



## November 2009 Newsletter

At the start of this month we say goodbye to Jean Kent. It feels like too soon but everyone at KSP wishes you the best of luck in your endeavours. We have the honour of welcoming our new Young Writer in Residence, Jessica Stalley, into our midst. She's a local speculative fiction author with a bright future ahead of her. She'll be staying with us for two weeks, working on her supernatural novels. Glad to have you with us, Jessica, and we hope you have an enjoyable and productive stay.

Sunday December 6th is Katharine's Birthday - 11.00am Volunteer thanks and lunch, 1.30pm Poetry Awards, 3.00pm Short Fiction Awards..

We've had our big Write-a-Book-in-a-Day Competition Award Ceremony at The Boulevard Centre in Floreat. Congratulations to all the winning and commended teams! The amount of entries and funds raised this year was a record for WABIAD so a big congratulations is in order for every school who participated. Well done!

This issue is jam packed with competitions, awards and opportunities for writing- so many we had trouble fitting them all in!

We love to celebrate our members. Let us know if you've received an accolade or have accomplished something wonderful in your personal writing. We'd also love small articles or photos of KSP events.

### Events in November

**Wednesday 7 October – Tuesday 3 November** Established Writer-In-Residence Jean Kent

**Saturday 7 - Saturday 21** Young Writer-In-Residence Jessica Stalley

**Saturday 7 - Sunday 8** Darlington Arts Festival

**Saturday 14 November 1pm – 4 pm** Looking at the 'big picture': Structural editing for prose writers' with Amanda Curtin

**Tuesday 17 7pm – 10 pm** Literary Dinner with Young Writer-In-Residence Jessica Stalley

**Saturday 21 1pm – 4pm** Workshop 'Creating a Novel Blueprint' with Young Writer-In-Residence Jessica Stalley

**Saturday 28 7pm – 9pm:** Book presentation: "The Kimberley Series" by Joel Smoker

## *Helen Gildfind: Thankyou*

Apparently I brought the rain with me to Perth but, coming from a very dry Melbourne, this weather provided me the 'cosy' atmosphere I needed to settle in to my beautiful cabin in Katherine's garden.

After Katrin patiently explained and re-explained timetables to me (for I seemed to have left that part of my brain at home!), I soon established a routine of writing, walking, reading, and attending all of the writers' groups that congregate here. Every group was very welcoming and encouraging,



and I was struck repeatedly by the range of engaging people and projects that KSP seems to attract. It was great fun watching Paula keep a handle on her very cheeky Young Writers on Tuesdays, and the range of quality of their work was impressive. The Write Free and Thursday Night group endured readings of my own work, *Paper People*, and listening to their writing, and hearing reactions to my own, has given me much needed perspective on my project. I was lucky enough to have Faye drive me through the countryside to meet the Northam Group. Again, the diversity of the people and projects in this group was fascinating. The very professional writers in the Poetry Group humbled me with their talent and have inspired me to work harder: I must become a better poet! Past Tense, Scriptwriters, Sci Fi and Non Fiction have each given me insight into areas of writing that I have very little experience of. Attending the Poetry Club in the city offered me insight into the 'poetry scene' here in Perth, and also got me out of weeding for Chris's busy-bee in Katherine's garden (though he had me laying down the water-system before I could escape)!

Having met so many interesting and friendly people, I was not a *complete* nervous wreck at the literary dinner. Wobbling behind the podium, I managed to inflict some of my work onto a very sympathetic crowd. Thank you for coming! It was a beautiful night, and I felt honoured by the effort that the committee went to in order to make it so. My workshop, 'Panning for Gold,' went well despite no handouts (my fault!) and dying whiteboard markers (KSP's fault!). Many words were

written and I am surprised people didn't revolt at being worked so hard! Hopefully, as well as sore wrists, some stories will emerge from this class.

KSP is a very inclusive, warm and encouraging place for the wide range of people who come here. Being around a range of people, with a range of life and writing experiences, has been inspiring and has reminded me that 'writers' are, first and foremost, 'people who write'! It has been liberating to be reminded that writing for the joy, fascination and discipline of it are the first and last reasons to write at all. Being here has also emphasised to me what a strange beast writing is: something that is solitary in the making and (typically) in the reading, but also something that *always* demands community in order to both exist and to flourish.

Thank you to *everyone* who has made my stay so comfortable and productive! (By Helen Gildfind)

## *What's been happening @KSP*

### **New addition to the KSP library from Helen Gildfind**

Helen Gildfind has kindly donated The Penguin Anthology of Australian Poetry – edited by John Kinsella to the KSP library. Thank you so much, Helen. Books can be borrowed from the library by KSP members.

### **School Holiday Write-a-Rama with Dr Melissa O'Shea**

From the 6th to the 8th, young budding writers enjoyed the three day School Holiday Write-a-Rama with Dr Melissa O'Shea.

During the Write-a-Rama the kids learned how write humour and suspense with children's novelist David Caddy and were treated to an



excursion to Caversham Wildlife Park and the Margaret River Chocolate Company in the Swan Valley. On their last day, screenwriter Paul

Wayne showed them how popular TV shows create humour and suspense, then let them loose to create possible future TV hits.

The Chocolate Company was, not surprisingly, a big hit with the

## *What's been happening @ KSP*

kids. Learning to write comedy also got rave reviews, many of the kids saying it was their favourite part. The kids showed a bright enthusiasm and skill for writing and had a great time making new friends, helped and encourage along the way by Dr. Melissa O'Shea. One happy participant giving the experience a "700/10". Their work will be published in a Write-A-Rama anthology to enjoy for years to come.

### **Literary Dinner with Established Writer-In-Residence Jean Kent**

Twelve KSP writers and guests attended the literary dinner given for Jean Kent, on Tuesday evening the 20th. This was pure indulgence, in food, wine and most certainly in the opportunity to immerse ourselves in the poetry of esteemed guest poet, Jean Kent.



In between courses of the delightful meal, Jean read poems from her published collections, *Verandahs* and *The Satin Bower Bird*. The several poets in attendance found themselves in awe of her word usage, precise imagery and the extent to which she stretches the imagination.

### **Workshop 'Poetry for Luminous Tortoises' with Established Writer-In-Residence Jean Kent**

Guided by the skill and eloquence of Established Writer-in-Residence Jean Kent, participants were given stimulation, support and technical help with writing poetry. Using contemporary examples and a few poems of their own, they were encouraged to try new things and sharpen their poetic skills, becoming confident in their ability to weave a beautiful and detailed tapestry of words in the way Jean Kent is so brilliantly able to.

### **POETS@KSP**

At the 26th October meeting, Jean kindly agreed to give an informal in-house launch of *Poets@KSP2009*, a chapbook containing the work of our eight women poets: Mardi May, Paula Jones, Rose van Son, Gail Robinson, Agnes O'Kane and Sally Clarke. We were delighted with her lengthy appraisal of our work. Jean brought the afternoon to a close with a reading of her delightful poem, 'Angels'

# WABIAD Winners Announced

## Write-a-Book-in-a-Day Awards at The Boulevard Centre

The children's books are in, the judges have made their final decisions and the winners were announced at the Write-a-Book-in-a-Day (WABIAD) Awards at The Boulevard Centre, on Tuesday 27th at 2pm.

Teams across the country, including teams from Christmas Island and central WA, created a WABIAD record of 90 books and raised funds for Children's Hospitals Australia and Princess Margaret Hospital.

The WABIAD challenge was for teams from schools, community groups and writing groups to create a children's book in 12 hours. The teams raised sponsorship of \$23,312, and their finished books went to a children's hospital in their state. Pictures and small blurbs from the entries can be found on our website.

The ceremony was packed with excited students, teachers and writers. KSP Treasurer Chris Oakeley opened the ceremony and presented the awards. The rest of the night was spent drinking orange juice, reading all the winning books and having a wonderful time.

Everyone who participated deserves a big round of applause for their efforts! Children's Hospitals Australia thanks everyone for the money raised that will go towards helping kids in need. We hope everyone had fun creating their brilliant masterpieces.

### The Write-a-Book-in-a-Day winners are:

**WA Best Book** - Judged by Julianne van Loon, Nadine Browne and Paula Jones

Primary School Winner: Greenmount Primary school *A Change of Heart*

Secondary School Winner: Applecross SHS *Fiddlesticks*

Open Category Winner: Martin Chambers Team *Didge Magic*

**WA Best Illustrations** - Judged by established artist Joanna Capelle

Primary School Winner: Aquinas College *One by One*

Secondary School: Kingsway Christian College *You're Not Funny*

Open Category Winner: Martin Chambers Team *Didge Magic*

**National Best Book Winners**- Judged by Paula Jones and David Caddy

Primary School Winner: Greenmount Primary school *A Change of Heart*

Secondary School Winner: **TBA**

Open Category Winner: Martin Chambers Team *Didge Magic*

# Events in November

Wednesday 7 October – Tuesday 3 November **Established Writer-In-Residence Jean Kent**

Saturday 7 - Sunday 8 **Darlington Arts Festival at Darlington Oval**  
KSP will be there with a stall, information, books for sale and readings.

Saturday 7 - Saturday 21 **Young Writer-In-Residence Jessica Stalley**

Jessica is a local writer with one completed novel in her portfolio, *Sweetheart* - a dramatic novel set in suburban Australia which deals with the fallout of a family's devastating secret. She studied English and Media Studies at Murdoch University with lecturers including Simone Lazaroo and Deborah Robertson. She is currently working on a trilogy of supernatural novels set in New York and Mexico and plans to use her time at the centre to further develop this piece of work. The series begins with Mia Blake, who is walking home from work one bleak winter evening when everything goes black. She wakes up three days later in a seedy Mexican motel, bitten, bloodied and... dead. A newborn vampire, Mia must leave everything she holds dear and use her wits to survive in a tough city. Jessica also publishes a weekly writing blog as well as a personal development blog and is interested in building a long-term writing career.



Saturday 14 1pm – 4 pm **Looking at the 'big picture': Structural editing for prose writers' with Amanda Curtin**

**Repeat workshop by popular demand.** A workshop designed to help fiction and non-fiction writers approach their work as a structural editor would. Amanda will discuss common structural problems, as well as techniques to help writers step back from the words and sentences and look at 'big-picture' issues. This is the perfect workshop to do so you have the summer holidays to apply what you learn to your manuscript! Amanda Curtin is a freelance book editor with 25 years' experience (adult and junior fiction, picture books, general non-fiction, scholarly). She is also an award-winning writer of short fiction and essays, and in 2008 published her first novel, *The Sinkings*. M \$25, NM \$40, bookings essential.

## *Back by Popular Demand*

Tuesday 17 7pm – 10 pm **Literary Dinner with Young Writer-In-Residence Jessica Stalley**

Don't miss the opportunity to meet Jessica and hear some of her work.

Saturday 21 1pm – 4pm **Workshop 'Creating a Novel Blueprint' with Young Writer-In-Residence Jessica Stalley**

This workshop is about taking the seed of an idea you have for a novel and using it to create a detailed writing plan. During the workshop there will be plenty of time for reflective writing, as well as more structured time for creating a usable novel blueprint. Moving through three stages of creation - Inspiration, Planning, and Writing - we will develop a structured novel blueprint that will guide us through the writing process without taking any of the excitement or anticipation away from the writing process. Through the use of writing prompts and freewriting exercises, we will emerge at the end of the workshop with a novel blueprint, tools for keeping track of characters and other details, and an achievable writing schedule with an optional self-imposed first-draft deadline. Members \$25, non-members \$40, bookings essential.

Saturday 28 7pm – 9pm **Book presentation: "The Kimberley Series" by Joel Smoker**

Born in 1952 at Derby, the west Kimberley regional centre in WA, Joel Smoker has been taking photographs since he was in primary school. He started with a Box Brownie camera and then graduated to a Kodak camera that could shoot both colour and black and white. He still has photographs in his collection that he took from his travels around the Kimberley as a boy. From 1983 Joel took up a position as an Arts Advisory Teacher with the Education Department, based at the Kimberley District Education Office in Kununurra in the east Kimberley for three years, taking his camera with him everywhere. The result is a collection of images that document the landscape and the times during those years. The Kimberley Series are forty photographs that have been selected from this collection of images that represent the vision of a native son. The photographs were first exhibited in 1987 at Birrukmarri Gallery in Fremantle in conjunction with an art exhibition by artists from the Waringarri Aboriginal Arts Centre in Kununurra. The photographs have since been exhibited in numerous esteemed exhibitions. The Kimberley Series of photographs can be viewed on Joel's web site at [www.joelsmoker.com](http://www.joelsmoker.com) M \$4, NM \$7 Call to book.

# Competitions

## Overland Judith Wright Poetry Prize

Entries are open for the *Overland Magazine* Judith Wright Prize for New and Emerging Poets. Prize money is \$3000, with two minor prizes of \$500 each. Poets are eligible if they have not had a collection of their work commercially published. Three poems max allowed per entry. Submissions considered for publication in *Overland*. Closing date 7 December. For an entry form and guidelines visit [www.overland.org.au](http://www.overland.org.au)

## The IP Picks 2010 Awards for Unpublished Manuscripts

Enter your book-length manuscript into one or more of the five categories and win a guaranteed royalty publication! . Highly Commended are given editorial advice valued at \$249. Submit by December 1, open to citizens/residents of Australia and New Zealand. For complete details and the entry form, visit [http://ipoz.biz/IP/IP\\_picks.htm](http://ipoz.biz/IP/IP_picks.htm)

## East Gippsland TAFE Travel Writing Awards

For lovers of travel and writing submit your 1,500 word max story, \$5 entry fee & entry form by Monday 9 November to East Gippsland TAFE Travel Writing Award, PO Box 886, Bairnsdale Vic. 3875. Contact Peter Millard on (03) 5150 4203 or by email to [millard@egtafe.vic.edu.au](mailto:millard@egtafe.vic.edu.au) for more information.

## Josephine Ulrick Poetry Prize

Griffith University's School of Humanities accepts your poem or suite of poems up to 200 lines. \$10,000 First Prize, \$5,000 Second Prize, 2 x \$2,500 Commended. Closing date 30 January 2010. Entry forms available soon from [www.griffith.edu.au/ulrick](http://www.griffith.edu.au/ulrick). Any enquiries contact Clare Keys (07) 5552 8093 or email [c.keys@griffith.edu.au](mailto:c.keys@griffith.edu.au)

## Barbara Jefferis Award

The Award is offered for "the best novel written by an Australian author that depicts women and girls in a positive way or otherwise empowers the status of women and girls in society". Valued at \$35,000, it ends 16th Nov. For details and entry form visit [www.asauthors.org](http://www.asauthors.org)

## Charlotte Duncan Award for Children's Writing 2009

Celapene Press invites entries for the Charlotte Duncan Award for a short story for young readers aged 9-12 years. This award is in memory of Charlotte Duncan to raise funds for the neo-natal unit at Melbourne's

RCH. \$9 entry fee per story. Closes 28 February 2010. Winning and commended entries will be published on the Celapene Press website. For more info visit [www.celapenepress.com.au](http://www.celapenepress.com.au) or send SSAE to 2 Bonview Crt, Knoxfield, VIC, 3180.

### **Patrick White Playwright's Award**

This major playwriting initiative of Sydney Theatre Company and *The Sydney Morning Herald* offers Australia's richest playwriting award (\$20,000) to a full-length unproduced play of any genre by an Australian playwright aged 20 years or over. Closes 16 Nov. Entry forms: <http://www.sydneytheatre.com.au/about/Patrick-White-Playwrights-Award> For further information call (02) 9250 1700.

### **East Gippland TAFE Travel Writing Awards**

For lovers of travel and writing submit your 1,500 word max story, \$5 entry fee & entry form by Monday 9 Nov. to East Gippsland TAFE Travel Writing Award, PO Box 886, Bairnsdale Vic. 3875. Contact Peter Millard on (03) 5150 4203 or by email to [millard@egtafe.vic.edu.au](mailto:millard@egtafe.vic.edu.au)

### **Horse South Australia Essay and Short Story Competition**

Open Short Story: Any subject related to Australia. 1200 – 1500 words. Essay: Any aspect of South Australian horse history. 1200 – 1500 words. References used. \$7.70 per entry. Closes Nov. 30th, 5pm. More info: [www.horsesa.asn.au](http://www.horsesa.asn.au). Send to: PO Box 483, Plympton, SA 5038 or [horsesa@horsesa.asn.au](mailto:horsesa@horsesa.asn.au).

### **NaNoWriMo**

National Novel Writing Month is a literary marathon where thousands of writers try to write a 50,000 word novel in a month. Writing starts on Nov. 1st and you must be on wordcount and submitted by midnight November 30th. Visit [www.nanowrimo.org](http://www.nanowrimo.org) for more information.

### **The International Fish Short Story Prize**

Irish International Writing Prize seeks Australian writing. Short stories must be submitted by Nov 20, 5000 words max. 1st prize is 3,000 Euro and an invite to The West Cork Literary Festival, Ireland. The best 10 stories will be published in the 2010 Fish Anthology. Online entry is 20 Euro per story. There's also a poetry prize. Visit [www.fishpublishing.com](http://www.fishpublishing.com) for full details or email [info@fishpublishing.com](mailto:info@fishpublishing.com)

# Opportunities for Writers

## **Wilderness Writing in the Tasmanian Tarkine for New Year**

28 December - 3 January. Superb writing and walking trip. Four days in the pin drop silence of the Forest of Giants, 2 days at Cradle Mt. Supported easy grade walks with qualified guides and writing tutor. A profound writing experience. Book early for discount price. [www.intotheblue.com.au](http://www.intotheblue.com.au) Jan Cornall - Writer/Facilitator – 0414929768

## **Writing the Wild**

*indigo journal* and Wild Fig Jam Accommodation presents a Yallingup weekend of words, dreams and culinary delights. Thursday 5th to Sunday 8th. Book early as places are limited. For more information visit [www.indigojournal.org.au](http://www.indigojournal.org.au) or contact Miranda Aitken on 04 88 752 011 or email [info@indigojournal.org.au](mailto:info@indigojournal.org.au)

## **Australian Poetry Centre presents A Confident Voice: Reading Your Poetry In Public with Harry Laing**

Do your poetry reading justice by boosting your vocal confidence with this workshop, working on your particular vocal style and qualities. Poets will practise on their own work as well as the poems of others. 12-3pm, 25th October. Glenfern, 417 Inkerman Street, St Kilda, East VIC. APC members \$40, non-members \$50. Limited places. To book phone: 03 9527 4063 or email: [admin@australianpoetrycentre.org.au](mailto:admin@australianpoetrycentre.org.au)

## **Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Arts Board**

2009 grants are available to support practising Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander professional Musicians and Writers. 2 years, \$45,000 per year, closing date 15 November 2009. Grants for New Work, Presentation and Promotion, Skills and Arts Development, and the Red Ochre Award close on 18 November. For more information call, toll free, on 1800 226 912, or visit <http://www.australiacouncil.gov.au/grants>

## **APA/Australia Council Residential Editorial Program**

The Australian Publishers Association and the Literature Board of the Australia Council are running the Residential Editorial Program (REP) at Varuna, the Writers' House in Katoomba, NSW. 3-8 May 2010. This prestigious biennial program offers mid-career editors a unique opportunity to take part in an intensive five-day program to develop literary

editing skills with highly respected industry practitioners. Applications close 11 January 2010. Contact Robyn Sheahan-Bright on (07) 49729760 email [rsheahan@tpg.com.au](mailto:rsheahan@tpg.com.au). Guidelines and application forms available at [www.publishers.asn.au](http://www.publishers.asn.au)

## Opportunities from Publishers

### ***WQ* magazine**

Information for the Australian writer, with four pages of competitions and opportunities. An investment. 1 year subscription: \$40 2 year subscription: \$75. Visit [www.qwc.asn.au](http://www.qwc.asn.au) or call 07 3839 1243

### ***[untitled]* Calling for Short Fiction**

*[untitled]*, a new periodical anthology, is seeking submissions for its second issue. Issue 1 features prose from George Ivanoff, Tess Evans, Lena Pasqua, and Myron Lysenko, among others. Primarily seeking fiction of any genre, as long as it's good. Read a copy of *[untitled]* to sample our tastes and visit [www.untitledonline.com.au](http://www.untitledonline.com.au) for info.

### **Video Poetry**

Synaptic Graffiti Collective seek Video Poetry for the DVD anthology, *MEMORY*. Work must correspond with broader social movements/events, as well as explore the links between memory and identity, and memory and place. For submission guidelines visit [www.myspace.com/synapticgraffiti](http://www.myspace.com/synapticgraffiti) or email [synapticgraffiti@scart69.net](mailto:synapticgraffiti@scart69.net). Submissions Close February 28 2010.

### ***Australian Book Contracts - New edition out now!***

The definitive guide to Australian publishing contracts. Essential resource for Australian writers. Orders from the ASA office on 02 9318 0877 or online at [www.asauthors.org](http://www.asauthors.org). Priced at just \$19.95 (ASA Members) / \$29.95 (Non-members). Price includes postage and packaging.

### **Award Winning Australian Writing 2010 Anthology**

If your short story or poem has won a prize between June 09 and June 2010, send it to Melbourne Books for consideration for the AWAW 2010 anthology. For more information contact editor Marleena Forward: [mf.melbournebooks@gmail.com](mailto:mf.melbournebooks@gmail.com) or contact KSP for a FAQ sheet.

# Regular Writing Groups

Open for Everyone to Join

Poetry Writing Group  
Karibu Women's Group (Midland)  
Writefree Women's Writing Group  
Young Writers Two Groups  
Thursday Night Group  
Non-Fiction Writers  
Past Tense (Social History)  
Script Writing Group  
Speculative Fiction/ Fantasy  
Avon Valley Writers Group

2nd, 4th Mondays 12.45pm  
1st, 3rd Wednesdays 9.30am  
Wednesdays 9.30am  
Tuesdays 4.00-6.00pm  
Thursday 7.30pm  
1st Saturday 10.00am  
Monthly 2nd Saturday 10.00am  
Monthly 1st Sunday 10.00am  
Monthly 2nd Sunday 10.00am  
Wednesdays 10am  
& Thursdays 7.00pm

## Management Committee

Chairperson Paula Jones  
Secretary Carol Astbury  
Treasurer Chris Oakeley  
Committee Collin O'Brien  
Mardi May  
Nadine Browne  
Danielle Manning  
Sarah Ryan  
Danika Potter

## Literary Advisory Board

Dr Glen Phillips  
Juliet Marillier  
Nadine Browne  
Kathleen Dzubiel  
Mardi May  
Prof. Brian Dibble  
Dr Melissa O'Shea

## Coordinator

Katrin Kuenstler

## Public Fund

Chairperson KSP  
Treasurer KSP  
Clive Aldridge  
Denis McLeod  
Robert Perks



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