

# New England WRITERS CENTRE

For people who love writing and reading

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**Newsletter May-June 2008**

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## **YOUTH ONLINE**

The Hon Mr Richard Torbay, MP, with NEWC director Lesley Sly (centre) and treasurer, Sue McMichael checking out online sessions at Guyra Central School, one of the schools involved in our Youth Online project.

In May, Mr Torbay made a statement in Parliament in support of the program.

“The feedback on the program from teachers and students has been positive and enthusiastic and I have asked the government to continue its support for this online program into the future,” he said.

The project this year has been sponsored by Arts NSW, Country Arts Support Program (CASP) of Regional Arts NSW, New England Credit Union, with broadband supplied by Telstra Country Wide.

The final line-up of schools for this year’s program will be announced in the next newsletter.

## **Review of Arts NSW’s Cultural Grants Program**

In this newsletter we have enclosed a copy of a press release sent out from Mr Torbay’s office in April in response to the Review of Arts NSW’s Cultural Grants Program which recommended that the government cease funding regional writers centres, and that they be devolved to online services and local councils.

We are grateful for Mr Torbay’s swift and continued support in this campaign to save regional writers centres, which, along with the two Sydney-based centres, form a statewide network called LitLink.

This month the directors of all nine centres in NSW met for a conference in Sydney to draft a submission to Arts NSW, addressing the report’s recommendation, outlining the value of our regional activities and our network, and how we wish to develop our network with a national vision in future.

When the LitLink submission has been completed, it will be posted on our website, along with links to other relevant information.

The other LitLink writers’ centres are Booranga Riverina (Wagga Wagga), Broken Hill Regional Writers Centre, Central West Writers Centre (Orange), Hunter Writers Centre (Newcastle), Northern Rivers Writers Centre (Byron Bay), NSW Writers Centre (Sydney), South Coast Writers Centre (Wollongong), Varuna - the Writers House (Eleanor Dark Foundation).

\* Members who wish to support the campaign can email the Minister for Arts, Frank Sartor, directly: [office@sartor.minister.nsw.gov.au](mailto:office@sartor.minister.nsw.gov.au)

To read or download the Review, go to: <http://www.arts.nsw.gov.au/NewsPublications/News/tabid/152/ItemID/30/View/Details/Default.aspx>

## **WRITING GYM** **– a one-day workshop with Wendy James**



This is a workshop for writers at all stages. There will be exercises to limber up the imagination so bring plenty of paper – and a towel!

DATE: May 24 (Saturday) 10am to 4pm.

VENUE: NEWC

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

## **LOVING WRITING**

### **- an introduction to writing romantic fiction, with Bronwyn Parry**

Writing Romance – what is that exactly? Bronwyn Parry, a writer who is rewriting what many people think the romance genre is, discusses this in an article on page 3.

Contrary to the myths, writing romance isn't easy. There's no formula, and no easy path to success in what is now a large, diverse, and highly competitive industry. This one-day workshop will provide an overview of the genre, its markets and readership, and will explore, through practical exercises, examples, and discussion, some of the key skills for aspiring writers in the genre:

- developing a strong premise for a romance novel
- creating complex, empathetic characters
- crafting emotional journeys and character arcs
- using text and texture effectively
- pacing, structure, and plot development
- finding good resources for romance writers.

Participants will find the exercises most beneficial if they have at least some ideas about a novel they'd like to write.

\* Bronwyn Parry's first novel, *As Darkness Falls*, will be published in September 2008 by Hachette Australia, with a second book contracted for publication in 2009. Combining the emotion of a romance with the intensity of a suspense plot, *As Darkness Falls* follows two

detectives searching for an abducted child in a traumatised town on the edge of the outback. Prior to signing with Hachette, Bronwyn's unpublished manuscripts won a number of awards and contests, including a prestigious Golden Heart Award from the Romance Writers of America, and the Valerie Parv Award and Single (Title) and Loving It contest from the Romance Writers of Australia. Bronwyn's interests in the romance genre go beyond writing it; she is also doing a PhD project exploring romance readers' and writers' internet communities and their perspectives on the genre. Go to page three for Bronwyn's article *Writing Romance – What it is and isn't about*

DATE: August 16, 10am to 4pm.

VENUE: NEWC.

COST: \$65 non-members/\$50 members/

If participants of this workshop want to go to a more advanced stage, we'll run another workshop in November.

## **LOGLINES & LITLINK:** **Creating real pathways for writers**

Writers of prose, poetry and drama living away from the metropolitan centres of Brisbane, Sydney and Melbourne are invited to send in applications for the Macquarie Group Foundation LongLines Varuna Workshops and Residencies.

Writers from regional NSW applying for the LongLines Program will also be applying for the LitLink Varuna Residencies – 10 one-week residencies at Varuna during the weeks July 28-August 3 and September 8-14.

For each state and territory, one two-week LongLines Varuna residency is awarded. There are 5 places in the prose workshop, 4 in the poetry, and 3 in the drama. Plus there are 15 non-residential readings and consultations – your chance for a considered reading of your whole work plus an hour long conversation with one of Varuna's experienced team of writing consultants. 35 valuable places in all. But read on!

From 2008, the LongLines Poetry Workshop will be presented in partnership with the Australian Poetry Centre, with additional funding from the Myer Foundation, and the four poets selected will be the four poets to be published in the annual New Poets program – the program that has grown from the annual Five Islands Press New Poets Program. Yes, you read that right – being selected for the LongLines Poetry Workshop means a publication! For more information go to [www.varuna.com.au](http://www.varuna.com.au). Phone 02 4782 5674.

## MANUSCRIPT CONSULTATIONS

with Peter Bishop director of Varuna  
– The Writers House

For members only, but you can become a member and book a place: Armidale July 18 & 19 at various times. Tamworth July 17 various times. Cost of one-hour assessment \$30.

WHAT YOU NEED TO DO: People taking part in this event will need to send (to Peter Bishop c/-NEWC, at PO Box 1219, Armidale NSW 2350) about 20 pages (double-spaced) of material that you want to discuss, plus a brief description of yourself as a writer, what you hope for and fear!

Send this to NEWC by June 30.

### WRITING ROMANCE What it is, and isn't about

There's a lot of mythology about the romance genre. You've probably heard the snarky, or supposedly 'humorous', comments about bodice rippers, female porn, trashy books, and formulas. Whenever someone makes one of those comments, you can be fairly sure that they've probably never read a romance novel, and know nothing about the contemporary romance genre.



So, what is a romance book? A recent article in an American Library Association journal defined romance novels as 'built around the relationship between hero and heroine and the conflicts within that relationship. They are ultimately positive and optimistic novels that involve the reader on an emotional level.' Romance is the largest genre in fiction. Its books are bought, read, shared, discussed and loved by people of all ages and walks of life, of

all educational levels from university professors to teenagers. It is a rich and diverse genre, with books ranging from pure escapist fantasy through to complex realism. It is an entertaining genre, providing millions of readers every day with relaxation and enjoyment. It is also a genre which grapples with and explores a host of social and cultural issues, large and small. Readers of romance also widely read in other genres, including literary fiction.

Contrary to the myths, there is no formula for a romance book. There's no computer program, there's no fill-in-the-blanks template. Romance authors need all the craft, talent, imagination, and hard work that it takes to write in any other genre.

Whether in the realms of the purely imaginary and fantasy, or clothed in gritty realism, all genre fiction aims to entertain, while affirming important values for us. Fantasy and science fiction – steeped in heroic mythology – have at the centre a recognition of our need for physical courage, integrity, and community. The crime genre, too, affirms these values, and adds intellect and reason.

At their heart, romance novels affirm love and emotional courage. Romance novels are about emotion and a journey towards intimacy. They may also be about community, or family, or war, or crime, or vampires, or the aristocracy, or any of a thousand other subjects, from the fantastic to the real, but that emotional journey is central. While literary fiction often encourages a distancing of the reader from the characters, genre fiction, and romance in particular, offers readers an engaging story in which, at some level, we relate to at least one of the characters.

Romance novels aren't about marriage at all costs, or subjugating oneself to another; they are, in fact, quite the reverse. They do not privilege marriage; they privilege love. They recognise that a real love connects us with what is deepest within ourselves, and that a lasting relationship needs equal partners, committed to working their way through strong and difficult emotions, and trusting enough to allow themselves to become vulnerable to each other. Love is never easy... and because it isn't, writing romance isn't easy, either.

- Bronwyn Parry

**EVENTS – LATER**  
**Children's writer**  
**Polishing for Publication & more...**  
**Details next newsletter**

Youth Online is sponsored, Arts NSW, New England Credit Union, with Bigpond ADSL provided by Telstra Countrywide.



## WORK SPACE

**Egg on face:** We spelled Richard McLennan's name wrong in 'What we did' page 4 of the last newsletter. Humble apologies, Richard.

## FEATURING HELENA PASTOR

Helena has been experiencing success lately being highly commended in the Bauhinia Literary Awards and commended in the Marian Eldridge Award. Pam Summers reports:

*How did it all begin?*

For years I wrote long descriptive letters and then, in 2002, I used a compilation of these letters to gain entry into an MPhil in Creative Writing at the University of Queensland. In 2006 I completed a homebirth memoir as part of this degree and two excerpts from this memoir have since been accepted for publication. During this time I also started writing fiction – a collection of short stories that centre on the experiences of a young girl growing up in a bakery house with her Dutch family. So far, I have completed seven out of approximately twenty story ideas and four of these stories have been accepted for publication in Australian literary journals. At one of her editing workshops for NEWC, Susan Hampton stressed the importance of submitting your writing to journals – it helps attract the eye of a publisher or agent. I've always remembered that and try to have my work constantly circulating around the major journals.

*Are you working on anything now?*

I'm working on a PhD in Communication at the University of Canberra, where a creative writing project forms the major part of the thesis. The focus of my creative work is to document the Iron Man Welders Project, a

welding program for young men organised by a group of local Armidale youth workers. I chose the academic path because a postgraduate scholarship offers me more time to write, and I also receive advice and mentoring from creative writing academics.

*Where do you find inspiration?*

For my nonfiction, I try to use things that are happening around me that have national appeal and relevance. The 'Bakery Stories' are fictionalised accounts of my own childhood. My favourite writers are Charmian Clift, Helen Garner and Olga Masters, and I re-read them regularly, but at the moment I'm reading Tim Winton's *The Turning* because I admire the way he writes about men and boys, and also *A Novel in a Year* by Louise Doughty, which has some excellent writing exercises.

*What is most important to you as a writer?*

Constructive feedback. I have a very supportive friendship with another writer who I met while studying at the University of Queensland. She has been my creative rock, someone I can trust who also gives great advice. I know some people like to keep their writing to themselves, but I'd find it difficult to work completely alone.

*Are you a planner – do you have your future all organised?*

I'd like my next major project to be a biography/travel journal of my mother's early life in Holland and her migration to Australia in the late 1950s. I also have plans to write a creative account of a future journey through Syria.

*Excerpt from second chapter of the Iron Man Welders Project where, after receiving over five thousand dollars of donations from the community and the state government to buy equipment, Bernie (central youth worker) is helping the boys organise a tool-buying trip to Tamworth:*

Greg taps at the notebook on his lap: "I think we should get back to this crap. I've got to head off soon." They discuss approximate costs of tools and welders and work out, yet again, what they want to buy.

“Should we get a drill press?” Greg asks. Bernie sits back in his chair: “That’s what I’m waitin’ for you to tell me.” “Are we gettin’ more drills?” asks Jordy. “Do we want a cordless drill?” Again and again, Bernie fobs off the responsibility for which tools go on the list. He’s like a soccer coach with a new team who keeps kicking the ball back, nice and easy, until his players gain confidence. “Here, Jordy,” he says, throwing over some catalogues, “Just have a skip through some of these for a price.” Jordy flicks through the pages: “How much are you willing to pay for a cordless drill?” “How much am I willing to pay?” Bernie shakes his head, “How much are you blokes willing to pay?” “There’s a cordless drill here for fifty bucks.” “Why don’t we get a toolbox – buy it with that shit in it already,” says Nick, sitting forward with his elbows on his knees. “Toolbox?” says Bernie. “I reckon you blokes could *make* a big-arse toolbox. Greg, how much we got now – someone do the maths while we go. Mattie, you’re the calculator.” Mattie looks confused. “Where’s the calculator?” “In your head, my friend,” says Bernie, tapping at his beanie. After Greg reads through the list, Jordy shakes his head in wonder: “Fuck, we’re not going to have much money left after this.” “We’ll have everything then,” Bernie tells him, and then asks Simmo to ring Bunnings in Tamworth: “See if we can get a discount. Tell ‘em that these blokes won’t go and steal a heap of shit if they give us a good deal.” The boys all laugh at that, even Greg.

– **Helena Pastor**

## NEWS & INFORMATION

Heywire, ABC Regional Youth Online consists of blogs, profiles, feature stories and regional youth news. The ABC's regional youth site, Heywire, is an online space where regional Australian youth can broadcast their stories and new material is being added all the time. Go to: [www.abc.net.au/heywire/](http://www.abc.net.au/heywire/)

Biennale of Sydney Online Venue is a website which brings together previews of artworks, texts and links selected by artistic director, Carolyn Christov-Bakargiev, based on her exhibition theme, *Revolutions – Forms That Turn*. Go to: [www.bos2008.com/revolutionsonline](http://www.bos2008.com/revolutionsonline)

Struggling to name your masterpiece? Go to [www.kitt.net/php./title.php](http://www.kitt.net/php./title.php)

Dymocks are installing kiosks in some of their bookstores. Customers will be able to download (to buy) a range of audio and e-books for reading or listening to on devices such as iPods, MP3 players and PDAs.

The International PEN Poem Relay is focussed around the poem “June” by the imprisoned poet and journalist Shi Tao and seeks to raise awareness about freedom of expression in China in a uniquely PEN way – through poetry and translation.

PEN centres around the world have translated and recorded “June” in more than 60 languages and, using the internet as its main instrument, the poem will virtually “travel” around the world from centre to centre, language to language, adding new translations as it goes and ending in Beijing for the 2008 Olympics. Shi Tao is serving a 10-year sentence in prison on the charge of “revealing state secrets abroad”. He was convicted for an email he sent to an overseas website using a Yahoo! email account after Yahoo! provided the Chinese authorities with his identity.

The poem “June” is a meditation on the tragedy of the military crackdown on the Tiananmen Square protests in June 4, 1989, which remains a censored topic in China.

Translators and poets at PEN centres around the world are using the spirit of the Olympics to bring to life Shi Tao’s message in the languages of the world,” said Eugene Schoulgin, international secretary of International PEN. “As the poem spreads from language to language, we spread our concern for freedom of expression in China and the writers who are languishing in its jails.”



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The special website [www.penpoemrelay.org](http://www.penpoemrelay.org) presents a map of the world showing the progress of the poem relay, which takes its cue from the Olympic torch relay itinerary.

## NEWC POETZINC POETRY SLAM

As part of the Get off Your Arts festival in Uralla, Poetzinc and the New England Writers Centre co sponsored performance poet David Hallet to host a poetry slam. This event was held in local Uralla cafe Raches. The cafe was a congenial atmosphere on a Sunday morning with a variety of audience and participants. The youngest reader was a local 9 year old reading her own poem. The ten readers in the slam performed original works. Rule of the slam was a time limit of no more than two minutes. Judges Sue McMichael representing the NEWC as well as David Hallet made the unanimous decision for the winning poet Maxine Ross with her poem 4am. Maxine received the prize of \$100.00 sponsored by the NEWC. As well David performed some of his poetry which added inspiration, humour and vitality to the event.

4am  
Together we were three figures  
    wrapped in her effort  
Of pain cries and pushing  
Filling the dark corners beyond  
    the gold nightlight perimeter  
The baby finally tumbling from her  
breathless crumpled  
Onto the white bed  
Silent in its absence  
of spirit

Still clinging to me  
she spoke into my hair and encircled arms  
Do you have children  
Yes

- **Maxine Ross**

## COMPETITIONS

**May 30:** The PressPress Chapbook Award is for an unpublished chapbook length manuscript of poems. The winning manuscript will receive \$300 and publication by PressPress. The manuscript should be an original poetry of chapbook length (*ie.* 20 to 40 pages). Entry fee: \$15. Guidelines: [info@presspress.com.au](mailto:info@presspress.com.au) or [www.presspress.com.au/award.htm](http://www.presspress.com.au/award.htm)

**June 2:** *Forests, Feathers, Fins and Fur* is this year's theme for the country's largest poetry

writing competition for students, which celebrates the work of well-known Australian poet Dorothea Mackellar. Students and schools can share in more than \$5000 worth of prizes including cash, trophies, books and a trip to Gunnedah in north-west NSW – home of the awards. Award entry forms and information on poetry writing, resource notes for teachers and judges' reports are available at [www.dorothea.com.au](http://www.dorothea.com.au)

**June 10:** The "EnhanceTV ATOM Awards" are described as being at the forefront of the development of Australian screen culture, with particular emphasis on documentary, new media, short film and educational/vocational productions. Schools are encouraged to enter projects and showcase the skills and talents of their students. Producers are encouraged to enter the awards to gain high profile exposure for their projects; for both it is an opportunity to further media-making careers through networking and relationship building with like-minded practitioners at the Awards ceremony. Go to [www.atomawards.org](http://www.atomawards.org)

**June 27:** The 2008 Blake Poetry prize, sponsored by the Blake Society, Leichhardt Municipal Council and Wet Ink, offers a prize of \$5000. Details: [www.wetink.com.au](http://www.wetink.com.au)

**June 30:** Dogwood playwrights initiative encourages rural voices to keep the Australian spirit alive. One-act play submissions, not previously performed and should be between 50 and 70 minutes duration. Details: [tedgibbons@bigpond.com](mailto:tedgibbons@bigpond.com) or [www.murilla.qld.gov.au](http://www.murilla.qld.gov.au) or NSW Writers Centre (02) 9555 9757 or [nswwriterscentre.org.au](mailto:nswwriterscentre.org.au)

**July 4:** The Max Afford Playwrights' Award offers a cash prize of \$7,500 and expenses to a maximum of \$2,500 for registration, accommodation and airline tickets to attend a reading of the winning play at the Australian National Playwrights' Conference. Guidelines contact: Cauz Group, (02) 9144 2415 or [trustawards@cauzgroup.com.au](mailto:trustawards@cauzgroup.com.au) or [www.trust.com.au/philanthropy/awards/max\\_afford/](http://www.trust.com.au/philanthropy/awards/max_afford/)

**July 15:** Max Harris poetry award 2008: offers a cash prize of \$3000 and commended certificates. Contact: [www.poetryandpoeticscentre.com](http://www.poetryandpoeticscentre.com) or [poetryandpoeticscentre@unisa.edu.au](mailto:poetryandpoeticscentre@unisa.edu.au) or Max Harris Poetry Award 2008, c/o Poetry and Poetics Centre, School of Communication, University of South Australia, St. Bernards Road, Magill, SA 5072.

**July 25:** Poets Union poetry prize offers \$3000 for the winning poem. Contact The Poets Union Inc. Poetry Prize, PO Box 755, Potts Point, NSW 1335 or [info@poetsunion.com](mailto:info@poetsunion.com) or go to [www.poetsunion.com](http://www.poetsunion.com)

**July 25:** Play Now Act Now: Party Smart offers \$12,000 in cash and prizes, Play Now Act Now is a film, graphic design and writing competition for people aged 16 to 25 in NSW. It invites young people to produce creative resources focussing on issues associated with the use of alcohol and other drugs *eg* health, social, political, moral or ethical issues. Contact: Katrina Douglas, project manager, Metroscreen (02) 9361 5318 or [partysmart@metroscreen.org.au](mailto:partysmart@metroscreen.org.au) or go to [www.playnowactnow.net.au/competition.html](http://www.playnowactnow.net.au/competition.html)

**July 27:** Yarram Community Learning Centre 5<sup>th</sup> annual writing competition; Short stories and poetry, cash prizes and certificates awarded. Contact: [www.yclc.com.au](http://www.yclc.com.au) or YCLC, PO Box 212, Yarram, Vic. 3971.

**July 30:** Adelaide PEN creative non-fiction competition. Entries to be on the theme of *Caging the pen: censorship in Australia*. Entry form required. Contact: SA Writers' Centre, PO Box 43, Rundle Mall, Adelaide 5000 or ph: 08 8223 7662 or fax: 08 8232 3994 or [sawriters@sawriters.on.net](mailto:sawriters@sawriters.on.net) or [www.sawc.org.au](http://www.sawc.org.au)

**September 1:** The Iremonger award for writing a non-fiction book on Australian public issues (political, social or cultural), sponsored by Allen & Unwin, Australia's leading independent publisher. Cash prize of \$10 000, guaranteed publication, royalties on book sales and editorial support to develop the proposal into a finished manuscript. Contact: Pedro Almeida, publishing assistant, Allen & Unwin, 83 Alexander Street, Crows Nest, NSW 2065 or (02) 8425 0104, or [pedroa@allenandunwin.com](mailto:pedroa@allenandunwin.com) or [www.allanandunwin.com/iremongeraward](http://www.allanandunwin.com/iremongeraward)

**September 19:** Rolf Boldrewood literary awards for prose & poetry. First prize: bronze Boldrewood bust, created by sculptor Brett Garling who is regarded as one of Australia's best figurative sculptors, plus \$600; second: \$300; third: \$150. Contact: Macquarie Regional Library [www.mrl.nsw.gov.au](http://www.mrl.nsw.gov.au), PO Box 1042, Dubbo, NSW 2830.

## PUBLISHING/FELLOWSHIPS/ OPPORTUNITIES

Realise Your Dream: The British Council Australia is taking applications from Australians up to age 30 working in the creative industries for the *Realise Your Dream* programme. There are six personally tailored work experience programmes in the UK on offer. Go to: [www.realiseyourdream.org.au](http://www.realiseyourdream.org.au) **Closing June 30.**

**Pratt Foundation / ISS Institute Overseas Fellowships** Applications for *The Pratt Foundation/ISS Institute Overseas Fellowships* are now open to Australian artists, trades or technical persons. Each successful applicant receives a maximum of \$8,000 towards costs such as airfares, living allowance, accommodation, course fees and materials. Should costs exceed \$8,000 the recipient raises the additional funds. Contact ISS Institute on 03 9882 0055 or [issi.ceo@pacific.net.au](mailto:issi.ceo@pacific.net.au) or for [www.issinstitute.org.au](http://www.issinstitute.org.au) **Closing June 30**

Foame is an annual Queensland based international publication of poetry, reviews and interviews. Submissions are welcome. Go to: [www.foame.org/](http://www.foame.org/)

## CONFERENCES/WORKSHOPS FESTIVALS

Sydney Writers' Festival May 19 to 25.

Desert Writers '08, described as an extraordinary walking and writing journey with Jan Cornall and Into The Blue Creative Walks, heads out in June. DATES: June 28 - July 5, go to [www.intotheblue.com.au](http://www.intotheblue.com.au)

The 2008 Biennale of Sydney: Revolutions – Forms That Turn will run in Sydney from June 18 – September 7. Go to: [www.bos2008.com/revolutionsonline](http://www.bos2008.com/revolutionsonline).

Collective Biography Conference, National Library of Australia, September 8-10. Contact: Leena Messina, programs manager, phone: (02) 6125 4357, fax: (02) 6125 1380, Research School of Humanities, College of Arts and Social Sciences, The Australian National University, Canberra, ACT 0200, [leena.messina@anu.edu.au](mailto:leena.messina@anu.edu.au) or go to <http://www.anu.edu.au/hrc/> or <http://rsh.anu.edu.au/events/2008conferences.php>

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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:** July/August.

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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