

HEART TO HEART

Featuring

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AWARDS DINNER MENU

If you haven't already booked your ticket for the Saturday night Harlequin Awards Dinner at conference, it's not too late!

With Marie Force as our guest speaker, and the yummy menu below, you can't go wrong.



AWARDS DINNER MENU

Tandoori chicken with coriander, ginger and fennel roasted kumara salad, salsa verde, wild rocket and lemon dill

Or

Grilled grain fed beef fillet, horseradish and potato gratin, beetroot slaw and shiraz jus

Or

Pan fried salmon fillet, basil spinach puree and potato dumplings

Chocolate parfait, blueberry caramel, white chocolate cream and vanilla fudge

Wine, juice and water on each table

Freshly brewed coffee and fine tea selection



CASINO ROYALE

From The President's Pen
What's happening in RWNZ?
President Lesley Morgan says
it's up to date with the news.

Lesley Morgan, President of RWNZ, has been in the role for over 10 years. She has been a member of the organization since 1980. She has been a member of the organization since 1980. She has been a member of the organization since 1980.

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BREAKING NEWS!

CASINO ROYALE
ROMANCE WRITERS CONFERENCE

Marie Force is the guest speaker for the Saturday night Harlequin Awards Dinner at conference. It's not too late to book your ticket.

Notice of 14th Annual General Meeting of RWNZ

The 14th Annual General Meeting of RWNZ will be held on Saturday 14th June 2014 at the Casino Royale, Auckland. The meeting will be held at the Casino Royale, Auckland. The meeting will be held at the Casino Royale, Auckland.

What's happening in RWNZ?

*President **Leeann Morgan** brings us up to date with the news...*

morgan.leeann@clear.net.nz



Hello Everyone

Welcome to June! Over the last couple of months, lots of RWNZ members have volunteered to help in different projects. I'd like to take this opportunity to thank a few of the many people who are working for us to make RWNZ a successful writing organisation.

H2H Monthly eMagazine

Huge thanks to Sapi Heald, Lorna Croft and Jaci Petherick who are now editing and compiling our H2H eMagazine. Please send all contributions to Sapi (sapiheald@xtra.co.nz) for July's edition before 15 June.

Thank you to Sue Mackay

A big thanks to Sue who took on the role of Principal Contests Co-ordinator a few months ago. This has enabled Kamy to spend more time in her Vice-President and Conference Coordinator roles.

Helping Hand with Membership Secretary's Role

A big thanks to Juliet Adams who is giving Kris a hand with the membership secretary's role until conference. All email correspondence relating to membership will now go to Juliet.

Thank you Shar

Shar has designed a wonderful selection of Facebook tiles so that we can spread the word about conference. Shar and Anne Kemp will be working on a social media process and asking for your help soon. More details in H2H.

Conference 2014 - Casino Royale

Early bird registrations close on 6 June, so if you haven't already booked get those fingers tapping on your keyboard and register today! Remember to include the Awards Dinner on Saturday night - it's a great way to celebrate our successes and have some fun together. And did I mention that it's a wonderful excuse to get dressed up in glam clothes? And if a little (or a lot) of bling isn't enough to convince you that it's going to be an awesome evening, I've included the Saturday night awards dinner menu in our magazine.

A reminder that the Friday night event also includes a yummy light buffet meal and drink – great value and great company. Thank you to the Conference Committee who are doing a fabulous job!

Review of the RWNZ Website

Remember to send Nicole the links for up to two websites that you feel represent the best of what's available and would suit RWNZ. Think design, content, colours, branding. We are hoping that the new look website will be unveiled at our conference in August. Please email Nicole at: Nicole.LA.Bishop@gmail.com with your recommended website links. And thank you for helping in this role, Nicole!

Have a wonderful June... see you at Conference!

Leeann



Notice of 14th Annual General Meeting of RWNZ

It is hereby given that the fourteenth Annual General Meeting of the Romance Writers of New Zealand Inc (RWNZ) will be held at 4.25pm on Saturday 16th August 2014, at the Waipuna Hotel and Conference Centre, Auckland. Please note that the presentation and adoption of the Treasurer's Report will be for the year ended March 2014.

RWNZ AGM Agenda

Business:

1. Confirmation of the minutes of the 13th Annual General Meeting of RWNZ Inc. held on Saturday 24th August 2013.
2. Presentation and adoption of the President's Report.
3. Presentation and adoption of the Treasurer's Report for the year ended March 2014.
4. Presentation and adoption of the Membership Report.
5. Any other business
6. Introduction of the new Executive Committee.

Members wishing to propose remits to be considered at this meeting must send them to the current President at:

AGM Remits
RWNZ
3 Quadrant Heights
Paraparaumu 5032

by 5pm Friday 27th June 2014

Please note that to be accepted remits:

- may only be proposed by a current member
- need to be seconded by a current member
- must be dated
- must be accompanied by arguments for the remit.

Nomination forms are available via the RWNZ website in the members area (username: passion, password love987). See www.romancewriters.co.nz

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, including 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.

Notice of 14th Annual General Meeting of RWNZ (cont:)

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 from time to time.

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 an adequate record of financial transactions that display 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.

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).
- Fulfil any other obligations designated by the Executive.

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.

BREAKING NEWS!

Local police are warning any retailers who stock diamonds on their premises or their warehouses to be on the look out for any suspicious activity after Romance Writers of New Zealand announced their theme for this Year's Friday night cocktail party, '**Diamonds are Forever**'.

Rumour has it, the organisation has secured a slue of international speakers and are encouraging attendees to 'Put their Bling on Show' for this fun filled event.

In other news, the RWNZ has also been said to be hosting the Harlequin awards dinner and in keeping with the Casino Royale Bond theme, they



are giving away prizes to certain guests registering for the 21 Shades of Bond Dinner. When questioned about these prizes, we have established that three amazing sponsorships have been secured, and we have Romance Book Paradise and author Helen Young to thank.

So if you haven't already, this news reporter suggests you register for the conference asap, and it is said that if you do so by the 6th June, not only do you get the early bird prices but you also go into the draw for a full manuscript - or if you don't have one completed then the first three chapters of your manuscript (category) - critiqued by Melanie Melburne (multi-published author).

This news report has been brought to you by your conference convenor Kamy Chetty. Stay tuned for more news!



AWARDS DINNER

MENU

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and fine tea selection**

Going Spanish

by Kris Pearson



I'm in the middle of a strange new adventure. Who would have thought these were the ratings for one of my novels? I don't speak Spanish, so how...?

Clasificación en los más vendidos de Amazon:
nº170 Pagados en Tienda Kindle ([Ver el Top 100 de pago en Tienda Kindle](#))

nº39 en [Tienda Kindle](#) > [eBooks Kindle](#) > [Literatura y ficción](#) > [Ficción contemporánea](#)

nº40 en [Libros](#) > [Literatura y ficción](#) > [Ficción contemporánea](#)

nº60 en [Tienda Kindle](#) > [eBooks Kindle](#) > [Romántica](#)

Early last year, I received an email from one of my readers. After saying how much she enjoyed my books, she mentioned she'd love to translate them into Spanish for me. I didn't take this seriously at all. Me? Spanish books? But time rolled on, and I published more novels, and I heard from her again. She was serious. She sent me her credentials and costings. Although she's from Barcelona, she works as a translator in Rome - on international conferences and precious old books for the Vatican. She pointed out my romances would be quite a contrast to her religious titles...

She assured me that Spanish readers were hungry for books. She felt mine would appeal to the passionate Latin temperament. So I did a little research. While Chinese and English are the most-spoken languages on Earth, Spanish is running a close third. Not just in Spain, but in various other parts of the world. Think of all the big South American countries, Mexico, and various areas in the USA. And she's translated books for CJ Lyons and currently Jane Porter. This was getting tempting...



Going Spanish

by Kris Pearson (cont)

Well, I'm a bit of a gambler (remember Kerri in *Seduction on the Cards*? Where do you think she came from?). I sussed out other translation prices for comparison, and we decided she'd translate four books, starting with *The Boat Builder's Bed*. There are more than a million free downloads of this floating around in people's e-readers, and it has done a good job selling my other novels.

Off she went, leaving me to do some cover research. Would my jeans-clad couple be acceptable in Spain? After looking at a lot of other Spanish covers, I decided they'd be fine. Passionate but still decent. She sent me the title wording I needed, and I set it in place.

We did quite a bit of corresponding as she worked on the book. I found she lives very close to Perugia - an ancient Etruscan city, where I attended the University of Foreigners for a term. We've possibly walked along the very same streets. She's a rabid rugby fan - both her sons play, and she organised a huge charity rugby event in Spain some years ago. She's met Jonah Lomu. She's very keen to meet Ritchie McCaw. When she heard we'd shared our Romance Writers Conference hotel with the All Blacks, she decided she'd try to travel to New Zealand for the next one. Although we don't expect the All Blacks at the Waipuna, it would be wonderful to meet her in person. Right now that's looking less likely because she's busy trying to arrange a move for her family from Italy back to Barcelona.

I launched the first book on Amazon at the beginning of the year, and it's selling in the US, Mexico and Spain. And one copy in France. It went off like a rocket in Spain - the ratings at the top of the page tell the story. It's calmed down now, but the second has just been released and that one's building on the

first. I need to sell about a hundred times as many as I have so far to cover the translation cost, so that's going to take a while. Never mind - I'm sure as the last two books go up they'll help boost the first two. If I cover my costs, I'll be surprised but happy. If I make any money, I'll be amazed.

Of course, I've needed to get my website partly translated. That's what the little flags at the top are for. You can choose English or Spanish. You automatically get the Spanish if you search for krispearson.es

Right now, I'm investigating e-book stores that sell books in Spanish. There are a lot of them apart from Amazon and the ones that Smashwords distribute to. Being able to work out what they want is sometimes a challenge, but Google's slightly hilarious English/Spanish translation is helping.

I've tracked down and contacted a couple of dozen Spanish-speaking book bloggers, sent off a lot of free copies and answered interview questions, which my translator has then untangled (for money). I've accepted the Facebook friendship of an enormous number of Spanish-speaking people all over the world, and about all I can say back to them is 'muchas gracias'. But I can send them a photo of my two Spanish covers, and I seem to be getting lots of likes and shares, so I presume it's worth doing.

This has been hard work, and I sometimes wonder if I wouldn't have been better to spend the money on a small new car; it's going to cost much the same!

A year ago it never occurred to me I'd have books with titles like 'La cama del constructor de barcos' and 'Zona prohibida'.

H2H MARKETS FOR JUNE

1. Peach Fuzz

Peach Fuzz is a sex and body-positive art print magazine.

Seeking: fiction and poetry, photos and art. Open to writers suggestions

Length: open

Payment: negotiated

Details: Website: <http://www.peachfuzzmag.com>

Email: peachfuzzmag@gmail.com or 'go to our contact page and drop us a line'

2. Crimson Frost Books

e-publisher

Seeking: 'stories that scorch the pages'. Sexy stories in all sub genres of romance. We are currently seeking stories with well-developed plots, three dimensional characters, and it must have either HEA or HFN. We want hot stories that will stay with the reader long after that last page. Check the detailed submissions.

Length: 15,000 to 60,000+ words

Payment: discussed at contract time

Details: Crimson Frost Books

Website: <http://crimsonfrostbooks.com>

Email: submissions@crimsonfrostbooks.com

3. Shebooks

e-publisher

Seeking: short books for women by women writers.

Length: 7,500 to 30,000 words

Payment: discussed at contract time

Details: Shebooks, www.shebooks.net

Email: write@shebooks.net

4. Swoon Reads

MacMillan imprint

Seeking: teen romance. Upload your self-published novel to the board for readers to read and vote on.

MacMillan contract to the most 'swoon worthy' novel. Ongoing submissions.

Length: 50,000 to 70,000 words

Payment: discussed at contract time

Details: www.swoonreads.com - upload work to the website

5. ELJ publications

Small Press print and e-books

Seeking: flash fiction and long short stories, 'stories that are a complete dramatic action.'

Length: flash 50 – 10,000 words

Payment: royalty shares

Details: ELJ publications -

<http://eljpublications.com>

Email: eljpublications@gmail.com

6. The Fog Horn

Digital monthly magazine

Seeking: short stories any genre but 'must be unputdownable!' Submissions are unusual - check carefully.

Length: 1,200 to 8,500 words

Payment: \$1,000

Details: The Fog Horn

Website: <http://thefoghornmagazine.com>

- submit at the website.

7. Crooked Cat

Small Press, e- and print books

Seeking: all forms of romance – check their submissions periods as they have set times.

Length: up to 100,000 words

Payment: discussed under contract

Details: Crooked Cat

Website: www.crookedcatpublishing.com

Email: submissions@crookedcatpublishing.com



How do you come up with the ideas for your stories?
Trish Morey—"You don't have to come up with ideas. Ideas crash down on you from above. They are out there for the taking. Everyone can get an idea. A writer will turn it into a story."

Retrieved from

<https://www.millsandboon.com.au/author/trish-morey>

INTERNATIONAL CONTESTS

by Tracey Alvarez

Lone Star Writing Competition 2014

Deadline: June 8th, 2014

Eligibility: Unpublished authors may enter in any category. Published authors may enter in a genre in which they have never published, or in which they've not been contracted in the past five years.

Enter: First 25 pages.

Fee: US\$25

More Info: <http://nwhrwa.com/writers-events/lonestar-contest/lone-star-2013-contest-rules/>

The Maggie Award for Excellence (unpublished)

Deadline: June 10th, 2014

Eligibility: If you are published with more than 40,000 words, either traditional or self-published, you are ineligible for Unpublished Maggies. Please see Published Maggies. If you are a published author who has not been published in 5 years or more, you are eligible for the Unpublished Maggies. Entry must be of unpublished material.

Enter: Entry to consist of synopsis and prologue (if applicable) and first chapter(s). Total number of pages may not exceed 35 per entry.

Fee: US\$25-40

More Info: <http://www.georgiaromancewriters.org/the-maggies/>

2014 Indiana Golden Opportunity Contest

Deadline: July 1st, 2014

Eligibility: Open to any unpublished author in novel or novella-length fiction by a non-vanity/subsidy publisher. Published authors who have not been contracted for publication (by RWA publishing standards) in the past three (3) years are also eligible to enter.

Enter: Each entry shall be no longer than fifty-five (55) pages. Entries are comprised of the first pages of the manuscript (including prologue, if one is used), and the synopsis. The synopsis may be no longer than ten (10) pages. For example: with a seven (7) page synopsis, the first forty-eight (48) pages of the manuscript should be submitted for a total of fifty-five (55) pages.

Fee: US\$35

More Info: <http://www.rwa.org/p/cm/ld/fid=1180>

2014 Montana Strong Contest

Deadline: June 30th, 2014

Eligibility: Entrants who are unpublished are especially encouraged to enter. All entrants must not have published a novel in the last 5 years. OR if entrant is self-published, must not be PAN eligible—cannot make \$5,000 a year.

Enter: Give us your character or characters at their moment of greatest challenge, and show us why they deserve the honorary title of "Montana Strong." Enter a setup paragraph of up to 250 words to introduce the judges to the characters, the situation, and the stakes. Also enter the greatest challenge scene of up to 3,000 words of your finished, polished, and unpublished manuscript that's projected word count is 50,000 or greater

Fee: US\$20-25

More Info: <http://montanaromancewriters.blogspot.co.nz/p/montana-strong-contest.html>

Pages From The Heart Contest

Deadline: June 30th, 2014

Eligibility: Published: the writer is contracted or published, but the entry itself must not be contracted or published. Self-published authors are welcome. Unpublished: the writer has not accepted a publishing offer for, or self-published, a work of original fictional narrative prose of 20,000 words or more (by the contest entry deadline).

Open to RWA Members only.

Enter: First 25 pages of your unpublished and uncontracted novel-length (or projected novel-length) manuscript, not to exceed 6250 words.

Fee: US\$20-25

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

New Jersey Romance Writers 2014 Put Your Heart in a Book Contest

Deadline: July 1st, 2014

Eligibility: Unpublished or not Published in last five years. Entrant must be a member of RWA.

Enter: SYNOPSIS and FIRST chapter ONLY, not to exceed 30 pages combined.

Fee: US\$25-35

More Info: http://njromancewriters.org/index.php?/njrw_contest/put_your_heart_in_a_book_contest/

Woos, Hoos, and News

Celebrating our members' achievements.

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



Kris Pearson's second book in Spanish, **ZONA PROHIBIDA (Out of Bounds)**, has launched.



Erin Erin Kuhne w/a Erin Moira O'Hara has signed a contract with Destiny Publishing for her romantic fantasy, **THE KNIGHT OF CASTLE KILDARE**, scheduled for release in June.

Erin is also in the *top three* of the Australian Romance Writers Emerald-Long Award for her romantic suspense, **THE KALISTA DIAMOND**. **THE KNIGHT OF CASTLE KILDARE** came fourth equal in the RWA Emerald-Short.



Kristina O'Grady's debut novel, **DEBUTANTES DON'T DATE**, has been released.

Lisa Chaplin is thrilled to announce that her historical mainstream, **THE TIDE WATCHERS**, was sold to William Morrow Books, a division of HarperCollins in New York.

It's been tentatively slotted for release as a Summer Reading listing in 2015, coinciding with the 200th anniversary of the battle of Waterloo (her book is set in Napoleonic France).

Sara Hantz latest Y/A Entangled Teen, **WILL THE REAL ABI SAUNDERS PLEASE STAND UP?**, is available in print and e-book.



Well done, everyone!

~ Jean

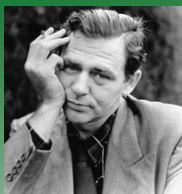
<http://www.jeandrew.co.nz>
jeandrew@xtra.co.nz

RWNZ News Around the Regions

Keeping in touch with each other

Word Count: The intention of this column is more to notify than 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 13**.



He was my North, my South, my East and West, my working week and my Sunday rest, my noon, my midnight, my talk, my song; I thought that love would last for ever: I was wrong - W.H. Auden

Retrieved from <http://www.stuff.co.nz/world/europe/4645136/Bronte-beats-Pooh-bear-for-most-romantic-line>

<http://cf067b.medialib.qloaster.com/media/80/80847d0397ee41955a97034a7a257e97205f203ba1650dbd645289b26692f5bc/dude-ipo.jpg>

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

Alanya Forrest, Warkworth
Andrea Grigg, Queensland
Anna Hudson, Wellington
Anne Kemp, Wellington
Ariadne Paige, Palmerston North
Bonnie Lannom, Wellington
Catherine Hudson, Tauranga
Faye Robertson, Keri Keri
Fiona Miller, Whangaparoa
Jessica Palmer, South Canterbury
Julia Heath, Wellington
Kate O'Keeffe, Wellington
Katherine Woods, Auckland
Mary Brehe, Australia
Robyn Arnott, Morrinsville
Rosie Richards, Hauraki
Tania Sparks, Auckland

CLASSIFIED ADS

We are happy to place short classified ads in H2H for services that could be useful to writers. The price for these will be \$20.

Note that the placing for these will be preceded by a disclaimer stating the RWNZ is only providing the placing but does not in any way endorse the product/service.

Please contact me by the 10th of each month if you wish to advertise.

sapiheald@xtra.co.nz

Some Web Links you may find worthwhile

If you have some Web Links to share
—please email to sapiheald@xtra.co.nz

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

Conference: Casino Royale 2014

<http://www.romancewriters.co.nz/2014-Conference/speaker-biographies/>

CONNECT WITH ROMANCE WRITERS OF NEW ZEALAND ON FACEBOOK



<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Romance-Writers-of-New-Zealand-Inc/201966885164>

**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

But soft! What
light through
yonder window
breaks? It is the
east and Juliet is
the sun -

Shakespeare ~ Romeo and Juliet

Retrieved from <http://www.stuff.co.nz/world/europe/4645136/Bronte-beats-Pooh-bear-for-most-romantic-line>



ABOUT Us

We are a non-profit organisation founded in September 1990 by Jean Drew and ten other enthusiastic writers in Auckland, New Zealand, to provide support and professional development to Romance writers. Since then, Romance Writers of New Zealand (RWNZ) has flourished and has now grown to around 300 members from throughout New Zealand, Australia, USA, UK and South Africa.

Whether a member's ambition is to become an internationally published author or purely to obtain the satisfaction of having written a good story, RWNZ offers a positive and supportive community that shares a love of Romance fiction.

We strive to share and broaden our collective knowledge of excellence, so members can become the best writers they can be and create the best crafted books they can write. We do this through online loops and [workshops](#); an [annual conference](#) that offers craft development and networking opportunities with agents and editors; [competitions](#) and regular regional meetings. To read the full range of [member benefits](#), [click here](#).

RWNZ has a range of members from internationally published, best-selling authors, aspiring writers, through to those purely writing for their own pleasure. Our membership contains like-minded women and men of all ages who provide encouragement and knowledge from their own writing journeys. If you'd like to [join us](#), [click here](#) – new members are always welcome.

Mission Statement

Romance Writers of New Zealand Inc. is dedicated to promoting excellence in romance writing and the romance genre, helping writers become published and establish careers by providing networking, support, information and resources.

RWNZ News Around the Regions

Keeping in touch with each other.



Auckland

I don't think there's anything Ann Russell www.annrussellwriter.com didn't cater for in her Book Launch List at our May meeting. She's going to produce this as an e-book and for authors. Thank you so much Ann for such an in-depth illustration of how to prepare and organise yourself on the day. Nineteen attended the meeting, and we were all so inspired the pavilion was just buzzing afterwards. Ann finished her talk by inviting us to her third book launch ('Little Truff Saves the Kereru') which will be at the Piha Community Library on 27 July from 3.00 p.m. It will be a high tea and a charity event with half the proceeds going to the library.

Our next meeting will be Saturday 7 June and Kamy Chetty will be talking on 'Deep Point of View'. Bring your notebooks! For those who don't know – we meet on the first Saturday of each month (except January and December) at the Three Kings Tennis Pavilion from 12.30 until 3.00 p.m. Please bring a plate to share, change for the raffles and a gold coin donation.

In the meantime, happy writing everyone. Pamela Gervai – Convener

C2C (Central North Island Coast to Coast)

Our May meeting was held at my riverside home in Waitawheta, Waihi. After our customary delicious potluck lunch, round-up of members' news and brief meeting, our newest member, Matt Mole and I kitted up for his workshop: **The Pen is Mightier than the Sword: A Writer's Introduction to Historical Swordplay.**

Matt introduced us to terminology, techniques and kit for swordplay from the fifth through to the seventeenth century. Swords, rapiers, cloaks and bucklers, as well as protective equipment, were introduced and handled. Named defensive and offensive moves, plus styles of swordsmanship from different countries of interest to period (or futuristic?) writers were demonstrated.

Take home messages: "Don't die", and "A true fight is one you come out of alive" Thanks, Matt, for a great presentation!

Next meeting is on 07 June in Tauranga - Julie Taylor to host, Iola to do workshop. Looking forward to seeing you there! Liz Thompson - Convenor

Wellington/Kapiti

Our May meeting took place in the big room next to the Paraparaumu library. One of our newest members, Anne Kemp, ran a wonderful workshop on social media and how we can make the most of it to promote our books. We learned an enormous amount, and for some of us it was exactly the kick-start we needed to make a more serious effort.

After this we had a general catch-up on news. Leeann has now launched her first books, and Tracey is close to launching her second.

Our June meeting will be at 1 pm, Saturday 7th at Kris Pearson's home. We'll email all local members a reminder. Please bring any writing you'd like to share. As Kris is currently doing an online 'Show and Tell' workshop, bring a notepad and we'll do some showing and telling of our own.

Kris Pearson—Convenor.

Christchurch

We had a small gathering full of big ideas in Christchurch this month. With everyone furiously writing, we were able to share some of our plot issues and there was heaps of good advice and a supportive atmosphere to bounce our ideas around in.

We had also held a six word story competition, inspired by Catherine. Our clear winner was Vera, with her offering of 'Love, honour, obey . . . didn't include betray.'

Next month our meeting is on Sunday 8th June. We are still going to meet, but bring along your laptop, as if there aren't many of us, we'll take advantage of the space and get down to some writing. Toni Stephens

Nelson

Our main aim at the May meeting was to fill up the three prize baskets for our short story competition. Thanks to our very generous sponsors this was a very fun task. The ten shortlisted stories are now in Natalie Anderson's capable hands, and we expect to be able to announce the winner/s in a couple of weeks.

We didn't just enjoy ourselves, but fell into the silent workload of attacking the third step of intimacy: Voice to Voice. As usual good stuff came out of the exercise.

Lastly, we talked about the importance of entering competitions, and June told us how much she'd learnt from judging the stories of another short story competition.

Annika informed about three 'Writers Retreats' coming up. We are all keen to attend those if possible. Our next meeting is Saturday 14 June at 2pm. Annika Ohlson-Smith - Convenor

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



Wait there is more – from the new Editing Team—let us introduce ourselves...

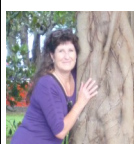


Sapi Heald ~ Born and bred westie (West Auckland) and a newbie to RWNZ for over a year, I am an avid reader of most genres but Romance first and foremost, with Historical, suspense and contemporary topping my list. I am very fortunate to have had Jean Drew as my tutor while I completed my Diploma in Romance Writing last year. I write contemporary and historical romances. I live with my boat mad, jack of all trades husband (a marine illustrator) and our two dogs.



Lorna Croft ~ Writing has been a passion of mine for many years, but it wasn't until I became a member of RWNZ last year that I began to take my writing seriously. Thanks to the wonderful support from RWNZ Nelson.

My journey as a potential writer began when I completed a Diploma in Writing Stories for Children, after seeing how good, well-written stories could provoke interest and excitement in a classroom of children. The experience of creating readable children's stories helped to hone my writing skills. Later, teaching conversational English in Korea, I used these skills to produce interesting, informative lesson plans for my classes. My focus now is on a more mature audience, although currently I do have a teenage fantasy novel on the go.



Jaci Petherick ~ For all the years I have belonged to RWNZ, which I have loved, I have only written a few short stories and one manuscript. This is because my real focus is more on motivational and personal development reading and writing. I have spent many years teaching computer skills to students of all ages. I teach adults now, face-to-face and online; students completing computer qualifications. So my work consists of teaching nearly 24/7. Thus one of my passions is supporting people as they learn and develop - watching the joy as they grow with knowledge and self-worth. My dream - to write motivational books - when time permits. And hopefully it will be a romance as well.

Yours via the pen ~ Sapi—Lorna—Jaci

Submissions—We love getting the contributions but can we request the following sent to Sapi at sapiheald@xtra.co.nz

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

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