



Writing Right

Publisher Writingright

Volume No. 1

Issue No. 9

Date Sept 2005

NEXT MEETING
Friday Sept 16th
6.30 pm upstairs SA Writing
Centre...contact 8332 6085

We tell a lie (above):

Really the next meeting is on the First Saturday afternoon of the month..... Saturday, September 3rd 2 pm In the cottage behind the main house at 12 Sandford Street Kensington Gdns call 8332 6085

**Interesting new Venue:
This may be a social overload, but the event looks wonderfully interesting.**

This is an open invitation to any interested regarding a new poetry evening to be held in the city. The evening is called "Free Speech" and will be held on the first Sunday of every month.

Below are some details. I'd be very keen to here your thoughts or your members thoughts.

Thanks,
Marco

"Free Speech"

Poetry and Spoken Word @ The Lizard Lounge 9 Hindley Street, Adelaide Sunday the 4th of September 7.30pm - late Free Entry - Live Music - Word Games.

(If anyone is interested we could get a party together???)

A short introduction:

The Lizard Lounge is a relatively new venue dedicated to providing space for new and alternative artists, as well as generating cultural activity in Adelaide. "Free Speech" is a new night at the Lizard Lounge, to be held on the first Sunday of every month at 7.30pm until late. It's essentially an open mic. night - open to all forms of the spoken word - with live music and word games as well. Cheap meals and drinks will be available and entry is free.

Love a good Whine?

California's Napa Valley, famous for its Pinot Noir wines has a new one that acts as a diuretic for the aged, (plagued by night loo-trips)...it's called Pinot-more.

By Des Maguire (copied from Barossa Leader)

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- Smells Stinks & Perfume**
- Freeling Workshops**
- Short Story Contest**
- Conference - March**
- Membership form**



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ABOUT US

Getting the most out of Writing Right.....Members meet online at Writingright@yahoo.com to share information, critiquing and ideas in an atmosphere of friendly help in all aspects of writing.

Writing Right is associated with the SA Writing Centre, Rundle Street, Adelaide where our meetings are held on the 3rd Friday of every month.

Membership for monthly meetings in Adelaide costs \$15 a year (or \$3 a meeting) to cover rental of premises and newsletters. The group is a nonprofit organization dedicated to writers and their needs. Monthly critique meetings are also held on the first Saturday of each month at Kensington.

Further details from :
dyoz@ozemail.com.au or Writing Right,
12 Sandford Street, Kensington Gardens.
South Australia 5068 Tel: 08 8332 6085

EXCITING ANNOUNCEMENT

Workshops to be held in October in Freeling with lunch in McLeod's Daughter's Pub - Gungellan Hotel all for the ridiculous price of \$15 for the entire day.
Registration form later in this newsletter.

Our Web Site is up and running at:

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

This website gives members a chance to have their own page to publicise their work – members can click in at any time to get information about meetings or a copy of the newsletter and news of coming event. Contests and enrollment forms will be on the site and hints and links that help writers connect with publishers and publishing information.

Tell us how we can help you most and what you would like to see on the website.

Websites

**Promote your own websites here
Give us your address:**

Member Chris Ostermann:
<http://www.christinacarlisle.com/>

If you need your own website contact the staff at DreamCraft at support@dream-craft.com

Interesting line to learn how to pitch your book:
<http://www.kathycarmichael.com/pitch.generator.html>

Romance link:
<http://sensualromance.writerspace.com/links.html>

Essential link for legal information and publishing news:
<http://www.asauthors.org/cgi-bin/asa/information.cgi>

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NEW CRITIQUE GROUP report

The first critique group meeting, (planned for the first Saturday of each month) was definitely a success.

We all need feedback on our writing and we want feedback that is supportive, practical and constructive. About 20 writers gathered for the first meeting and most found the session productive and the interaction friendly.

The critique is held in the cottage is behind the main house, so if no one answers the door, go around the back to the cottage.

For more details call 8332 6085 or write to; dyoz@ozemail.com.au

MARCH CONFERENCE

The Writefest conference being organized by Kapunda writers for March next year is gets more exciting by the week as plans evolve.

Writing Right is responsible for the program at the Awards Dinner on the Saturday night and we are planning a great wind-up party. The workshops in Freeling in October will give Adelaide and Kapunda writers a chance to get to know each other before the March conference.

SMELLS – STINKS – PERFUME

To a great extent we have all lost the ability to read the intricate messages in all the smells around us. Yet as writers – these are subtle messages to the readers.

The thought struck home when I received sympathy for having to sit beside a very smelly woman during a workshop. She was cloaked in the pure smell of fear, but for many it was simply body odour. Her welcoming smile belied her fear of public speaking but her body odour communicated the message. Luckily, recognizing the source of her fear stopped me from finding her odour offensive.

We all relate popcorn to theatres, hot frying oil to fish and chip shops and know the smell of a dirty body.

But do we know the smell of a fox when we walk up a bush road, the smell of a person wanting sex, the smell of a classroom of kids on a hot day, the smell of rain on the outback, on a bitumen road, on the hair or our beloved? The smell of different races who eat different foods, the smell of a newborn baby, of a spring garden, of hot blood, of hot metal, of pigeons roosting and my new favourite – of a bearded dragon. Smells are linked closely with memory, so they are almost as important as adjectives to a writer who wants to weave subtle magic into the pages. Writers need to be more aware of their 'senses' than most people. The effect of sounds when creating atmospheres. The touch and feel of silks, satins, tweeds, corduroy, velvets and brocades. Or more importantly the feel of skin that is clammy, cool, smooth, prickly, old, new, sun scarred or fevered.



Writing It Right

What do you want to do with your writing. Do you want to inform, persuade or explain. Do you want to entertain, interpret, motivate or publicise a point. Do you want to advocate a philosophy, a belief, a stance. Are you writing for yourself, for others or for a hobby. Make sure you have all the facts, research, quotes, details of interest and guts of the story or article you intend to write.

Know your audience and what they want from you. Know their beliefs, values, education, attitudes and interests. Keep remembering who you are writing for, their knowledge of your subject, their age, sex, demographics, ethnic groups and income.

Choose how you will present your story. Will your story be in chronological order, or will you start at the point of conflict or will you start at the present time and revert to flashbacks to fill in the background later.

Use strong, active words to liven the writing and shorten sentences. Passive voice create boring sentences.

Avoid out-of-date or overused terms or cliches.

Use active verbs instead of gerunds and other nouns derived from verbs (words ending in -tion, -ity, -ing);

Use specific, concrete words and terms that you can see, hear, touch, smell or taste.

Use short, simple, familiar words, ones learned early in life, instead of bigger, less-used ones. Words become harder to read as you add more syllables.

Some claim the rule is 100 to 130 syllables per 100 words.

Use non-technical words that are familiar to your audience whenever possible. If you use a technical term, define it immediately.

Use working words that say what they mean.

USE	DON'T USE
Because	Due to the fact that
Soon	In the future
For a week	For the period of a week
Only	Nobody else but

Aim for about 17 to 20 words per sentence and vary length to create variety.

Minimize the number of prepositional phrases in a sentence.

Vary the way you start sentences. End each sentence with a forceful word.

Paragraphs create white space and help readers work their way through a page. You may lose your readers if they see few paragraphs and little white space. Each paragraph should contain one idea. Put the most important idea first in the paragraph if possible.

Bridge the gaps between sentences and paragraphs with transitional words to keep the work flowing.



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ENTRY FORM

Name:.....
.....

Address:.....
.....

State: P/code: Country:
.....

Contact Phone:

Email.....

Entry Title:
.....
...

PAYMENT DETAILS

Money order _____

Cheque (in Australian dollars) payable to **Writing Right** _____
Cash

WAIVER

I acknowledge that I have read and understood the Conditions of Entry for this contest. I certify that I am the original author of the entry and that at the time of submission it has not been accepted for publication. I understand that ideas and titles cannot be copyrighted. I accept that the contest judging is subjective and agree to abide by the decisions of the readers, judges, sponsors, and/or contest



MEMBERSHIP application FORM

Writing Right

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

**ANNUAL FEES \$15 A YEAR DUE
IN January
(Or \$3 a meeting)**

Name.....

Address.....
.....

Tel No:.....

Mobile.....

email.....

**Please enclose a stamped addressed
envelope for return of receipt**

WHAT YOU GET FOR YOUR DOLLAR

Apart from the newsletter and free attendance at meetings, members get professional skills development workshops, publicity through out website, meetings and newsletter.

Member gain support from other writers when they need information about their work.

Free monthly critique sessions are held, apart from those at meetings.

Free publicity on our website.

Free access to our link-line where they can always get information and support as well as getting their work critiqued on line.

News about coming events in the publishing industry and the where, how, why and when of their craft.

Meeting other writers makes us write more!

Writing tips

Be careful not to form comparatives or superlatives of adjectives which already express an extreme of comparison — *unique*, for instance — although it probably is possible to form comparative forms of most adjectives: something can be *more perfect*, and someone can have a *fuller* figure. People who argue that one woman cannot be *more pregnant* than another have never been nine-months pregnant with twins.

Vigorous writing is concise. A sentence should contain no unnecessary words, a paragraph no unnecessary sentences, for the same reason that a drawing should have no unnecessary lines and a machine no unnecessary parts. This requires not that the writer make all his sentences short, or that he avoid all detail and treat his subjects only in outline, but that every word tell.

— William Strunk Jr.
in *Elements of Style*



WRITING WORKSHOPS At Freeling (Institute Building)

Saturday October 29th 10am – 4pm

ONLY \$15 total registration costs - includes lunch at the Gungellan Hotel (the site of McLeod's Daughters) BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL

Program includes:

1. **Hooks, Handles and Headlines - (to grab readers/editors)**
2. **The Do's and Don'ts of Publishing**
3. **Body Language – (a clue for characterisation)**
4. **Sizzling Sex Sells – (Sexual Tension - Even in historicals)**

Experienced speakers and workshop leaders will present:

- **Interactive workshops**
- **Valuable information to get published**
- **The basics of writing**

Registration and bookings essential

Further information from: Writing Right

12 Sandford Street, Kensington Gardens SA 5068

dyoz@ozemail.com.au Tel: 83326085

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

Cost includes morning and afternoon refreshments & workshop handouts

PS This is going to be a hellova party. Even if you don't watch McLeod's daughters – it will be cute to be one of their sets. Book early places must be limited.

Looking forward to the 'Body Language' workshop!

CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS

Zumaya Publications of Garibaldi Highlands, British Columbia, is seeking anthologies of true ghost stories with specific themes. Of particular interest are collections set in countries other than the US similar to our just-published GRAY ZONE WANDERERS. Collections should be 65,000 words or more in length, and photos of locations or other relevant material are welcome with proper permissions.

Stories in a proposed collection MUST have historical support and have been experienced by multiple observers. Research sources must be provided and interviews with persons involved are very much preferred over simple recording of the information. Thorough research to eliminate stories that have a proven mundane explanation is required; however, the operative word is "proven." If subsequent manifestations defy the explanation, they can be included.

An example of what we're looking for is *GRAY ZONE WANDERERS: THE HAUNTED PLACES OF NORWAY* by Cherri Dohlen, published in English by Zumaya.

Please send a proposal with c.v. to Elizabeth Burton at cquisitions@zumayapublications.com. Include all relevant contact details, including name, mailing address, phone number and email address. Projects accepted will be tentatively scheduled for publication beginning in 2007. Or contact Gillian Curtin asti8@bigpond.com



KING ARTHUR

The Round Table, knights in shining armour, loyalty betrayed; love lost, magic and enchantment ... the Arthurian legends are timeless and their appeal is universal.



NEW VISIONS OF CAMELOT:

Zumaya Publications announces that submissions are sought for **FABLED TOWERS**, a collection of stories to explore both the substance and meaning of the Arthurian Cycle.

Stories of the Arthurian characters, past present and future, as well as tales relating to the legend are needed. Please -- no horror, no formula romance, no graphic violence. We're looking for new takes on old stories -- true speculative fiction that extrapolates from the original.

The anthology will be edited by talented writer/editor ASTRID COOPER, a committed Arthur-ophile for more than 40 years.

Length: 5,000 – 10,000 words.
Proposed publication date: 2008.

Payment: 2 copies of anthology. Authors will also be able to purchase unlimited copies for resale at cost plus \$2 (US). Contributing authors retain all rights except those specifically acquired for publication as a trade paperback anthology and in electronic format. Contributing authors are advised that extensive promotion of the anthology is intended.

Net proceeds will be donated to Doctors Without Borders and the World Society for the Protection of Animals (WSPA).

Deadline: July, 31, 2006.

Submissions:

Please send one print copy of your submission together with a disc copy (WORD format), to:

Astrid Cooper

Fabled Towers Anthology

PO Box 514

KAPUNDA SA 5373. Australia.

Include all relevant contact details: name, mailing address, phone number and email address.

Astrid will acknowledge receipt of all submissions via email.

Electronic submissions? Query first:

editorial@zumayapublications.com

For more information: Elizabeth K Burton at the above email address.