Feature Article

Stream Poetry into Pantoum

Kristina Jensen

I have come across something that works really well for me as a poet and I am sure that others use it as a method to a means and will have comments to add. Often the words, ideas, images and connections are coming out of my mind and heart so fast that I cannot stop to sort any of them out into sentences or stanzas or structures, so I write them down in what I call The Stream (I have read of it referred to as ‘stream of consciousness’ or ‘no punctuation’ writing).

I write with little or no attention to grammar unless it finds its way in there and make no breaks in the flow. I just go on until I’m finished or until what I call the ‘flab’ is all there. Then I study it for a while and begin separating the words into lines in a fairly natural way, each metaphor or simile, each idea or image, without trying to be too witty or smart in a forced literary sort of way. I begin to weed and sort and add and subtract. I chop away at the flab until the bare bones of the poem emerge and then the real creating takes place. I begin to see the essence of my original idea or image sharpening itself on the whetstone of simplicity.

Sometimes the Stream looks good as a stream. I leave those ones. Perhaps that is just what they were meant to be, flowing on through the database of my computer like a river of universal thought, or maybe some other day they will change form and become shorter, more precise and real poems (ha).

I have been using some of the exercises in the back of Bill Manhire’s collection, Mutes and Earthquakes, which outlines many of the exercises he uses with his students at Victoria University. It’s fun to play around with a poem I thought was finished, apply one of his ideas such as the structure of a pantoum (see below), and come up with something very surprising and satisfyingly new (for me). I realized that I could become a little smug and attached to My Own Style as a poet/ writer and as I’m only beginning (aren’t we all on some level of humility and/or humanity), I feel that it’s important for me to have a go at reorganizing my thoughts and ideas in ways that take me out of my comfort zone and gather new skills in the process.

Here is an example of a poem that I took apart and played around with to create a pantoum, originally a Malay form, Europeanised by 19th century French writers. A pantoum is “like a snake with its tail in its mouth” as Manhire puts it. The lines are repeated in a systematic way: the second and fourth lines of one stanza become the first and third lines of the following stanza and so on until, in the last stanza, the first and third lines of the first stanza appear again in reverse order as the second and fourth lines, thus ending with the same opening line. An example given in the book is ‘Otari’ by Louise Wrightson which appeared in Metro [and Big Weather: Poems of Wellington selected by Greg O’Brien & Louise White – Ed.]
This is how I changed my poem, ‘Waterfall’, to create a pantoum. Initially I did this for fun, just to see what it would be like, and ended up really liking the way it created more of a continuous flow in the words, like a stream babbling its way to the sea, almost returning in a way to something like the initial Stream of ideas.

The Stream

Listen we are being called by the water an old woman welcomes us onto her green moss marae we go slowly hearing her song calling us to join its not always the same this sound I have been here when its rushing torrents and now a quiet reflective flow green glow of the trees and moss and falling listening to falling songs

Waterfall #1

We are being called by water
Fluid kuia, flowing form of karanga
Let your ears delicately
Weigh the sound of water
All ways run to the joining
No matter what the obstacles
Her liquid voice on green moss
Calls us

Waterfall #2

We are being called by water
It is a flowing form of karanga
Let your ears delicately seek
Weighing the sound of falling

It is a flowing form of karanga
Each drop sings into our minds
Weighing the sound of falling
All ways running to the joining

Each drop sings into our minds
No matter what the obstacles
All ways running to the joining
The joy and urgency for union

No matter what the obstacles
Fluid kuia, long hair flowing
The joy and urgency for union
Her liquid voice on green moss

Fluid kuia, long hair flowing
Let your ears delicately seek
Her liquid voice on green moss
We are being called by water

From the Acting Editor

By Anna Hudson

With Laurice off having adventures on the sunny side of the planet the pleasure of editing this month’s edition of *a fine line* has fallen to other members of your NZPS Committee.

I’ve been involved with NZPS for about 2 years now and it is very rewarding to see our society constantly growing and adapting to meet the needs of the Poetry Community.

Last year saw the second National Poetry Conference held at the National Library in Wellington. Moving forward this will be a bi-yearly event with planning for the 2017 conference in Auckland well under way. Gus Simonovic, who many of you will know, is the NZPS representative on the Conference Committee. Gus is taking a lead role on developing a programme of NZPS events around the country and supporting the Conference is a major element of this work.

The Society’s FaceBook page (www.facebook.com/NewZealandPoetrySociety) has proven to be a wonderful tool for getting our story out to the wider Poetry community. We have over 800 followers and the numbers are constantly growing. Members who would like to become contributors on the FaceBook page can email info@poetrysociety.org.nz to find out how.

The NZPS website is another important tool for communicating with and about our members. We know this is one of the key benefits of membership and we are currently looking at ways of improving the site to make it more visually appealing and easier to use.

Finally planning for the AGM is underway with possible dates being considered in August/September.

Congratulations

To Ernest Berry, a member of the NZPS who was awarded a commendation in the *A Little Haiku* contest.

To Vaughan Rapatahana, a frequent contributor to *a fine line*, whose latest collection *Atonement* has been nominated for a National Book Award in the Phillipines. NZPS has a copy available for review.
About our contributors

Julie Daymond-King
Julie Daymond-King lives in Helensville and is a retired ex-lots-of-things.

Mariela Durnhofer
Mariela Durnhofer Rubolino works as a diversional therapist for a Retirement Village, coordinating events and activities for the elderly - Poetry corner is one of her favorite ones. At home, in the company of her kids, she enjoys translating English-Spanish literature and writing poetry. Philosophy, mythology and yoga are part of her personal passions and interests. She has a bachelor degree in Communication Sciences from the University of Buenos Aires.

Anna Hudson
Anna is a Wellington based poet and writer who lives in Island Bay with her partner and semi-feral cat.

Kristina Jensen
Kristina Jensen lives on a boat with her painter husband and 6 year old son. They love playing with Blu Tack and Lego, do lots of wrestling and make up crazy words like squachela.

Valentina Teclici
Valentina Teclici was born in Romania in 1952. In 1999, she obtained a PhD in Sociology at the University of Bucharest, with a theme about street children. She immigrated to New Zealand in 2002 and became a New Zealand citizen in 2006. She lives in beautiful and sunny Napier with her husband Robert Anderson and their two cats. She has two daughters, two sons in law, two step children and four grandchildren who live in Wellington. Valentina loves long walks on the beach, on the hills and gardening. She is a great ambassador of Romanian food here in New Zealand.

She has published sociology work and more than 10 books of poetry and stories for children and poems in Romanian, French and English. She has poems published in many Romanian journals and anthologies and also in Voices of Israel (2014) anthology. Her book for children De la noi din gradinita (From our Kindergarten) was awarded a national prize. Valentina has been a member of the Romanian Writers Union since 1993. She joined the Hawkes Bay Live Poets in 2013 and she and her husband have been regular members since. She is currently working on a bilingual collection involving poets from Romania and New Zealand.

Cherry Hill
Cherry Hill is a retired teacher of Chinese and Japanese languages.

She is a partner on a deer and sheep farm on the edge of Lake Ellesmere/ Te Waihora.

Opportunities

Sixth Caselberg International Poetry Prize, 2016

The Caselberg Charitable Trust
Judge: Vincent O'Sullivan
First Prize $500, Second Prize $250, and up to 5 Highly-Commended
For information on how to enter, please go to www.caselbergtrust.org
Competition open 1 June to 31 July 2016

The Live Canon 2016 International Poetry Competition

Deadline 12th September. 1st Prize £1000. Previous winners include Andrew McMillan, Tessa Foley, Kirsten Irving, Inua Ellams and Lesley Saunders.

25 shortlisted poems will be published in our 2016 prize anthology, and performed by the Live Canon Ensemble at our prize giving event at Greenwich Theatre on Sunday 20th November 2016.

We are absolutely honoured that Lorraine Mariner has agreed to be our guest judge this year.

The overall winner will be announced at the event and receive £1000. There is also a £100 prize for the highest placed entry by a local writer, living working or studying in the London Borough of Greenwich.

There is an entry fee of £6 for a single poem, £15 for three poems and £20 for five poems. This goes towards the cost of running the competition, publishing the anthology and any excess goes to our fundraising campaign for workshops with young people in schools and libraries.

Enter via the website:
http://www.livecanon.co.uk/poetry-competition

Nebulous- Call for Submissions

Reading period is from 1st July to 1st September for the first Issue of the quarterly lit mag centering around the theme of mental illness and anguish.

Nebulous is a new literary magazine based in Melbourne. We are calling for submissions of poetry and fiction that explores the theme of Mental Illness and suffering for Issue One. We accept all styles as long as the theme is explored somehow. Although we are looking for fiction and poetry that explore mental illness, it does not necessarily have to be written by people that experience it first hand. We love genuine writing that explores the dark place.

Take a look at our website to see what we're about and find out how to submit
https://nebulousmag.submittable.com/submit
Cookham 2017 Festival Stanley Spencer Poemetry Competition | Closing Date: 30-Sep-16

The Cookham Festival has teamed up with The Stanley Spencer Gallery, The University of Reading and Two Rivers Press to organise an international poetry competition on the theme of Stanley Spencer: his work, his life, his themes, influences or beliefs. First prize £2500 plus 2 runner up prizes of £500. All short listed works will be published by Two Rivers Press in an anthology. Poems must not exceed 54 lines.

Entry Fee: £10 for each entry.

Contact: For entry and more information see: http://www.cookhamfestival.org.uk/

Ouse Washes Poetry Competition | Closing Date: 12-Aug-16

Running as part of Ouse Fest 2016, the competition is looking for poems responding to the landscape, wildlife and heritage of the Ouse Washes, an area at the heart of the Cambridgeshire and Norfolk fens. Judge: Clare Best. There are three prizes up for grabs in the form of book tokens worth £100 (first prize), £50 (second prize) and £25 (third prize). The deadline is Friday 12th August. Winning entries will be published online and in the autumn edition of The Fenland Reed.

Entry Fee: £0

The Ballymaloe International Poetry Prize 2016 | Closing Date: 31-Dec-16

Prizes: 1st prize 10,000 Euro, plus 3 prizes of 1,000 Euro for each of the shortlisted poems. For an unpublished poem of any length. The four winning poems will appear in the spring issue of The Moth. Judged by Deborah Landau.

Entry Fee: £12

Contact: See: www.themothmagazine.com/a1-page.asp?ID=8010&page=13

Plate in the Mirror
Bring your Verse to the Table

In 2016, Printable Reality in association with NZ Poetry Society, invites you to submit your poems for a poetry competition and publication.

The Competition is open to all styles of poetry and all poets, all ages and cultural backgrounds. International entries are welcome. The closing date of the competition is midnight Sunday 31st July 2016 (NZ time).

Competition judge Vivienne Plumb

Member Poems

Eden Garden
by Julie Daymond-King

In a break I’ve come to Eden Garden
for silence and sunshine, but there are tourists
incomprehensibly gabbling like stroppy birds
and the light is sharp in a converted quarry.

If Adam’s still around, he’s the one who’s
cut back all the plants, or maybe that bloke
backing round the place with a video camera,
panning and muttering inaudibly.

But Eve’s long gone of course, I’ve been
with her at the book festival where
one hundred and fifty mainly Pakeha
women in long pants laughed at “scrotums”.

Alas I fear I am the foreigner,
and as I take my leave I find
I dare not open my mouth for gagging
on spouts of insects storming at the gates.

Corpus Hermeticum
by Mariela Durnhofer

Corpus hermeticum,
a failure to understand the silent hermeneuts in life
and death.

Hermes wisdom
gives name to the key mistery locked in the rigid
trinity.

For he is not asleep nor dead
just because he has closed himself to this world.

Hermetic,
the body may finally reveal
its truth, a hidden place.

Rigid, imperturbable and
inaccesible to the doxa,
very few have dare.

Feeding the dogs at night
by Cherry Hill

Is the moon
jealous of the sun,
fed up with being the one
who follows,
bright in its own way
but less bright

aware

there’s fewer people
out and about
to see its beauty in the night,
and in the city, that beauty
is often over-shadowed
by neon lights, and all,
that is lit with electricity...

Think of the eternal family strife
Mother feeling guilty
all her life, trying to reassure,

Of course he’s big
and very bright
but remember
he’s always the same.
Who but a moon
can wax and wane?

Just two bewildered dogs
by Cherry Hill

Just two bewildered dogs
and me

looking up at the greens
and blue

and the starling
shooting through
like a black javelin

a straw in its beak
on its way to create
devastation

under the eaves,
a pest that keeps things
in perspective.

**Landmark**
*by Cherry Hill*

Noise disturbs perfection
What's that? Chainsaw,
the Lombardy poplar,

they're cutting it down.
That'd be right
An innocuous little phrase

but

the scorn imbued
by a flat tone
of voice

a lifted eyebrow
or shoulder

a movement
of the head

cannot be conveyed
by pen on paper
brush on silk

chisel on rock
or fingers on computer.

**Feeling What a Tree Feels**
*by Valentina Teclici*

All these colours:
yellow, brown, golden, red, rusty green
celebrate the leaves
after they lose their tender green
at the end of their lives.

All these colours
fall and weave a carpet
on the chest of the ground
for you, to quietly step
and enjoy the memories of your seasons
when you felt loving and alive.

Sometimes, your senses
are sharp like a knife.
You may come across a place
where the colours scent
like an orchard, or your childhood,
your first love,
or the death of your parents.

The joy and sorrow
build bridges between
all these places.
The shapes, colours and scents
seem meaningful and peaceful
like the colourful leaves under your feet.

The lights and shadows
of your memories
unite and separate
the places to their reflection.
It is hard for you to really learn
which place is real, which one a projection.

But deep, in your heart
you certainly know that
the places of your journey were perfect
for the perfect reasons
and you feel what a tree feels
loosing yellow, brown, golden,
or red leaves with no regrets.

**I Dreamt I Was...**
*by Valentina Teclici*

Last night I dreamt I was a bird
With clear wings like hope.
I was the colour of longing
And the energy of desire.

Flying, my wings were touching
The keys to the Abyss
I felt the freedom of being
Willpower, deed and action
To touch the Absolute with my flight.

Last night I dreamt I was a bird
Playing the piano of the Abyss
In her fiery flight to Nothingness.

At daybreak, while stretching my wings,
I told myself
'It was only a dream.
I dreamt I was a woman with wings,
Learning from birds
The freedom of being.’


Pygmalion
by Valentina Teclici

Like Pygmalion, I carved
The meaning of my life in the azure of faith.
I adjusted my feelings
With the violin blue chisel
Until they became trill
In the moon’s flute.

With the white wing chisel
I carved the black cross
Of everything I believed was given to me
So the roses faded peacefully.
With the grey chisel of water clock
I carved hopes
Until they sang green songs
In the light’s nest
And poems blossomed on the field.

With the granite black chisel
I carved the day from the past
When the sunset ran before the sunrise
And night reigned like a queen.
With the fire red chisel
I carved the day in the future

When Galateea was born
And my life became a burning torch
Igniting the path of thousands of poems
Felt and unexpressed.


Reviews

Cinema.
Helen Rickerby (Makaro Press, 2014) ISBN 978 0 473 27648 5

by Anna Hudson

The poetry of Helen Rickerby’s *Cinema* is as broad and free as the eclectic mix of big screen productions from which it draws inspiration. It is a perfectly paced memoir that takes the reader on a journey through poetic vignettes based around the theme of cinema.

The works are immediately accessible with an often whimsical element that belies the artistry of imagery such as:

```
and I’ve never before seen a boy run backwards
or tea pouring itself
Up into the pot
```

These are for the most part intimate poems with their own unique form however there are themes and repetitions that glue the work together. Poems about the lives of the poet’s friends as directed by famous directors is one such motif scattered through the collection. My personal favourite being the highly amusing “Brian’s life, as directed by Brian directing director Sergio Leone”:

```
and I’ll be chewing something
straw, a wood chip
whatever you like, it doesn’t really matter
but it shows I’m calm
nonchalant
```

“Coming of Age of New Zealand Film” is another wonderful parody, sure to raise a smile for anyone old enough to remember the gloomy intensity of *Vigil* and other such masterpieces of early New Zealand film.

```
“She may see
One or other
Of her parents
Having sex with the stranger
Maybe through a partially opened doorway
She will probably run away”
```

At times this work could seem light and overly nostalgic, more a collection of clever lines however there are darker and more experimental pieces. “A bell, a
summons, a forest” and “Symbols that make up the breaking girl” being two such works. Even so this is probably not a work for those who read poetry in order to bemoan the misery of man or decipher universal truths from random and obscure references.

In essence Cinema is a love story. About love of cinema, love of poetry, love of good friends and of course true love.

### On the Bookshelf

Books available to review

NZPS has the following books available for review. If you would like to get a great poetry book and contribute to a fine line, email the editor (editor@poetrysociety.org.nz) to find out more.

- Airini Beautrais - Dear Neil Roberts (VUP, 2014)
- Alice Miller - The Limits (AUP, 2014)
- Andrew Strang - Things to Know (Sudden Valley Press, 2014)
- Anna Jackson - I, Clodia, and other portraits (AUP, 2014)
- Art Nahill - A Long Commute Home (Self-published, 2014)
- Chloe Honum - The Tulip-Flame (Cleveland State University Poetry Centre, 2014)
- Cilla McQueen - Edwin's Egg & other poetic novellas (OUP, 2014)
- David Eggleton - The Conch Trumpet (OUP, 2015)
- Eds. Vaughan Rapatahana, Kate Rogers, Madeleine Slack - Outloud Too (mccm creations)
- Fleur Adcock - The Land Ballot (Victoria University Press, 2014)
- Frances Samuel - Sleeping on Horseback (VUP, 2014)
- Harry Ricketts - Half Dark (VUP, 2015)
- Iain Lonie - A Place To Go On From (A collection of poems edited by David Howard - Otago University Press, 2015)
- John O'Connor - whistling in the dark (HeadworX, 2014)
- Julie Leibrich - A Little Book of Sonnets (Steele Roberts, 2013)
- Kay McKenzie Cooke - Born to a red-headed woman (Otago University Press, 2014)
- KERRIN P. Sharpe - There's a Medical Name for This (VUP,2014)
- Kokako 21 - ed Patricia Prime & Margaret Beverland (September 2014)
- Kokako 22 - ed Patricia Prime & Margaret Beverland (April 2015)
- Landfall 229 Ed. David Eggleton (OUP, May 2014)
- Marino Blank - Crimson (Anton Blank Ltd, 2014)
- Marty Smith - Horse with Hat (VUP, 2014)
- Mary Cresswell - Fish Stories (Canterbury University Books, 2015)
- MaryJane Thomson - Fallen Grace (HeadworX, 2014)
- Morgan Bach - Some of us eat the seeds (VUP,2015)
- Robynanne Milford - Aspiring Light (Pukeko Publications, 2015)
- Roger Horrocks - Song of the Ghost in the Machine (VUP, 2015)
- Sally Holmes Midgely - Echo (The Copy Press, 2013)
- Valentina Teclici - From Impossible to Possible (Oscar Print Publishing House, 2013)
Events ~ Around NZ

The Canterbury Poet’s Collective
by James Norcliffe & Marissa Cappetta

The Canterbury Poet’s Collective is certainly one of the longest (most venerable?) facilitators of public poetry readings in New Zealand, heading towards quarter of a century of activity. There would have been few poets of any consequence in New Zealand who have not been invited to read or who will be invited to read, many a number of times.

The mission of the CPC has long been to bring each year distinguished poets from around the country to Christchurch in order for these poets to share their work with a local audience and in turn to meet and hear local poets. This has proved, over many years, to have been a rich and valuable exchange as our visitors will warmly testify.

To this end, the poetry readings are a series of eight weekly events (now in spring) with a confirmed programme of poets. Audiences have the opportunity to hear the work of poets who are nationally and internationally published as well as emerging writers.

The first half of the program is dedicated to an open microphone. Poets are given the opportunity to read and discuss their work in front of a live audience. The open microphone allows the community at large, including unpublished poets to trial their work and develop performance skills.

There is also an opportunity for authors to publicise and sell their books.

The second half of the evening the guest poets take the lectern. There is one from outside Canterbury, and two local guest poets.

The visiting poets confirmed for the 2016 season (which begins on September 28 and concludes on November 16) include:

Jenny Bornholdt, Greg O’Brien, Diana Bridge, Pat White, Ashleigh Young, Mary McCallum, Nick Ascroft, Jenny Powell, John Allison, and David Howard.

Local readers include: John Dickson, Erik Kennedy, Gail Ingram, Tom Weston, Heather McQuillan, Jeni Curtis, Victoria Broome, David Gregory, Greg O’Connell, Marisa Cappetta and the Hagley Writers.

If you are visiting Christchurch during the season you’d be warmly welcomed and we’d be pleased to hear your work.

Poets to the People, Kapiti
by Elizabeth Coleman

Despite multiple attractions for entertainment choice on the Coast, we get a great turnout for our gatherings. Poetry writers, listeners and lovers converge to appreciate each others’ words and voices, to enjoy each others’ company and creative talents, plus we get the bonus of a guest poet’s reading. Each month we’re treated to a wonderful afternoon’s entertainment with often thoughtful and stimulating commentary.

To start proceedings we have an open mic session. It is a very supportive environment in which to welcome both new and experienced poets who want to take part with one poem each. The success of our events is due to the loyalty of Kapiti Coasters (and beyond). We are constantly grateful for the generosity of guest poets who readily accept our invitations to read.

We have had a flying start this year in hosting Glenn Colquhoun, Maris O’Rourke, Frances Samuel and Michael Fitzsimons to appreciative audiences.

There’s another great line-up to come, including Siobhan Harvey, Bill Manhire, James Brown and Helen Rickerby. And for our August event we plan the launch of our own anthology in combination with Jane Graham George’s presentation of her new collection.

We are grateful to the attentive staff of Hightide Café, Marine Parade, Paraparaumu Beach, where we meet on the last Sunday of each month from 4 – 6 p.m. Of course food and beverages are available. Entry to Poets to the People is $5 per person – this means we can give our guest poets a reward!

For monthly information newsletter please contact mickKeith@ihug.co.nz.

Elizabeth Coleman and Michael Keith (Co-convenors)

Windrift - June
by Nola Borrell

Winter it was – just the weather for fun indoors with haiku and renga. The eight of us around Kerry Popplewell’s table included returnee Sally Holmes, living again in the Wellington area.

Karen Peterson Butterworth broke away from a scattering of winter haiku in our first exercise and earned instant laughter with:

outdoor school lunch
a wasp pesters
the class bully
Again we practised tan renga, each member bringing a response to Penny Pruden’s haiku:

summer ending
cobwebs all over
my windscreen wipers

Verses included:

I check my woollens for moths Lynn Frances
searching the house for lost umbrellas Julie Adamson

Our third exercise was a new venture. We chose a haiku from this workshop; then each member wrote a 2-lined verse in response. Here’s a sample:

norfolk island pine
many hands
reaching out

Sally Holmes

from the bush
a tui’s gargle

Penny Pruden

a ragged gap
in the rainclouds

Karen Peterson Butterworth

cocotus tentacles
grasp at prey

Kerry Popplewell

just after the war
begging their chocolates

Harumi Hasegawa

prisoners’ cries
still on the wind

Nola Borrell

We’re hooked. We’ll advance to a longer renga next time.

Windrift – February & April

by Nola Borrell (with notes from Bevan Greenslade)

Two fascinating workshops this year: in February, guest poet Yukari Nikawa from Japan; and in April our first attempts at tan renga AS WELL AS celebration of Penny Pruden’s believe-it-or-not 90th birthday with cards, flowers, cake and haiku.

autumn a penny for your thoughts
Ernest J Berry

Yukari spent 3 weeks at NZ Pacific Studio near Pukaha Mount Bruce in the Wairarapa as the Emma Saiko Poetry Fellow. There she worked on a ‘collection of short tales to complement poems’ and also translations from Japanese into English.

Incidentally, Pacific Studio is a delightful place to stay and write. I know: I spent two weeks there in 2014. www.artistresidency.org.nz

Harumi Hasegawa and Nola Borrell devised the **renga workshop**. Renga comes in many forms and lengths and can have very specific and complex rules as some of you know ... But we kept our ‘practice’ very simple: the shortest renga (Tan) and with just one poet responding to another. We aimed to connect to a given haiku, (sound, image, colour, movement, anything) but move in a different direction. We hoped the juxtaposition would give more meaning than either part by itself.

This was very creative and great fun. We each responded to the seeding haiku. The Group then tried to identify the connection and - to a lesser extent - the avoidance of logic or narrative.

wild coast
the sea still sorting stones

Nola Borrell

(Commended, Polish International Haiku Competition, 2012)
in Ethiopia hungry children
watch the clouds

Penny Pruden

arranging cast-off clothes
the op-shop worker

Kerry Popplewell

Here's another example.

Valentine's Day
his greeting never reaches
that girl with the i-pod

Harumi Hasegawa

the tortoise plods
while the hare sleeps

Jenny Pyatt

long-married couple
talking past each other

Karen Peterson Butterworth

Next time we plan to build on this early effort with a group spontaneous renga, more akin to the ancient group renga. Yes, we like to entertain ourselves.

Regular Events

Auckland

Poetry Live Auckland Book yourself in to read at Poetry Live, at the Thirsty Dog, 469 Karangahape Rd, Auckland City. Tuesdays 6pm. Guest poets, guest musician & open mike. Contact: MCs Dietrich, Rachael, Penny, Tim or Michelle by email: poetrylive@gmail.com, putting the MC's name in the subject line. Visit Poetry Live's website: http://www.poetrylive.co.nz.

306 Open Mic Night Standing invitation every Wednesday night 8-11pm 306 Bar & Bistro, 306 Onehunga Mall. Poets, Musos, Singers, Poets, Comedians, other performers... the main focus is the acoustic guitar players & singer / songwriters, but all performers welcome. There is a small in house PA System with 2 microphones. Other than that, musicians should bring their own gear. Free entry.

Open Mic Night, Waitatara 7-10pm every 2nd Wednesday. Free entry. Elevation Café, 473 Scenic Drive. Poets, singer/songwriters, comedians - original performers encouraged, solos, duos & small ensembles only (sorry no drum kits). PA, mics, stands & percussion supplied, 3 items (max 15 mins) per performer. Performers prize draw. To pre-book a spot, E: fionamcewen@clear.net.nz or enter on the night. For more info or restaurant bookings, T: Elevation (09) 814 1919; E: info@elevationcafe.co.nz.

Inside Out Open Mic for Writers (est. 2012) Open mic readings and performances with guest musicians, once every month. All writers welcome to share fiction, poetry, non-fiction, performance poetry etc or come as audience, meet other writers & get updates on what’s on. Five-word-challenge with three book prizes. 7 00pm – 10 00pm, One2One Café, 121 Ponsonby Rd, Auckland.

Inside Out Open Mic for Writers (est. 2012) Inside Out – once a month on the second Wednesday. Free; koha for musician pls. Cafe offers meals & all refreshments. Let’s hear what you’ve been working on…with MC Anita Arlov. for more info email: anitaarlov@hotmail.co.nz.

Titirangi Poets Sessions are held at Titirangi Library, 500 Titirangi South Road, between 2 pm and 4pm. on the second Saturday of every month. More info email: piers@wwandd.co.nz ; https://www.facebook.com/insideout-open-mic-204711472989060.

Christchurch

Airing Cupboard Women Poets meet at 10am every 2 weeks at South Christchurch Library, 66 Colombo Street Street. Ring Judith Walsh ph. 03 342 9881 or Barbara Strang ph. 03 376 4486.

The Canterbury Poets’ Collective Spring Season. Wednesdays at 6.30pm, CPIT Students Association (CPSA) Hall, 5 Madras Street. Canterbury Poets Collective (CPC) presents open mic and guest readers. Audience votes for the Best Open Mic Poet. The programme will be posted when it is available.

Catalyst Poetry Open Mic: First Wednesday of the month, The Twisted Hop, 616 Ferry Rd, Woolston, Christchurch. Website: www.catalystnz.blogspot.com

Beat St Sessions, Christchurch; Third Thursday of the month at Beat St Cafe, Cnr Barbados & Armagh Sts. 6pm for music and open mic sign-up; 7pm for Guest poets. Entry: $5 if you can.

Poetry for Pudding: Meets from 12-1.30pm on the second Friday of the month, at University Bookshop, Ilam. This is a relaxed supportive environment where poets of all levels are welcome. Bring a favourite poem - yours, or another's - to share.

Selwyn Writers’ Salon: First Tuesday of the Month, upstairs at The Laboratory, 7 pm to 9 pm, Free Admission – all Welcome.

Small White Teapot: Meets regularly at 7pm on the third Tuesday of the month, for about a couple of hours to hear, discuss and critique the haiku. We do not stick to the 5-7-5 format of the Japanese language style of three line haiku, as some thinking is that if Basho, the master haiku writer had spoken and written in the
English language, he would have used the syllabic format which has developed. The same guidelines apply: environment, season, nature, the moment, imagery, etc. usually in three lines. Sundry cost of $3. Venue: Avebury House, Eveleyn Couzins Ave, Richmond. The SWTHG will be pleased to welcome you.

**Coromandel**

**Thames Poets Circle**, co-hosted by Greg Brimblecombe and Jill Steadman Read, meets on the fourth Thursday of every month at 7pm. Venue: SpeakEasy, 740 Pollen Street, Thames. For more information please contact Greg on 07 868 9947 email: greg.brimblecombe@gmail.com.

**Cromwell Writers** meet on the last Tuesday of the month in the homes of members on a shared basis. Contact Tom Llandreth ph. 03 4451352.

**Dunedin**

**Live poetry with the Octagon Poetry Collective.** We meet monthly (most months) in the Dog With Two Tails Cafe and Bar in Moray Place, a few doors up from the Rialto cinema. At 8pm, on the second-last Tuesday of the month, one of us hosts an evening of live poetry. Usually we feature two invited guests, who may be local poets of note but we also try to be aware of poets of national and international standing who might welcome an invitation to read. Our open mic is a popular, lively part of the evening, where everyone is welcome to participate. Great friendly, supportive crowd, excellent food and drink available at the counter. For specific details, check out our Facebook page: Octagon Collective/Dog with Two Tails Poetry Readings. To contact us, email octagoncollective@gmail.com and cc: cmccurdie@xtra.co.nz.

**Golden Bay**

**The Golden Bay Live Poets Society** has a monthly Performance Night at the famous Mussel Inn Bush Café at Onekaka. (For dates go to Mussel Inn.) Visiting poets are most welcome. For news of meetings contact convenor Mark Raffills at mark@drycrust.com tel 03 544 4975 ext. 210.

**Hamilton**

**Poets Alive** meet on the last Friday of the month from 7 - 9pm. For more information contact: Celia Hope at: poetsalivenz@gmail.com.

**Hawke’s Bay**

**The Hawke's Bay Live Poets' Society** meets at 8 p.m. on the second Monday of each month (except January) at the Hastings Community Arts Centre, 106 Russell Street, Hastings. Contact Bill Sutton: phone 06 844 4196, email suttb70@gmail.com.

**Kapiti**

**Poets to the People** meets at Hightide Cafe, 44 Marine Parade, Paraparaumu Beach, 4–6pm, on the last Sunday of the month February to November, except October. Guest poet each month. Open mic at 4pm. Snacks and beverages are available. Entry price of $5 covers the poet's koha and general expenses. Contact Michael Keith mickeith@ihug.co.nz.

**Lyttelton**

**The Catalyst poetry open mic.** Tuesdays at 8pm. Wunderbar, Lyttelton. BYO poetry, creative writing - all welcome.

**Marlborough**

**Poetry Corner:** an informal group for lovers of poetry; meets between 6pm and 8.30pm on the first Monday of each month, at various locations. Readers, writers, listeners and performers are all welcome. Come and go as you please during the allotted time. For more information please contact June Bowen, at 03 577 9035.

**Nelson**

**The Nelson Live Poets Society** meets on the fourth Monday of every month at The Free House, 95 Collingwood Street; 6pm for a 6.30 start. Open mic. Contact: marybell@ts.co.nz.

**Palmerston North**

**Stand Up Poetry.** Open mic poetry evening and special guest poet. First Wednesday of the month, 7-9 pm, Sound & Vision Zone, Level 1, Central Library. Organiser: Helen Lehndorf. For more information on this and other happenings, contact (06) 351 4100; email: promotions@pncc.govt.nz; website http://www.citylibrary.pncc.govt.nz/ Contact person at the library is Jenny Veller.

**Picton**

**Picton Poets** (founded by Ernest Berry in 1994). Regrettably, due to Ernie's ill-health, meetings at his Cottage have had to be curtailed for now. A new space is being actively sought, and an update will be posted when the group has a new home.

**Porirua**

**Poetry and Music at The Metro.** First Sunday of every month, 3pm-6pm at the Metropolitan Restaurant and Bar, 7 Lyndey Place, Porirua City Centre (opp. Railway Station, behind Bus stop). Programme: 3pm-5pm Open mic for any performance poetry, song.
instrumental, original or covers, dance etc, any genre - traditional or contemporary, pop, rock, folk, rap, whatever. 5pm-6pm features invited guest artist - poet, musician, singer, band, soloist or combination. Come along and put your name on the blackboard and have a go, or just listen and enjoy. Koha collection taken for guest artist. Food and drink available from bar. We are always looking for guest artists whether musos, poets, dancers, or any other type of performers. For more information contact Phil O'Connell Phone (04)237-9902; mobile 027 786 5542; email philjoconnell(at)gmail.com if you are interested and available.

Wairarapa

Wairarapa Word meets on the first Sunday of the month, 3-5pm, at Almo Books, High St, Carterton. All welcome: poets, novelists, lyricists, story-tellers, more. We read aloud our original work and the work of others. Free entry. Cash bar.

Wanaka

Poetic Justice Wanaka: Wanaka poets meet sporadically for open mic nights and workshops. They have a growing programme of national and international performers. For meeting dates and times see: http://poeticjusticewanaka.wordpress.com

Wellington

Poetry in Motion happens on the first Wednesday of the month at Meow, in Edward St. It is an inclusive event which aims to raise the profile of poetry and spoken word as a fun, engaging art form and challenge people's notions of what poetry is. This is a forum for sharing ideas, laughter, tears and views on life with a community of people who love words and performance in a lively bar atmosphere. No open mic as such, but people can book a 'Stage' slot during the first half of the show and read/perform for 5 - 6 minutes. For more information: https://www.facebook.com/PoetryInMotionWellington

Poetry at The Fringe: 4pm - 6pm on the 3rd Sunday of every month at the The Fringe Bar, Allen St. Featuring an open mic, Guest Poet and a musical interlude. For information contact: Neil Furby, ballroompoetrycafe@gmail.com.

West Coast

Greymouth: Word of Mouth meets every month on the last Wednesday, 7.30-9pm at the Left Bank Art Gallery, 1 Tainui Street. A friendly, enthusiastic gathering of poets and poetry fans. All welcome. Contact: Greg O’Connell W: (03) 768 5597 H: (03) 768 5222 M: (027) 759 0531 E: greg(at)gregoconnell.com.

Whakatane

Live Poets meet at 7.30pm on the third Monday of the month, in the home of a member. Contact: Margaret Wilson at 07 3072308 (there is an answerphone).

Whangarei

Poets Exposed: at the Piano Bar and Restaurant, Rust Avenue, Whangarei, third Thursday of every month, 6pm to 9pm. Contact: piet@outlook.com

Rotorua

The Rotorua Mad Poets meet every Wednesday night at the Rotorua Public Library at 6 pm. All poets and general public welcome to attend. Light refreshments available afterwards. 7.30-9.30 p.m.

Taupo

Live Poets: A friendly group of Taupo poets and writers who meet for informal readings at 5.15pm on the last Wednesday of each month at the Taupo Museum. These are open to all, and readings of original poems and those by favourite authors are encouraged. There are monthly Poetry Workshops at members’ homes, which look in depth at poems written by members with a view to improving the skill of members in an encouraging atmosphere. Children’s Poetry Readings are held every school holidays. We read at local Rest Homes on dates which suit the Rest Homes. We also organise occasional guest poets and Poetry Day events for Taupo. Email Geni for more information: genirayjohnston@gmail.com.

Tauranga

Tauranga Writers: A self-help group established over 40 years ago. We get together monthly to exchange experience and expertise, discuss tactics and techniques and to share work in progress for constructive criticism. We meet on the first Thursday of the month at 7.00 pm, at The Alzheimer’s Society House, 116, 13th Avenue, Tauranga. Contact: Jenny Argante ph 07 578 5757, mob 022 053 48 68, or email jenny.argante(at)gmail.com All genres and new members always welcome. Enquirers may request a complimentary copy of Update, our monthly newsletter, to find out what we're all about.

Timaru

For poetry events, or to contact Timaru or South Canterbury poets, contact Karalyn Joyce at karalynjoyce@xtra.co.nz ph. 03 6147858.
From July to September each year, the International Institute of Modern Letters, home of Victoria University’s prestigious Creative Writing programme, runs a series of events highlighting the very latest work of writers active in Wellington and further afield. All in all, a lively and stimulating way to begin the week – and it’s free!

Programme 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11 JULY</td>
<td>The Time of Anne Kennedy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18 JULY</td>
<td>Patricia Grace: A Life’s Work</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25 JULY</td>
<td>A Poetry Quartet: Bill Nelson, Claire Orchard, Hera Lindsay Bird, Lynley Edmeades</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 AUGUST</td>
<td>New Zealand Stories: Sue Orr and Tracey Slaughter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 AUGUST</td>
<td>The Playmakers: Nina Nawalowalo &amp; Victor Rodger</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15 AUGUST</td>
<td>Jenny Bornholdt: from Accidental Poet to Selected Poems</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22 AUGUST</td>
<td>Best New Zealand Poems 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29 AUGUST</td>
<td>Ashleigh Young: Can You Tolerate This?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 SEPTEMBER</td>
<td>The Next Page 1 - writers in the MA in Creative Writing Programme at Victoria University’s International Institute of Modern Letters</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 SEPTEMBER</td>
<td>The Next Page 2 - writers in the MA in Creative Writing Programme at Victoria University’s International Institute of Modern Letters</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19 SEPTEMBER</td>
<td>Short Sharp Script 1: Circa Theatre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26 SEPTEMBER</td>
<td>Short Sharp Script 2: Circa Theatre</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Events run from 12.15-1.15pm, Te Papa Marae, Level 4, Te Papa (with the exception of the two scriptwriting events to be held at Circa Theatre. See programme for details)
Dear Prospective Member – a warm welcome to the New Zealand Poetry Society.

Please complete the form below and return it with your subscription to:

Membership, New Zealand Poetry Society, PO Box 5283, Lambton Quay, Wellington 6145.

NAME: ____________________________________________

POSTAL ADDRESS: ____________________________________________

TOWN/CITY: __________________ POST CODE: ________________

TELEPHONE NUMBER(S) ____________________________ MOBILE: ________________

SUBSCRIPTION FOR PERIOD: April 2016 – March 2017

Please make cheques payable to The New Zealand Poetry Society Inc.
or to pay electronically:

ANZ Bank account name: NZ Poetry Society Inc
Account number: 060501-0823371-10

Please remember to include the word sub in the reference field, to simplify our bookkeeping.

☐ Basic sub – magazine will be emailed to you bimonthly - $30

- Please note: if you live outside New Zealand, your magazine will be emailed.

☐ Joint membership (two members in the same household, separate or same email address) - $45

☐ Postal sub (optional extra: a printed copy of the magazine posted to you) - $30

- Please note: this is AS WELL AS the basic or joint subscription fee

☐ Group membership (schools, libraries: 1 copy of the magazine posted) - $60

If you are joining for the first time between September 2016 and 28 February 2017, the subscription is half the above amount for the current financial year.

Do you require a receipt?  YES / NO

A membership card is available on request from the Membership Officer.