captures the interest of readers.

A MESSAGE FROM THE SA WRITERS' CENTRE TO PUBLISHED WRITERS

### Urgent urgent urgent

As part of the SA Writers' Festival, the centre is producing a list of books that have been published in the last two years. If your book has come out (or is soon to be released) between September 2005 and September 2007, please email us the following:

Your name

Name of book

Publisher

Date

A one sentence blurb about the book A jpeg of the cover (optional) ... by the beginning of July.

Replies should be sent to  
[admin@sawriters.on.net](mailto:admin@sawriters.on.net)

SA Writers' Centre

PO Box 43

Rundle Mall

Adelaide 5000

<http://www.dreamcraft.com/writingright/home.htm>

**Check out the latest development on our site. This is just a start folks, but quite a big step for Writing Right.**

**Now we have to market our site and let everyone know how it works.**

**We are up and running and still have some work to do to put more books up on the site. Still some covers to go up and more books will surely be lifted to the site very very soon.**

**Click on the books and have a look at what we are doing.**

**I think this deserves some bubbles and a bit of a launch.**

Let us know what you think about the site  
[dyo@ozemail.com.au](mailto:dyo@ozemail.com.au)

## WEB SITES

Our Web Site now is now connected to PAY PAL and members can buy and sell books on the site.

Check out our site:

<http://www.dream-craft.com/writingright/home.htm>

This one was recommended by Astrid Cooper

If you don't already have this website bookmarked, please consider doing so! It is the best place to go for industry alerts and all manner of interesting stuff.

It's hosted by Science Fiction Writers of America: (don't disregard because of the "science fiction writers" name -- it's beneficial for all authors):-

<http://www.sfwaw.org/beware/>

For writers of fantasy etc...

<http://www.newceres.com/doku.php>

NEW PUBLISHER CALLS FOR SUBMISSIONS FROM EXPERIENCED AUTHORS

"Devine Destinies" is a new publishing company specialising in works that have "new age", "metaphysical"

or "fantastic" storylines.

(But—wait (*you say*) – isn't the spelling of "devine" wrong? Yes, but it is done for a reason and what that reason is, you will soon discover).

The publisher has many years' experience in the electronic and print publishing world and her editorial staff is similarly qualified and experienced.

The website is under construction. The company will be "opening its doors" October/November, 2007.

The publisher will only accept work of the highest standard that pushes the boundaries. "The emphasis at Devine is on quality NOT quantity."

For more information on submissions, please read the "submission guidelines" at: <http://www.devinedestinies.com>

If you wish to read a sample contract, please email the publisher below and request a copy.

If you have any material that you feel falls within the parameters of the company's vision and publishing guidelines, please forward your query to: [devinedestinies@gmail.com](mailto:devinedestinies@gmail.com)

### Comments from the Editor when working on Helen Chilcott's book, *The Trunk in The Basement*.

Helen,

Wow! You are AMAZING! *The Trunk in the Basement* has such an intricate, well-thought out plot. I am so impressed. Needless to say, I did not find any problems with the storyline. It was a little slow going for me in the beginning, but as soon as I got to part 2, it seemed to move right along.

You do so have a way with words!

I am pleased to be working with you!

Heather :)

**You don't hear these sort of comments from editors very often!!!**



#### NEXT MEETINGS & ROSS DUFFY'S GIFTS TO WRITERS

At the next meetings in the SA Writers' centre and in The Cottage we will be launching, testing and celebrating Ross Duffy's generous gifts to members.

Critique Session on Saturday July 7<sup>th</sup> at 12 Sandford St Kensington Gdns (in the cottage at rear) at 2 pm.  
Ph: 8332 6085 for information.

The next meeting on July 20<sup>th</sup> in the SA in the SA Writers' Centre Rundle St., 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor above Café Buongiorno at 6.30 pm

## GRIFFIN PRESS AND MCPHERSON'S TO MERGE

Griffin Press and McPherson's Printing--the two main book printers in Australia--have announced a merger plan.

Griffin Press' owner PMP and McPherson's will each own 50% of the merged group, creating 'a one-stop shop for book printing requirements,' according to [a statement](#) from PMP CEO Brian Evans. The merger is subject to 'relevant approvals,' but will take effect from 29 June if approved.

'The new company will have the scale and capital resources necessary to invest in new technologies, such as the latest release digital book presses,' said Ev-

ans. 'This investment is needed to respond to customer demand for shorter press runs and "just-in-time" inventory management.'

Alan Fahy, currently chief executive of McPherson's, will be CEO of the combined company; and Ben Jolly will remain as general manager of Griffin Press. Both trading names will continue to be used and the new entity will operate across Griffin's site in Adelaide and McPhersons' two sites in Victoria.

'This gives us the potential to keep the book-printing work in Australia,' Evans said.

From Bookseller and Publisher online

## EROTIC WRITING WANTED

Information supplied by Astrid Cooper

Extasy is an erotica publisher, but a lot of the authors have "spec fic" stories (moi included - <g>)

eXtasy is open for submissions. We are looking for Novella (preferably 20,000 words) and above. Any genre welcome, although the market does tend to lean toward gay, science fiction, paranormal, vampires, werewolves and shapeshifters.

Please visit our website for sample contract and guidelines:

[http://www.extasybooks.com/mm5/merchant.mvc?Screen=SUB&Store\\_Code=EB](http://www.extasybooks.com/mm5/merchant.mvc?Screen=SUB&Store_Code=EB)

Please send submissions to: [extasy-books@gmail.com](mailto:extasy-books@gmail.com)

**JOHN WILLANSKI CORDIALLY INVITES ALL MEMBERS TO  
AN ART EXHIBITION BEING HELD BY THE S.A. LIVING  
ARTISTS.**

**OPENING NIGHT ON WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 8TH AT 6.00  
PM AT THE NORWOOD TOWN HALL.**

**JOHN WILL BE FEATURING 3 PIECES OF HIS OWN WORK.**

## MACMILLAN NEW WRITING SUBMISSIONS

Macmillan New Writing is a fiction list, published by one of the world's great publishing houses, which gives a voice to talented new authors who might otherwise fail to get into print.

We offer standardised terms and conditions which are modest at the outset but which nevertheless leave the commercial risk with the publisher rather than the author. The author receives no advance payment, but pays nothing and will enjoy an open-ended royalty arrangement at a relatively high level.

If you have a novel which you would like us to consider for the Macmillan New Writing list, we would be delighted to hear from you, but please do take a moment to read the following notes before submitting.

### What kind of books does Macmillan New Writing publish?

MNW publishes novels in all genres, by authors who have not previously had a novel published.

### What kind of books doesn't Macmillan New Writing publish?

We do not publish non-fiction, children's books, poetry, short stories or novellas. Nor are we able to consider incomplete novels or proposals for novels which have yet to be written.

Although MNW also publishes second novels by authors who made their debut with the imprint, we do not publish work by authors who have previously had a first novel published elsewhere.

### How can I submit my novel?

All emailed submissions should include the novel's title in the Subject line.

The body of the email should contain a short synopsis and biographical note (including details of any previously published work), and the entire novel should be attached as a single file. Please do not send typescripts as individual chapter files, or as 'compressed' or 'zipped' files.

If you would like to post us your novel as a print-out, please send it to our office:

Macmillan New Writing  
20 New Wharf Road  
London  
N1 9RR

including a synopsis and covering letter, and a stamped, self-addressed envelope for reply.

If we do not wish to publish your novel, we will endeavour to let you know in six to ten weeks. Unfortunately, due to the large number of submissions we receive, we are unable to discuss work that we have decided not to publish.

If we do wish to consider publication of your novel, we will send you a copy of our guide for potential authors, which outlines the terms of the author agreement.

Please email your submission to us at [newwriting@macmillan.co.uk](mailto:newwriting@macmillan.co.uk)

Thank you for your interest in Macmillan New Writing. We look forward to hearing from you!

## OPPORTUNITIES FOR WRITERS

\*\*Nominations for the [Westfield/Waverley Library Award for Literature for 2007](#) close on 13th July. The Award, worth \$15,000 will be presented for excellence in research in the creation of a literary work of merit, first published in the last year.\*\*

\*\*aduki independent press is seeking submissions for a themed essay collection. Essays should be 5000 words in length and those published will receive \$200. See [aduki.net.au](http://aduki.net.au) for more details. Submissions close 3 August.\*\*

\*\*The NSW Writers' Centre is presenting the [Coves Historical Writing Competition 2007](#), an award for unpublished pieces of historical fiction and non-fiction. Entries close 17th August.\*\*

\*\*The [Maygog Publishing Short Story Competition](#) has been officially opened, so now all you need to do is write a story of 2500 words or less on any subject in any style. Entries close 31 August 2007.\*\*

\*\*The Eastern Writers Group [Biggest Little Short Story Competition](#) is on again... if you can write a story in 500 words, you could be the next winner. Entries close 30 September.\*\*

### **The Examiner Port Stephens Literature Awards 2007**

\$1300 in prize money.

Adults: - Short stories up to 2500 words on any theme.

Children: - Short stories up to 500 words on any theme.

Two sections: Authors 6 - 12 years and Authors 13 - 16 years.

Entry fee: - \$5 per story.

Standard competition conditions apply - NO ENTRY FORM required.

Separate cover sheet with story title and author's contact details.

Stories to be typed and double spaced

Postal orders or cheques made out to TACE - cash accepted.

Address: Literature Competition

6 The Parkway North

MALLABULA NSW 2319

Enquiries to Geoff Walker on 02-4982-4095.

Closing date is 28 September, 2007



# Writing Right

12 Sandford Street, Kensington Gardens S. Aust. 5068  
08 8332 6085 [dyoz@ozemail.com.au](mailto:dyoz@ozemail.com.au)

**Meetings:** Third Friday of each month at 6.30pm  
in the SA Writers' Centre. 187 Rundle Street, Adelaide 5000  
(Upstairs above Buongiorno café lift to 2<sup>nd</sup> floor)

**Critique groups:** First Saturday of each month from 2 pm at 12 Sandford  
Street, Kensington Gardens.

**On Line Critiquing:** Link through our webpage  
<http://www.dream-craft.com/writingright/home.htm>

## **MEMBERSHIP application FORM**

Writing Right, 12 Sandford St, Kensington Gardens SA 5068 8332 6085 [dyoz@ozemail.com.au](mailto:dyoz@ozemail.com.au)

ANNUAL FEES \$25 A YEAR DUE Jan

Name.....

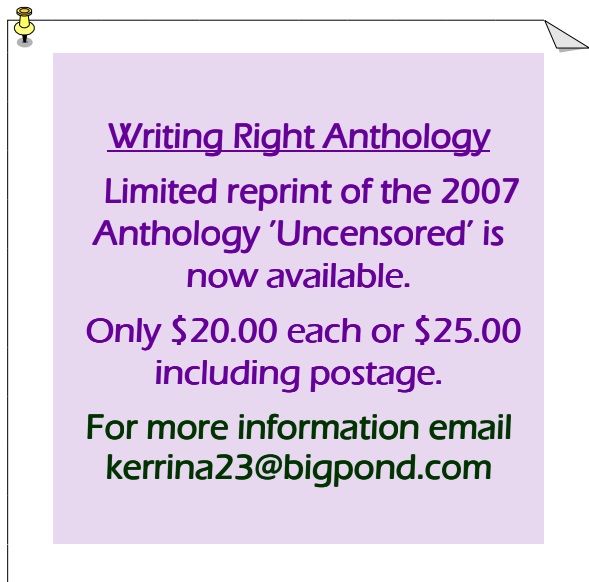
Address.....

.....

Tel:.....Mobile.....email.....

Newsletter Editor: Kristi Savage  
Published by Writing Right  
12 Sandford Road  
Kensington Gardens SA 5068

CONTACT US:  
Phone: (08) 8332 6085  
Email: [dyo@ozemail.com.au](mailto:dyo@ozemail.com.au)  
Email: [kristisavage@optusnet.com.au](mailto:kristisavage@optusnet.com.au)



Writing Right Anthology  
Limited reprint of the 2007 Anthology 'Uncensored' is now available.  
Only \$20.00 each or \$25.00 including postage.  
For more information email [kerrina23@bigpond.com](mailto:kerrina23@bigpond.com)

Ensure the book trade has the complete picture!

Ensure the book trade receives a full bibliographic record of your local releases by providing cover images directly to the Nielsen BookData/ James Bennett data collection team.

Simply email to [images@bennett.com.au](mailto:images@bennett.com.au) with your cover image in JPEG format, height 648 pixels, resolution 100 dpi, saved as ISBN.jpg. Dust jackets/books for scanning can also be sent to NBD/ JB Data Collection, Locked Bag 537, Frenchs Forest NSW 1640.

For more information please contact our helpful data collection staff on (02) 9986-7084.

**HELP US TO HELP YOU IN 2007**

TELL US WHAT YOU NEED?

WHAT INFORMATION WOULD HELP YOU TO GET PUBLISHED?

DO YOU WANT MORE WORKSHOPS?

DO YOU WANT MORE SPEAKERS? – WHAT SUBJECTS?

SEND YOUR EMAILS TO [dyo@ozemail.com.au](mailto:dyo@ozemail.com.au)



**\*\* REMINDER \*\***

**MEMBERSHIP FEES  
DUE JANUARY 2007**

\$25 per annum

Send cheque or money order to:

**Writing Right  
12 Sandford Road  
Kensington Gardens  
SA 5068**