

From The President's Pen



What's happening in RWNZ?

President Kamy Chetty brings us up to date with the news...

kamychetty@yahoo.com



Hi Everyone

The last time I checked my watch, it was June, then August, and now it's almost Christmas. I'm not sure I have the energy to keep up, or it might be I'm getting old. You be the judge.

I would like to thank everyone who emailed me and have volunteered for a few jobs on the conference committee. The executive, RWNZ and myself really appreciate it. I love going to conference as I am sure you all do, so I am glad we can pull together a team to make this happen.

As soon as we have a functional team, we will be in touch with details of the conference, but I can safely say to start planning ahead from now because we have a fabulous line-up for you.

Some of our speakers include Karen Rose, Karen Robards, Mary Jo Putney, Candace Havens and our very own Nalini Singh. With this star studded line-up, I suggest you start saving your dollars for a fantastic Auckland conference at the Waipuna.

Candace Havens is an acquiring editor from Entangled, and she will be taking pitches for all of their lines. I am confident Harlequin will continue to have a presence at our conference, and we will also continue to recognise the talents of our self-published authors.

Happy writing, and here's my quote for the month

"I've often said that there's no such thing as writer's block; the problem is idea block. When I find myself frozen—whether I'm working on a brief passage in a novel or brainstorming about an entire book—it's usually because I'm trying to shoehorn an idea into the passage or story where it has no place." ~ Jeffery Deaver

Kamy

RWNZ President



HAVE YOU RENEWED YOUR SUB?

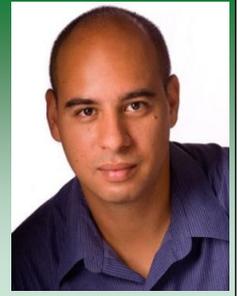
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Get Off Your Butt: 16 Ways to Get Motivated When You're in a Slump

by Leo Babauta



<http://zenhabits.net/get-off-your-butt-16-ways-to-get-motivated-when-youre-in-a-slump/>

Even the most motivated of us — you, me, Tony Robbins — can feel unmotivated at times. In fact, sometimes we get into such a slump that even thinking about making positive changes seems too difficult.

But it's not hopeless: with some small steps, baby ones in fact, you can get started down the road to positive change.

Yes, I know, it seems impossible at times. You don't feel like doing anything. I've been there, and in fact I still feel that way from time to time. You're not alone. But I've learned a few ways to break out of a slump, and we'll take a look at those today.

This post was inspired by reader [Roy C. Carlson](#), who asked:

"I was wondering if you could do a piece on why it can be hard for someone to change direction and start taking control of their life. I have to say I'm in this boat and advice on getting out of my slump would be great."

Roy is just one of many with a slump like that. Again, I feel that way sometimes myself, and in fact sometimes I struggle to motivate myself to exercise — and I'll use that as an example of how to break out of the slump.

When I fall out of exercise, due to illness or injury or disruption from things going on in my life, **it's hard to get started again**. I don't even feel like thinking about it, sometimes. But I've always found a way to break out of that slump, and here are some things I've learned that have helped:

1. **One Goal.** Whenever I've been in a slump, I've discovered that it's often because I have too much going on in my life. I'm trying to do too much. And it saps my energy and motivation. It's probably the most common mistake that people make: they try to take on too much, try to accomplish too many goals at once. You cannot maintain energy and focus (the two

most important things in accomplishing a goal) if you are trying to do two or more goals at once. It's not possible — I've tried it many times. You have to choose one goal, for now, and focus on it completely. I know, that's hard. Still, I speak from experience. You can always do your other goals when you've accomplished your One Goal.

2. **Find inspiration.** Inspiration, for me, comes from others who have achieved what I want to achieve, or who are currently doing it. I read other blogs, books, magazines. I Google my goal, and read success stories. Zen Habits is just one place for inspiration, not only from me but from many readers who have achieved amazing things.
3. **Get excited.** This sounds obvious, but most people don't think about it much: if you want to break out of a slump, get yourself excited about a goal. But how can you do that when you don't feel motivated? Well, it starts with inspiration from others (see above), but you have to take that excitement and build on it. For me, I've learned that by talking to my wife about it, and to others, and reading as much about it as possible, and visualizing what it would be like to be successful (seeing the benefits of the goal in my head), I get excited about a goal. Once I've done that, it's just a matter of carrying that energy forward and keeping it going.
4. **Build anticipation.** This will sound hard, and many people will skip this tip. But it really works. It helped me quit smoking after many failed attempts. If you find inspiration and want to do a goal, don't start right away. Many of us will get excited and want to start today. That's a mistake. Set a date in the future — a week or two, or even a month — and make that your Start Date. Mark it on the calendar. Get excited about that date. Make it the most important date in your life. In the meantime, start writing out a plan. And do some of the steps below. Because by delaying your start, you are building anticipation, and increasing your focus and energy for your goal.
5. **Post your goal.** Print out your goal in big words. Make your goal just a few words long, like a

(Continued on page 4)

Get Off Your Butt: 16 Ways to Get Motivated When You're in a Slump

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(Continued from page 3)

mantra ("Exercise 15 mins. Daily"), and post it up on your wall or refrigerator. Post it at home and work. Put it on your computer desktop. You want to have big reminders about your goal, to keep your focus and keep your excitement going. A picture of your goal (like a model with sexy abs, for example) also helps.

6. **Commit publicly.** None of us likes to look bad in front of others. We will go the extra mile to do something we've said publicly. For example, when I wanted to run my first marathon, I started writing a column about it in my local daily newspaper. The entire island of Guam (pop. 160K) knew about my goal. I couldn't back down, and even though my motivation came and went, I stuck with it and completed it. Now, you don't have to commit to your goal in your daily newspaper, but you can do it with friends and family and co-workers, and you can do it on your blog if you have one. And hold yourself accountable — don't just commit once, but commit to giving progress updates to everyone every week or so.
7. **Think about it daily.** If you think about your goal every day, it is much more likely to become true. To this end, posting the goal on your wall or computer desktop (as mentioned above) helps a lot. Sending yourself daily reminders also helps. And if you can commit to doing one small thing to further your goal (even just 5 minutes) every single day, your goal will almost certainly come true.
8. **Get support.** It's hard to accomplish something alone. When I decided to run my marathon, I had the help of friends and family, and I had a great running community on Guam who encouraged me at 5K races and did long runs with me. When I decided to quit smoking, I joined an online forum and that helped tremendously. And of course, my wife Eva helped every step of the way. I couldn't have done these goals without her, or without the others who supported me. Find your support network, either in the real world or online, or both.
9. **Realize that there's an ebb and flow.** Motivation is not a constant thing that is always there for you. It comes and goes, and comes and goes again, like the tide. But realize that while it may

go away, it doesn't do so permanently. It will come back. Just stick it out and wait for that motivation to come back. In the meantime, read about your goal (see below), ask for help (see below), and do some of the other things listed here until your motivation comes back.

10. **Stick with it.** Whatever you do, don't give up. Even if you aren't feeling any motivation today, or this week, don't give up. Again, that motivation will come back. Think of your goal as a long journey, and your slump is just a little bump in the road. You can't give up with every little bump. Stay with it for the long term, ride out the ebbs and surf on the flows, and you'll get there.
11. **Start small. Really small.** If you are having a hard time getting started, it may be because you're thinking too big. If you want to exercise, for example, you may be thinking that you have to do these intense workouts 5 days a week. No — instead, do small, tiny, baby steps. Just do 2 minutes of exercise. I know, that sounds wimpy. But it works. Commit to 2 minutes of exercise for one week. You may want to do more, but just stick to 2 minutes. It's so easy, you can't fail. Do it at the same time, every day. Just some crunches, 2 pushups, and some jogging in place. Once you've done 2 minutes a day for a week, increase it to 5, and stick with that for a week. In a month, you'll be doing 15-20. Want to wake up early? Don't think about waking at 5 a.m. Instead, think about waking 10 minutes earlier for a week. That's all. Once you've done that, wake 10 minutes earlier than that. Baby steps.
12. **Build on small successes.** Again, if you start small for a week, you're going to be successful. You can't fail if you start with something ridiculously easy. Who can't exercise for 2 minutes? (If that's you, I apologize.) And you'll feel successful, and good about yourself. Take that successful feeling and build on it, with another baby step. Add 2-3 minutes to your exercise routine, for example. With each step (and each step should last about a week), you will feel even more successful. Make each step really, really small, and you won't fail. After a couple of months, your tiny steps will add up to a lot of progress and a lot of success.

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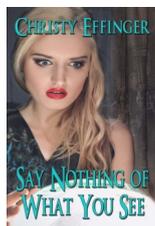


Get Off Your Butt: 16 Ways to Get Motivated When You're in a Slump

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(Continued from page 4)

13. **Read about it daily.** When I lose motivation, I just read a book or blog about my goal. It inspires me and reinvigorates me. For some reason, reading helps motivate and focus you on whatever you're reading about. So read about your goal every day, if you can, especially when you're not feeling motivated.
14. **Call for help when your motivation ebbs.** Having trouble? Ask for help. Email me. Join an online forum. Get a partner to join you. Call your mom. It doesn't matter who, just tell them your problems, and talking about it will help. Ask them for advice. Ask them to help you overcome your slump. It works.
15. **Think about the benefits, not the difficulties.** One common problem is that we think about how hard something is. Exercise sounds so hard! Just thinking about it makes you tired. But instead of thinking about how hard something is, think about what you will get out of it. For example, instead of thinking about how tiring exercise can be, focus on how good you'll feel when you're done, and how you'll be healthier and slimmer over the long run. The benefits of something will help energize you.
16. **SQUASH NEGATIVE THOUGHTS; REPLACE THEM WITH POSITIVE ONES.** Along those lines, it's important to start monitoring your thoughts. Recognize negative self-talk, which is really what's causing your slump. Just spend a few days becoming aware of every negative thought. Then, after a few days, try squashing those negative thoughts like a bug, and then replacing them with a corresponding positive thought. Squash, "This is too hard!" and replace it with, "I can do this! If that wimp Leo can do it, so can I!" It sounds corny, but it works. Really.



Point of View: Using Multiple Viewpoint Characters

by Lola Goulton



My previous articles have looked at the main types of point of view and how to choose the most appropriate point of view for your novel. This month, I share my three golden rules for thirdperson point of view.

MULTIPLE CHARACTERS: THREE GOLDEN RULES

If your novel has more than one point of view character (and most do), there are three (3) rules you must follow:

- ✦ Only one point of view character per scene.
- ✦ The viewpoint character should be the character who is most impacted by the events in the scene.
- ✦ A new scene is indicated to the reader by an additional line break (or a centred *** if you prefer).

Constantly changing the point of view character in a scene is referred to as head-hopping, and is something that should be avoided at all costs in modern fiction:

When you jump from head to head, you're trying to achieve narrative intimacy with all your characters at once, and readers will almost always find that more confusing than engaging... and readers can lose their engagement in the story.

Note that a scene is one continuous piece of action at one time and probably one place (just like a scene on television). Once the action moves to a different time or place, it's a new scene. It's not a new scene if you are simply adding an additional line break to indicate a new point of view character. You can, under certain circumstances, change point of view once in a scene. Only once. Otherwise it's head-hopping and is something your editor, agent or publisher will want you to revise and eliminate.

Remember, the viewpoint character should be the person most impacted by the events in that scene. In almost every case, this should be one of the main characters, not a minor character who only appears on one or two scenes in the entire book (the exception would be if you are setting this character up to be the protagonist in your next book).

(Continued on page 6)

Point of View: Using Multiple Viewpoint Characters by Lola Goulton



(Continued from page 5)

HOW MANY POINT OF VIEW CHARACTERS?

What is the ideal number of viewpoint characters in a novel?

Fewer is better.

If you are writing in first person, the ideal number of POV characters is one. Few authors can manage multiple first-person point of view characters. If you are writing in third person, use deep perspective, and avoid author intrusions and head-hopping.

The number of POV characters will depend on genre and word count (which are also related). The purpose of point of view is to create intimacy with the characters, to make the reader care about what happens to the character. For this reason, authors tend to limit the number of viewpoint characters to between three and five in a standard-length novel (around 90,000 words). As guidelines, based on what I see as a reader:

- ✦ Category romance (e.g. Mills & Boon, approximately 60,000 words) has two points of view: hero and heroine, with approximately a 40/60 split between the two.
- ✦ Contemporary or historical romance and women's literature (90,000 words) has two or three points of view: hero, heroine and significant other character. This may be a best friend, or it may be the heroine of the planned sequel.
- ✦ Romantic suspense (90,000 words) has between two and four points of view: hero, heroine, significant other character and villain.
- ✦ Thriller (90,000 words) may have up to five characters: hero, heroine (if there are romantic elements) and two or three seemingly-unrelated viewpoints, one or two of which will be the villains

Science Fiction or Fantasy (up to 120,000 words) will have up to five characters: hero, heroine, sidekick, mentor, and villain.

Each character is someone you want your reader to get to know, to understand. If you have too many viewpoint characters, you reduce the ability of your readers to truly know and understand your characters and their motivations:

The more characters you add to the mixture, the more difficult it will become to keep up with all of them and to keep them in the action.

So, fewer is better. Read, work out the expectations of your genre, and go from there.

By Lola Goulton. This article has previously been published on my website, www.christianediting.co.nz, where I post weekly articles on writing craft, editing, publishing or marketing. I provide freelance content editing, copyediting and proofreading services for writers, specialising in adult and young adult Christian fiction. Most of my articles are applicable to all genres.

I hold a Bachelor of Commerce degree in marketing and have twenty years' experience in human resources, including writing and editing a company newsletter, developing a government website, contributing three chapters to a professional text, and writing and proofreading more client reports that I can count. I have always loved, and I read and review around 150 Christian books each year on my blog www.christianreads.blogspot.com. Editing combines my professional background and personal interests.

"Love looks not with the eyes, but with the mind; And therefore is winged Cupid painted blind." -- Helena, from [William Shakespeare's "A Midsummer Night's Dream"](#)

"I love you without knowing how or when or from where. I love you simply, without problems or pride." -- [Pablo Neruda, "Sonnet XVII"](#)

<http://www.bookish.com/articles/unconditional-love-quotes-from-shakespeare-pablo-neruda-and-more>

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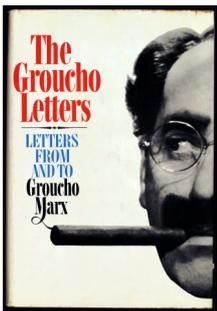
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"I find television very educating. Every time somebody turns on the set, I go into the other room and read a book."

— Groucho Marx

Retrieved October 13, 2014 from: <http://choosybookworm.com/25-of-the-most-popular-inspiring-quotes-on-reading/>

CLASSIFIED ADS

We are happy to place short classified ads in H2H for services that could be useful to writers.

The price for an ad is \$20.

Note that the placing of these advertisements will be preceded by a disclaimer stating that although RWNZ is placing the ad, it does not in any way endorse the product/service.

Please pay by **Internet Banking**—

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2. code your deposit with: RWNZ H2H and Your Name

Please contact me by the 10th of each month if you wish to advertise. sapihead@xtra.co.nz

RWNZ News Around the Regions

Keeping in touch with each other

Word Count: The intention of this column is more to notify than to have a regional narrative.

REPORTS SHOULD NOT EXCEED A WORD COUNT OF 150 WORDS.

If your region has done something unusual or very interesting that you want to share, then **we'd like to hear about it in a separate report**, which can be featured on its own.

Read the **News Around the Regions on page 12?**

EMAIL IN YOUR FAVOURITE 'ROMANCE QUOTES'

FOR THE H2H NEWSLETTER

Remember to also send in the Author and Website Address for referencing to

sapihead@xtra.co.nz



INTERNATIONAL CONTESTS

by Tracey Alvarez

The Emerald Award (Romance Writers of Australia)

Deadline: November 21st, 2014

Eligibility: RWA members only. Categories: Aspiring, or Emerging with no works 10K+ commercially available.

Enter: The first 5,000 words of your unpublished romance or romantic elements manuscript (10K+).

Entries are by email. Entrants who reach the second round will need to submit their full manuscript.

Fee: AUS\$35

More Info: <http://www.romanceaustralia.com/p/109/Emerald>

The Emerald Pro 2014-15 (Romance Writers of Australia)

Deadline: TBA

Eligibility: RWA members only. Categories: Established, or Emerging with works of fiction commercially available. The entry must be in a different sub-genre from your published works, and must not be commercially available.

Enter: The first 5,000 words of your manuscript.

More Info: <http://www.romanceaustralia.com/p/213/Emerald-Pro>

Great Expectations (North Texas RWA)

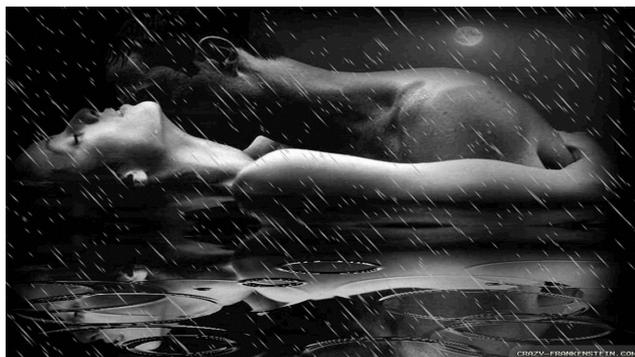
Deadline: November 30th, 2014 (Early Bird Entry fee ends) December 29th (Final Deadline)

Eligibility: This contest is open to all authors who have never been published in book-length romantic fiction, as well as authors who have not been contracted or published in the entered category during the last three years (during 2012, 2013, or 2014).

Enter: 5,000 word entry limit instead of page count.

Fee: US\$25-30

More Info: <http://ntrwagreatexpectations.blogspot.co.nz/p/2013-contest-rules.html>



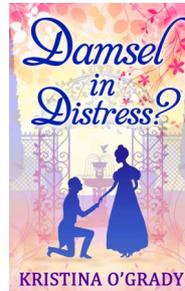
Retrieved October 24, 2014 from

<http://crazy-frankenstein.com/romance-in-rain-allpapers.html>

Woos, Hoos, and News

Celebrating our members' achievements.

To be included on this page, email your successes to Jean Drew at jeandrew@xtra.co.nz



We apologise that last month's novel, **DAMSEL IN DISTRESS?**, was listed as a new release by Amy Rose Bennet instead of by **Kristina O'Grady**.

DAMSEL IN DISTRESS? (Book 2 Time-Travel to Regency England) was released in September and is available at all e-retailers.

Frances Housden has a November novella release, **THE CHIEFTAIN'S FEUD**, a Romeo and Juliet-style Christmas novella with a Scottish twist.



Kris Pearson has just released another book of short stories on Amazon titled, **ANOTHER FIVE ROMANTIC READS**.

Annie Seaton has published **SEDUCTIVE SECRETS**; the prequel to **Dangerous Desire**.



Yvonne Lindsay has a new book, **THE CHILD THEY DIDN'T EXPECT**, which is getting some great reviews. Yvonne has also signed a new contract with Harlequin Desire for a book due to be published in June 2015.

Jean Drew w/a Gina Blake has a new contract for **MOONLIGHT MADNESS**, her second erotica for The Wild Rose Press



Tracey Alvarez has published her third book in the Due South series, **READY TO BURN**, due October 23

Woos, Hoos, and News

Celebrating our members' achievements.

To be included on this page, email your successes to Jean Drew at jeandrew@xtra.co.nz

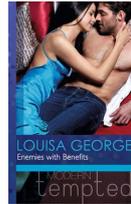


Faye Robinson w/a Serenity Woods released **TRICK OR TREAT**, Book 4 in the **Treats to Tempt You** series, set in Doubtless Bay. Released October 17.



Deryn Pittar w/a Virginia de Parte has released **LANDSCAPES OF LUST**, an erotic novella published by Steamereads.

Jane Beckenham has signed a new contract with Samhain Publishing for her contemporary romance, **THE BACHELOR PRINCE**, for release in May 2015.



Louise Groark w/a Louisa George has a new release; **ENEMIES WITH BENEFITS**.

Now and Then e-shortSeries:

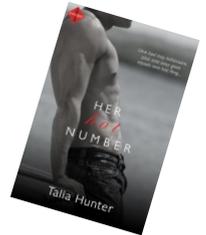
Gwen Reekie w/a Gwendoline Ewins has



published two novels on the Now and Then series; **FINALLY, I LEFT HIM**, and **SHATTERED**, due in October.



Tania Hutley w/a Talia Hunter has her first romance; **HER HOT NUMBER**, being released with Entangled Publishing October 20.



Suzanne Hamilton w/a S E Gilchrist has signed a three book contract with Escape Publishing in



her Darkon Warriors science fiction, action /adventure romance series (on the steamy side!). The next book, **WHEN STARS COLLIDE**, is scheduled for an October 22 release. Her first book in this series, **Legends**

Beyond the Stars, also placed 6nd in its category in the Passionate Ink RWA chapter Passionate Plume contest.



Charlotte Evers w/a Charlotte Brentwood's debut novel, **THE VAGABOND VICAR**, is published by Amazon Kindle Direct Publishing.

Zana Bell has a NZ historical romantic adventure, **FOOL'S GOLD**, coming out this month from Choclit publishers.



~ Jean Drew

ROMANCE WRITERS OF NEW ZEALAND

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August 28-30th
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ANY NEWS ABOUT WRITERS, BOOK LAUNCHES, COURSES IN YOUR AREA??

Are there any courses, writers' presentations, book launches or similar coming up in your area? Please send us the information or links – we may be able to inspire other RWNZ groups to piggyback on to them and offer opportunities in other regions.

Let us know : sapiheald@xtra.co.nz

HOOT HOOT! ROMANCE WRITERS OF AUSTRALIA ANNOUNCES THE OWLS

Romance Writers of Australia is excited to announce the launch of its OWLs (online workshop list) program with a fun and exciting course on Exploring Dialogue and Subtext with Kelly Hunter.

The **OWLs** will use Moodle, an online learning platform that is changing the way people share information.

Exploring Dialogue and Subtext - Starting on 1 December, this three-week course is dedicated to figuring out (in the funnest way possible) how to layer dialogue for extra tension, meaning and development of character and plot, and is suitable for all writing levels.

The cost to participate is \$25 for RWA Members and \$35 for non-members, but hurry as there are only 30 places available.

Don't delay! Book your place right now at www.romanceaustralia.com

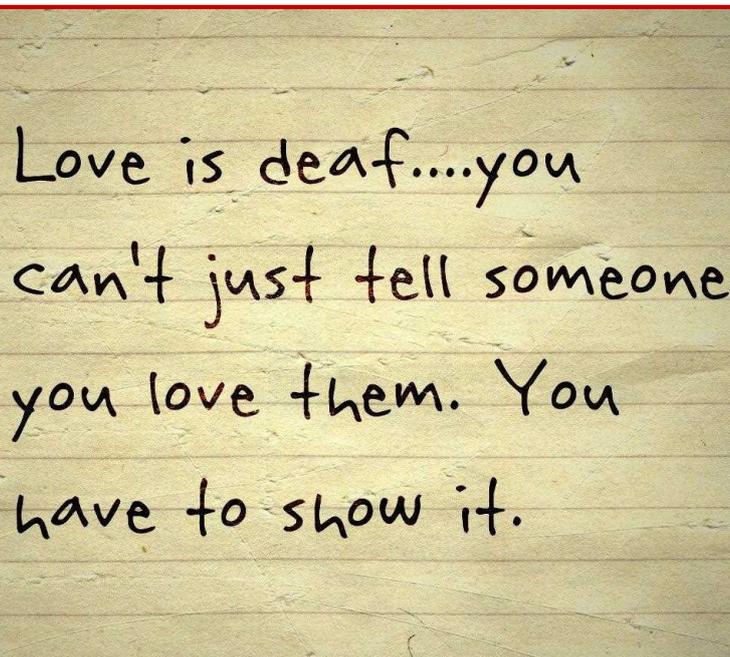
If you have any enquiries, email owlsadmin@yahoo.com.au

A 2015 program will be available in the coming weeks.



**ROMANCE
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om/p/1/Home](http://www.romanceaustralia.com/p/1/Home)



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Please contact Kamy on her email

kamychetty@yahoo.com

H2H MARKETS FOR NOVEMBER

by p.d.r.lindsay-salmon

1. Here's a charming idea for 'Bringing culture to your cup'.

The Lectores Coffee Press

SEEKING: short fiction, nonfiction and poetry to print directly on to their coffee bags.

LENGTH: under 350 words, including title and by-line.

Poems under 35 lines are also wanted.

Do read the guidelines at the website, as the length of lines is important because the work must fit onto a label.

PAYMENT: comes in coffee beans and US\$20 for first North American Publication Rights for both the labels on the bags and the website.

DETAILS: Lectores Coffee Press,

Website: <http://www.lectorescoffee.com/pages/lectores-coffee-press>

Email subs at the website using their online system.

2. Escape Publishing

Escape Publishing is an Australian romance and erotica publisher. Their e-books are DRM free.

Escape Publishing works within Harlequin Enterprises.

SEEKING: all the romance sub-genres: suspense, to S. F., new adult to fantasy, adventure, paranormal, erotic, historical, comedy, contemporary romance and more.

LENGTH: Short stories, novellas, short novels, novel-length stories, and long novels. Lengths 5,000 to 10,000 (short story), 11,000 to 50,000 (novella), 50,000 to 80,000 (short novel), 81,000 to 100,000 (novel), and 100,000+ (a long novel). Happy endings are a must.

PAYMENT: discussed under contract.

DETAILS: Escape Publishing,

Website: <http://www.escapepublishing.com.au>;

Email your submissions using their online system.;

Guidelines at: [http://](http://www.escapepublishing.com.au/submissionguidelines)

www.escapepublishing.com.au/submissionguidelines

3. HeroesandHeartbreakers.com

SEEKING: original romance stories in all sub-genres (erotica, contemporary, paranormal/urban fantasy, women's fiction/chick lit, historical, romantic suspense, etc).

LENGTH: Short stories (15k-30k words), novellas (30k-50k words), and category-length

PAYMENT: US\$1,000 to \$2,000 (depending on word count) against a 25% royalty.

DETAILS: Website: [http://](http://www.heroesandheartbreakers.com)

www.heroesandheartbreakers.com

Guidelines: [http://](http://www.heroesandheartbreakers.com/page/submissions)

www.heroesandheartbreakers.com/page/submissions

Email:

submissions@heroesandheartbreakers.com

4. Top Publications

Small press e-book and print.

SEEKING: mainstream fiction, such as mystery, science fiction, fantasy, romance, suspense, and thrillers.

LENGTH: Not specified but novels only.

PAYMENT: discussed at contract

DETAILS: Website: <http://topfiction.net/aboutus.html>

Email subs to: submissions@toppub.com

5. Keith Publications

Small press e-book and print.

SEEKING: Romance, sub-genres: historical, modern, fantasy, western, erotica.

LENGTH: Not specified but novels only.

PAYMENT: discussed at contract.

DETAILS: Website: [http://](http://www.keithpublications.com)

www.keithpublications.com

Email submissions to

submissions@keithpublications.com .

Guidelines: <http://www.keithpublications.com/guidelines/kp-guidelines6>

6. Chances Press, LLC

focused primarily on e-books

SEEKING: Contemporary Romance (M/F, M/M, F/F, Transgender) with various degrees of sensuality, historical romance, paranormal romance.

LENGTH: between 15,000 to 55,000 words, paranormal: 15,000 to 60,000 words; erotica (all subsets/genres) in either anthology, novella/novellete, and novel form between 10,000 to 55,000 words; and mystery/thrillers with a heavy emphasis on romance and/or erotic elements 25,000 to 55,000 words.

PAYMENT: is a traditional royalty paying publisher

DETAILS: Website: [http://](http://www.chancespress.com)

www.chancespress.com

Email: query@chancespress.com



RWNZ News Around the Regions

Keeping in touch with each other (150 word count)



Auckland

Yvonne Lindsay took the meeting on 4 October as I was unable to attend. Thirty-four attended. Sharyn Barratt's workshop on taming the social media beast was extremely well received. She spoke eloquently and captured everyone's interest throughout the meeting. I'm looking forward to being there for Sharyn's next workshop.

We have a special speaker from the States coming to talk to us on Saturday November 1st. Karen Rose <http://www.karenrosebooks.com/>. She writes romantic suspense and is very good at plot development. Her books are available at Chapter Book and Tea Shop in Mt Eden. I am sure we can persuade her to do some book signing after her talk so make sure you bring your copy.

As usual the venue is the Three Kings Tennis Pavilion from 12.30 until 3.00 p.m. Please bring a gold coin donation, cash for the raffles and a plate to share.

Pamela Gervai (Convener)

C2C (Central North Island Coast to Coast)

Our October meeting was held at the Netta Newbound's historic Mine Manager's home in Waihi. After our usual scrumptious lunch, we spent the afternoon listening to our guest speaker, Christine Leov Lealand, speak about her experiences as a traditional and self-published author. Christine has written biographies, erotica, steampunk, chick lit, historical adventure romances and a family memoir. She was enthusiastic about self-publishing and we enjoyed her lively and interesting talk. She had much helpful advice and chatted with individuals before and after her talk.

Most of us will next meet at our Annual Retreat in Rotorua, 31 Oct – 2 Nov, and our next meeting will be during February in Waihi. Contact us if you'd like to come along to any of our meetings or the Retreat! There are still one or two beds available! Regards from C2C! Liz Thompson, Co-Convener

Wellington/Kapiti

Our October meeting took place at Kris's home. Leeann caught us up with some of the Aussie conference news, and then presented a plotting workshop, the way author Cherry Adair had demonstrated it there. Although there's a big background chart for the major turning points, the system hangs on colour-coded Post-its that are secured together in chapter-bundles. Leeann took her handful of bundles to Ireland and kept right on writing. This method was greeted enthusiastically by our members – and Countdown was confirmed as the cheapest source of Post-its.

Our next meeting will be at 1pm, Saturday November 1st in the meeting room next to Kapiti Library in Paraparaumu. Maybe, bring a couple of chapter-bundles along? And anything you'd like to hear read out loud, of course. Kris Pearson—Convener.

Christchurch

At the publication of our H2H Newsletter there was no meeting report from Christchurch..

Nelson

Our meeting on Saturday 11/10 was more hilarious than ever. In between attacks of laughter, we learnt one thing: Never fly anywhere via China! They don't know the meaning of the word 'Transit' there.

It was hard work for Annika to get us back to the agenda, but in the end she achieved it, and we learnt about each other's stages of writing, shared experiences of e-book publishing and completed the exercise – hand to body, the ninth stage of intimacy.

Our next meeting will be on Saturday 15/11 at Sally's place, when we will create new decorations for the Christmas Tree Festival. Sally will have a new knee by then—Good Luck wishes from us all! There will be time for a few more critique meetings before then; special thanks to our new member, Ræwynne, for great critiquing support.

Annika Ohlson-Smith - Convener

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But wait . . . there's more . . .



Hi Everyone

Wow it is nearly Christmas and we have only one more edition of H2H Newsletter online to go before we all take a well-earned rest within the holiday season. The next H2H will be in February 2015.

It has been a wonderful year of learning in so many ways. My 'biggie' is that this year I didn't take everything, and people, so seriously, and chose to do what I wanted for myself. This was a great way to simply be. I was able to not only bring good vibes to myself, but also to all around me.

I know many of you will be getting into writing the 'Novel' in a month soon, with the motivation of [http://NaNoWriMo nanowrimo.org/](http://NaNoWriMo.nanowrimo.org/) Good luck to everyone who is taking up the challenge to create a novel in a month. For me it brought a great deal of joy to know that at last I was writing 'my book', and I knew I could focus every night and 'just do it!' Yes, and I will do it again.

In the meantime, if you have any thoughts or suggestions for our H2H Newsletter, please do not hesitate to email Sapi by the 15th of the month.

Happy writing everyone—enjoy your journey because reaching the destination means you have succeeded—and you will want to start walking even more exciting new steps again.

Jaci

Submissions—We love getting the contributions, but we request you send them to Sapi at sapiheald@xtra.co.nz and that:

- ♥ all contributions should reach her no later than the **15th of the month**
- ♥ all should be in a Word document, Arial 11 font
- ♥ you save your file as a .doc format [as this covers most MS Office suites]
- ♥ there are no indentations, or fancy headings, please.

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