

HEART TO HEART

Featuring

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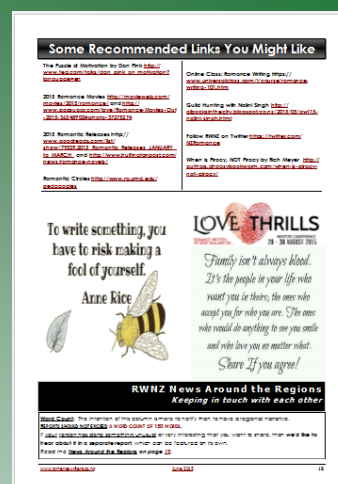
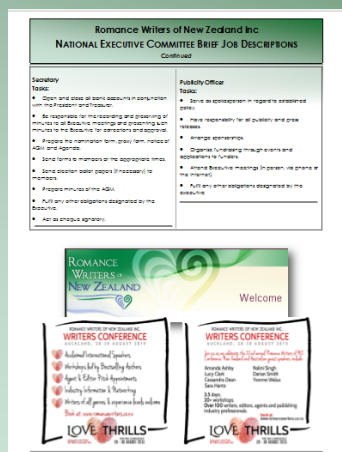
LOVE THRILLS
ROMANCE WRITERS
OF NEW ZEALAND INC.
WRITERS CONFERENCE
28 - 30 AUGUST 2015



MEET KAREN ROSE AT OUR LOVE THRILLS CONFERENCE

A two-time RITA® winner, five of Karen's other titles have been RITA® finalists. Her books have hit the NYT, *London Sunday Times* and Germany's *der Spiegel* bestseller lists. Her sixteenth novel, *CLOSER THAN YOU THINK*, was released in 2014. Karen lives in Florida with her family, their two dogs and two cats.

Saturday 29 August—8.50-10.10am Plotting a Series
1.20-2.35pm Writing romantic suspense: Some Basic stuff



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

At the beginning of July last year, a past president bravely stuck her neck out—as she put it—and that act of speaking out brought about fruitful discussion and a reality check.

Well, it's time for another reality check, and this time I'm putting my neck on the chopping block. Before going further, I would like to clarify this is due to us being a rapidly growing organisation and change is needed.

For years, each president has strived to do their best and promote excellence in writing. It's what RWNZ stands for. Of late, it is becoming more difficult to achieve this with the way RWNZ has been set up. What we have failed to account for is, over the years, the organisation has grown and with it the workload. We are not as big as RWA, but the work that volunteers put into our organisation is still substantial.

RWNZ may have been a group that met at someone's home once, but we've grown. We now have overseas members and NYT best selling authors, which shows our success, although I am not sure what the key performance indicators for a successful romance organisation are.

We have a reputation for being an organisation that cares. International speakers enjoy coming to our conferences due to the reputation we have built over the years through work put in by various past presidents and committees.

A brief survey has shown that each person spends anywhere from 10-15 hours per month doing RWNZ work. This can be anyone; the treasurer, one of the editors of the newsletter, the publicity officer, contests' co-ordinator, membership secretary or any of the other jobs.

Our constitution and rules may have worked for an organisation that met at someone's home. But we

need an overhaul. We

haven't reached the point RWA has reached, but we do need to look at compensation for the work done, and we do need to look at revenue generating opportunities and growth of the organization, so we can offset the costs and ensure we break even.

It is time to look at the future and look at how RWNZ can strive for that balance. How do we keep our core values in promoting excellence in writing while giving the best to the members and acknowledging the work that people do? We have to ask, what's the best way to promote excellence in writing, and what's the most cost effective way of doing this?

As someone who comes from an environment that focuses on quality care while maintaining profit and cost cutting ventures, I know this can be easily achieved as long as members are open to new ideas.

I see this as an exciting time for the future of RWNZ, and so it is with great pleasure the executive ask for nominations for the executive committee of 2016.

If you would please forward all nomination forms to RWNZ President, 10 Crimson Park, Albany, Auckland, 0632

A copy of the Job Descriptions and nomination forms will be on the website and is included in this newsletter.

We also plan to send out a survey shortly, so we can prepare for our AGM later this year.

I would appreciate your honest feedback.

Warm Regards

Kamy



Romance Writers of New Zealand Inc

NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE BRIEF JOB DESCRIPTIONS

President

Tasks:

- Serve as the Chief Executive Officer of RWNZ.
 - Serve as spokesperson in regard to established policy.
 - Call, set the agenda for, and preside over all meetings of the Executive Committee and meetings of the membership.
 - Appoint, with Executive approval, such committees as may be needed or provided for in the Rules and the chairpersons of such committees.
 - Serve as ex-officio member of all committees.
 - Appoint, with the approval of the Executive, non voting office holders.
 - Execute RWNZ business as specified by the Executive Committee and established policy including, but not limited to, the expenditure of RWNZ funds in accordance with the annual budget approved by the Executive.
 - Open and close all bank accounts in conjunction with the Treasurer and Secretary.
 - Act as cheque signatory.
 - Co-ordinate all activities.
 - Attend Executive meetings (in person, via phone or the internet).
- Fulfil any other obligations designated by the Executive.

Vice President

Tasks:

- Preside over all meetings of the Executive in the absence of the President.
- Assume the duties of the President in the event the President is temporarily incapacitated or otherwise unable to perform.
- Act as Chapter liaison and assume other duties to be decided upon in consultation with the rest of the Executive at the beginning of the term until such time as required to assume the duties of the President
- Attend Executive meetings (in person, via phone or the internet).
- Fulfil any other obligations designated by the Executive.

Treasurer

Tasks:

- Open and close all bank accounts in conjunction with the President and/or Secretary.
- Act as cheque signatory.
- Ensure all monies received are receipted and banked.
- Ensure all accounts are paid by due date.
- Keep annual cash book, computerised accounts and/or any other records deemed appropriate by the auditor showing adequate record of financial transactions to enable a clear up-to-date position of financial statements.
- Ensure that the financial statements are ready for auditing at the end of the financial year.
- Attend Executive meetings (in person, via phone or the internet). Present a financial statement at Executive meetings.
- Arrange for accounts to be audited annually.
- Present an audited set of financial statements at the Annual General Meeting.
- Prepare budgets.
- Keep an asset register.

Fulfil any other obligations designated by the Executive.

Skills required: knowledge of MYOB

Requirement 10-15 hours per month

Membership Secretary

Tasks:

- Maintain a membership list.
- Respond to queries by people seeking membership.
- Register new members, and send them membership packs.
- Send out membership accounts.
- Attend Executive meetings (in person, via phone or the internet).
- Provide email addresses to the newsletter editor.
- Fulfil any other obligations designated by the Executive.

Romance Writers of New Zealand Inc

NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE BRIEF JOB DESCRIPTIONS

Continued

Secretary

Tasks:

- Open and close all bank accounts in conjunction with the President and Treasurer.
- Be responsible for the recording and preserving of minutes to all Executive meetings and presenting such minutes to the Executive for corrections and approval.
- Prepare the nomination form, proxy form, notice of AGM and Agenda.
- Send forms to members at the appropriate times.
- Send election ballot papers (if necessary) to members.
- Prepare minutes of the AGM.
- Fulfil any other obligations designated by the Executive.
- Act as cheque signatory.

Publicity Officer

Tasks:

- Serve as spokesperson in regard to established policy.
- Have responsibility for all publicity and press releases.
- Arrange sponsorships.
- Organise fundraising through events and applications to funders.
- Attend Executive meetings (in person, via phone or the Internet).
- Fulfil any other obligations designated by the executive



ROMANCE WRITERS OF NEW ZEALAND INC.
WRITERS CONFERENCE
 AUCKLAND, 28-30 AUGUST 2015

- ♥ Acclaimed International Speakers
- ♥ Workshops led by Bestselling Authors
- ♥ Agent & Editor Pitch Appointments
- ♥ Industry Information & Networking
- ♥ Writers of all genres & experience levels welcome

Book at: www.romancewriters.co.nz

LOVE THRILLS
ROMANCE WRITERS OF NEW ZEALAND INC. 28 - 30 AUGUST 2015

ROMANCE WRITERS OF NEW ZEALAND INC.
WRITERS CONFERENCE
 AUCKLAND, 28-30 AUGUST 2015

Join us as we celebrate the 22nd annual Romance Writers of NZ Conference. New Zealand and Australian guest speakers include:

Amanda Ashby	Nalini Singh
Lucy Clark	Darian Smith
Cassandra Dean	Yvonne Walus
Sara Hantz	

3.5 days.
 20+ workshops.
 Over 100 writers, editors, agents and publishing industry professionals.

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LOVE THRILLS
ROMANCE WRITERS OF NEW ZEALAND INC. 28 - 30 AUGUST 2015

22nd Romance Writers' Annual Conference



LOVE THRILLS
ROMANCE WRITERS
OF NEW ZEALAND INC.
WRITERS CONFERENCE
28 - 30 AUGUST 2015

Waipuna Hotel and Conference Centre
58 Waipuna Road, Mt Wellington, Auckland





Friday 28 August 2015

Candace Havens

Sara Hantz and Amanda Ashby

8.15 - 8.45am	Registration desk open
9.00 - 9.10am	Welcome and Housekeeping - RWNZ President Kamy Chetty
9.10 - 10.35am	Fast Draft- Learn how to write your first draft in 14 days - <i>Candace Havens</i>
10.40 - 11am	<i>Morning Tea</i>
11.05 - 12.05pm	Revision Hell - Learn how to revise your manuscript and get it ready for publication—<i>Candace</i>
12.10 - 1.05pm	<i>Lunch (Buffet Lunch)</i>
1.10 - 2.25pm	Plotting for non plotters - <i>Candace</i>
2.30 - 2.50pm	<i>Afternoon Tea</i>
2.55 - 4.10pm	What an Editor wants- (Q&A session) - <i>Candace</i>
4.15 - 5.20pm	Writer's Block-Rewriting your story as an author - <i>Sara Hantz and Amanda Ashby</i>
6.30 - 7.00pm	Registration desk open
7.00 - 9.00pm	6.30-7.00pm First Timers Welcome Reception RWNZ 'Secrets and Lies' Cocktail Evening

Saturday 29 August 2015

7.30 - 8.30am	Cold-read workshop - TBC Editors/Agent
8.15 - 8.45am	Registration desk open
8.45 - 8.50am	Welcome and Housekeeping - RWNZ President Kamy Chetty
8.50 - 10.10am	Plotting a series - <i>Karen Rose</i>
10.15 - 10.30am	Spotlight on Harlequin - TBC
10.35 - 10.55am	<i>Morning Tea</i>
11.00 - 12.15pm	Breakout Workshops One Self Pub & Hybrid - Lessons I've learned in Indie Publishing - <i>Patricia McLinn</i> Craft-TBC - <i>Mary Jo Putney</i> Genre Stream- Writing paranormal romance - <i>Nalini Singh</i>
12.20 - 1.15pm	<i>Lunch (Buffet Lunch)</i>
1.20 - 2.35pm	Breakout Workshops Two Self Pub & Hybrid - Taxes not tax evasion - <i>Yvonne Walus</i> Craft Stream- Slow it down, baby! - <i>Cassandra Dean and Lucy Clark</i> Genre Stream - Writing romantic suspense: Some Basic stuff - <i>Karen Rose</i>
2.40 - 3.00pm	<i>Afternoon Tea</i>

Saturday 29 August 2015 continued

3.05 - 4.05pm	Power of creativity - <i>Mary Jo Putney</i>
4.10 - 4.25pm	General Discussion on RWNZ
4.25- 4.55pm	RWNZ Annual General Meeting - all members welcome
5.00 - 6.00pm	Author Book Signing Event (TBC)
7.30 - 10.00pm	Harlequin Awards Dinner

Sunday 30 August 2015

7.30 - 8.30am	Cold-read workshops - TBC
8.45 - 9.00am	Housekeeping - Conference MC - TBC
9.00 - 10.15am	Candace Havens - TBC
10.20 - 10.35am	Spotlight on Entangled Publishing
10.40 - 11.00am	<i>Morning Tea</i>
11.05 - 12.20pm	Breakout Workshops Three Self Pub & Hybrid - Connecting with readers worldwide - <i>Nalini Singh</i> Craft - Side-kicking it up - "Creating secondary characters who lift and support." - <i>Karen Rose</i> Teen Talk - Transitioning from adult to young adult romance - <i>Sara Hantz and Amanda Ashby</i>
12.25 - 1.25pm	<i>Lunch</i> (Buffet Lunch)
1.30 - 2.45pm	Breakout Workshops Four Craft - 25 Tips from 25 years of publishing - <i>Patricia McLinn</i> Craft - Planning before you write - <i>Darian Smith</i> Genre Stream - Historical romance - <i>Mary Jo Putney</i>
2.50 - 3.20pm	Working with an agent (Q&A) - <i>Courtney Miller-Callihan</i>
3.25 - 3.40pm	Closing Address
3.45 - 4.30pm	<i>Afternoon Tea</i>



Pitch Practice – Request to RWNZ Chapters

The RWNZ conference is coming up in August, and bringing with it the opportunity of being able to look international editors and agents in the eye and pitch your completed book.

Pitching isn't easy, either for the editor or the writer, but you can make it much better by being professional.

Perhaps your RWNZ chapter might consider a 'pitch practice' day at one of your regular meetings, between now and the conference in August, where those who have pitched at conferences before can give some feedback to those who haven't?

BOOKINGS FOR PITCHES WILL OPEN IN THE SECOND WEEK OF JUNE!

The Conference Pitch – how not to do it!

by Moya Bawden

So read the advice, write the pitch. It runs to two pages, but hey. Practice a bit – not too much and front up clean and tidy on the day. What could go wrong?

My pitch-listener is in the corner of the room. She's softly spoken and from the USA. The wait-staff are right behind us, making an unholy din. I shake hands, sit down on the very edge of the chair and start on my two pages (memorised). Distracted by the noise, I lose my place. I ask if I can read it from my notes. She looks horrified. I do it anyway. She asks me why I have chosen her. I try to find a way to say that I'd pitch to the dustbin if it would listen. It doesn't go well. Wait-staff are still talking loudly and clattering cups about a foot from my chair. Finally, I run out of gas and look up.

"Er," she says, "You know, it's really noisy in here, and you have quite an accent, and you spoke so fast, I didn't really understand what you said."

The bell rings, and I'm out of time.

Wise words on how to pitch

- ♥ Getting your pitch right by John Vonhof, Writers Conference Guidelines
<http://www.writersconferenceguidelines.com/getting-your-pitch-right.html>
- ♥ Perfecting Your Editor Pitch by Paula Roe
<http://www.paularoe.com/pitch.html>
- ♥ How to Pitch Your Novel - Crafting and Delivering the Perfect Writer's Conference Pitch by Cliff Daigle - Fiction Writing Expert
<http://fictionwriting.about.com/od/thebusinessofwriting/a/How-To-Pitch-Your-Novel.htm>
- ♥ How to Pitch Your Book at a Writing Conference by Cynthia P. Gallagher
<http://www.writing-world.com/publish/pitch2.shtml>
- ♥ 7 Tips for Pitching to an Agent or Editor at a Conference by Chuck Sambuchino January 28, 2014
<http://www.writersdigest.com/editor-blogs/guide-to-literary-agents/7-tips-for-pitching-to-an-agent-or-editor-at-a-conference>
- ♥ Tips for Pitching and Querying Agents by Mary Kole
<http://ingridsundberg.com/2010/05/30/tips-for-pitching-and-querying-agents/>

The First Draft

by Karen Forsman

Q. How do you eat an elephant?

A. "One bite at a time"

I'm sure many of you will be familiar with this analogy. The same applies to writing...

Q. How do you write a novel?

A. One word at a time of course!

Yet when faced with writing a novel of my own, I constantly came up with lame excuses about my lack of progress. Lack of progress; *after* a superb session with a professional book coach who helped me to scope out the entire plot outline, and timeline characters and scenes for the story.

All I had to do was fill the pages with words and *get it done*.

Easy... right? Not so much. Work, relationships, pets, fitness, family, celebration, tragedy and life kept offering up the most colourful distractions. Writing just felt *too big, too scary, too hard* and *too unachievable*. *The finish line was too far away*.

A bit like that blasted elephant. There's just too much of it, and there's no way I could eat it in just one sitting.

I would give my mentor a barrage of excuses each time we skyped, finally concluding with the dramatic, hand on forehead clincher, "I simply cannot do this. I need to give up my day job to have a serious crack at writing, and that's not happening any time soon."

After a moment's silence, she came back with, "But you've got holidays owing right?"

"Yes," I replied, wondering where she was going with this one.

"Well, why not take two weeks off work and just write? Just get it done." Wise words from a wise woman indeed.

"I can't possibly take two weeks off just for me... I need to spend my holidays with my husband." Did I? Now, that was food for thought.



A week later we skyped again, and I proudly announced I'd booked in a week of annual leave.

Interestingly, my husband was extremely supportive. He saw it as a win-win; I would get the time and headspace to truly focus, he wouldn't have to put up with me bemoaning that *I need to win lotto, so I can quit my day job to be a fulltime writer!*

Taking some of my holidays off to write was the best thing I could have done. I now understand why writer's retreats are so popular. I gave myself permission to spend nine glorious days immersed in my story, and it was fantastic.

But procrastination is a trap for newbies. The week sprawled out ahead of me, and I thought I had plenty of time. By day three, I realised I needed to get my A into G as time stands still for nobody.

So I split the remaining days into chunks, ensuring I had time to walk the dogs, shower, lunches, tea breaks and write. At least five hours of solid, no BS writing each day. Not blogging, not tweeting, just writing my book. The results were amazing. Instead of seeing my novel as that enormous elephant with no clear end in sight, I broke it down into a daily work target and stuck to it. In nine days, I managed to finish thirteen chapters.

Feeling like a mother hen, I watched the pages of my first ever draft come off the printer, double spaced on A4 pages, and realised... I DID IT. I did what so many people talk about doing and never actually do, I wrote a whole book. Sure, the fun and games of getting my draft ready to publish was still ahead of me, with absolutely no guarantee that I'd ever sell a copy, but in the moment of finishing my first draft none of that mattered.

I had written a story, developed a plot, created characters and let them come to life through my words. Sure, my characters are a whole bunch of crazies. But they're my crazies. I've discovered the magic of writing.



This 7-Minute Morning Routine Will Change Your (Work) Life

by John Brandon

Retrieved from <http://www.inc.com/john-brandon/this-7-minute-morning-routine-will-change-your-work-life.html?cid=sf01002> via RWNZ Facebook

This routine takes seven minutes each morning before you start work. Will you follow it?

It only takes seven minutes to change how you approach your day. Using the routine described below when you get to work will make a world of difference in your productivity, your attitude, your success, and your health. It's like the approach you make to the tee on a golf course. You plan out how you will hit the shot, which is more important than the actual swing. Before you start your day, it provides the right mindset. Will you follow it?

Note: I'm going to call this routine "the seven" as in did you do your seven this morning? Feel free to borrow that term or send me ideas on a better name.

1. Before you start: Prepare

First, you need to find a quiet place. Hint for those who work in a cubicle farm, this is not at your desk. And it's not in the car because there are too many distractions. At a busy startup, it might be a foyer or a balcony. You might have to arrive early enough in the morning to make this work. You'll also need a journal. Make sure you have one and that you have a pen. Also, wear a watch. You will want to time yourself and finish up within seven minutes.

2. Minute one: Clear your head

I won't get into any religious issues or get preachy here, and I'm not even encouraging meditation, but every person on the planet who has to work for a living needs to follow this basic routine. You have to clear your head. That phone you use to check your messages constantly or that iPad that's stuck to your hip. Get rid of them. They are not part of this morning routine. Clearing your head just means being present as you prepare for the day.



3. Minute two: Breathe a little

Again, you may have a different way of dealing with the stress you will feel in life. However, breathing deeply creates a calming effect in your brain and helps you focus. Intentional breathing is important at all times of the day. For this routine to work, you have to stop and settle your thinking and get into the right frame of mind. Just sit quietly and breathe.

4. Minutes three through six: Write notes and draw

You've heard all about journaling, but the process I use is not just journaling. I write in a journal all day, right after I get up in the morning and have coffee, at night before bed, and during meetings and at conferences. I'm not just talking about journaling. I'm talking about writing down the first few thoughts you have before you start work but when you are already at work. Draw a picture or doodle an idea. It's a way to figure out what is important, what is stressing you out. It is a record of your preparation and a way to help you look back and see, for these seven minutes, what was really important. Make sure you don't get too focused on the writing and not enough on the thinking.

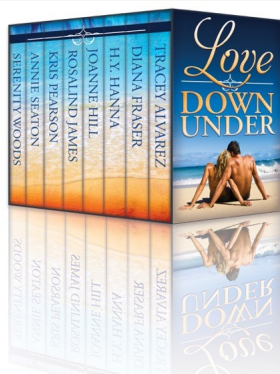
5. Minute seven: Debrief

After you write a few notes, keep track of the time and make sure you allow about one minute at the end to debrief. What does that mean? Just look over your notes a second time. Think about what you wrote and why, and make a brief plan-in only 30 seconds-to act on one of the items on your list. Just one. If you jotted down a note to deal with a conflict or to finish a report, decide to focus on that task, and make sure you are intentional about addressing it.

That's it. Seven minutes. I'm really interested to find out if you use this routine in the morning before you start working. Follow the plan for at least one week. Then, [send me a note about what you learned and how it all worked out](#). I promise to respond.

'LOVE DOWN UNDER' BOXED SET

by Kris Pearson



The first thing that happened was this: I had an email from Serenity Woods in the Bay of Islands. She and I are in pretty constant touch, and we proof-read each other's books and generally have a bit of fun together. "Would you like a book included in a boxed set that Rosalind James is

interested in putting together?" she asked. I almost fell on the floor.

No – I'm wrong: the first thing to happen was obviously that Rosalind was in touch with her friends H.Y. Hanna in Perth and Serenity in the Bay of Islands. Would THEY like to be included in the boxed set? Of course they would.

Do you all know about Rosalind James? She's from California, and while her engineer husband was working in New Zealand for fifteen months she fell in love with our country, our people, and especially our All Blacks. Well, who wouldn't? She started writing about them – eight books in all – her 'Escape to New Zealand' series. They rocketed up the rankings, so she left her marketing job and became a full time and very successful writer. She has the most fantastic website, and I've put the link at the end of this item for you. One of the things you'll find there is an interview from the March 2013 issue of Heart to Heart.

Rosalind was looking for beachy/feel-good romances set in either New Zealand or Australia because she saw real interest from Americans in this part of the world. She proposed we called the set 'Love Down Under'.

Okay, so that was Rosalind, H.Y., Serenity and me. Who else down here held the rights to a suitable book? Diana Fraser had a beauty set on Waiheke Island. Yep. Tracey Alvarez specialises in beachy stories. Yep. Joanne Hill had an excellent one, and by chance she'd done the Heart to Heart interview with Rosalind, so that was a nice coincidence. It didn't hurt that we five had combined forces on our 'Second Chances' boxed set last year and knew we could get on well together. I'd

enjoyed working with Annie Seaton on her 'Sun, Sand and Sizzle' holiday collection a few months ago, and I thought she might be interested too. She immediately decided to write a new novella. (She's fast!) And so we had our eight.

I have to say it's been pure joy cooperating. Rosalind has been in the driving seat, but this has fallen together beautifully because we all have different talents and different fan-bases.

How did the world get on without email? H.Y. took off to Dubai on family business for a while and never missed a beat. Rosalind in the USA, Annie in Australia, and the rest of us in New Zealand kept in constant touch, proposing cover photos, promotional ideas, everything you can imagine. We jointly created a publicity kit (my first experience with Google Docs). Those who are Facebook experts will be doing their thing, those who have influence with iBooks are persuading store banners etc. out of contacts there, and I'm writing this little item amongst various bits and bobs. Diana has taken on the daunting job of formatting the whole set, and Tracey is proving to be a promo demon.

Annie found the wonderful photo (which we refer to as 'sexy-back'). Rosalind sent it to her cover designer, and we didn't believe our luck when we saw the finished results. Amazon will display the 3D version with the reflection, and iBooks requires the flat one. By the time you read this, it will have been out for around a week, and we're hoping we can launch with a hundred reviews from our combined newsletter subscribers. Please feel free to add a review to that total.

And do buy a copy. It'll be a steal for 99 cents US. Obviously, we're hoping for recognition rather than riches because 99 cents will bring us 35 cents royalty for each sale, and once we've split that eight ways we'll make less than four and a half cents. We may, or may not, make enough to cover the cost of the planned publicity. (But a little bird keeps telling me if we sell half a million that would be two thousand buckos each).

Okay, I'm dreaming! But it'll be worth it for the experience alone.

(Continued on page 12)

'LOVE DOWN UNDER' BOXED SET

by Kris Pearson



(Continued from page 11)



Interview: <http://www.rosalindjames.com/998/>

A very exciting day for me: Featured in the March issue of "Heart to Heart," the newsletter of the Romance Writers of New Zealand! I'm glad you've come to visit, and I hope you have fun!



Tracey: <http://www.traceyalvarez.com/>

Welcome! I write sexy, contemporary romances set in New Zealand, otherwise known as Aotearoa—Land of the Long White Cloud.



Diana: <http://www.dianafraser.net>

Diana Fraser is an award-winning author of sexy, emotional romances set wherever there are beautiful locations and wealthy and powerful men!



H.Y.: www.hyhanna.com/

H.Y. Hanna is the award-winning author of children's fiction and also writes mysteries, romances and romantic suspense for adults.



Joanne: <http://joannehill.com>

I live in NZ where I work as a research librarian and get to write blog posts on pop culture and heritage.



Kris: <http://www.krispearson.com>

I grew up surrounded by orchards in Hastings, New Zealand, and I've been a writer all my life. I write sizzling contemporary romance, pure and simple. Well, maybe not that pure! They're sexy stories about couples who fall in love, and into bed along the way, just like real people do.



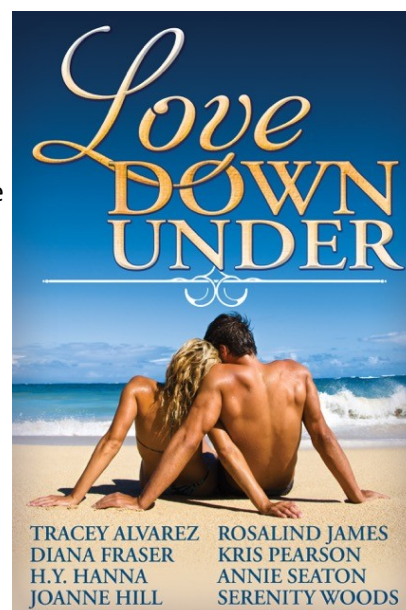
Annie: www.annieseatonromance.com/

I live in Australia, on the beautiful north coast of New South Wales. I write contemporary romance and love telling the stories that always have a happily ever after.



Serenity: <http://www.serenitywoodsromance.com>

Serenity Woods lives in the sub-tropical Northland of New Zealand. She writes hot and sultry contemporary romances.

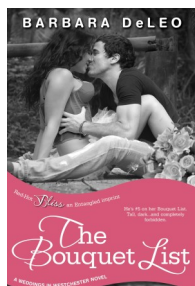


Woos, Hoos, and News

Celebrating our members' achievements.

To be included on this page, email your successes to Jean Drew at

jeandrew@xtra.co.nz



Barbara de Leo's book, **THE BOUQUET LIST**, Book 1 in her "Weddings in Westchester" series, is a "Bookseller's Best" finalist for 2015. The awards dinner is in New York as part of the RWA annual conference.



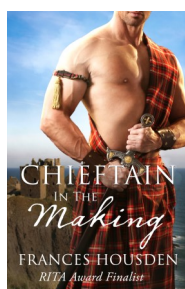
Louise Groake, w/a Louisa George, is delighted to announce she has been nominated for a RITA. She also has two books out in May:

TEMPTED

BY HER ITALIAN SURGEON, a Harlequin medical romance, and **A DEAL WITH THE DEVIL** from Tule publishing.

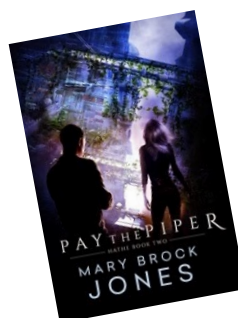


Frances Housden's fourth book in her chieftain series, **CHIEFTAIN IN THE MAKING**, releases June 22 from Escape Publishing.



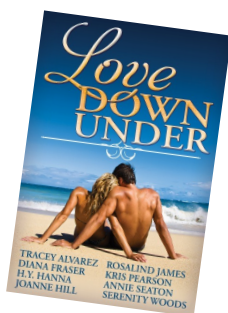
Yvonne Lindsay has a new book due in June titled **THE WIFE HE COULDN'T FORGET**.

Mary Brock Jones has new covers, and her first romantic science fiction books, coming out soon, are now available pre-order from Amazon.



RESISTANCE: Hathe Book One, release date 28 May and **PAY THE PIPER: Hathe Book Two**, release date 6 June.

Kiwi authors **Kris Pearson, Serenity Woods, Diana Fraser, Tracey Alvarez and Joanne Hill** join US author **Rosalind James** with **HY Hannah and Anna Seaton** from Australia in a co-ordinated boxed set titled **LOVE DOWN UNDER**, published late May.



[Jean Drew](#)



"Sometimes the most worthwhile things are right in front of our eyes. We just make them hard because we think that gives them more value."

— **Karen Rose, *Did You Miss Me?***

Retrieved May 20, 2015 from http://www.goodreads.com/author/quotes/75375.Karen_Rose

INTERNATIONAL CONTESTS

by Tracey Alvarez

2015 Aspen Gold Readers' Choice Contest

Deadline: June 1, 2015

Eligibility: open to all published authors of a novel, novella or short story length romance fiction. Entries must have an original copyright or first printing date of January 2014 through December 2014, and may be traditional or self-published.

Fee: US\$20-30

Enter: Three (3) copies of printed book or one (1) electronic novel, novella or short story.

More Info: <http://www.hodrw.com/contests/welcome-to-the-2012-aspen-gold-published-writers-contest>

Heart of Excellence Readers' Choice Award

Deadline: June 1, 2015

Eligibility: Open to All Romance Authors with books having an original copyright date of 2014 or First US Printing date of 2014 from January 1, 2014 to December 31, 2014.

Fee: US\$20

Enter: See website for details.

More Info: <http://acrareaderschoicecontests.com/>

Lone Star Contest

Deadline: June 7, 2015

Eligibility: Open to both unpublished and published authors. Unpublished may enter any category. Published may enter any category in which they're not published, or in which they've not been contracted for five years.

Fee: US\$25

Enter: First 5000 words.

More Info: <http://nwhrwa.com/writers-events/lonestar-contest>

Pages From The Heart Contest

Deadline: June 30, 2015

Eligibility: Pages From The Heart Contest is open to RWA Members only.

Fee: US\$20-25

Enter: No more than the first 25 pages of your original, unpublished, and un-contracted novella or novel-length manuscript.

More Info: <http://fthrw.com/pages-from-the-heart-contest>

ROMANCE WRITERS OF NEW ZEALAND FACEBOOK PAGE

—go there — Like and Follow to keep up to date with lots of great information.

Retrieved from <https://www.facebook.com/RomanceWritersofNewZealand?fref=photo>



H2H MARKETS FOR JUNE by p.d.r.lindsay-salmon

1. 'TALES: Fae Visions of the Mediterranean' Anthology

SEEKING submissions of short stories. Editors, Valeria Vitale and Djibril al-Ayad, want 'progressive and inclusive short stories about wonders, terrors, omens, sea-monsters, apparitions and other folk creatures and horrors from throughout the Mediterranean region.'

LENGTH Short stories, under 5,000 words, or flash fiction, 500 words.

PAYMENT Payment is €10 plus royalties for first world print (or reprint) and e-book publication rights for stories, comics and poems. Micro-stories will be paid €5 plus royalties.

DETAILS Deadline is Monday June 30, 2015

Website: <http://djibrilalayad.blogspot.co.nz>;

Guidelines: <http://djibrilalayad.blogspot.co.nz/2015/04/cfs-fae-visions.html>;

Email subs to: faevisions.med@gmail.com

2. Red Moon Romance

Small Press, an imprint of World Weaver Press, and specialising in all aspects of romance.

SEEKING short story submissions for their anthologies, 'Rough Edges' and 'Covalent Bonds: Geeks in love'. Please, must have an HEA or HFN ending. There are two anthologies needing submissions. Read the detailed guidelines on the website.

LENGTH 3,000 and 20,000 words.

PAYMENT Payment is 'Pro-rata share of 40% net profit on anthology sales' plus a copy.

DETAILS The deadline is July 31, 2015.

Red Moon Romance, website: <http://www.redmoonromance.com>;

General guidelines: <http://www.redmoonromance.com/submit.html>;

Anthology guidelines: <http://www.redmoonromance.com/submit.html>

Subs to 'Rough Edges to: corividae@gmail.com;

Subs to 'Covalent Bonds: Geeks in love' to:

Thompson@worldweaverpress.com

3. 'Buffalo Almanack'

online arts journal with a difference.

SEEKING to publish fiction of all styles and genres, also entries to an interesting competition.

LENGTH Flash fiction, 250 words and short stories, up to 7,500 words,

PAYMENT US\$50 prize given for the best of each issue through our 'Inkslinger Award for Creative Excellence' for First North American Serial rights. Payment for the competition is US\$100 to the best works, and a US\$50 consolation prize to a third runner-up.

DETAILS 'Buffalo Almanack', website: <http://www.buffaloalmanack.com>;

Where Thou Art Contest, <http://www.buffaloalmanack.com/wherethouart>;

Email subs to: editor@buffaloalmanack.com;

4. The Overcast

new, speculative fiction podcast – likes romance spec fic.

SEEKING Short stories

LENGTH Stories for this audio format publication need to be about 20 minutes in length, which translates loosely as 2,000 words. However the editors accept stories of 1,000 to 5,000 words, but a safe bet for a submission would be 2,000 words.

PAYMENT via Paypal is 'a semi-pro rate of \$0.02 cents a word' upon acceptance for

'first worldwide exclusive audio rights to your story for six months' and archive rights.

DETAILS The Overcast, website: <http://peoples-ink.com/overcast-about>;

Email comments to: overcastfeedback@peoples-ink.com;

Email subs to: overcastsubmissions@peoples-ink.com

Guidelines: <http://peoples-ink.com/overcast-submission-guidelines/>

5. Paper Road Press

a New Zealand Small Press, a publisher of 'books from beyond the beaten track'.

SEEKING specialises in 'science fiction and fantasy, all things in between – and things from the fringes too.' What the editors like to see is 'magical realism, urban fantasy, space opera, secondary worlds, time travel, myths and legends, crossovers and re-imaginings.'

LENGTH Novels, novellas, stories, check the guidelines.

PAYMENT Discussed under contract

DETAILS Paper Road Press, website: <http://paperroadpress.co.nz>;

Email sub queries to: matt@paperroadpress.co.nz;

Guidelines: <http://paperroadpress.co.nz/submissions>

6. Bleeding Heart Publications

South East Asian publishing company based in Thailand.

SEEKING 'English language fiction and non-fiction full-length; and fiction shorts.' The primary market is the U.S.A. but all books are available online.

LENGTH Currently, the team 'are actively soliciting submissions for full-length works of fiction and, especially, creative non-fiction.' Bleeding Heart Publications also publishes 'Transfusion', a bi-annual literary magazine, and that too is open to submissions of short stories under 5,000 words.

PAYMENT Payment is discussed at contract time for first serial rights.

DETAILS Bleeding Heart Publications, website: <http://bleedingheartpublications.com>;

Email subs to:

submissions@bleedingheartpublications.com

Guidelines: <http://bleedingheartpublications.com/submissions>

HOOT! HOOT! RWA (AUSTRALIA) HAS A NEW OWL IN JULY

TAROT FOR INSPIRATION AND PLOTTING

WITH SHONA HUSK

After a great wrap at the Romance Writers of Australia Claytons Conference in 2014, we are excited to bring you **Shona Husk's two-week course on how to use tarot cards for your writing.**

Tarot draws on the subconscious through art and is a great tool for writers to have as they can be used to plot, as well as to beat writer's block. Many people have a limited understanding, and for many tarot cards still hold the stigma of witchcraft.

Come learn more about the tarot cards, and how you can harness their power to provide inspiration and help with your plotting.

While there is homework – and you'll get more out of the course if you do it and play around with your own tarot cards – it isn't mandatory.

Course dates: 13-26 July 2015

RWA (Aus) Members: \$25; Non-Members: \$35

You can find out more [here](#)



**ROMANCE
WRITERS**
of Australia



Three time ARRA finalist Shona Husk lives in Western Australia at the edge of the Indian Ocean. Blessed with a lively imagination she spent most of her childhood making up stories. As an adult she discovered romance novels and hasn't looked back. Drawing on history and myth, she weaves new worlds and writes heroes who aren't afraid to get hurt while falling in love.

With stories ranging from sensual to scorching, she writes paranormal, sci-fi, fantasy and contemporary romance. She is represented by the Ruben Agency.

Visit Shona's website at: www.shonahusk.com

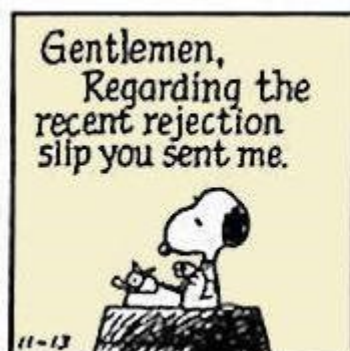
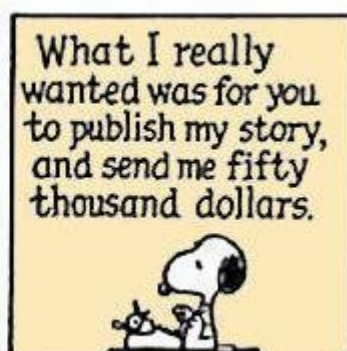
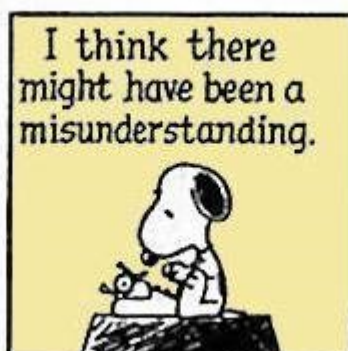
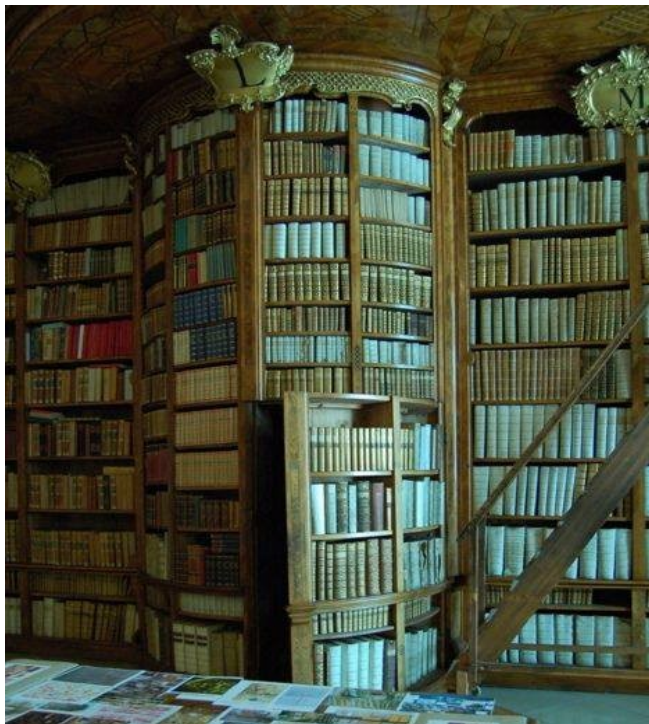


Image Courtesy of Charles Schulz





Heaven will look like this... says Jen Yates

Via Mary Balogh, Author FB page

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**—

1. deposit into Bank Account
No: 12-3070-0099767-00
2. code your deposit with:
RWNZ H2H and Your Name

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



WEBSITE UPDATES

Do you have news or updates for our Website?

If so, please email them to KD Forsman, Website Coordinator, at kdforsman@outlook.co.nz - www.romancewriters.co.nz

ROMANCE WRITERS NZ

WEBSITE is getting a new look.

This is your website—

so tell us what YOU WANT to see in it.

To give us your views, please go to our

Members section and tell us what you would like INSIDE!

Click on www.romancewriters.co.nz



Login: passion

Password: love987

and email your thoughts to

Kamy Chetty at

kamychetty@yahoo.com

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

Some Recommended Links You Might Like

The Puzzle of Motivation by Dan Pink http://www.ted.com/talks/dan_pink_on_motivation?language=en

2015 Romance Movies <http://movieweb.com/movies/2015/romance/> and <http://www.popsugar.com/love/Romance-Movies-Out-2015-36548902#photo-37275274>

2015 Romantic Releases http://www.goodreads.com/list/show/79539.2015_Romantic_Releases_JANUARY_to_MARCH and <http://www.huffingtonpost.com/news/romance-novels/>

Romantic Circles <http://www.rc.umd.edu/pedagogies>

Online Class: Romance Writing <https://www.universalclass.com/i/course/romance-writing-101.htm>

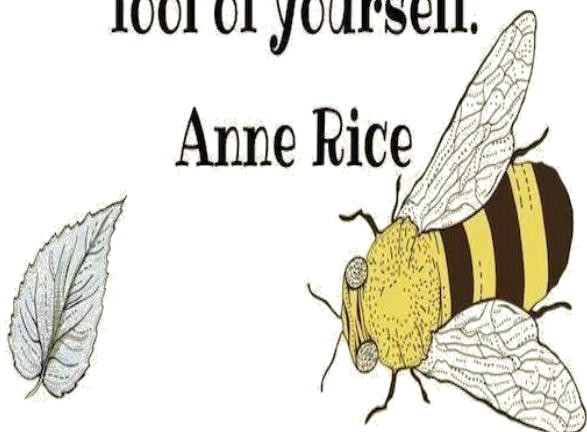
Guild Hunting with Nalini Singh <http://albooksinthecity.blogspot.co.nz/2015/05/awf15-nalini-singh.html>

Follow RWNZ on Twitter <https://twitter.com/NZRomance>

When is Piracy, NOT Piracy by Rich Meyer <http://authors.choosybookworm.com/when-is-piracy-not-piracy/>

To write something, you
have to risk making a
fool of yourself.

Anne Rice



LOVE THRILLS
ROMANCE WRITERS
OF NEW ZEALAND INC.  WRITERS CONFERENCE
28 - 30 AUGUST 2015

*Family isn't always blood.
It's the people in your life who
want you in theirs; the ones who
accept you for who you are. The ones
who would do anything to see you smile
and who love you no matter what.
Share If you agree!*

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 [19](#).

RWNZ News Around the Regions

Keeping in touch with each other (150 word count)



Auckland

Twenty of us enjoyed an inspiring meeting on May 2 with Toni Kenyon speaking on 'Connecting with Your Reader'. You can sign up for her newsletter <http://www.tonikenyon.com/contact> to stay informed about her new releases.

On Saturday 6 June, we have an exciting Chapter meeting scheduled. Matthew Mole will give us a Sword Fighting seminar. He has been fighting in historical re-enactment societies in the U.K. and Europe since 1979. In New Zealand, he's been active in various re-enactment societies and Western Martial Arts groups, while also studying medieval and renaissance fencing manuscripts and treatises. He studies and teaches with fellow enthusiasts all over the world. Matthew is a computer networking and security expert who also writes in a range of genres, including science fiction and historical adventure/romance.

As usual our meeting will be at the Three Kings Tennis Pavilion from 12.30 until 3.00 p.m. Please bring a plate to share, a gold coin donation and change for the raffles. Pamela Gervai (Convener)

C2C (Central North Island Coast to Coast)

The May C2C meeting was hosted at KD (Karen) Forsman's house in Hamilton. After a shared lunch, formal business was quickly concluded, then the participants went on to enjoy Karen's AWESOME interactive workshop on Social Networking. Many interesting ideas, tips and tricks were shared between the members about how to use social media to increase their online presence. The small but lively group included a mix of published and unpublished writers, with the more experienced writers in the group being extremely generous with their knowledge. Our next meeting will be at Rebecca Leys' home in Karapiro at noon on Sunday, 14 June. All welcome! Looking forward to seeing everyone (or guests)! Thanks! Lizzi and Deryn—Co-convenors

Wellington/Kapiti

Our May get-together took place at Ellie's home – a smaller than usual meeting, which meant we had plenty of time to catch up on news and to share ideas.

We'd decided to discuss conflict in our stories, and this rapidly morphed into a group plotting exercise as suggestions were offered to ramp up tension and conflict. It proved to be such fun that we decided to devote the next meeting to a proper group plotting session. Members are asked to bring story outlines and a notepad – you never know what gems you'll be offered. Julie-Ann and Diana were the stars of the dramatic plot twist, and we're picking fun will follow.

Our next meeting will be held at 1pm Saturday June 6th in the meeting room next to the Paraparaumu library. Confirmation email will follow. Kris Pearson—Convenor.

Christchurch

There was a strong showing from our Christchurch team on Mother's Day when we met at South Library. Some of us may have been dodging kids and appreciating the quiet time J. It was nice to see a new member, Annie, returning to the meeting after a few years away and sharing her writing journey with us. Talk is turning to the conference, with quite a few of us ready to make the pilgrimage up North. Everyone has been working hard at perfecting manuscripts, and a number of our members will be braving the pitching circuit and cold reads. Next month, we are going to talk more about preparing for pitches, so bring any tit-bits of information you have about pitching and writing synopsis to share.

Next meeting Sunday 14th June at the Upper Riccarton Library 10am. Sue, Convenor

Nelson

Our last two meetings have focused mainly on our Anthology (stories and love poems are gathering in a romantically red box, to be emptied at the end of July for proof-reading) and obtaining interesting speakers for our meetings. .

We have one Firefighter cum Search and Rescue man coming to talk to us at our June meeting, one Forensic Police Officer at our September meeting and a Nurse working with premature babies at our November meeting. We are so looking forward to hearing about their jobs, especially the emotional impact, and their relations to people they meet in their work. For those of us who write suspense, if a fireman, police or nurse features in a future novel, hearing it from the pros is a great way to get the facts right.

Annika's apple cake went down well with the cuppa. Our next meeting is 13 June, 2pm, usual venue.

REGIONAL CONVENORS

Auckland:

Pamela Gervai

email: pamela@petware.co.nz

Central North (C2C):

Lizzi Tremayne

Deryn Pittar

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Toni Stephens

email: tonijstephens@gmail.com

Otago:

Viv Adams

email: whitecliffledge@xtra.co.nz

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



Hi Everyone



Wow, it's just under three months to the 2015 NZ Romance Writers' 22nd Conference. I can't imagine how much work is being done every day behind the scenes to make this a Conference you'll never forget. Can you?

Reading through Kamy's report this month really outlines the commitment of so many RWNZ volunteers. Being a member of Romance Writers of New Zealand has given so many of us opportunities we may never have had the confidence to choose. Without the NZ Romance Writers' people behind the scenes who are passionate to see others succeed, many of you may never have picked up a pen, or touched the keys on the computer with such hunger to let loose the words to create the stories clambering about in your mind.

I know so many members who have attended our Conferences; travelling to them awash in an abundance of excitement and anticipation. And coming away sated! Animated and enthusiastic about their writing; bursting with new ideas and then turning them into books. These people, so grateful to the guest speakers for sharing their knowledge and secrets face-to-face, while making new friends with people from all walks of life, overcame their fears during these memorable days and are now living their dreams.

Whether this is your first Conference or not, I can tell you from my own experience, you are going to be blown away the moment you step through the doors of the Waipuna Hotel because the inspiration inside you is going to turn cartwheels, and you'll be stunned as it blossoms into life! You're going to have fun... and so much more.

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.

President	Kamy Chetty kamychetty@yahoo.com
Vice-President	Bernadette Doube frond@wave.co.nz LaVerne Clark clarksnelson@clear.net.nz
Treasurer	Tania Sparks taniasparksauthor@gmail.com
Immediate Past President	Leeann Morgan morgan.leeann@clear.co.nz
Secretary	Lizzi Thompson lizzi@lizzitremayne.com
Founder	Jean Drew (RWNZ founded 1990)
Publicity	Rachel Stedman
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Social Media	

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NZromance-subscribe@yahooogroups.com
or contact Kris Pearson
kris.p@paradise.co.nz
for more information.