



Profile

The Gold Coast Writers' Association (GCWA) is a volunteer not-for-profit organisation dedicated to supporting and encouraging writers in the Gold Coast / South-East Queensland / Northern NSW regions. The association was founded in 1990 by Ray and Mary Maclaren and was originally called Writers at the Fair (WATF) as meetings were originally held at Pacific Fair.

We have around 160 members whose interest and skill levels range from 'interested in writing' to successfully published authors. Our members interests cover all writing genres and range in age from youth to elderly with the majority in the mid-range.

Our main income source is our membership fees, supported by raffles and occasional workshops. GCWA has also received several grants in the past from RADF to assist us to present workshops for members on various topics of interest to writers.

Value to the Community

The GCWA are committed to fostering writing across all genres, and encouraging writers of all skill levels. We value creativity, professionalism, cooperation and community involvement.

GCWA activities include providing professional development opportunities for writers, encouraging networking at meetings and functions, improving writing skills through mutual critiques at small sub-group meetings, and assisting promote writing opportunities such as nationwide competitions and writers festivals.

Writers often work in isolation - our aim is to provide various opportunities for writers to meet in person, network, interact and share learning experiences.

Our committee is a hardworking, dedicated team with a 'can do' attitude and a strong desire to assist local writers. The teams skills and experience include legal, accounting, marketing, photography, journalism, website design, project and business management.

Our contribution towards furthering the recognition of writers in the region is significant, including assisting with book launches, book sales, book reviews, marketing and promotion of local writers through our website and social media profiles (FaceBook, Twitter, Meetup and YouTube).

Upcoming Events

Planned events for 2011 include several writing competitions, workshops and a literary luncheon, as well as our regular monthly meetings and writers support group meetings.

GCWA has three competitions planned for 2011:

Creative Artists Competition - a collaborative competition for writers and visual artists

Children's Writing Competition – for ages 7-18

Adult's Writing Competition - four categories: short story, non-fiction, writing for children, and poetry

GCWA will be presenting three workshops in the first half of 2011 (with more to be planned for the second half of the year):

- Writing a novel, speaking to your book and marketing for Authors – Kathy Stewart, Leo Petrik and Jeannie Barker,
- Song of the Soul, answering the call to write – Stephanie Dale
- Writing from the heart of your characters – Deborah Carlyon

Due to the outstanding success of our 20th Anniversary Literary Luncheon - 66 people attending, 7 guest authors including internationally renowned journalist and author David Leser, over \$2,700 worth of prizes given away in raffles and lucky door prizes - the committee has decided to make this an annual event.



Author Katherine Howell and guests at the 2010 Literary Luncheon

The Literary Luncheon provides a unique opportunity for the community to dine with renowned authors in a relaxed informal setting, whilst also enjoying a first class speaker presentation.

The Literary Luncheon also provides businesses with an opportunity to show their support for the literary arts and the local community.

Business Partnership / Sponsorship Benefits

Partnership Benefits Offered

- enhanced corporate image and brand recognition in the community
- cross promotional opportunities on GCWA website, social media pages and promotional material
- access to complimentary tickets for GCWA events
- cultural stimulation, bringing improved staff creativity, vision and morale
- competition naming rights

Partnership Benefits Sought

- long-term financial and in-kind support to assist with updating office equipment and general running costs
- access to wider corporate networking connections leading to mutual promotion
- one-off or on-going financial assistance with cash prizes for competitions
- a permanent meeting venue at low or no cost

Please contact me if you would like to meet to discuss a partnership arrangement or sponsorship opportunities.

Regards

Jeannie Barker

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GCWA Committee

President

Jeannie Barker

Vice President

Angelika Heurich

Secretary

Elena Ornig

Treasurer

Gavin Fisher

Membership Secretary

Christina Jablonski

Publicity Officer

Marion Martineer

Webmaster

Jeannie Barker

Newsletter Editor

Angelika Heurich

Catering Coordinator

Helga Glinatsis

Youth Group Coordinator

Marion Martineer

Speaker Coordinator

Ceresse Gardner

Competition Receiving Officer

Di Morris

Christmas Party

Organiser Caren Sattler

General Members Darryl Greer, Gary Ivory, Caren Sattler, Gloria Swan

Patron and Founder

Mary Maclaren