

NEWSLETTER

April - June

2011

Issue 13

WELCOME

This is the thirteenth 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.

GROW GROUPS

Creative Writing Workshop

Every Tuesday

Hastings Children's Library

Robertson Passage, Hastings

10.00 – 12.00

Skill Sharing Workshop

Every Wednesday

Roosevelt Court Lounge

Stonehouse Drive, St Leonards

10.00 – 13.30

(Call '7' on the intercom and take the right-hand lift to the first floor.)

Both venues have good disabled access with wheelchair ramps and an accessible toilet.

MEMBERSHIP

GROW membership costs £5 per year and is valid from the 1st September 2010 to 31st August 2011.

Both of the GROW groups are very relaxed and friendly. We are always happy to welcome new members and visitors.

COMMITTEE NEWS

The next executive committee meeting will be held on:

Wednesday 6th July 2011

from 10.30 - 12.00

in the Roosevelt Court Lounge.

At this meeting we will be planning future events, making progress reports and discussing current and future creative projects.

ALL GROW members are welcome to attend the committee meetings and are encouraged to get involved with the planning and decision making of the group.

Please do come along, if you can, and share your ideas with us!



Grass Roots Open Writers

PLANNED EVENTS

Pergomano Workshop

Wednesday 18th May 10am – 1.30pm.

Angie Cox will bring the materials and teach us how to do pergamano parchment craft. Learn how to perforate & emboss greeting cards & bookmarks. This promises to be a fun and creative workshop - please come along and give it a try!

Newham Festival of Writing

This will take place in London on Saturday 21st May 2011 from 9.30am - 9pm. It is a full day of writing and performance related workshops, a buffet lunch and an 'open mic' performance evening, organised by Newham Writers. Tickets cost £10 each, and this includes all workshops, materials, welcome pack, lunch and refreshments.

GROW has booked a 17 seater coach to take our members to this event. The coach will leave Roosevelt Court at 7am to arrive at St John's Church in Stratford, London by 9.30am. The coach will leave St John's Church at 6.15pm to arrive back at Roosevelt Court by about 8.45pm.

Barby Keel Animal Sanctuary

Open every Sunday 2 – 4.30pm. Entry & guided tours are free. There is an open-air Tea-Room for refreshments, snacks & ice-creams and a small shop selling gifts, antiques & bric-a-brac.

Please call or text 07932 231491 if you need – or can offer – a lift.

Michelham Priory.*

There are a wide range of special events from May to November, including a medieval fair, open-air theatre productions, the Sussex Guild Craft Fair and a vintage car show.

Standard entry to Michelham Priory costs:

Adult £7.00 Child (5-15) £3.80

Senior Citizen £6.00 Student £6.00

Family (2 adults & 2 children) £18.40

Disabled / Carer £3.80 each.

Some events may cost slightly more.

Bodiam Castle*

Visit to the castle, which has a moat, grounds, a tea room and a gift shop.

Standard entry to Bodiam Castle costs:

Adult £6.10 Child £3.05

Family (2 adults & 2 children) £16.20

Family (1 adult & 2 children) £10.10

Bodiam Boat Trip (optional) 90 Minutes.

Bodiam – Newendon - Bodiam

Return Fare Adult £10.00 Child £6.00

**Dates and Times to be confirmed.*

GROW Social Events

(friends & family also welcome)

GROW get-together in the White Rock Hotel on Monday 9th May 2011.

GROW Summer Beach Party. Meet at 4pm on the beach at the West end of Bexhill Promenade on Friday 15th July (weather permitting.)

2011 GROW Projects

DREAMS (2011 ANTHOLOGY)

The deadline for ALL submissions to the 'Dreams' anthology is 31st July 2011. (cover designs, creative writing, photographs, voice recordings, music, films, animations and border art.)

GROW CALENDAR (2012)

The writing can be in any form or style, poetry or prose. The deadline for ALL Calendar submissions (creative writing and border art) is 31st October 2011.

January - 'Peace'

February - 'Love'

March - 'Joy'

April - 'Hope'

May - 'Faith'

June - 'Kindness'

July - 'Trust'

August - 'Friendship'

September - 'Patience'

October - 'Wisdom'

November - 'Gratitude'

December - 'Generosity'

FUND-RAISING

Our grant applications (to buy a laser printer and an extra set of laser-jet cartridges) have both been successful. We have received a total of £417.95 - £300 from the Hastings Lions Club and £117.95 from the Isabel Blackman Foundation.

WEBSITE

The GROW website address is:

www.grow.btck.co.uk

The GROW GroupSpace address is:

www.groupspaces.com/GROW

CONTACT GROW

Email Address:

grass.roots.open.writers@gmail.com

Phone / Text: (07932) 231491

TheFED NEWS

TheFED website address is:

<http://www.thefed.btck.co.uk>

Writing Challenge

TheFED Writing Challenge theme for April 2011 is 'Heroes & Villains' and the theme for May 2011 is 'Cut to the Bone'.

Writing can be factual, fictional, poetry or a short story and in any form or style.

All entries will be displayed on TheFED website and may also be featured in future TheFED publications and anthologies.

2011 Festival of Writing

This event will take place at Faraday House in Holborn, London on Saturday 5th November 2011.

TheFED needs volunteers to run workshops and help with publicising and promoting the event. If you can help, please email John Malcomson at:

johnmalcomson@blueyonder.co.uk

SURVIVORS POETRY

GROW is a member of the Survivors Poetry Network (for survivors of mental distress)

The Spring 2011 edition of 'Poetry Express' can be downloaded from their website.

<http://www.survivorspoetry.com>

The next deadline for submissions is the 1st June 2011.

DEVELOPMENT

GROW has been asked to run a regular writing workshop at the new Centre for people on the Autistic Spectrum in Hastings.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

GROW NEWSLETTER

Would anyone be interested in helping to produce the next GROW Newsletter?

The newsletter is produced every three months and the next one will cover the period from July to September.

Help will be given with formatting, content and layout. We will be using Open Office Writer (a word-processing program that can be downloaded for free from <http://www.openoffice.org>)

FUND-RAISING

We need to raise the money to pay for a coach to take us to the next TheFED Writing Festival on 5th November 2011.

If you can help with writing funding applications please let us know.

If you have any other fund-raising ideas please come along to the next committee meeting to discuss them.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

GROW would like to thank:

- All the staff at the Hastings Children's Library.
- All the residents of Roosevelt Court.
- The Hastings Lions Club
- The Isabel Blackman Foundation
- Pat Weaver
(Community Accountant at HVA)
- Josie Lawson
(Founder & Editor of EBB & FLOW – The New Voice)
- The GROW Executive Committee.
- And ALL the GROW members who continue to support the group and come to the workshops and meetings.

TERM DATES

9th April - 24th April – Holiday *

25th April - Term Begins

28th May - 5th June – Holiday *

6th June - Term Begins

23rd July - 4th September – Holiday *

31st July - 'DREAMS' Deadline

5th September - Term Begins

31st October - 2012 Calendar Deadline

***There are NO GROW Groups meeting between these dates!**