



August 2014

Once again, it is a pleasure to bring to your our latest newsletter and I hope you enjoy our August edition. Our Council have been busy researching, planning, plotting, debating and mulling over new and interesting ideas which I am sure will be thrilling to all involved in our association. Exciting times are ahead . . . and remember . . . you heard it *here* first.

Outreach Team

Marc and Jacklin have fully recovered from their trip to Caithness Writers and continue to rave about the warm welcome and good that came from their visit. Our Outreach Team are poised and ready, waiting for you to get in touch. Please do, and let them feel the love.

As well as visiting with our member clubs, we are trying to reach out to other writing groups not affiliated to SAW. Please spread the word and help our association grow and become bountiful and prosperous.

Events

The race is now on to produce your competition magical masterpieces for 'Write Up North' (25th October) and forward to Barbara, our wonderful competition secretary by the 21st September. Write up North promises to be a fantastic day of comradeship and learning, with a wonderful guest speaker Bob Davidson, and a choice of four workshops. As well as browsing through the many items supplied in our shop, you can network with like-minded people and catch up with old friends.

SAW 100 Club – Membership Renewals Due

Please contact Jacklin for new bank details in order that you can renew your SAW 100 Club membership. Forms can be downloaded from our web page and we urge you to do so and take part. Remember, the more members we have the bigger the prize.

A big well done to our June winner, Kate Blackadder, our July winner Kathleen Hammond and congratulations to Elizabeth Fratarolli who picked up the prize for August.

Your support in this venture is invaluable and many thanks to those who have already re-joined.

Not to Be Missed!!

Write Up North

A repeat of the highly successful event in the Town House, Inverness

25th October 2014

09:30 am – 4:00 pm



SAW 100 Club

The more members we have, the bigger the prizes!

Download your membership form today



Meet Shelley Prior



Shelley Prior is a proud postal member of Largs Writers Group. At the age of eighteen she took the brave step of leaving her home in Glasgow to study piano and attended the Royal College of Music in London.

She now lives in the beautiful countryside between Bristol and Bath with her two daughters and their faithful dog Charlie. Shelley has had a busy and impressive career, from performing in concerts as a soloist, as an accompanist and also as part of a professional trio. She has also worked as the performance pianist for a London based Ballet Company.

Now teaching piano in two secondary schools, Shelley loves that she gets to do all the 'great bits of music', composing with students and coaching them for concerts. Another talent, she occasionally works as a holistic message therapist.

Shelley's hidden passion is in her writing. She mainly writes stories for children and her creative gift is a wonderful asset for writing the many songs and school productions performed by the primary school children, enjoyed and appreciated by the local community.

Writing every day with 'no real ambition', Shelley explains that it's something she has always done and always loved, in one way or another.

At our SAW conference, Shelley loved the inclusion of drama. A highlight for her was taking part in the 'Rehearsed Reading Workshop' and she was greatly impressed by the winning entry of the short drama award. She is going to put her drama skills to the test at our next conference.

Good luck Shelley and we look forward to welcoming you back in March 2015. If you bump into this wonderful lady at the conference, please say hello and wish her well.

Annual Conference 2015

Westerwood Hotel &
Conference Centre,
Cumbernauld,
G68 0EW

27th to 29th March

**A MUST FOR YOUR
DIARY !!!**

SHOP

Please visit our SAW shop. We hold a range of shop items available for purchase all year round, many of which are branded with our SAW logo.

Join Us

Join us on Facebook –
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/sawriters>
and visit our web site
www.sawriters.org.uk



Write Up North



It is now time to prepare for 'Write Up North', held in the Town House, Inverness on the 25 October 2014. Barbara is delighted to announce that she has already received some manuscripts, so please keep them coming. The closing date for entries is 21st September 2014 and no late entries can be submitted.

It is our pleasure to introduce published poet, lyricist and librettist, Bob Davidson, also the founder and Managing Editor of Sandstone Press, as our key speaker and workshop host. The poetry will be adjudicated by Christopher Powici and the short stories by Kenneth Stevens.

This day promises to be packed full of fun and learning and is **not** to be missed. The event last year was extremely appreciated by all who ventured and I note below some quotes given:

"Great day in Inverness yesterday. Excellent venue, speakers, company and food. Thank you SAW committee for organising it."

"Hats off to the organisers of 'Write up North' – an informative and inspiring day in a beautiful venue. Thank you."

"Write up North was a splendid day – and deserved more support from some of the local writing groups. They missed out on excellent workshops and talks. – Marc did a particularly good job on his presentation on SAW itself and where it is going. Lots of new ideas worth watching."

"A poetry workshop by Mandy Haggith. She was terrific and even managed to inspire a non-poet like me to write my first poem since my teens.

"All power to the committee for the future!"

Our programme and registration form can be found on our website – www.sawriters.org.uk. Or contact Jen at jen.butler@blueyonder.co.uk

We look forward to seeing you there.

SAW AFFILIATION

Once again it is the time for SAW Club Affiliation renewals. Please renew your club today. Our Memberships are invaluable and your SAW needs you. For bank details please contact:
pajamurs@btinternet.com

Saw Alumni

An opportunity to ensure the expertise of former Scottish Association of Writers' Council Members and Authors is not lost to the Association once they leave post or become successful.

Donations

Should you wish to make a donation, please download our SAW Donation Form, complete and forward along with your contribution to our valued and wonderful treasurer, Jacklin Murray. All donations are greatly appreciated.

Other Writing Competitions

Aesthetica Creative Writing Competition

For poems up to 40 lines or short stories of 2000 words. Entry fee of £19.00 for two submissions. First prize of £500.00 and publication. The deadline is 31st August. Visit www.aestheticamagazine.com for further details.

Creative Writing Matters

Flash fiction competition for stories of 250 words. Entry fee £3.00 with a first prize of £100.00. Visit www.creativewritingmatters.co.uk

International Song Writing Competition

Deadline of 18th September. For further information visit www.songwritingcompetition.com

New Children's Author

Stories of 20,000 – 40,000 words for 8 to 12 year olds. Deadline of 30th September. Entry fee is £30.00. Further information can be found at www.literacytrust.org.uk/authorprize

2014 NAWG Open Writing Competition

Short stories of 500 – 2000 words and poems of 40 lines. Both categories have a first prize of £250.00. Entry fees are £5.00 per story and £3.00 per poem and flash fiction. Deadline is 31st October. Visit www.nawg.co.uk

National Poetry Competition

With an entry fee of £6.00, a poem on any subject with no more than 40 lines. Further details can be found at www.poetrysociety.org.uk,npc

New Writing for Scotland

Accepts work from writers who are resident in Scotland or who are Scottish by birth. Send no more than four poems to ASLS, Department of Scottish Literature, 7 University Gardens, University of Glasgow, Glasgow, G12 8QH. Visit their website <http://writ.rs/newwritingscotland>

Many more competitions and interesting facts can be found in the 'Writers Umbrella'. For further details to join this wonderful organisation contact Barbara Hammond, 14 Ladysgate Court, Carronshore, Flakirk, FK2 8HE

**The Writers
Umbrella**

barbara@ladysgate.freemove.co.uk

**Follow us on
Twitter**

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**Federation of
Writers
(Scotland)**

www.writersfederation.org.uk

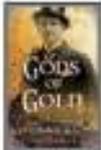


ENHANCE YOUR WRITING IN THE LAKE DISTRICT

Weekend workshops delivered by published authors
in a beautiful rural location.



6 & 7 Sept 2014 - **CRIME DEATH & PUNISHMENT**
with million selling crime writer Neil White



20 & 21 Sept 2014 - **OPEN A DOOR ON THE PAST**
with historical mystery writer Chris Nickson



4 & 5 Oct 2014 - **WORDS AND WORLDS**
with New Heroic Fantasy writer Adrian Tchaikovsky



18 & 19 Oct 2014 - **FALL IN LOVE**
with journalist and modern romance writer Katy Regan

For more information or to book:

Visit: www.goldenrock.co.uk
Tel: 01539 821513
Email: courses@goldenrock.co.uk



Young Writers

Calling all young writers between the age of 16 and 25 years. Please pass the word and have them submit their piece for our 'Write Up North' competition. A story of their choice of between 1000 to 1500 words. Can we find the next young budding author within the Scottish Association of Writers? I do hope so.

Twitter

We are now on Twitter! Follow us @ScotAWriters. We already have a few followers including well known writers and group members. You can highlight any work in progress, work about to be published, any awards and events. Please remember that derogatory tweets will not be tolerated.

Finally

It's difficult to comprehend where time actually goes and I can't believe that this is now the August edition of our news letter. Can I pass on an important reminder for all clubs who have not renewed their membership to do so as soon as possible.

Before we know it, we will be meeting and greeting in the Town House in Inverness on the 25th October and I am excited about the prospect of sharing a fun packed day with you all.

It will be nice to meet with you, share you're writing experiences and for some, the success that the day will bring.

In the meantime, please feel free to email me any poems, flash fiction, or short stories that you would like to share with our members. If you want to promote any anthologies, club evenings or special news, I am delighted to assist.

Remember, it is your news letter and I am grateful for any input put forward by you or for any advice you may have.

Until our September edition, kind regards.

Susan McVey
Publicity Officer.

The Guillotine Choice By Michael Malone with Bashir Saoudi

Please sign the petition to help clear Bashir's fathers name at www.change.org

Promote Your Club

Should you wish your club to feature in future newsletters, please contact Susan McVey at susanscribes@gmail.com

Promote a Member

Do you have a member in your club who deserves some well earned recognition? If so, please let us know and we would be delighted to feature them in future newsletters. Contact Susan McVey on susanscribes@gmail.com

Club Affiliation

Do you know of any writing clubs who meet together but are not affiliated to the Association? Please pass them our details and we can encourage them to join our community.

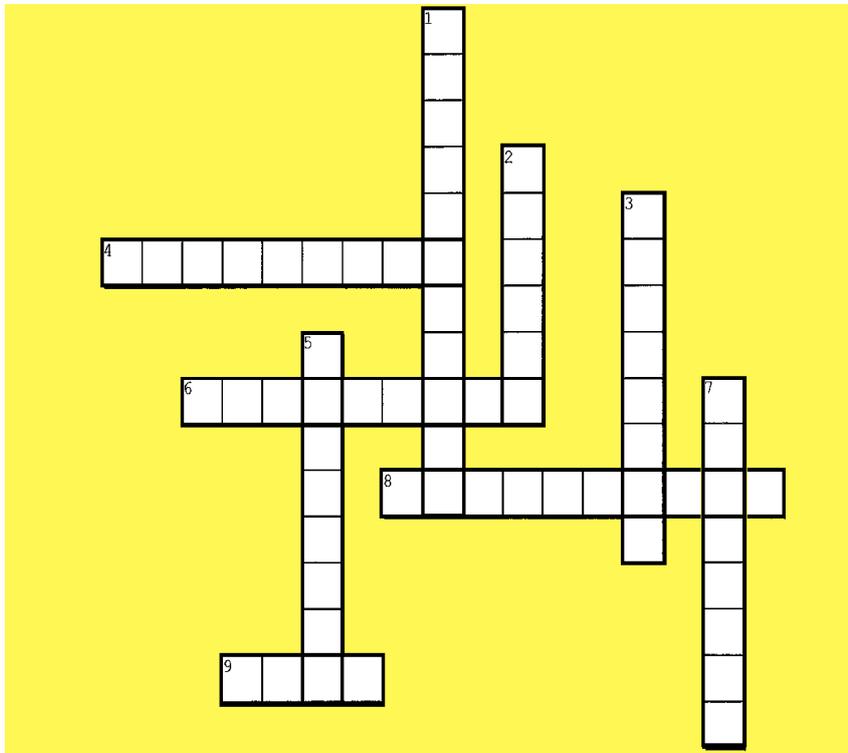
Let's Have Fun!

Famous First Liners.

Answers to our famous first liners are as follows:

- (1) It was the day my grandmother exploded.
The Crow Road – Iain Banks
- (2) It was a bright cold day in April, and the clocks were striking thirteen.
George Orwell - 1984
- (3) The sun shone, having no alternative, on the nothing new.
Samuel Beckett - Murphy
- (4) You better not never tell nobody but God.
Alice Walker – The Color Purple
- (5) I am a sick man . . . I am a spiteful man.
Fyodor Dostoyevsky – Notes from Underground

Crossword Clues



Down

- 1 A word that connects phrases together.
- 2 A word that compares one to another.
- 3 A figure of speech that combines two apparently contradictory ideas.
- 5 A figure of speech where a term is applied to something it does not mean.
- 7 Writing in exaggerated language

Across

- 4 Words that occur together regularly.
- 6 A word that adds information about a noun or pronoun
- 8 A word that imitates the sound it represents.
- 9 A 'doing' word.