



June 2014

Greetings fellow members and a warm welcome with good wishes from our council. Exciting times are ahead for all within the association and every step is being taken to ensure that you, our clubs and members, get the most from this wonderful writing community to which we belong.

Outreach Team

It is the hope and intention of our outreach team to continue to meet with Clubs in order that opportunities are at the forefront of your thinking. This allows us to explain our ideas and to listen to yours. These visits so far have proven to be successful. By doing this we hope to entice many more clubs into becoming affiliated, expanding our association and with that, bringing an abundance of success to us all.

Events

Please leave a space in your diary for upcoming events – Write down South, 21st June in Dumfries on the Summer Solstice and Write up North, 25th October in Inverness. The deadlines for the Write Up North in Inverness competitions coincide with the Autumn Equinox on the 21st of September 2014. Further details can be found on our website, <http://www.sawriters.org.uk> on the competition and news pages or contact one of our council members who will be delighted to answer any questions you may have.

SAW 100 Club

Many thanks to our SAW 100 members for continuing to support this venture. Congratulations to our recent prize winners:

Mary Johnston from Edinburgh Writers claimed the prize in March. April saw Isobel Watt from Greenock Writers take the winnings and well done to Lesley Deschner from Liter Eight Writers who was our May Winner.

Could you be the lucky winner in June? Remember, the more members we have in the SAW 100 club, the bigger the prize. Download our membership forms today so you don't miss out!

Not to Be Missed!!

Write Down South

A stimulating writer's event at the Robert Burns Centre, Dumfries

21st June 2014

9:30 am – 4:00 pm

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 Linda Brown



Linda lives in Newmilns, Ayrshire with her husband, two sons and daughter. Being a highly motivated member of Ayr Writers Group, Linda impressed us all by achieving first place in the Book Review category and third place in Flash Fiction, this being her first ever conference in March.

Previous publications include articles in the Scottish Memories Magazine and The Scottish Book Trust's Treasures book.

Well done Linda and we look forward to hearing more from you in future newsletters.

Future Meets

Should you have a member in your club who you think deserves some well earned recognition, please email susanscribes@gmail.com. Include a picture (optional) and their details with a note of their accomplishments and we will be delighted to highlight their achievements and congratulate them on their success.

We would like to hear more from you and what you would like to be included in 'your newsletter'. If you have a flash fiction or a poem that you wish to share with all members, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

In addition, should you have any club announcements that you wish us to promote, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

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



Forres Writers Group

A special mention should go to ForWORDS who now have a membership of eighteen, due to an increase of seven new members in the last year.

They meet weekly in the somewhat cramped boardroom of the British Legion. The best feature of this room (discounting the glass cabinet with its slightly dusty collection of plastic flower arrangements) is the large table around which between ten and twelve members regularly meet.

The membership covers a wide age range with a wider range of style and genre, with probably more poets than prose writers, although the balance has changed recently. Amongst the group, there are some established authors. Jane Yeadon has had three novels published by Black and White Press, all spirited and amusing memoirs of her days as a nurse. She is currently working on her fourth which will be memories of the crofting life. Jane's website: www.janeyeadon.co.uk

Eileen Carney-Hulme who has recently joined, has two collections under her belt, '*Stroking the Air*,' Bluechrome 2005 and '*The Space Between Rain*,' Indigo Dreams Publishing 2010. Eileen has won many prizes and has been included in several anthologies. Eileen's website: www.freewebs.com/eileencarneyhulme

Helen Addy, another accomplished young poet, has had poems published in an impressive list of well-known magazines and was runner-up both in the BBC Proms Poetry Competition and the National Galleries Scotland Writing Competition 2013 – 2014.

Helen, Andy Allan and Tez Watson read some of their work in FM Radio, SHMU, in October 2013.

Several more have achieved success and acceptance in the world of writing. Between the members, they have had more than fifty three poems and short stories published in the last sixteen months. The success of each person encourages all and so they raise a cheer (and sometimes a glass in the bar downstairs) when someone has a new triumph to announce.

Three workshops were organised in March with visiting lecturers. These were open to the public and people from two other local groups joined to learn from Kate Davidson about writing for screen and stage; from Chris Powici who offered tips and help with writing of poetry; Moira Forsyth of Sandstone Press who gave clear and detailed advice on writing a novel and what a publisher looks for in a synopsis. During an extremely pleasant weekend retreat in the Cairngorms, Alan Bissett joined the group for an afternoon to share his valued insights on producing gripping drama.

You can follow the Forres Writers group on twitter at [forWORDS@forwordsforres](https://twitter.com/forWORDS@forwordsforres).



**Follow
ForWORDS on
twitter :
forWORDS@for
wordsforres**

**The Forres
Writers Group,
British Legion
Committee
Room,
Sanquhar Road,
Forres**

**ALL LEVELS
WELCOME**

**ALL AGES
WELCOME**



Evaluation Forms

Many thanks to everyone who took time to complete the Evaluation Forms, as more were received this year than in 2013.

Westerwood Hotel and the programme were highly praised throughout. Our alternative programme proved to be a success with many suggestions on how we might further improve its layout.

The Dragon's Pen proved popular and all workshops were well received. Well done to our own Jen Butler who gave an awe-inspiring, nail biting pitch to the Dragons and in doing so, was awarded first place. Congratulations to all who were placed and participated, as you helped to make its debut a grand success.

Perhaps the most encouraging outcome was the vast pouring out of ideas for the future. You, our members continue to prove why you are the Associations' most valuable resource. Many of the ideas were truly inspiring which the Council will take into consideration.

Many thanks to all who took the time to share their thoughts.

Finally



I hope you have enjoyed this edition of our newsletter as much as I have enjoyed bringing it to you.

My name is Susan McVey and I am a member of The Federation of Writers (Scotland), The Writers Umbrella and the Largs Writers Group. My dream is to become a successful author with a string of 'Young Adult' novels to my name. I live in Crosshands in Ayrshire with my long suffering husband Martin and our two teenage children, Rebekah and Sam.

I would be grateful for any ideas that you have for future editions, any information that you want to include or simply some words of advice that you may have.

Please feel free to email susanscribes@gmail.com at any time. I look forward to hearing from you.

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.

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!



Word Conundrum
(Fix the letters to make the correct word)

SPDYOLAERTNAUT

Word Search

SCOTTISH

ASSOCIATION

WRITERS

BOOK

COMPETITION

CONFERENCE

PROSE

POEM

STORY

AUTHOR

PUBLISHED

FAMOUS

DRAFT

FICTION

DRAMA

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