



July 2014

Greetings fellow members. It is a pleasure to bring you our July edition of the SAW newsletter. Our Council conveys their best wishes and as always, assure you of their continued commitment to drive our association forward with wonderful and exciting proposals, inspired by you.

Outreach Team

Marc and Jacklin took the high road to Wick for a worthwhile outreach visit to Caithness Writers. The journey there and back reinforced their admiration for those who attend our conference every year in much worse weather than our outreach team experienced. The atmosphere was welcoming, and a lively question and answer time was enjoyed by all at the end of the presentation. Both Marc and Jacklin enjoyed themselves immensely and the consensus was that it was beneficial to meet in a small group as well as meeting at the AGM and the Clubs Representative's meeting. There have been no reports of rioting or looting in the aftermath of the entertaining time in the pub afterwards

Events

It's not too late to book your place or send entries for **Write up North on 25th October in Inverness**. The deadlines for the competitions coincide with the Autumn Equinox on the 21st of September 2014. Check out our website, <http://www.sawwriters.org.uk> for further details as information on the competitions will be posted soon. As always, our Council representatives are happy to answer any questions you may have.

SAW 100 Club – Membership Renewals Due

Congratulations to our June winner, Kathleen Hammond from Erskine Writers.

Our wonderful treasurer Jacklin has recently announced that the SAW 100 club provided a contribution of £290.00 to our general funds at the financial year end. This is a magnificent achievement, and we hope to entice those who have not already done so to re-join and increase our membership. If you have not submitted your application, **please** do so now. Spare funding is invaluable to the Association as it makes new exciting projects possible, in addition to funding ideas put forward by you, our members.

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



Write Down South

It is a delight to report that Write Down South has been a huge success. It was incredibly satisfying to gather together, such a wealth of knowledge and expertise to the town of Dumfries.

Once again, the Council have received completed evaluation forms advising of their overall experience and the reviews are very positive.

Cathy MacPhail inspired everyone with a spirited talk as always and a well reviewed workshop was enjoyed by all. It was indeed an honour to count her amongst the celebrated authors that the Scottish Association of Writers brought to the area along with the poet Rab Wilson, Karen Campbell and Matt Cartney.

A special mention should be given to the Robert Burns Centre for their cooperation on the day and helping make our venue such a success. The caterers, Hullabaloo Restaurant, should not go unnoticed. The food was delicious and the nibbles throughout the morning and afternoon were lovely.

The weather saw everyone at the picnic tables and benches enjoying their lunch, observing the local 'Guid Neighbours Day' with hundreds of horses and riders streaming across the bridge over the River Nith, onwards to the High Street in Dumfries.

Congratulations to our worthy winners:

Poetry:

1 st	Alison Green	A Man with a Purpose
2 nd	Helena Sheridan	The Charity Shop
3 rd	Greta Yorke	The Charge of the Sunflowers

Short Story:

1 st	Rosemary Milne	Lessons in Loss
2 nd	Anthony Watt	Effie's Broach
3 rd	Sam Gates	Fallen Fruit

Annual Conference 2015

**Westerwood Hotel &
Conference Centre,
Cumbernauld,
G68 0EW**

27th to 29th March

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

SHOP

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range of shop items
available for
purchase all year
round, many of which
are branded with our
SAW logo.**

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and visit our web site
www.sawriters.org.uk**



We do not want to forget those who received commended awards and are proud to announce the following:

Poetry:

Evie Corkill	Highland Funeral
John McGlade	In the End
John McGlade	Perpetual Motion
Leslie Holigan	A Lassiers Memories
Catherine Lang	Death is Neutral
Alison Green	Eye Contact
Jack Muir	The Place of Willows

Short Story:

Alison Green	Pandora's Pinwheels
Janice Johnston	Water Babies
Jane Mowat	On a Beach in Dumfries
Barbara Stevenston	A Pound on the Ground.

The Council would like to thank all of our wonderful attendees for their continued support and enthusiasm. The Council hopes to repeat this excellent venue of learning next year. Let us all continue to share in one another's company, knowledge and love of writing together.

Banking

We have now moved our banking services to the Clydesdale bank. Should you require new bank details for standing orders etc, please email Jacklin at pajamurs@btinternet.com and she will be delighted to assist.

Saw Affiliation

Time has come again for clubs to renew their SAW affiliation membership. Application forms can be downloaded from our website and we look forward to receiving your renewal.

Should you know of any writing clubs who are not affiliated to SAW, please let us know and our outreach team will make contact.

We learn, grow and prosper from the knowledge and company of others and the more members we have will serve this very purpose.

SAW AFFILIATION

Once again it is the time for affiliation membership renewals. Please renew today. Your membership is 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.

Caithness Writers

This successful group of nineteen meet every second Monday evening in the town Assembly rooms. Being a relatively new group, in their third year, they have many successful writers among them. With a varied age group ranging from 18 to 75 years, they are delighted to receive members at all levels of writing.



Jean McLennan, an experienced crime-writer (*Blood in the Glens*), novelist Catherine M Byrne (*Follow the Dove* and *The Broken Horizon*) and Alex Kenny (*A Dark Sleep*) have come together with other members of the group to create a crime anthology filled with secrets, murder and mayhem. *Anthology of Caithness Crime Stories* can be purchased on kindle, or for a paperback copy, please contact the members.

Due to the success of this 'not to be missed anthology', another is on its way and should be available this autumn. We look forward to this publication and hopefully many more.

Playwrite, poet and tutor George Gunn, coached a 'Writing for the Media' course in which members Catherine Byrne, David Gunn, Sharon Pottinger and Moira Dearness all took part. Five minute film scripts were filmed and screened in the Thurso cinema. It should be mentioned that Sharon and David received Oscars for their screen play, and we are happy for their success.

The 'baby' of the group is Carys Mainprize and although she is now studying at university, remains part of the fold. She is the only fantasy writer but all have high hopes and she is destined to go far. Margaret Wood, another valued and successful member has had many short stories published in woman's magazines.

Many well known guest speakers have had the pleasure of visiting Caithness Writers. These include Angus Dunn and our very own Michael Malone. An abundance of highly successful workshops have been organised and greatly received with many more enticing events to come. All of this and future events can be found on the Caithness website, www.caithnesswriters.org You can also keep in touch with them on their Facebook page.

Look out for Caithness members at our SAW conference as many of them travel down to be with us along with members from their mini group, Talking Volumes. The conference continues to be a successful stomping ground for Caithness Writers, as they cheer for their members' placement in a wide range of genres. They **NEVER** go home empty handed.



Caithness
Writers

**All Ages and
levels of writers
Welcome**



Caithness
Writers

www.caithnesswriters.org

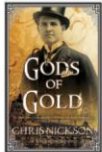


ENHANCE YOUR WRITING IN THE LAKE DISTRICT

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

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& Oct 2014

Kaci Mohand Saoudi

The Guillotine Choice by Michael Malone with Bashir Saoudi, portrays the terrible injustice, physical suffering and psychological cruelty suffered by Kaci Mohand Saoudi, Bashir's father . . . imprisoned on Devil's Island for a crime he did not commit.

Bashir is currently leading a petition in order that the French Government clear his father's name. Should you be interested in helping Bashir in his quest to retract this terrible injustice, please visit and sign:

<http://www.change.org/en-GB/petitions/french-gouvernement-clear-my-father-s-name-and-apologize-for-the-terrible-miscarriage-of-justice>

Finally

Once again, it has been a pleasure to bring this newsletter to you.

Please forward any poems, flash fiction or extracts of work that you would like to share with our wonderful members. We can support, share and encourage one another in this magnificent journey of creativity that completes and unites us.

For me, the help and inspiration that I have received directly and in-directly from our writing community has been invaluable and inspiring. I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all.

And now, I bring our newsletter to a close in the hope that you have enjoyed coming together, sharing and being part of this wonderful association. I look forward to hearing from you and receiving your ideas, thoughts and advice.

Kind regards

Susan McVey
Publicity Officer.

The Guillotine Choice

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 writers 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!



The answer to Last month's conundrum:
Polyunsaturated

Famous First Liners.

Can you name the authors and novels of the following famous first lines?

- (1) It was the day my grandmother exploded.
- (2) It was a bright cold day in April, and the clocks were striking thirteen.
- (3) The sun shone, having no alternative, on the nothing new.
- (4) You better not never tell nobody but God.
- (5) I am a sick man . . . I am a spiteful man.

Wordfit

adverb programme
lullaby administer
marxism terracotta
nautilus chiaroscuro
chemistry establishment