

# Coffs Harbour Writers' Group



*Established September 1986*

**Affiliated with the Northern Rivers Writers Centre**

## **April 2014 Newsletter** No 269

PO Box 1953, Coffs Harbour 2450 [www.coffsharbourwriters.com](http://www.coffsharbourwriters.com)



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### **Committee Members**

<b>President:</b>	Lorraine Mouafi 6653 3256 <a href="mailto:lmproject@bigpond.com">lmproject@bigpond.com</a>
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### **Greetings,**

Welcome to the April newsletter. I'm your new Newsletter editor with difficult shoes to fill, coming in after the very knowledgeable Ron Marke. However it is **your** newsletter, **our** newsletter so it is up to all of us to make it full of useful information, a catchy read and well expressed. We will continue to include contributions from our writers and news of competitions. We would also like to include a writing exercises corner where we can hone our skills, a table of interesting websites, and absolutely all the details of any events coming up that are a 'must see' or 'must be there' for our writers. We have a good established timetable with our meetings on the first Thursday of the month and our social mornings on the third Thursday of the month so let's aim to have all contributions to the newsletter to me at [leonie@henschke.net.au](mailto:leonie@henschke.net.au) or hand over any hard copy by, or at, the social morning. Keep a look out for what we all can share. *Leonie Henschke*

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## What's on in April?

**3 April 2014** 10.30 am - 12.30 pm Writers' Group monthly meeting Coffs Ex Services Club

**10 April 2014** 5.15 pm – 8.00pm Writers Group evening workshop with Rosalie Skinner, E publishing, Coffs Harbour Library (register with Karolyn Gibson)

**17 April 2014** 10.00 am – 12 noon Writers Group Social meeting, Sawtell Nursery JJs Café, Hogbin Drive near the Sawtell Fire Station

**25 April 2014** Dorrigo Grassroots Writers Weekend (register at next meeting or directly with the organisers) – more information later in newsletter

*And coming up soon...*

**1 May 2014** 1.30 – 3.30 pm Writers Group workshop with Leonie Henschke, Character Development and Dialogue, Coffs Ex Services Club (register with Karolyn Gibson)

**31 May – 1 June 2014** Yamba Writers Festival

**7 – 9 June 2014** Bellingen Readers and Writers Festival

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## From the President...

I would like to congratulate the new committee members who are all listed above. Thank you for taking on those important roles in our group. We were very sorry to see Ron Marke relinquish his position as Newsletter Editor after so many years and acknowledged his contribution in the following way.

### Presentation to Ron Marke

During our Social Coffee Morning at JJ's Café, 20<sup>th</sup> March 2014, Ron Marke was presented with a Gift Certificate in appreciation of all his voluntary duties relating to past Secretary and more recent Editor for the newsletter.

Without having willing members like Ron volunteer his time to the back end of committee work our group wouldn't be the success it is today.

Thanks, Ron. *Lorraine Mouafi*

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**Members write...**

**THOUGHT PROVOKING**

**By Sally Ross**

I thought,  
I sat there and thought,  
I sat there deep in thought,  
I thought about it a lot.

My thought multiplied until I had more,  
I suddenly thought, I had too many thoughts, I thought,  
As I sat there and thought, in my thoughts,  
As I sat there deep in thought, in my deep thoughts,  
As I sat there, I thought about it a lot, I had lots of thoughts,

My thoughts multiplied until I had more,  
I suddenly thought, I had too many thoughts, I thought,  
As I sat there and thought, in my thoughts,  
As I sat there deep in thought, in my deep thoughts,  
As I sat there, I thought about it a lot, I had lots of thoughts,  
I suddenly thought, I had too many thoughts, I thought,  
Just try not to think about it,  
Just try not to think about it.....  
..... I thought.....

*Copyright© Sally Ross 10 March 2008*

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## Practice words!

*A good exercise for a lovely autumn morning, looking after mind and body: Choose a colour. Go for a fifteen-minute walk and notice wherever you see that colour (take notes if you like). When you get back, write about the things you saw. This is a great exercise in observation.*

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## Information round-up

Keep an eye on the following websites for news of competitions, events and workshops:

[www.coffsharbourwriters.com](http://www.coffsharbourwriters.com) (our own!)

[www.coffsharbour.nsw.gov.au/library](http://www.coffsharbour.nsw.gov.au/library)

[www.competitionsforwriters.com](http://www.competitionsforwriters.com)

[www.writerscentre.com.au](http://www.writerscentre.com.au)

[www.nrwc.org.au](http://www.nrwc.org.au) (Northern Rivers Writers Centre)

[www.open.abc.net.au](http://www.open.abc.net.au)

[www.regionalartsnsw.com.au](http://www.regionalartsnsw.com.au)

[www.coffsharbour.nsw.gov.au/our-community/Pages/events-calendar.aspx](http://www.coffsharbour.nsw.gov.au/our-community/Pages/events-calendar.aspx)

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## More on upcoming events and projects

### Grassroots Writers Weekend, Dorrigo High School, 25 – 27 April, 2014

An exciting new Grassroots Writers Weekend will take place in Dorrigo on the ANZAC holiday weekend of Friday 25th April - Sunday 27th April 2014, hosted by The Dorrigo Writers Group. It's only \$25 for the whole weekend plus dinners. Three of our writers will present sessions (Rosalie Skinner, Mhoira Lauer-Patterson and Leonie Henschke) and a number of members have already booked to attend. Cars will be available for carpooling. The program is on our website or you can contact the numbers below. This inaugural event will be packed with high quality writers presenting a wide variety of workshops including a Key Note Address from award-winning author Marele Day. You don't have to be an experienced writer to enjoy these skill-building, fun-filled sessions. That's what the Grassroots Writers' Weekend is all about. So we're being asked to pack up our bags, pick up laptops or pens and head up the mountain for a weekend of inspiration. For bookings: Hamish Mackay [hamishmackay@biodynamics2024.com.au](mailto:hamishmackay@biodynamics2024.com.au). For further information contact: Iris Curteis [an\\_lomall@bigpond.com](mailto:an_lomall@bigpond.com) or 6657 5274 Carol Deane [deane.carol@gmail.com](mailto:deane.carol@gmail.com) or Dee Beech [deebeech@gmail.com](mailto:deebeech@gmail.com)

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## **Anzac Centenary Year Project**

Between 2014 and 2018 Australia will commemorate the Anzac Centenary, marking 100 years since our nation's involvement in the First World War. We're embarking on a virtual written and online project, which will look at how Coffs Harbour and its people were affected by the WW1. If you would like to write something or have an idea, bring your thoughts to the next meeting.

That's all for now. Don't forget, contributions please. Your own stories, book or film reviews, writing exercises...whatever takes your fancy. LH