

New England
WRITERS
CENTRE
For people who love writing and reading

Newsletter
July – August 2008



HEADS FOR TALES

- how to write for young readers

A one-day workshop with award-winning author of many books for children and young adults, **John Heffernan** (pictured above), will be held in November.

The workshop will deal with various aspects of writing for young readers, particularly in relation to John's own works, with hands-on exercises. (See Page 2 for details).

Date: Saturday November 1. 10am to 4pm.

Venue: NEWC.

Cost: \$65/\$50 for members. Must be booked and paid in advance.

FUNDRAISING EVENTS

Brick Lane & Bookstall

In September, we'll be holding a bookselling stall at Armidale Sunday market. If you want to contribute books for this fundraising event for NEWC, please bring them on the day to the stall (as soon after 8am as possible).



Brick Lane – the movie

Based on Monica Ali's prize-winning novel this film has won numerous awards and we are looking forward to hosting opening night, Thursday, August 21, at 7pm, at the Belgrave Cinema, as a fundraiser for NEWC. Tickets are available during our opening hours. Please sell as many as you can. For more information about the film see page 2. To book tickets (\$12 each) phone 6772 7210 or email newc@northnet.com.au

HOOKS & ANCHORS

- how to keep readers turning your pages.
Workshop with top crime writer,
MARELE DAY



Techniques taught in this one-day workshop can be used for any sort of fiction, not just for creating suspense in crime/mystery books. This is about keeping your reader turning your pages. Everyone knows what it's like to read a book you can't put down. But how do you write one? And how do you adapt techniques from genres such as crime/mystery to other kinds of novels? Marele has written literary fiction and non-fiction, as well as her award-winning crime books. She will give a one-day workshop at NEWC, and will also do a reading/talk at Armidale City Library.

Workshop: Saturday, October 11. 10am to 4pm. at NEWC. \$75/\$65 members, must be paid in advance.
Reading/talk: Friday, October 10, 4pm. Armidale City Library.

Marele Day ...

Marele Day is an award-winning writer whose previous work experience ranges from fruit picking to academic teaching. She has travelled extensively, lived in Italy, France and Ireland, and survived near shipwreck in the Java Sea.

A contributor to numerous anthologies, Marele is the editor of *How to Write Crime* (Ned Kelly Award, 1996) and has written a guide, *Successful Promotion for Writers*. Her novels include the Claudia Valentine mysteries - *The Life and Crimes of Harry Lavender*, *The Case of the Chinese Boxes*, *The Last Tango of Dolores Delgado* (US Shamus Award, 1992) and *The Disappearances of Madalena Grimaldi*.

In 1997, her bestselling literary novel, *Lambs of God*, was published to acclaim in Australia and overseas, and film rights optioned by Twentieth Century Fox, with Winona Ryder starring and co-producing. She has also published a collection of crime-comedy stories, *Mavis Levack, PI*, and most recently, *Mrs Cook: The Real and Imagined Life of the Captain's Wife*. Marele mentors emerging writers and conducts the Northern Rivers Writers' Centre's highly successful residential mentorship.

John Heffernan ...

Since he began writing in 1997, John has published 20 books on a range of subjects and genre, for a variety of ages. His main age group is 10-14 years, but he writes for older and younger readers, producing both Young Adult novels and picture books.

One series that has been very popular is the award-winning SPUD novels. There are three books (SPUD, CHIPS and PUP) that deal with **life on the land in Australia** seen through the eyes of the work dogs. The books are fiercely realistic and pull no punches, showing a way of life that can be hard and cruel at times, but also beautiful.

In these books John deals with issues such as dysfunctional families, alcoholism, cruelty to animals, as well as environmental matters. His books leave readers in no doubt about the importance of trust, friendship and love especially between human and animals. A more recent novel – *A HORSE CALLED ELVIS* – is also in this vein, but goes further. This is a book written on several levels. It can be enjoyed by readers in the 10-14 year range, but John has intentionally given the novel more layers so that older readers can gain something from it.

John has also written on **war and refugees**. *MY DOG* is a picture book for all ages about the war in Bosnia. The sequel to this book (*MORE THAN GOLD*) deals with a young Bosnian refugee who settles in Australia with his mother. This novel has been popular with a wide range of readers. Although exploring several serious issues, it is essentially a story of friendship between two very different boys.

John has made forays into the **science fiction/fantasy** genre as well. He has two books out in the *Mythos Trilogy*, which focus on a post-apocalyptic Sydney in the 23rd Century. Wild, tattooed tribes called the Oztrakii battle with the rulers of the Sydney basin called the CroNullas. The two titles published so far are *CBD* and *GBH*. A third book is being written at present, called *FAQ*, and even though this is a trilogy, John thinks it may extend to five books.

He has received several **national and international awards**. *SPUD* and *PUP* were both classified as Notable Books by the Children's Book Council of Australia. *RACHAEL'S FOREST* was short listed for the Wilderness Society's Environmental Award for Literature. *MY DOG* was awarded Book of the Year and Honour book by the CBCA, as well as being short-listed for the NSW Premier's Literary Award. *MY DOG* has been being translated into French and Japanese. John's next picture book, *TWO SUMMERS* was short-listed for the CBCA Picture Book of the Year in 2004, and won the Crichton award for Freya Blackwood's wonderful illustrations.

"I never have enough time to write, even though I'm doing it full-time now. I don't think I'll ever get all those tales out that are floating around inside my head. It's great fun trying, though. Story writing is one of the most wonderful and fulfilling of crafts", he says.

PUNCTUATING POETRY workshop for readers and writers of poetry - with Michael Sharkey

This workshop will focus on how poetry employs the resources of conventional punctuation and concepts of the poetic 'line'. Many examples will be provided of wide variation in the ways poets control and add meaning to what they have to say.

Bring along copies of three or four brief examples of your own poetry or that of writers who interest you, to discuss with other people.

Michael Sharkey is the author of many collections of poetry, most recent of which is *The Sweeping Plain* (Five Islands Press, 2007). His work is featured in several of the *Best Australian Poetry* anthologies published by Black Inc (Melbourne) and University of Queensland

Press, and his essays and articles on poetry are included in *Blue Dog: Australian Poetry*, *Five Bells*, and other magazines.

DATE: October 4 (Saturday) 2 to 4.30 pm.

VENUE: NEWC

COST: \$17.50 members / \$25 non-members

CREATIVE JOURNAL WORKSHOP - with Karla Meyer



This a writers' workshop with a difference.

Karla explains: "Usually, the main purpose of writing is the product – here, it is the process which is at the centre of our attention. You can certainly use the techniques specifically to further your writing career, but the applications are potentially much broader than that: you can employ them for problem solving, to get in touch with your intuition, to strengthen your creativity, to get a healthier perspective on old issues, and in general, to get a more positive outlook on life.

"They can also help to uncover layers of your subconscious mind. I have chosen six processes that were particularly helpful to participants of previous workshops. In nearly 40 years of journalling, I have learnt, adapted and developed the techniques I'm going to share with you. Self-help books, my studies of linguistics and psychology and my NLP training have provided many ideas and inspirations. Journalling is a great tool, and anyone can do it – you don't need any literary talents for it."

Bring an exercise book or your journal, if you have one. There will be 15-minute morning and afternoon tea breaks, and a 30-minute lunch break (BYO lunch). Hot drinks and biscuits are provided.

DATE: August 23 (Saturday) 9.30am to 4.00pm.

VENUE: NEWC

COST: \$45 members / \$55 non-members.

* **KARLA MEYER** was born in Germany, migrated to Australia in 1980 at age 28. Spent two years travelling with camels and wagon in north-west NSW; studied philosophy, linguistics and psychology, achieved BA in 2002, and learnt a number of specific psychological techniques through additional courses. Currently she is employed as an aged carer for people with dementia, and as a computer trainer for CRS.

BRICK LANE: THE STORY



Brick Lane is the story of a beautiful young Bangladeshi woman, Nazneen, whose life is turned upside down. She arrives in 1980s London, leaving behind her beloved sister and home, for an arranged marriage and a new life. Trapped within the four walls of her flat in East London, and in a loveless marriage with the middle aged Chanu, she fears her soul is quietly dying.

Her sister Hasina, meanwhile, continues to live a carefree life back in Bangladesh, stumbling from one adventure to the next. Nazneen struggles to do her duty to her husband, he tests her compliance. She struggles to accept her own lifestyle, and keeps her head down in spite of life's blows, but she soon discovers that life cannot be avoided - and is forced to confront it the day that the hotheaded young Karim comes knocking at her door.

Polishing for Publication – with Wendy James

Ready to polish the final draft, or start the final draft, or just want to know what's involved in polishing your work for publication? Not just major publication, such as a novel, but for smaller works too. It's becoming more and more crucial that writers can polish their work, as publishers offer less and less in the way of editing.

DATE: October 18 (Saturday) 10am to 4pm.

VENUE: NEWC COST: \$50 members / \$65 non-members.

VISIT OUR WEBSITE

www.northnet.com.au/~newc

Thanks to **Ingrid Kalf** for her generous and creative work in maintaining the site.

Thanks to: Arts NSW, Armidale City Library, Dymocks of Armidale, New England Credit Union, Telstra Countrywide, CASP – Regional Arts NSW, for sponsorship of the program.

NATIONAL POETRY WEEK 2008 State of Play

A reading of new and selected poetry by
Julian croft
Yve Louis
michael sharkey

6.30 – 8.00 pm Thursday 28th August
at The Armidale Club

Everyone welcome. Gold coin at the door.
Drinks available at the bar - meals will not be
served during the reading but can be ordered
before or after if you so desire.

Enquiries: Yve Louis 6772 6767

WENDY JAMES *The Steele Diaries*

Publishers, Vintage Australia, have just released Wendy James' second novel *The Steele Diaries*. A follow up to the Ned Kelly Award winning *Out of the Silence*, *Steele Diaries* is based on the journal rumoured to have been kept by Zelda Steele as a young woman. Zelda's parents give her in adoption, as a baby, to patrons of the family. A mother herself, Wendy includes a look at the relationships of some artistic women with their children in the book. *The Steele Diaries* has received some enthusiastic reviews. The reviewer in *The Sun-Herald* described the book as: *a beautifully composed story of prominent Sydney artists ... full of insight, humour, intelligence and honesty. A profoundly satisfying read, it has universal and personal resonance.* I asked Wendy:

How was writing this novel compared with the first:

This book was written a little more quickly than the first - there were no children born while I was writing it, which was novel!

Did winning the Ned Kelly Award give you more confidence to tackle this book?

Winning the Ned Kelly was a great boost, but oddly a prize doesn't really help with the NEXT book - there's always the thought of that blank page, the niggling worry that maybe the first one was a fluke, that I wouldn't be able to do it again! I feeling exactly that way right now, warming up to number three.

Why did you choose this topic:

I'd been interested in the Hester-Reed-tucker

entanglement over the years and had always wondered about the impact of their decisions on the child in the middle - Sweeney Reed. It seemed to me that while they were all intensely interested in their own artistic development and so forth, they were remarkably casual about his fate. But because I didn't want to be tied down to any one story this time, the research took me all sorts of places - from the Bloomsbury set (Angelica Garnett's story was particularly fascinating) to Anne Sexton and Sylvia Plath, all the time looking at the mother/daughter relationships - even posthumous relationships in the case of Sylvia Plath and her daughter Frieda Hughes.

As a busy mother, how do you create head space to write?

How do I create head-space... ? It's a mystery, that one. It goes without saying that we live in a state of utter chaos; actually, finding a matching pair of clean socks is the real issue.

What's next?

My next novel is moving back into some of the territory explored in *Out of the Silence* - but this time it's a contemporary tale. There will be some historical connections - the inspiration comes from a number of very well-known criminal cases.

WORKSHOPS FEEDBACK

FREELANCE WORKSHOP LESLEY SLY

Thank you for the *Writing for Profit* workshop on Saturday. I found it very useful to listen to talk about your experiences. I've been wanting to write for a more general audience for a while now, and spent Saturday night finishing an article that I pitched successfully to the editor of a fishing magazine a month ago.

- Peter Hancock

I would like to say how much I enjoyed the Writing For Profit class. The time flew from 10am through to 3pm, when Lesley opened the floor for questions until 4pm.

I was impressed at how interesting and useful the information was that Lesley gave us, along with her keen sense of humour and believe there can be no excuse that a new writer should not be published by following this course.

I needed the information Lesley gave me and now feel I'm on the right track to becoming a

published paid writer, providing I put in the ground work first.
I would like to thank Lesley Sly for such an informative and useful days education and will come back for other topics in the 'writing field.'

- Peter J Watson

Thank you very much for the freelance writing workshop you ran, I really appreciated all the areas that you covered in the space of a day, especially information on how to sell ideas to editors. As you said on the day, it would be great to have a follow up session where we can share our work and receive feedback, and I would be most definitely interested in a session like that.

I have been really inspired since the workshop I am working on three articles for different publications and loving it, despite all the deadlines being bang in the middle of exam period!

- Helen Machalias

What a fun and fascinating day! Humorous stories of life as a freelance writer and sub-editor for the Sydney Morning Herald made this a very enjoyable and informative first step to writing for profit. Experienced journalist Lesley Sly definitely made this workshop well worth the time and money. We are all waiting in anticipation for the follow-up workshop.

- Lisa Cuskelly

WRITING GYM - WENDY JAMES

First sentences lead you on. This is one of the things I learnt at the writing gym run by Wendy James. One exercise where we used photographs to write a character was surprisingly helpful in envisaging how that person might behave. Using random words chosen by others to form a storyline demonstrated how resourceful we could be.

Sometimes we murmured prior to reading our writing that it really wasn't very good; as if judging our style before others did might alleviate our discomfort. However, listening together we all could hear how good the work really was. For me, listening to other writers clarified my sense of owning my style; the importance of not trying to be 'other'.


Wendy had us limbering up our writing muscles in a very relaxed and engaging manner. Being a published author, she had obviously

attended this gym before! But for those of us still worried about how we might look in lycra, the experience was both reassuring and energising.

- Deborah O'Connor

WORK SPACE

Congratulations to member Craig Schneider who has had his short story *The Chocolate Bullet*, accepted to appear on the online literary web-page, AustralianReader.com



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NEWS & INFORMATION

Press Release: ASA Budget Response - The Budget figures show that funding has increased for Public Lending Right by almost 13% from \$7.994 million in 2007-08 to \$9.029 million in 2008-09," says Dr Anita Heiss, ASA Chair. The ASA welcomes the increased funding, which is in line with our recommendations. However, the funding for Educational Lending Right (ELR), while being maintained as promised in the 2007 election campaign, increases only 2.3%. Funding for ELR in 2007-08 was \$10.469 million and rises to only \$10.709 in 2008-09.

With the current inflation rate, this means ELR funding actually goes backwards in real terms," explains Dr Jeremy Fisher, ASA Executive Director. "While the ASA is disappointed that ELR funding has not been substantially increased, we appreciate the fact that it is now fully indexed, which was one of our major concerns during the election campaign". Other specific funding for literature in the 2008 Budget includes \$200,000 for the Prime Minister's Literary Prizes and \$2 million for Books Alive, for which the ASA has worked to

ensure 80% of the authors included are Australian. Contact: Dr Jeremy Fisher, executive director, Australian Society of Authors, PO Box 1566 Strawberry Hills NSW 2012, or (02) 9318 0877 Fax: (02) 9318 0530 or 0438 318 673.

Feral Arts have developed a free software program that helps local groups tell their local stories using photos, music, voice over etc. It can then be uploaded to the web for access by all. Contact: ferals@feralarts.com.au or <http://www.placestories.com/> Example of a website using this software is <http://mrn.placestories.com/home.php?viewid=23>

Press Release: Parallel imports back on the agenda? At the Council of Australian Government (COAG) meeting in Sydney on 3 July parallel importation raised its ugly head. Once again, we are going to have to fight to keep our territorial rights. Australian authors need the security of our own market. US and UK authors are not being threatened with an open market. Yet we are. We have to fight. Read the responses from Garth Nix and Nick Earls on the ASA website: <http://tinyurl.com/5srzpr>. Contact: Dr Jeremy Fisher, executive director, Australian Society of Authors, PO Box 1566, Strawberry Hills, NSW 2012. (02) 9318 0877 Fax: (02) 9318 0530.

The Australian Society of Authors (ASA) recently formed a Comics/Graphic Novels Portfolio—an advocacy group that aims to provide industry support to Australian artists and writers currently working in the comics medium and, in particular, the graphic novel format.

The major objectives of the Portfolio are to: Protect and promote the professional interests of comics creators (both writers and artists); Form a professional community of active members who operate in this specialist discipline; and Liaise and cross-pollinate ideas with like-minded Australian and overseas organisations whose focus is on the promotion of the comics art form. Contact: Dr Jeremy Fisher, executive director, Australian Society of Authors (02) 9318 0877, Fax: (02) 9318 0530 or 04383186734 or jeremy@asauthors.org or www.asauthors.org

COMPETITIONS

August 15: John Marsden Award for Young Writers open to young writers under 25; novels, poems and short stories; total prize pool of \$4,500. Contact: Bel Schenk, artisticdirector@

expressmedia.org.au, Express Media, 247 Flinders Lane, Melbourne, VIC 3000 or 9663 4155, Fax: 9663 4544, www.expressmedia.org.au

August 31: Hilarie Lindsay young writers poetry competition for school children. Categories: Year 4 and under, Years 5 and 6, Years 7, 8 and 9, Years 10, 11 and 12. Prizes up to \$150. Entry form available from elaineb@value.com.au or HLYWPC, 69 Tambourine Bay Road, Lane Cove NSW 2066.

September 26: The Examiner Port Stephens literature awards, short stories upto 2500 words, any theme. 1st prize \$400, 2nd \$200 and 3rd \$100, \$100 Tanilba House award, four \$50 most highly commended prizes. Contact: Geoff Walker (02) 4982 4095 or Literature Competition, 6 The Parkway North, Murrumbidgee, NSW 2319.

September 30: Margaret Reid poetry prize for traditional verse. Prize \$2000. Details: <http://poetrycontests.exactpages.com>

September 30: Walter Stone Award for an unpublished biography, monograph or bibliography up to 40 000 words on some aspect of Australian literature. Entry fee \$20. Prize \$1000. For more information send a stamped, self addressed envelope to Competition Secretary, FAW Walter Stone Award, 69 Tambourine Bay Road, Lane Cove NSW 2066.

September 30: Tom Howard Poetry Contest: all styles and genres Contact: <http://www.tomhowardpoetry.bravepages.com> or <http://poetrycontest.exactpages.com>

October 31: The Mornington Peninsula Prize, Short story up to 3000 words, open theme, 1st prize \$300, 2nd prize \$150, 3rd prize \$50, entry \$7.50. Poem to 30 lines, open theme and style, 1st prize \$150, entry \$5.00. Highly commended and commended certificates for both sections. SSAE to PO Box 574, Mornington Vic, 3931 or peninsulafaw@bigpond.com

PUBLISHING/FELLOWSHIPS/ OPPORTUNITIES

Getting Hitched website invites submission of original short stories about relationships and that fit the theme of the month, but can be in any genre. Submissions close on the second Friday of each month. Length from 200 to 2000 words. Payment is a flat fee of \$45 (+GST for registered authors). Contact

<http://www.gettinghitched.com.au/fiction/> for more information. Themes for 2008 - August – Food, September – A New Start, October – Birthdays, November – Sunburn, December – Christmas.

The Writers'World described as the official publication of the Writers' Resource Centre. An e-zine, with a free basic membership component which offers free resources and e-books as well as access to a private social network. It has an events calendar (writers@writersworld.com.au) and invites contributions to the site and ezine email: articles@writersworld.com.au

HowToDoThings.com have a large category devoted entirely to a wide variety of writing topics and invite you to share your expertise and earn some money. They split the advertising revenue your articles earn with you, 50/50. Go to <http://www.howtodothings.com/start?cid=writing> or contact: Vanessa Raymond, editor, HowToDoThings.com, 600 1st Ave, Suite 500, Seattle, WA 98104, vraymond@howtodothings.com

Vibewire.net: described as a project of non-profit youth media and arts organisation it is designed to provide young Australians with a forum where they can comment on matters pertinent to their lives. The website is run for youth by youth and relies on participation and active involvement to work. submissions are invited of articles, blogs, images, video or podcast material. No experience is necessary but you must be from 18-30 and able to finely craft a stage or screen script to publishable standard. However, if you have been working on a script that just isn't coming together and you feel that you need a bit of feedback, Vibewire.net will workshop the piece with you. All genres are accepted. Contact: scripts@vibewire.com.au or www.vibewire.net

Asialink's Arts Residency Program applications are open. Residencies provide an opportunity to spend up to four months living and working in an Asian country. There is a grant of up to \$12,000 towards travel, living and project expenses and a network of initial contacts in the host country. Application information from: The Asialink Centre or 03 8344 4800 or arts@asialink.unimelb.edu.au or go to <http://www.asialink.unimelb.edu.au/artsresidencies> **Closing: September 5**

David Harold Tribe Poetry Award, Department of English, School of Letters, Art, and Media, University of Sydney in the sum of

\$11,000. <http://www.arts.usyd.edu.au/departs/english/prizes/prizes.shtml> or 9351 2349 or 9351 3251. **Closing: September 12.**

CONFERENCES/WORKSHOPS FESTIVALS

The Poets Union Australian Poetry Festival, September 5 – 7. Contact: The Poets Union, PO Box 755, Potts Point NSW 1335 or (02) 9357 6602 or info@poetsunion.com or www.poetsunion.com

Poets Picnic at Bundanon, Sunday, September 14, Bundanon Homestead Lawn, \$10 (\$7 concession), Contact: 442 2100 or fax 442 7190 or www.bundanon.com.au or PO Box 3343, North Nowra, NSW 2541.

CYA Later, Alligator Conference Bookings September 20. Described as a conference aimed at professional development for new and established writers and illustrators of children's and young adult literature. Contact: Tina Clark, CYA conference co-ordinator, info@cyaconference.com or go to www.cyzconference.com

Watermark Literary Muster, October 2 -6, Camden Haven. Writers from Australia, New Zealand and the USA will spend five days sharing presentations, discussions, informal gatherings and excursions with those attending. The topic is *Migration* and the effect that migration of all eras has had on the social and environmental fabric of Australia. Lyndal Coote, PO Box 284, Laurieton, NSW 2443 or (02) 6559 9953 or fax (02) 6559 7797 or muster@watermarkliterarysociety.asn.au or www.watermarkliterarysociety.asn.au.

Art at the Heart: The sixth biennial Regional Arts Australia national conference will be presented by Regional Arts Australia and the Northern Territory Government through Arts NT, in collaboration with the host town of Alice Springs, October 3 - 5. *art at the heart* will provide an opportunity for artistic and cultural exchange, cross cultural collaboration and best practice approaches to working in the arts. Contact: 02 9270 2500 or admin@regionalartsnsw.com.au or go to www.regionalartsnsw.com.au

New Years in the Tarkine, Dec 28 – Jan 3. Bookings are open for this Tasmanian Wilderness creative walking and writing trip. Go to: <http://www.intotheblue.com.au/tours/tour.asp?ID=40>

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I wish to become a member of the New England Writers' Centre (if you don't want to wreck your newsletter, send these details on paper):

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New England Writers' Centre - a member of LitLink NSW

Anyone can join. The NEWC is open to anyone of any age, new and established writers, and readers too! It is for people who love reading and writing. Full annual membership including GST is \$28.50, or \$8.00 for students under 18. Send cheque or money order to the New England Writers' Centre, PO Box 1219, Armidale NSW 2350.

CENTRE OPENING HOURS

Tuesday: 1 pm – 4 pm
Wednesday: 10 am – noon
Thursday: 1 pm - 4 pm

Director: Lesley Sly

Office Manager: Janice Burn

Board members: Chairman, Michael Sharkey; Deputy, Kaye Mill; Treasurer, Sue McMichael; Minutes Secretary, Val Sherwell;

Committee: Steve Harris, Karla Meyer, Val Sherwell, Pam Summers.

Associates to the Board: Winifred Belmont (public officer).

Newsletter Editor: Pam Summers. Please mark all email and snail mail items to Pam's attention.

How to contact us:

The NEWC is situated in the Neighbourhood Centre, 129 Rusden St, Armidale (between the Council Building and the Town Hall). Access also via Cinders Lane car park.

Phone/Fax 02 6772 7210

Post: PO Box 1219, Armidale NSW 2350

Email: newc@northnet.com.au

Website: www.northnet.com.au/~newc

Next Newsletter: September/October.

CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE AT

<http://www.northnet.com.au/~newc>

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Provision of
accommodation by the
Armidale/Dumaresq
Council

CASP (Country Arts Support Program) for assistance in
funding our program.

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The Country Arts Support Program of Regional Arts NSW is funded by
the NSW Government through Arts NSW

DROP-IN WORKSHOP

January to November

On the last Thursday of each month from 1.30 – 3.30 pm at NEWC. You can drop in to read your work in progress and get feedback, or listen to and support others. Any style of writing is welcome – poetry, prose, drama – literary or genre. This event is free to members, \$5 per visit to non-members