

NEWSLETTER

MAY / JUNE 2010

Issue 9

WELCOME

This is the ninth Newsletter of Grass Roots Open Writers (GROW).

This is where you will find details of all the activities we have organised and other useful information.

ACCESS

All GROW groups have wheelchair ramps and an accessible toilet. To access the Roosevelt Court Lounge please call '7' on the intercom - or knock on the patio door at the side of the building.

COMMITTEE NEWS

The committee have not met since the last Newsletter.

The next executive committee meeting will be held on:

Wednesday 7th July

from 10.30 - 12.00

in the Roosevelt Court Lounge.

ALL GROW Members are welcome.

MARCH SOCIAL EVENING

We sold 34 tickets for the GROW Social Evening that we organised on Friday 19th March in the Roosevelt Court Residents Lounge.

The evening's entertainment included:

- ★ Jan Hedger reading a selection of work from her new book 'On Calico Wings'
- ★ Magic Tricks performed by Frank Burnham.
- ★ Baroque Music composed and performed by Robert Brandon.
- ★ Short story and poetry readings from many of the GROW members, including Maria Gethin, Bernard Weekes-Lock, Frank Burnham and Sue Rabbett, who all read for the first time.
- ★ A short film called 'Rewind' which was made by GROW members and starred Robert Brandon.
- ★ The Goddess Girls (Su Butchers and Justina) who performed several songs from their new album.

A HUGE thank you to everyone who helped to plan and organise this event, the readers, musicians, performers, the audience, the caterers, the lifters and movers, the cleaners and transport providers and all the residents of Roosevelt Court for allowing us to use their beautiful lounge for the evening.

SUMMER OUTING

We have decided to visit Michelham Priory (one of the most haunted places in Britain) for the GROW summer outing this year. The Priory is in Upper Dicker (near Hailsham) and was founded in 1229 by Gilbert L'aigle and today consists of a furnished manor house, an Elizabethan barn, a cafe, a souvenir shop, pretty herb gardens, a drawbridge, a moat and a gatehouse.

There are also special event days when there are additional displays and activities on offer.

We will be going for the Sussex Guild Contemporary Show on Thursday 5th August, weather permitting.

We have decided not to organise a group booking so that we can change the date, if the weather is bad. The Contemporary Show is running every day from the 5th to the 8th August.

To reduce travel costs the GROW members who have cars have decided to organise a convoy. They will offer a lift to any GROW member who needs one. Please let us know if you need - or can offer - a lift in the GROW Car-Share Convoy!

PRIORY ADMISSION COSTS

Adult £6.80

Child (5-15) £3.60

Senior Citizen £5.80

Student £5.80

Family (2 adults & 2 children) £17.50

Disabled / Carer £3.60 each

BARBY KEEL ANIMAL SANCTUARY

Pipzedene, Freezeland Lane,
Sidley, Bexhill-on-Sea,
East Sussex, TN39 5JD

www.barby-keel-animal-sanctuary.btik.com

Every Sunday 1st April - 31st October
2pm – 4.30pm

(Weather Permitting)

Join us for refreshments,
ice-creams and home-made cakes
in the outdoor café
Buy books, cards,
ornaments and pet supplies
from the gift shop
and meet all the residents of the
Barby Keel Animal Sanctuary.

Barby Keel welcomes
Well-Behaved Children & Dogs!

Please contact GROW
if you need - or can offer - a lift.

GROW BEACH PARTY

Meet on the west end of Bexhill Beach (opposite St Lucia Flats) on Monday 26th July, weather permitting, from 4pm until the full moon rises - or we get cold!

We'll be ordering pizzas at 6pm or you can bring your own picnic, if you prefer.

Friends & Family welcome.

WEBSITE DEVELOPMENT

There is a new page in our website called 'GROW Together' which will hopefully make it easier for our members to participate in our group activities.

The Writing Submission Form makes it possible for our members to submit their writing through the GROW website. The form can be accessed through the 'Group and Homework Exercises' in the Calendar and also from the 'Gallery.'

Membership Application Form. This can be used for both new membership applications and renewals.

Skill Sharing Form. Another new feature so our members can let us know of the skills and knowledge that they have and could share with us. We are a very modest lot and often keep our talents hidden when they could be put to good use instead!

Book Order Form. Order copies of GROW Publications from the 'Books' section of our website!

Join the GROW Mailing List. We finally have a facility so our website visitors can sign up to receive email updates and newsletters.

GROW FILM NIGHT

Come and watch a film with GROW.

Please bring nibbles to share.

Friday 25th June 7 – 10pm
in the Roosevelt Court Lounge.

2011 GROW CALENDAR

The theme for the 2011 Calendar is 'Animal Kingdom.' Submissions can be in any form or style, poetry or prose but should be no more than 20 lines or 200 words. Please send us your writing through the new Writing Submission Form and select 'Animal Kingdom' in the Gallery Section. The deadline for calendar submissions is 31st October 2010.

REFLECTION

The submissions deadline for creative writing, corner-borders, cover-designs, photographs and illustrations is 31st May 2010. The Reflection Cover Designs that have been submitted so far can be viewed in the website Gallery. An online Voting Form will be available from 1st - 30th June 2010 and the winning cover design will be announced on the 1st July 2010.

THE FED WRITING FESTIVAL

Saturday 6th November 2010

Faraday House

Old Gloucester Street

Holborn, London,

9.30am - 9.30pm

GROW is hiring a minibus to attend this event, but we will leave at 6pm, before the performance starts.

The MiniFest Fee is £10 per head for GROW members and this includes all workshops, a buffet style lunch, materials and refreshments.

GROW CALENDAR

All the GROW Group and Homework Writing Exercises (and pdf versions of any handouts we've used) executive committee meetings, social events, term and holiday dates and outings can be found in the GROW Website Calendar.

TheFED Writing Challenges are also included, with links to TheFED's own Website Gallery and online Submission Form. A new Writing Challenge is posted on the first of each month.

The Calendar is updated each week, so if you are unable to come to the groups for any reason you can still participate in all our writing activities.

www.grass-roots-open-writers.btik.com/calendar/all.ikml

FRIDAY GROUP CANCELLED

The Writing, Reading and Performance Group will not be meeting at Roosevelt Court on Friday afternoons 14.00 - 15.00 until the current building works are completed. This is because our members are finding the noise levels too distracting.

The Writing Group will continue to meet at the Children's Library every Tuesday from 10.00 - 12.00.

The Skill-Sharing Group will continue to meet at the Roosevelt Court Lounge every Wednesday from 10.00 - 13.30.

CONTACT GROW

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WEBSITE

www.grass-roots-open-writers.btik.com

TERM DATES

19th April - Term 5 Begins

29th May - 6th June - Holiday*

7th June - Term 6 Begins

26th July - 12th September - Holiday*

13th September Groups Start Back

***There are NO Group Meetings
between these dates***

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

GROW would like to thank:

The staff at Hastings Children's Library
All the residents of Roosevelt Court.

Bernard Weekes-Lock

Jan Hedger

Sue Rabbett

Josie Lawson

The Isabel Blackman Foundation

The Executive Committee

& ALL the GROW members