



Welcome to our first edition for 2008 of the online Newsletter for The Australian Storytelling Guild (NSW) Inc. Happy New Year!

2008 promises to be an exciting and dynamic year for storytellers, kicking off with our first meeting of the year on the 16th of February.

Saturday 16th February

Join us at the Guild's first meeting and workshop for the year at the NSW Writers' Centre in Rozelle.

Program for the day:

09.30 Meet and greet

10.00 President's welcome and news including introduction to the Story Recipe Book Project for 2008

10.15 First Storytelling Circle – come and share your stories with the group. This is your first opportunity to tell a food related story – can be funny, disastrous, embarrassing – and don't forget the recipe! We will have similar sessions throughout the year which will culminate in November in the Guild's own recipe book.

11.00 Morning tea

11.15 Indigenous storytelling workshop day "Let's have a yarn" – with **Fran Dobbie**

Fran is a well known author, educator and highly respected Aboriginal Elder.

12.30 Lunch – BYO and something to share if you'd like

13.30 Workshop continues

14.45 Afternoon tea

15.00 Workshop continues

16.00 Close

If you would like to receive Fran's handouts from the day, **registrations need to be received by Sue Alvarez no later than Wednesday 13th February 2008.** Sue can be contacted on 9977 0331.

Costs for the day: Members - \$25; Non-members - \$30; Students/Conc - \$10. Morning session only - \$10.

Thank you to John Hockney for the generous donation of a PA system to the Guild. This enables us to commence an **open mike session at all our storytelling events!**

Upcoming Storytelling Events

Saturday 9th February

Tales and Tunes at the Trust at 1pm at the Norman Lindsay Gallery, Faulconbridge. If you'd like to tell, please contact Jo Henwood at jo7hanna@optusnet.com.au.

Sunday 10th February

"Storytelling" K Street Productions Straight simple storytelling at its best – raw, real and honest. Real people tell true stories of their own lives. Starts 8pm at Darlinghurst Theatre, 19 Greenknowe Avenue, Potts Point. Cost \$18. Bookings at theatre 9331 3107. Storytellers include Daniel Rooney, Steve Brogan, Michael Costello and Michael Mattick.

K Street Productions are keen to audition experienced storytellers who specialise in telling their personal experiences. Enquiries 0422 514 052.

Sunday 17th February

Tales and Tunes at the Trust at 1pm at the Vienna Cottage, Hunters Hill. If you'd like to tell, please contact Jo Henwood jo7hanna@optusnet.com.au

Saturday 23rd February

Tales and Tunes at the Trust at 1pm at Experiment Farm Cottage, Harris Park. If you'd like to tell, please contact Jo Henwood jo7hanna@optusnet.com.au

Friday 29th February

Trivia night – joint initiative between the Guild and K Street Productions. This brand new concept is aimed at combining the art of storytelling with the social element of a fun and exciting trivia night. Tables are for ten people and cost \$10 a head. 8pm start at The Occidental Hotel 43 York Street, Sydney. Get your friends together and book a table or your place under the Guild's name by emailing kstreetproductions@gmail.com or call 0422 514 052.

Link Up

The Guild is linking up with two members (Kathy and Michel Guerts) to sponsor them in the Southern Highlands 2008 Relay For Life which will be held on 1st March. Funds raised through Relay For Life are spent on cancer research, education, support services and advocacy. There will be a donation box at the next meeting. Please support this worthy cause.

Play Back Theatre

Play Back Theatre is spontaneous, interactive, improvised storytelling. It is theatre created through the collaboration between performers and audience. Next performance is **Sunday 24th February** and the theme is "In a land, far away". Performances are held on the last Sunday of each month at 5pm. Newtown Theatre, cnr King and Bray Streets, Newtown. Cost: Adults \$20/Concessions \$17.

Listen Up

New initiative with Coast FM 96.3 instigated by our member **Howard Bell**. Monthly spot on Central Coast radio, Friday nights 8pm – 10pm. Storytellers opportunity last Friday of each month – a 45 minute slot for interview and story on the theme of "Bridging Gaps" between generations, cultures, social justice issues and so on. Presented by Peter Cooper. Jo Henwood featured on Friday 25th January, Friday 29th February features Julie Mundy-Taylor and Errol McDonald on Friday 28th March. Central Coast Community FM Radio Association Inc, 139 Faunce Street, Gosford. Any storytellers wishing to participate/put their name down for future sessions, please contact Jo Henwood at jo7hanna@optusnet.com.au. The Guild has plans to obtain recordings of these sessions and compile them on to a CD for future use.

Sunday 16th March

St Patrick's Day Special at 1pm at Vienna Cottage, Hunters Hill. **'Irish Stories for both Children and Adults** (con-current sessions, so whilst the Children are listening and joining in, the Adults can be entertained too). There will be Irish Music and Community singing, and Leprechauns are sure to appear from time to time!

Admission by Donation

There is an "open mike" section for both Children and Adults, so come along and tell your favourite Irish Story, Poem, Joke, Song, or Dance an Irish Jig. Featuring the fabulous Flanagan family and friends – a treat not to be missed! If you'd like to tell, please contact Sue Alvarez on 9977 0331

URGENT – STORYTELLER MAGAZINE DEADLINE – 18th FEB 08

If you wish to contribute to the members' page or articles that you've written, please send them by 18th February 2008 to our Magazine Editor, Marion Nicholson at marion@uproar.com.au or by post to PO Box 1505 Strawberry Hills NSW 2012.