



October 2009 Newsletter

We say goodbye to a regular friendly face here at KSP as Michelle Edmonds embarks on new adventures. Thank you very much for your work on the newsletter over the past months. Your efforts are very much appreciated and congratulations on your new job. Everyone at KSP wishes you the best of luck! Nicole Armstrong will have large shoes to fill as she takes over the Newsletter duties. A communications graduate from Edith Cowan University, she has volunteered at KSP since June, helping with publicity.

A reminder that KSP has bought ten ISBN numbers. If you want one for your book, just ask at the office with \$10. With all the anthologies - Writefree, TNG, young writers, Write-a-Rama, Poets@KSP and the Non-fiction Bricolage - and some individual self-publishing, we may need them all by Christmas.

You'll sometimes find bits and pieces in the newsletter by KSP members. We'd love to hear from you about any of your achievements, or if you've enjoyed your experiences with KSP at the workshops or events. Just write up a small article and send it to us!

Events in October

Tuesday 6, Wednesday 7, Thursday 8, 9.30am – 4pm School Holiday Write-A-Rama with Dr Melissa O'Shea

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

Tuesday 20 7pm – 10 pm Literary Dinner with Established Writer-In-Residence Jean Kent

Saturday 24 1pm – 4pm Workshop 'Poetry for Luminous Tortoises' with Established Writer-In-Residence Jean Kent

Sunday 25 12.30pm – 4.30pm Writefree Writing Group 2009 Anthology Launch

Tuesday 27 1.30pm for 2.00pm Write-a-Book-in-a-Day Awards at Princess Margaret Hospital

What's been happening @ KSP

KSP welcomes Jean Kent after Helen Gildfind finishes her stay.

Helen Gildfind has had a successful stay for the Centre and herself. All her workshops were enjoyed by the attendees and her personal writing endeavours went well. We'll be sad to see her smiling energy leave us but her month has come to an end. In October we welcome Jean Kent.

Literary Dinner with Emerging Writer-In-Residence Helen Gildfind

Twenty lucky people enjoyed a 3-course dinner and heard Helen, our energetic Writer in Residence, read from her collection of poems and a superb short story that flowed on multiple planes concerning a father, his brother and a parrot. These literary dinners are excellent occasions for meeting the author and a very special way to spend an evening.



Young Writer In Residence & 2010 Writers in Residence

Applications for the 2010 Writer in Residence programs have closed. We are happy to announce the 2009 Young Writer in Residence is speculative fiction writer Jessica Stalley from WA. The 2010 Established Writer in Residence will be announced next week and the three Emerging Writers in Residence will be known by the middle of the month.

Workshop for children with science fiction writer Bevan McGuinness

Last week a group of teenagers had an out of this world experience! Literally! Bevan McGuinness is a lover of science fiction and fantasy... in fact he has written a Tolkien-esque trilogy to prove it. He is also a teacher and his workshop keenly displayed both of these passions. There were unicorns and ogres, mermaids and maidens. He lured us in with his computer images and movie bites, asking us all the way "Why? Why? Why?" He knows his stuff from Xena to Buffy; from Conan to Harry Potter. We explored the realms of imagination and elements of great fantasy. We viewed gothic characters in eerie locations, inventing scenarios and worlds far removed from our own. We

heARTlines Festival with MAC

were told to immerse our reader in setting, evoke emotion and atmosphere and *show* it, don't tell it, and *believe* it. Over the 90 minutes, the students, as teenagers often do, opened up their minds and mouths allowing a glimpse into the fantastical world of our future fantasy writers... new planets with red moons and quests to discover the sources of good and evil. If motivation be the food of fantasy... Write on! (By Paula Jones)

KSP Short Fiction Competition and Poetry Competition

Both competitions have just closed, with 140 short fiction entries and 80 poetry entries. The submissions have been given to the judges. The winners and commended will be announced at Katharine's Birthday on the first Sunday in December at KSP Writers' Centre.

Children's Writing Workshop with Jan Ramage and Ellen Hickman

KSP was thrilled to host two wonderful local talents, in collaboration with the heARTlines Festival. Jane Ramage is a teacher and passionate environmentalist. Her books for children have a depth and insight into endangered species and our natural world. Her book, *The Tuart Dwellers*, is an intricate study of the day in the life of a Tuart forest and the creatures that scurry in, on and beneath it, including the humorously named *Haterpillar*. The story is beautifully and delicately illustrated by Ellen Hickman, whose study as a botanist is aptly displayed in her detailed illustrations.

Both women talked individually about their background and experiences either writing or drawing. Jan Ramage informed us of the year long process of researching a Tuart forest and consulting with scientists. She told us of the consuming desire she had to show these often overlooked species that inhabit the endangered Tuart trees. She showed us bags full of seeds and nuts and leaves of varying stages.

Ellen Hickman filled the room with her illustrations and portfolios. It was very surprising to learn the process of bringing the story to "life" took her nearly 5 years to complete. We were privileged to be shown her very first picture book and illustrations, made when she was in year 6 and dutifully saved by her mum. We also saw the process of drawing thumbnails for each page of the book, and the beautiful full-

Record number of WABIAD entries

sized paintings of each illustration.

I look forward to Jan's next picture book, about the beached whales of Busselton. Ellen is also busy in Albany researching native flora and fauna; she is currently studying the species of kangaroo paw and their cousins throughout the world. (By Paula Jones)

This year's Write-a-Book-in-a-Day a winning success!

90 books were written in the 2009 WABIAD competition and a great amount of money raised for children's hospitals across Australia. Everyone is invited to the WABIAD presentation at Princess Margaret Hospital where the winning teams will receive their awards. The party will be held at the Megazone Rooftop Playground on Tuesday 27th October at 2:00pm. All those books for PMH will be on display, some for sale and there will be light refreshments.

Retreats

The retreats are becoming popular and the writers are experiencing enormous productivity during their stays. Two of the three retreats were largely occupied during the past months. We are encourage by good bookings from professional writers and students between now and Christmas. There are still vacancies for writers of any calibre.

Ellenbrook 2009 short stories competition outcomes

Congratulations Mardi and Paula for winning and coming runner up, respectively, in the Ellenbrook Short Story Competition. Mardi is a member of Poets@KSP, the management comity, our broad of literary advisers and the facilitator for the Past Tense Group. Paula is chairperson of the KSP management comity and also a member of Poets@KSP. Open Competition Winner: "Nonna and the flying pig" by Mardi May
Open Competition Runners Up: "Burn brightly" by Paula Jones
Competition winners under 11: "A rare find" by Hamish Fife

Poetry Wall

The Poetry Wall was covered with poems. (Right) A picture loaned by the Shire of Mundaring was a source of inspiration.



This month's program

Tuesday 6, Wednesday 7, Thursday 8, 9.30am – 4pm

School Holiday Write-A-Rama with Dr Melissa O'Shea

Attention young writers. Do you love writing stories? If you are 11 - 17 yrs old, come to our 3-day school holiday Write-A-Rama and develop your writing skills in a fun and creative setting. Guest speakers will be present, and your work will be published in an anthology. M \$65, NM \$85, bookings essential.

Wednesday 7 October – Tuesday 3 November

Established Writer-In-Residence Jean Kent

Jean is an established poet with a long record of publication, awards, grants and fellowships. Her poems and stories have been appearing in



literary magazines and anthologies in Australia and overseas since 1970, and she has published three collections of her poetry. She has promoted poetry and encouraged other writers with writers' centres, educational centres and community groups, and has been a competition judge, a mentor, an editor, a reader, and a workshop facilitator and creative writing teacher in schools, universities and local communities.

Jean is particularly interested in celebrating the Australian landscape. Her project at KSP is a collection of poems exploring where a variety of contemporary Australians feel 'at home' - homes of memory, dream and fantasy, as well as physical places.

Tuesday 20 7pm – 10 pm

Literary Dinner with Established Writer-In-Residence Jean Kent

Take this opportunity to meet Jean and hear her poetry at our special literary dinner in her honour at 11 Old York Road, Greenmount. M\$20, NM \$25 Bookings essential

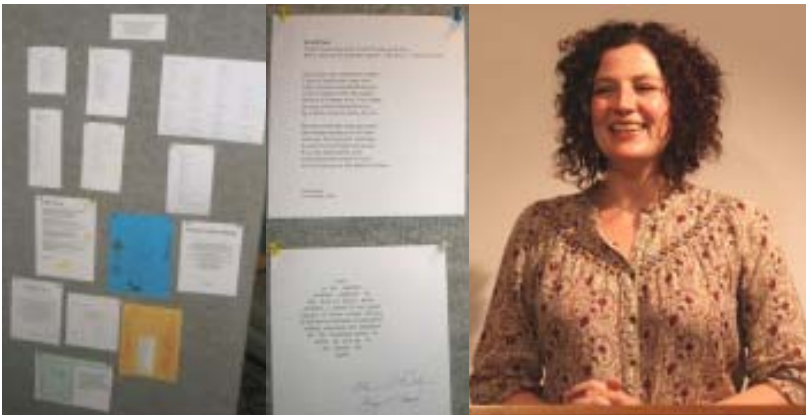
Saturday 24 1pm – 4pm: Workshop ‘Poetry for Luminous Tortoises’ with Established Writer-In-Residence Jean Kent

This workshop will provide stimulation, support and technical help with writing poetry. You will have the opportunity to slow down and be illuminated by examples of contemporary poetry, as well as by the possibilities of your own. Through word play and exercises to stimulate writing, you will be encouraged to stick your neck out – and to move confidently on. Suitable for writers of all levels. M\$25, NM \$40 Bookings essential.

Sunday 25 12.30pm – 4.30pm: Writefree Writing Group 2009 Anthology Launch

Tuesday 27 2.00pm Write-a-Book-in-a-Day Awards at Princess Margaret Hospital

You are invited to the award presentation in the Megazone rooftop play area at Princess Margaret Hospital. All WA team books will be on display. Light refreshments. This year over 90 teams competed Australia-wide to write a children’s book in twelve hours for the children’s hospital in their state. You will be amazed at the books written by primary school, secondary school and adult teams.



Parts of the Poetry Wall and Helen Gildfind speaking at the Literary Dinner held in her honour at KSP Writers’ Centre.

Writing Groups - Unite & Inspire

KARIBU Women's Writing Group in Midland is looking for new members!

The KARIBU Group which belongs to the Katharine Susannah Prichard Writers' Centre is inviting new members. Meeting in the upper room of the Midland Town Hall we seek to encourage those who enjoy



the process of writing, sharing ideas and skills. From time to time we host Writers in Residence from KSP and we attend workshops and events there. In our group there is a good mix of history, travel, imagination, new age speculation and down right frivolous nonsense. It is such a rich group of creativity we would like to open it to other writers who may be looking for fellow fanatics. We meet the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month from 9.30 am till 12 pm. For further information, please call KSP on 9294 1872

Helen chats with the Avon Valley Writers Group in Northam

The Avon Valley Writers Group was delighted to welcome Helen Gildfind, Emerging Writer in Residence at the KSP Writers Centre, to their Wednesday morning meeting on 16th September at the Bridgely Centre, Northam. Helen shared some material from her current project in which the focus is on the development of character through dialogue as well as descriptive text. This led



to a lively discussion on the development of theme through characterisation. We greatly appreciated Helen's time and her approachability in giving helpful and constructive feedback to each member as we shared samples of our own work. Thankyou Helen.

We also greatly appreciate the effort that Fay Dease gives to keeping our group connected with the opportunities available to KSP members. Thankyou Fay.

In the picture L-R is Lisa, Vanda, Kayleen, Marilyn, Nola and Aya. In the front is Helen and Carmel. (By Vanda and Nola)

History and Poetry Groups receive welcomed visits

The Past Tense and Poetry groups have had a treat with visits from Writer-in-Residence, Helen Gildfind. Not only has she written an autobiographical short story, which she read at the social history group, but she has entertained us with her accomplished poetry. Thank you from all of those lucky enough to be present, Helen, and best wishes for your writing career.

KSP success with *indigo*

KSP would like to extend congratulations to all our members who have been published in *indigo*.

'The Amity' by Paula Jones was published in the special literary edition of the West Weekend Magazine on Saturday the 12th of September. Paula lives in the Perth Hills and is the chairperson of Katharine Susannah Prichard Writers Centre. She has been writing for a long time and her work has been published in local publications. She was published in the inaugural volume of *indigo* and last year was selected for Australia's most prestigious poetry publication journal *Blue Dog*.

Nadine Browne has also had stories and poems published in *indigo*. She is also a member of the KSP management committee and the Literary Advisory Board

indigo is devoted solely to the creative writing of Western Australian writers. If you live in WA, or have lived here for at least 10 years, you are eligible to submit. For more details or to order your copy visit <http://www.indigojournal.org.au/>

Don't forget! Deadline for submissions to *indigo* 5 is October 31st!

Competitions

The Best of Times short story competition #8.

Submit your humorous short stories for a chance to win a cash prize. 2500 word maximum, in English, \$5 entry fee per story and be submitted by October 31st. Please send your story, the entry fee and a cover sheet with your name, address, story title and word count to Chris Broadribb, PO Box 55, Blaxcell NSW 2142 or email it to cabbook-8@yahoo.com.au. For Conditions of Entry visit http://spiky_one.tripod.com/comp8.html

Tom Howard/John H. Reid Short Story, Essay & Prose Contest

Each year, John Howard Reid and Tom Howard Books sponsor three writing contests, one for prose and two for poetry. \$3000 1st prize, open worldwide, 5,000 word limit, \$15 entry fee, must be in english, submit by March 2010 and enter as many times as you like. For full details visit <http://www.winningwriters.com> and click the links under Contests, or go to <http://shortstorycontest.0catch.com>

The IP Picks 2010 Awards for unpublished manuscripts

Win a guaranteed royalty publication! Enter you book-length manuscript into one or more of the five categories: Best Fiction, Best Creative Non-fiction, Best Poetry, Best Junior Fiction or Non-fiction, Best First Book. Highly Commended manuscripts 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, please go to http://ipoz.biz/IP/IP_picks.htm

The International Fish Short Story Prize & Poetry Prize

Irish International Writing Prize seeks Australian writing. Your short story must be submitted by November 20, 5000 word maximum. 1st prize is 2,000 Euro (\$3,400) and 1,000 Euro to travel to the book launch at the West Cork Literary Festival, Ireland, in July. Your poetry must be 200 words maximum and be in by March. The winner will receive 1,000 Euro and is also invited to the book launch. The best 10 stories and best 10 poems will be published in the 2010 Fish Anthology. Online entry fee is 20 Euro per short story and 12 Euro per poem. Visit www.fishpublishing.com for full details or email info@fishpublishing.com

Opportunities for Writers

So You Think You Can Write?

National Young Writers' Festival (October 1-5) in Newcastle is looking for young writers aged 16 to 20 for their Younger Writers Mentorship Program. You'll get a writing mentor for the duration of the festival who will talk with you about why you love writing and where you want to go with your potential career. Visit www.nywf.org.au.

FreeFall Writing

Barbara Turner-Vesselago is a talented writer from Canada and is giving four workshops on Freefall Writing in Aust. Highly Recommended.

Jan Juc Three Daywriting Workshop, Victoria.

October 8-11 Cost: \$500 (\$25 discount if paid directly to host) Contact Yvonne Hunter on 03 5261 9354.

Gidgeggannup Writing Workshop, WA (2 vacancies)

October 18-24 Cost: \$940 (\$45 discount if paid directly to host)

Contact Nicki de Hoog on 08 9538 1363.

Perth Writing Workshop, WA

November 1-6 Cost: \$865 (\$40 discount if paid directly to host)

Contact Rosemary Stevens on 08 9339 2029

Denmark Writing Workshop, WA (1 vacancy)

November 15-20 Cost: \$945 (\$45 discount if paid directly to host)

Contact Nicola-Jane le Breton on 08 9848 3113 or 0421 633 124.

Poetry: History & Appreciation with Chris Wallace-Crabbe

This 6 week course will look at the art of poetry, its long history and the rise of Australian Poetry. 6 sessions from Thursday 22 October 6.00pm-8.00pm until 26 November at the Centre for Books Writing and Ideas, State Library of Victoria. Cost: APC members \$280, non-members \$300. For information or to book phone 03 9527 4063 or email admin@australianpoetrycentre.org.au. Limited places.

DotDotDash

www.dotdotdash.org is currently holding Haiku, Shortest Story (50 words max) and Essay competitions. Visit the website for more details.

Nanowrimo

National Novel Writing Month. Write a 50,000 word novel from November 1st-30th. Get ready and sign up now at www.nanowrimo.org/

Barbara Jefferis Award 2010 Entries Now Open

The Award, worth \$35,000 in 2010, is offered annually 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”. Details and entry form can be downloaded from the ASA website www.asauthors.org/

Travel Writing and Photography Weekend Workshop

Last year’s workshop was such a success, with many of the participants getting published (one notably in the West Australian), the course will be running again on the weekend of October 31/November 1st. Run by award winning photographer Dale Neill and author, scriptwriter and mentor John Harman, this course will be held in Fremantle. Book your spot quickly. For more information visit www.johnharman.com

2010 USQ McGregor Summer School Writing Classes

Creative Writing with Jane Goodall

This class combines a structured group approach with individual coaching. You will learn techniques to banish writer’s block, group exercises will encourage experimentation and excursions to beautiful Toowoomba will inspire. Enrolment is \$40.

Writing Great Songs with Alan Caswell

A believer in hands on song writing, Alan Caswell has had hit success with “On the Inside” (the theme for the television show “Prisoner”) reached No 1 in Australia and New Zealand. For more information on both classes visit www.usq.edu.au/

Opportunities from Publishers

Video Poetry

Synaptic Graffiti Collective seek your submissions of Video Poetry for the DVD anthology, MEMORY. We are seeking works that correspond with broader social movements/events, as well as those exploring the links between memory and identity, and memory and place. Your video can consist of any combination of media including: spoken word, music, text, still and moving images. Video poems with a strong filmic quality are preferred. For full submission guidelines visit: www.myspace.com/synapticgraffiti or email: synapticgraffiti@scart69.net. Submissions Close February 28 2010.

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

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Secretary Tim Nelson
Treasurer Chris Oakeley
Committee Collin O'Brien
Mardi May
Nadine Browne
Agnes O'Kane
Sarah Ryan
Fay Dease
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