

HEART TO HEART

Featuring

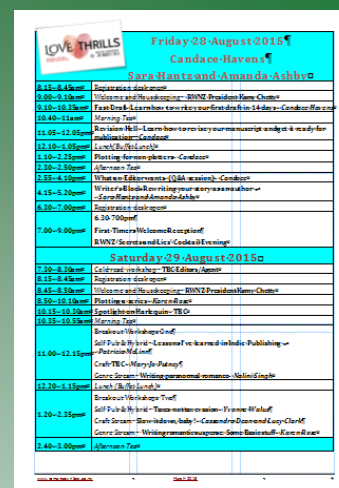
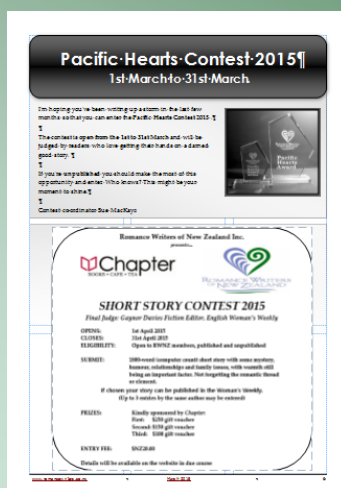
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Retrieved February 14, 2015 from
<http://www.gocomics.com/toomuchcoffeeman/2013/12/30#.UzLx0PmSx0Y>



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

Nobody tells you how much hard work it is writing full-time. They also don't tell you, if you want to succeed you have to have an amazing support system because there are times you want to give up. Lots of times you want to give up.

As members of **RWNZ** we are very lucky to have the support of our fellow members. I forget how easy it is to pick up the phone and call someone or to ask for help on the loop.

There is always someone available to listen, or well-meaning friends, who are awesome, to organise monthly luncheons.

I would like to thank the volunteers for stepping forward and offering to help with the website. Hopefully we can develop a project to redesign our website; so suggestions are welcome. **What would you like to see on the RWNZ website?**

Please be advised, the **conference programme** is now available, although it might be subject to change as we finalise the topics. Visit our [website](#) or see an abridged version in this newsletter

"The Six Golden Rules of Writing: Read, read, read, and write, write, write." —Ernest Gaines

Here are the details for bookings at the [Waipuna Hotel](#)

Special Price: \$149.50 (inclusive of GST) per room per night for either a Single or Twin Share.

Booking Code: RWNZ2708

Go to www.waipunahotel.co.nz

1. Enter **Booking Code** in box on right side of Home Page and click BOOK NOW
2. **Follow instructions** on screen to make the reservation with instant confirmation

Happy Reading

Kamy

RWNZ President

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

MEMBER FEEDBACK SURVEY

Recently we emailed out a members survey about the RWNZ website to identify your 'wish-list' for a website revamp and to generate your ideas for future improvements.

If you haven't yet completed the survey, **please use this link to provide your feedback**

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/86WCHSL>

22nd Romance Writers' Annual Conference



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 - Candace Havens
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—Candace
12.10 - 1.05pm	<i>Lunch (Buffet Lunch)</i>
1.10 - 2.25pm	Plotting for non plotters - Candace
2.30 - 2.50pm	<i>Afternoon Tea</i>
2.55 - 4.10pm	What an Editor wants- (Q&A session) - Candace
4.15 - 5.20pm	Writer's Block-Rewriting your story as an author - Sara Hantz and Amanda Ashby
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 - Karen Rose
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 - Patricia McLinn Craft-TBC - Mary Jo Putney Genre Stream- Writing paranormal romance - Nalini Singh
12.20 - 1.15pm	<i>Lunch (Buffet Lunch)</i>
1.20 - 2.35pm	Breakout Workshops Two Self Pub & Hybrid - Taxes not tax evasion - Yvonne Walus Craft Stream- Slow it down, baby! - Cassandra Dean and Lucy Clark Genre Stream - Writing romantic suspense: Some Basic stuff - Karen Rose
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	Lunch (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>



Pacific Hearts Contest 2015

1st March to 31st March

I'm hoping you've been writing up a storm in the last few months so that you can enter the **Pacific Hearts Contest 2015**.

The contest is **open from the 1st to 31st March** and will be judged by readers who love getting their hands on a darn good story.

If you're **unpublished**, you should make the most of this opportunity and enter. Who knows? This might be your moment to shine.

Contest co-ordinator Sue MacKay



Romance Writers of New Zealand Inc.
presents...

 **Chapter**
BOOKS • CAFE • TEA



SHORT STORY CONTEST 2015

Final Judge: Gaynor Davies Fiction Editor, English Woman's Weekly

OPENS: 1st April 2015
CLOSES: 31st April 2015
ELIGIBILITY: Open to RWNZ members, published and unpublished

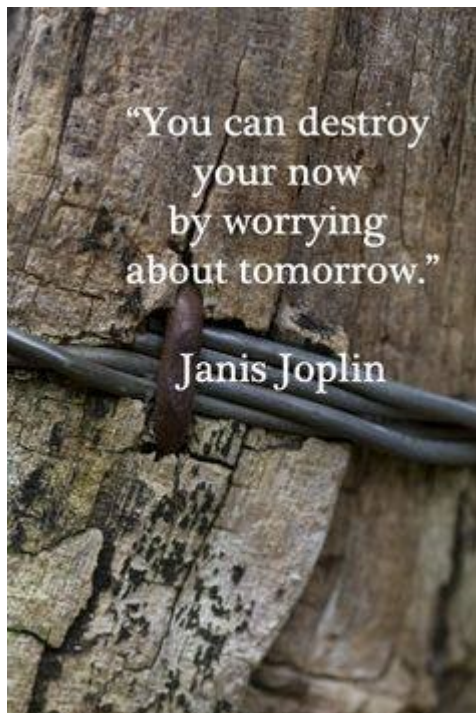
SUBMIT: 1800-word (computer count) short story with some mystery, humour, relationships and family issues, with warmth still being an important factor. Not forgetting the romantic thread or element.

If chosen your story can be published in the Woman's Weekly.
(Up to 3 entries by the same author may be entered)

PRIZES: Kindly sponsored by Chapter:
First: \$250 gift voucher
Second: \$150 gift voucher
Third: \$100 gift voucher

ENTRY FEE: \$NZ20.00

Details will be available on the website in due course



Romance Writers of New Zealand Inc.

6 February at 13:41 · ✱

Long weekend viewing suggestion 😊 Great series of story structure videos from Dan Wells <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KcmiqQ9NpPE>



Dan Wells on Story Structure, part 1 of 5

Hey folks, thanks for watching. Before you comment . . . yes, I'm aware that the intro and outro are obnoxious, and that the music is annoying, etc. Unfortun...

YOUTUBE.COM

Some Recommended Links You Might Like

I've been falling for my own excuses <http://theidentity.me/excuses/>

The Story Grid. How to tell a story and edit your fiction with Shawn Coyne. <http://www.thecreativepenn.com/2015/02/01/story-grid-shawn-coyne/>

Best-Selling AND Unknown by M L Banner <http://www.hughhowey.com/best-selling-and-unknown-by-m-l-banner/#more-33394>

22 Pets Who Have No Intention of Letting You Read Your Book <https://www.thedodo.com/pets-interrupting-reading-968102862.html>

Butterflies and Pebbles has some great saying to think about <https://www.facebook.com/sc.louriesbutterfliesandpebbles?fref=photo>

Stress Free Book Doctoring from RWNZ Facebook <http://storysensei.blogspot.co.nz/2005/08/scene-and-sequel-scene.html>

The 50 Most Romantic Movies Ever Made <http://flavorwire.com/438134/the-50-most-romantic-movies-ever-made/8>

12 Things You Were Not Taught in School About Creative Thinking <http://wake-up-world.com/2012/01/23/12-things-you-were-not-taught-in-school-about-creative-thinking/>



12 Techniques to Improve Your Writing in 2015

by ERIK DECKERS

Retrieved January 21, 2015 from <http://problogservice.com/blog-3/> published January 6, 2015

It must be frustrating for beginning writers who want to hone their craft but aren't given much direction beyond "write every day," and "read a lot." It's been my experience that if you want to improve your writing, you have to start with one tactic and do it every day.

But which ones? What order should you do them in? Are they all important?

Here are the 12 big ones I see a lot of beginning writers need to work on. We'll start simply and move from there.

Start with the first one, work on it all through January. Make it a habit, and learn to not only recognize it in your writing (and others'), but learn to recognize it *before* you put it down on paper. Practice the technique on everything you write, not just your "special writing time." In your blog posts, your emails, your monthly TPS reports. Everywhere.

As you work these writing muscles, you'll find you're tightening your writing everywhere you put pen to paper and finger to keyboard.

Get rid of That: This is the first place that I have most new writers start. This is one of the worst habits that we get into as writers, but it's easy to spot and break. It's not incorrect, but it makes your writing loose and clumsy. If you can strike it out, and not affect the sentence, do it.

Avoid other filler words: This is much harder to do. I've spent the last 15 years of my writing career working on this particular habit, and I'm still not great at it. I usually take two to three edits before I'm satisfied with the final result.

Eliminate adverbs and adjectives: Don't describe verbs, use a descriptive verb. If you use words that end in **-ly**, chances are, you can get rid of them, and replace the offending verb too. Instead of saying someone "eats noisily," say "they chomped their food." So it goes with nouns. Rather than describing the noun, like "the thick hamburger," rewrite the sentence to show how thick it was. This brings us to our next technique. . .

Show, don't tell: Eliminating adverbs is fairly easy. Eliminating adjectives takes a little more work. Instead of describing how thick a hamburger is with a bunch of adjectives, try this: "Jason always bragged about the size of the hamburgers at this place, but I never believed him until I heard my jaw pop when I tried to eat one."

Metaphors & similes: Once you've started down the slippery slope of showing-not-telling, start using metaphors and similes. They help you explain complex ideas or add punch to your writing. For example, [Tom Waits' song "Putnam County"](#) is rife with powerful metaphors. He describes roads as "asphalt dance floors," talks about women with

(Continued on page 9)

12 Techniques to Improve Your Writing in 2015

by ERIK DECKERS



(Continued from page 8)

"swizzle-stick legs jackknifed over naugahyde stools," and how a band "moaned in pool hall concentration."

Practice Dialog: The ultimate in showing-not-telling. When our kids were little, we told them they would learn a lot more by listening to conversations than interrupting and asking questions. You can reveal ideas and thoughts to your readers without ever explaining a thing just by making them pay attention to conversations. Learn to master dialog.

Stop talking to your reader: You're writing to them, but don't talk to them. Stop nudging them with parenthetical asides, like you're sharing a secret (I know, I know, you're probably asking "what do you mean?") <-- **THIS! This right here! Stop doing that!** It adds extra words to the piece, and doesn't actually help the story. Plus, it's an amateur move.

Write like people talk: Like Elmore Leonard said, if what we learned in school interferes with our writing, tough shit. It means to adopt an informal tone. Use contractions and end sentences with prepositions. It means to use words normal people use, not markety language or legalese.

No more business jargon: Do you speak in business jargon? Do you say phrases like "we have to recontextualize mission-critical relationships"? If you don't, then don't write that way either. If you do, this is why no one likes you.

No infinitives or gerunds: If you have a habit of ending words with **-ing**, edit and shorten to eliminate them. They don't add to your writing, but their absence can enhance it.

Avoid nonsexist language: I hate *he/she* and *him or her*, and *s/he* is not even a word. Nonsexist writing can be some of the worst and hardest to read. Instead, alternate between male and female examples and terms. If you use a "he" in one example, use a "she" in the next. Or, use the singular "they." Writers shouldn't be judged just because *they* chose one gender over the other, as long as they balance it out. If you alternate between "he" and "she" over your general body of work, you'll be okay.

Use specific examples, not vague generic ideas: As my friend and owner of The Geeky Press, Brad King, says "don't tell me about a dog dying. Tell me about the day your dog died." If you call yourself a storyteller, this is the way to do it. People respond to actual stories, not vague babblings about lofty concepts.

EMAIL IN YOUR FAVOURITE 'ROMANCE QUOTES'

FOR THE H2H NEWSLETTER

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

sapiheald@xtra.co.nz

Welcome to New Members

Jennifer Garcia - Auckland
w/a Ada Maria Soto

Anya Forest - Auckland

Hanlie du Plessis - Ohaupo

Nick Jacob - Whangarei



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

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

"The only thing that is ultimately real about your journey is the step that you are taking at this moment. That's all there ever is."

- Eckhart Tolle



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

Writing a Romance Novel For Dummies

by Leslie Wainger

Writing a romance novel means meeting reader expectations for the genre in addition to the preparation and actual writing you need to do. Finding the right editor and publisher for your book comes next so that you can watch your book go from manuscript to bound book.

Reader Expectations for a Romance Novel

Writing a romance novel is a creative process and far from formulaic. But romance readers pick up each and every novel with certain expectations firmly in place. To write a winning romance, you have to meet these expectations each and every time:

- A sympathetic heroine
- A strong, irresistible hero
- Emotional tension
- An interesting, believable plot
- A happy ending

Tips for Preparing for and Writing a Romance Novel

Writing a romance novel is a process. You need to prepare, manage the writing, and pay attention to the details. Before you sit down to start writing, make sure you have the following list covered. Accomplishing these tasks will make the writing process easier and more productive.

Choose a space that can become your home

office: Although an entire room would be great, you can turn any unoccupied corner into dedicated writing space.

Reconcile your family to the project: Finding time to write can be difficult. Involving your family and getting them on your side from the start makes life easier for everyone.

Collect your supplies: Gather everything you need from computer to coffee mug ahead of time.

Surround yourself with relevant research:

Collect research materials before you start writing so that the information is at your fingertips — instead of at the end of a 20-minute drive to the library or bookstore.

Make a schedule: Block out regular writing time and stick to your schedule, unless you have a real emergency.

Keep these tips in mind throughout the writing process:

An outline is just a guide, so write one. Yes, really.

Let your characters — your hero and heroine — drive the plot.

Leave your readers wanting more. Start and stop every chapter (and every scene) so that your reader simply must keep reading.

Master the techniques of effective pacing.

Build both the emotions and the action to a climax, and follow it with a satisfying resolution.

If you want agents, editors, and everyone else to take you and your work seriously, you have to pay attention to the details, such as those in the following list:

Accuracy counts: Check and double-check your research.

Know the rules: Grammar and punctuation are important. You can break them, but do so with a purpose and only for effect.

Simple is usually better: Don't go thesaurus crazy.

Proofread: Don't use just your computer's spellcheck.

Formatting matters: Get your margins right and make your font and spacing readable.

Count accurately: Come up with an accurate word count.

How to Target Romance-Genre Publishers and Editors

Knowing which publishers and editors to target can help get your romance novel published. The chances of getting your romance novel published increase significantly if you determine key publishers and editors and, the types of romance they're publishing.

Check bookstores: Make use of both the brick-and-mortar and online varieties to see who's publishing books similar to yours. Bookstore employees may also be able to offer insight into the direction publishers are going in the near future.

(Continued on page 12)

Writing a Romance Novel For Dummies

by Leslie Wainger *continued*

(Continued from page 11)

Read writers' magazines and market guides:

Check these sources to see who's looking for books like yours.

Network: Keep your ears and eyes open at writers' conferences, and talk to everyone you can.

Make full use of the Internet: Publishers' own sites give you accurate sources, and online writers' bulletin boards, e-mail lists, and related sites have all kinds of useful information — but watch out for unsubstantiated rumors.

Read in-book dedications: Authors often mention their editors' names.

Journey of Your Romance Novel, from Sale to Bound Book

The fun isn't over after you've written and submitted the manuscript for your romance novel. After you or your agent finds a publisher for your book, you still have a number of steps to go through before your book reaches your readers:

Contract negotiation

Revisions

Copy edit and deflag (where flagged queries are addressed)

Galley and author alterations

Dedication and acknowledgments

Cover — art, copy, and quotes

Personal public relations



ROMANCE WRITERS OF NEW ZEALAND FACEBOOK PAGE

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

Retrieved February 17, 2015 from <https://www.facebook.com/RomanceWritersofNewZealand?fref=photo>

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 **17**.

INTERNATIONAL CONTESTS

by Tracey Alvarez

The Kindle Book Review 2015 Book Awards

Deadline: (For early bird discount of 10%) April 1st 2015. Final deadline May 1st 2015.

Eligibility: Any Independent and Small Press
Author: E-Books published on Amazon between May 1, 2013 - May 1, 2015 (Must have Amazon Link). Limit two (2) books per author.

Enter: First round is judged on your Amazon e-book sample page (90%) and description (10%)

Fee: \$29 (Use Code SJC85 before April 1st for 10% Early Bird Discount)

More Info: <http://form.jotformpro.com/form/42462687642967>

Fire & Ice Contest

Deadline: March 14th, 2015.

Eligibility: Open to all authors not published or contracted in novel-length fiction of 20,000 words or more, within five years of the contest deadline. The entry must have a projected minimum length of 50,000 words.

Enter: Each submission should consist of one (1) copy of up to the first 6,000 words of a manuscript.

Fee: US\$25-30

More Info: <http://chicagonorthrwa.org/fire-and-ice-contest/>

Prism Awards (Published) Fantasy, Futuristic & Paranormal Romance Writers

Deadline: March 13th, 2015.

Eligibility: Open to all authors of traditional and self-published Books/Novellas with a first publication date in 2014. All entries must have a copyright of first printing date of 2014, no matter the form, electronic or print.

Enter: Authors will submit three (3) copies of each Book/Novella entered.

Fee: US\$30-40

More Info: <http://www.romance-ffp.com/prism-contest-published/>

Daphne Du Maurier Award For Excellence in Mystery/Suspense (Published)

Deadline: March 15th, 2015.

Eligibility: The contest is open to any writer who has been published in book-length fiction. All entries must have a minimum length of 40,000 words.

Fee: US \$30

Enter: Entrants will submit four (4) copies of a published novel with a copyright date of 2014.

More Info: <http://rwamysterysuspense.org/daphne>

Daphne Du Maurier Award For Excellence in Mystery/Suspense (Unpublished)

Deadline: March 15th, 2015.

Eligibility: Open to all writers who have never been published in book-length fiction (40,000 words or more).

Fee: US \$15-30

Enter: First 5,000 words of the manuscript with a synopsis of no more than 675 words.

More Info: <http://rwamysterysuspense.org/daphne>

The National Excellence in Romance Fiction Award

Deadline: April 1st, 2015.

Eligibility: All entries must have an original copyright date of 2014 and must have been available for purchase in the United States in 2014. Independent press, self-published, and digital first or digital only books may be entered as long as they meet all eligibility requirements.

Fee: US \$25

Enter: Four (4) copies of each print title being entered or one (1) PDF file and permission to forward to up to four (4) judges for an electronic entry.

More Info: <http://www.firstcoastromancewriters.com/contests-3/national-excellence-in-romance-fiction-award/nerfa-contest-rules/>



Love is a smoke made with the fume of sighs.
Being purged, a fire sparkling in lovers eyes.
Being vexed, a sea nourished with lovers tears.
What is it else? A madness most discreet, a
choking gall and a preserving sweet.

(William Shakespeare)

izquotes.com

Woos, Hoos, and News

Celebrating our members' achievements.

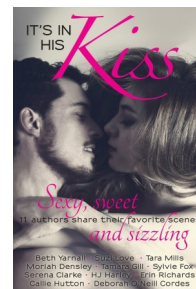
To be included on this page, email your successes to Jean Drew at

jeandrew@xtra.co.nz

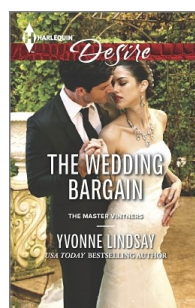


Lizzie Tremayne's **A LONG TRAIL ROLLING**, winner of the 2014 Pacific Hearts Award, is now available on Amazon/CreateSpace (paperback and ebook) and Smashwords!

Serena Clarke is part of a book of excerpts titled: **IT'S IN HIS KISS**, from 11 authors, out in time for Valentine's Day.



Catherine Taylor received an email from Dr. Charley Ferrer saying that her **MASTER** has been nominated in the category of romance for the Golden Flogger Award in 2015. This is an award presented by the BDSM writers' convention in New York in August.



Yvonne Lindsay has just accepted a three-book contract with Harlequin Desire. She also has a book out in March, **THE WEDDING BARGAIN**, which is the last instalment in her *The Master Vintners* series.

Sue Knight has been offered a publishing contract with Entangled Publishing.

Sara Hantz has sold a second Tudor novella to Entangled Publishing, working title: **ONE FORBIDDEN KNIGHT**. Sara's novel, **CAPTURING THE BODYGUARD'S HEART**, an Emerald romance, is now available on Amazon.



Tania Sparks has a new book out on 27 February. It is a Rock Star erotic romance.

Toni Stephens has been offered a publishing contract with Samhain Publishing for **MOMENT OF WEAKNESS**, due out in October.

~ Jean Drew



"I was smiling yesterday, I am smiling today and I will smile tomorrow. Simply because life is too short to cry for anything."
— Santosh Kalwar, *Quote Me Everyday*

Retrieved February 25, 2015 from <http://www.goodreads.com/quotes/tag/romance>

**HOOT! HOOT! RWA (AUSTRALIA) HAS A
NEW OWL IN APRIL TO HELP YOU
TURN STRANGERS INTO FANS -
AND BUILD A SALES FUNNEL THAT DELIVERS**

Presenter: Sara Hood

Want to know how to make your book unique - and one publishers will buy?

Want to harness all those social media platforms to get the word out?

Join our presenter, Sara Hood, who has over 30 years marketing and communications experience – and some big-name clients she can lay claim to – as she shares with you the tools you need to successfully build your sales funnel.

The focus of the course is on

- Identifying what it is that you are offering, and what it is that makes your book/s unique (and therefore what the key messages are to underpin your communications);
- Understanding the roles of the most widely-used marketing options on the internet (blogging, Facebook, Twitter, Google AdSense etc);
- Choosing the ones that suit you; and
Building your online author presence in such a way that also serves a sales funnel, for both indie and trad published.

Sara is a firm believer in:

- Starting with the end in mind: decide what you want to achieve and then build a plan to aim to achieve that;
- The value of thinking through what you want to do before plunging in, and then implementing what you have planned whilst monitoring your results; and using your plan as the framework to review and revise so you can continually improve.

Course Dates: 13/04/2015 - 26/04/2015

Cost: RWA-Member - \$25.00. Non-Member - \$35.00

Click [here](#) for more information



**ROMANCE
WRITERS**
of Australia

**We are still looking for
RWNZ 2015 Conference Volunteers**

**An amazing opportunity to meet, mingle and learn from everyone in RWNZ
and worldwide — about their passion, dedication and focus.**

Please contact Kamy on her email

kamychetty@yahoo.com



H2H MARKETS FOR MARCH

by p.d.r.lindsay-salmon

1. Melange Books

E-book and print

SEEKING

highly romantic romance stories for their Satin Romance imprint. Sweet romance, with no descriptive sexual relationships, couples must be 18 years and over and historicals are welcomed. Check the details at the website.

LENGTH

Novellas, 20,000 to 54,000 words long, are made into e-books. The longer novels, 55,000 to 85,000 words, become print and e-books.

PAYMENT

Payment is 40% net royalties on digital formats and 20% on print.

DETAILS: Melange Books, Satin Romance, website: <http://www.satinromance.com>; guidelines at: <http://www.satinromance.com/subs.html>; email subs to: submissions-nancy@melange-books.com;

2. Inkstained Succubus Press

'an eclectic small press dedicated to bringing out fresh anthologies, special reprints and collections, and new faces in writing.' Print and e-books.

SEEKING AND LENGTH

Currently the editors are open to stories for their anthologies, 5000 to 10,000 words; stand-alone short stories, 10,000 to 20,000 words; novellas, 20,000 to 45,000 words; and novels 45,000 words and upwards.

Genres: Steampunk, Bronzepunk, Clockpunk, Dieselpunk, Atompunk, CyberPunk, and post-Cyberpunk, Erotica, any combination including menage. QUILTBAG stories encouraged. BDSM and multiple-partner stories also encouraged. Do check out the website and read the guidelines and the specific call guidelines.

PAYMENT

Payment is good. 'Authors receive 40% royalties on short stories and novels. Anthologies pay a share of the royalties based on number of authors.' The payments are for the usual First Print and Electronic Rights.

DETAILS: Inkstained Succubus Press, website: <http://www.inkstainedsuccubus.com>; email subs to: inkstainedsubmissions@gmail.com; guidelines: http://www.inkstainedsuccubus.com/#id_clients/cqh1;

3. Henery Press

E-books, e-cards and print.

SEEKING

mystery/suspense genre as well as women's fiction which they cheerfully call Chick Lit.

LENGTH

65,000 to 90,000 words.

PAYMENT

Payment is negotiated royalties for negotiated rights.

DETAILS: Henery Press, website: <http://henerypress.com>;

Email subs to: subs@henerypress.com;

guidelines: <http://henerypress.com/submissions-humorous-mystery-series>

4. 'Night Train'

Magazine seeking short stories and flash fiction.

SEEKING

short fiction and poetry of the highest quality from new, emerging and established writers. Firebox Fiction is their flash fiction.

LENGTH

under 1,500 words for flash and 1,500 to 5,000 words for shorts.

PAYMENT

Payment is 'when available' and in copies for the usual Rights.

DETAILS: 'Night Train', website: <http://www.night-train.org>; submit online at the website; guidelines for fireboxfiction: <http://www.night-train.org/index.php/firebox-fiction>;

5. Knox Robinson Publishing

USA and UK Print with some e-books.

SEEKING

Historical Romance novels.

LENGTH

Novels from 50,000 to 90,000 words.

PAYMENT standard royalties.

DETAILS:

website: www.knoxrobinsonpublishing.com;

Email: subs@knoxrobinsonpublishing.com

6. Mezzanotte

e-book and POD paperbacks.

SEEKING

Brand new press seeking romance only. Modern romance with plenty of conflict and stunning settings. Likes European settings.

LENGTH

50,000 to 70,000 words.

PAYMENT

Payment by royalties.

DETAILS: website: <http://mezzanotte-publishing.co.uk>;

Email: romance@mezzanotte-publishing.co.uk

RWNZ News Around the Regions

Keeping in touch with each other (150 word count)



Auckland

Sixteen attended our meeting on 7 February. Joanne Hill took over for us as guest speaker. Joanne began indie publishing in 2013 after years of submitting to Mills and Boon and now has five 'reasonably sweet' novels available on Amazon. *Falling for Jack* was runner up in the Koru Award for 2014, and her latest novel is a romantic comedy, *Dating Daisy*. Visit the web at www.joannehill.com, and follow on Twitter @joanneauthor. Jo's talk took the form of a shared discussion and was most informative for all of us. I read out the interview with the Corrections Officer, Christine Stewart, afterwards. It was easy to understand how Christine had become traumatised and disillusioned by the prison work and interesting to know how the system works – or doesn't. On March 7th, Linda Coles, a new member of RWNZ, will talk to us on social media and about her *Letters in Love*.

Happy writing everyone and looking forward to seeing you again at the March meeting. Pamela Gervai (Convener)

C2C (Central North Island Coast to Coast)

The cosy gathering for the February meeting was held at Shirley Wine's home in Waihi. After a great luncheon, as RWNZ Secretary, Lizzi Thompson requested input on presentation to the executive from those present on two issues. Our consensus:

1) RWNZ website: It is difficult to negotiate and boring, so many didn't spend much time there. Liked the idea of 'fresh' and highlighting members' books; uploading by members.

2) Payments (subscriptions /conference registration): If Internet Banking creates difficulties for the treasurer, delete this payment option. Prepay cards available for purchase at Post Shops?

Shirley presented an excellent 'Editing for Content' interactive workshop, which provoked much discussion from attendees. Next meeting: Sun, 15 Mar at Bernadette Doube's in

Hamilton. Guest Speaker: Angela Wynne, Partner at KPMG, on 'The Business of Writing'.

Lunch at noon (arrive 11:30 if wish) and meeting at 1 pm.

Wellington/Kapiti

Our first meeting of the year took place in Paraparaumu. What a difference a few weeks makes. Ellie is now a proud granny; Juliet is heading in the same direction ('Auntie', she says firmly.) Anne is now married, Kris's hip is greatly improved after a steroid injection, and Leeann has weathered a long operation and has used the recovery time to write another couple of books (well, almost.) Carol shared the start of a novel she's been carefully plotting, and we all thought she had a winner. We're hoping to hear some more next time.

Juliet has offered to host our March meeting, and we'll email the address and details to local members in good time. Our theme for the meeting will be 'character', so be prepared to share how you develop yours. Kris Pearson—Convener.

Christchurch

The Christchurch Group met for the first time this year, and we had two new members come along. Welcome Emma and Jo. All of our regulars have been writing like crazy over the holidays, and everyone has a book finished – some more than one – getting ready for the Pacific Hearts competition next month. We're starting to see some successes amongst us, with a number of us finalists in various writing competitions and even a contract offer or two. We meet on the second Sunday of every month from 10am to 12pm at South Library or Riccarton Library. If anyone would like the schedule, contact me. Toni Stephens, Convener

Nelson

Our first meeting for 2015 was, of course, on Valentine's Day, 14th February. Great to see almost everyone there, keen on setting goals for the coming writing season. We all sent warm 'get-well-thoughts' to Sally, who just had come home from hospital and couldn't make it to the meeting. We made decisions about the future structure of our critique group and also set deadlines for the group's Anthology of short stories and extracts out of novels, which we aim to launch on Valentine's Day next year. At least two of us will attend the RWNZ Conference this year—some still have to make up their minds.

We finished off with a cuppa served with some unusual 'buns' called 'Screwed Students', as translated from Swedish, plus a heart shaped cake – all thanks to Annika's sister Lillemor, who is visiting from Sweden. Next meeting will be on Saturday, 14th March at 2pm.

Annika Ohlson-Smith - Convener

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



Hi Everyone

Question: What is the greatest achievement any of us want?

Answer: To become a published author.

Contests are the stepping stones to achieving this. Contests bring not only great kudos for the winning authors, but also great opportunities to develop their gifts and share their style in published books.

As Peter and Barbara Clendon are well renowned for saying— **“Finish the damn book!”** These famous four words were the shining light writers needed for focus. Romance Writers of New Zealand members held onto them, repeating them often as they raced to win ‘the Contest’. And because of this focus their lives changed forever.

Now, because you were clever enough to join RWNZ, you too can be one of these winners! So get your writing fingers moving and your focus into action—stick with your ambition to bring your dreams into life. Believe in yourself, make this your year for achieving and— **“Finish the damn book!”**

Then send it into one of our RWNZ Contests and hold on tight. Not only will you develop your writing strengths from the great feedback received from the judges, you’ll also feel a great sense of satisfaction having had the courage to allow others to read and critique your work.

So let yourself be inspired... we’re right beside you, motivating you to obtain your greatest achievement.

All the very best everyone!

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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Heart To Heart (H2H) is the official publication of Romance Writers of New Zealand (RWNZ) and is published eleven times a year.

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