



October / November 2014

What a wonderful time autumn is to spark the imagination and fuel the fire of the writing persona within. October, the month of ghost, goblins and witches - November, the month of gun powder, treason and plot. A magnificent time for innovative writing . . . are you now preparing for our conference in March?

Welcome to our October / November addition of the SAW newsletter and as always our Council sends their regards and well wishes.

Outreach Team

Our outreach team are busy targeting Writing Groups not yet affiliated to our Association. Should you know of any writers who meet and would benefit by joining in our writing community please contact our affiliation and outreach secretary, the one and only Lesley Traynor at scotwriters@gmail.com Should you require an outreach visit to your club, please let Lesley know and she will be delighted to organise this for you.

A special mention should also be given to Zoe Martin, one of Lesley's young writers who won the Respect Me competition with her emotional poem on being bullied.

SAW 100 Club

Congratulations to our SAW 100 club winners.

October saw the one and only Evie Corkill collect the prize and in November Christine Ravenhall gathered the winnings.

Have you joined our SAW 100 club? Download the form from our website and join before the 15th December to be in with a chance for our Bonus Draw on 18th December. Go on . . . you know you want to. ☺

Remember, you can have more than one number!

Not to Be Missed!!

Annual Conference
2015

**Westerwood Hotel &
Conference Centre,
Cumbernauld,
G68 0EW**

27th to 29th March

**A MUST FOR YOUR
DIARY !!!**



SAW 100 Club

**The more members
we have, the bigger
the prizes!**

**Download your
membership form
today**



Write Up North



As promised, Write up North was packed full of fun, learning and comradeship. Friendships reconnected and new ones made in a coming together of 'great writing minds'. A wonderful and inspiring day was had by all.

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For those who have not ventured to 'Write up North' in Inverness, the Town House is impressive. While setting out the room on the Friday afternoon, you could not help but feel an air of excitement. We all sang "You can ring my bell." As Marc did the honours. It was only supposed to be a pretend ring – he couldn't help himself



SHOP

Please visit our SAW shop. We hold a range of shop items available for purchase all year round, many of which are branded with our SAW logo.



Attendees began to arrive and were greeted with hot scones, tea or coffee. The hall was a tad cold but the warm welcome and light banter more than made up for it.

Join Us

Join us on Facebook – <https://www.facebook.com/groups/sawriters> and visit our web site www.sawriters.org.uk

Our wonderful president opened proceedings, welcoming all and introducing our key speaker Bob Davidson, founder and Managing Editor of Sandstone Press. Bob's speech on 'Identity' was inspiring and well received by all.





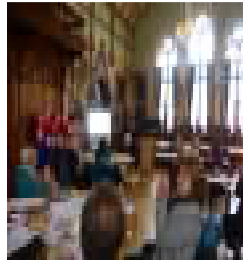
It was fantastic to have Christopher Powici, our poetry adjudicator with us. It was his privilege to announce our winner of first, second *and* third place. Congratulations to Aileen Carney Hulme.

Aileen beautifully presented her poem Touchstone, which was well received. Our congratulations should also go to those who received commended awards for this category



Short story adjudicator, Kenneth Stevens was delighted with the entries he received and was proud to announce his winners. Again, it was a pleasure to have him with us.

Congratulations to our short story winner Barbara Stevenson, who for the second year won this category. She fascinated us with her reading of 'My Sister Amelia Aged Eight'.



Congratulations and a 'big well done' to Cheryl O'Brien, awarded second place with 'The Dish Ran Away with the Spoon'.

Unfortunately, Barbara Henderson was unable to be with us but was placed third in our short story category with 'At Sea' Well done Barbara!

Many thanks to all who entered both the poetry and short story competition.

SAW AFFILIATION

Once again it is the time for SAW Club Affiliation renewals. Please renew your club today. Our Memberships are invaluable and your SAW needs you. For bank details please contact: pajamurs@btinternet.com

Saw Alumni

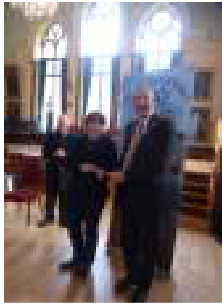
An opportunity to ensure the expertise of former Scottish Association of Writers' Council Members and Authors is not lost to the Association once they leave post or become successful.

Donations

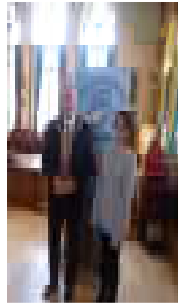
Should you wish to make a donation, please download our SAW Donation Form, complete and forward along with your contribution to our valued and wonderful treasurer, Jacklin Murray. All donations are greatly appreciated.



Having enjoyed 'Write up North' so much last year, the Provost Alex Graham could not resist the urge to return and was delighted to present the awards to our worthy winners.



**Short Story
First Place
Barbara Stevenson**



**Young Writer
Sam Waddle**



**Poetry
First Place
Aileen Carney**

Many thanks to all who supported our raffle and for any purchases made at the SAW stall. You can visit the shop on our webpage and it's certainly worth having a look! Your continued support helps to fund our events and your generosity is greatly appreciated.



Everyone had worked up an appetite by lunch time and was delighted when the caterers began to set out food. Like last year, the caterers excelled themselves and (in my opinion) it was the quietest everyone had been all day. The food was marvellous and I'm sure all enjoyed what was on offer.

Having eaten our fill, it was time to work again and there is nothing like good SAW workshops to burn off those calories.

**The Guillotine
Choice
By Michael
Malone with
Bashir Saoudi**

Please sign the petition to help clear Bashir's fathers name at www.change.org

**Promote Your
Club**

Should you wish your club to feature in future newsletters, please contact Susan McVey at susanscribes@gmail.com

**Club
Affiliation**

Do you know of any writing clubs who meet together but are not affiliated to the Association? Please pass them our details and we can encourage them to join our community.



Once again, special thanks should go to our key speaker Bob Davidson, our adjudicators, Christopher Powici and Kenneth Stevens for the fantastic workshops they hosted. A special note of thanks should also go to our own Jen Butler whose workshop was enthralling. I'm sure everyone found something valuable to take away with them.

Congratulations to:

Poetry Commended

Marie Therese Kiely – 'Bannockburn'.

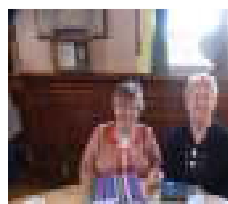
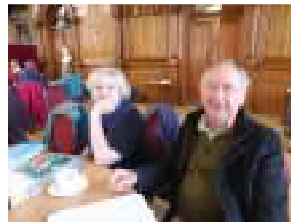
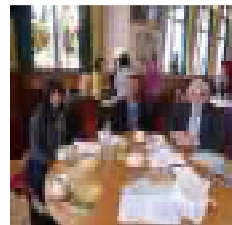
Jean Lockhead – 'The Whisper'.

Short Story Highly Commended

Morag Oag – 'Inside The Post Box'.

Short Story Commended

David McVey – 'The Fires Are Out'.



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Meet Sam Waddle



The Scottish Association of Writers is delighted to introduce you to Sam Waddle.

Sam took part in our 'Young Writers' competition, entering her story 'Death's Hand'.

What a fantastic piece of writing – well done Sam!

It was interesting meeting Sam and all who had the pleasure of chatting with her would agree, that her enthusiasm for learning the arts of our craft were evident and that she showed a willingness to learn more and wanted to be a part of our wonderful writing community. She was a breath of fresh air.

I'm sure Millburn Academy, Inverness must be proud of this young sixteen years old, who showed an abundance of maturity beyond her years.

Sam has always enjoyed dabbling, mostly with fiction and when she saw the 'Young Writers' competition, she thought . . . Why not!

Death's Hand was actually from a bigger piece that Sam is working on but, in her own words, she managed to 'water it down' to fit the word count required.

The thought of reading 'Death's Hand' to our members was a nerve racking experience and Sam admitted feeling a little anxious while she waited for her turn to stand at the podium. Her name was called and you could have heard a pin drop as Sam took her place, doing a wonderful job of telling her story to a gathering of people, she had only just met.

Sam confessed that she likes to read books with a level of maturity, good strong characters and a powerful story line. Her favourite author is Malorie Blackman who has a series titled 'Noughts and Crosses'

Sam enjoyed 'Write up North' immensely and hopes to attend future events. It was a pleasure to meet with this lovely young lady. For those of you who did not get the pleasure, look out for her in the future – I'm sure we have not heard the last of her.

[The Writers Umbrella](#)

barbara@ladysgate.freemove.co.uk

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[Federation of Writers \(Scotland\)](#)

www.writersfederation.org.uk



The 46th Annual Conference



Please note a few easy steps that will see you registered
For the 2015 conference – you can do this without leaving the house!

1. Go to the SAW website and access the registration form.
2. Copy and paste it to word (or your equivalent.)
3. Fill it in and save.
4. Go to your online bank service.
5. Transfer £30.00 to the SAW account – Clydesdale Bank account number 50401535.
Sort code 82-20-00 using ref: CREG
6. Attach and save registration to an email. In the body of the email put your name, address and the date and time of the bank transfer. This information will make it easier for Jacklin to match the registration to the payment
7. Send the email to Jen at jen.butler@blueyonder.co.uk and a copy to Jacklin at pajamurs@btinternet.com.

Simples ☺

Publicity Officers News

I would like to personally thank all those who made our 'Write up North' event a great success. It was lovely to meet with you and I'm now, more than ever, excited for our conference in March.

By the time our newsletter reaches you, you will probably have submitted Scholarship and Novel length entries but please remember the deadline for general and special categories – Friday 16th January 2015.

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact our Council as we are always here, and ready to serve.

Should you wish to promote your club or a club member, please contact me on susanscirbes@gmail.com. I look forward to hearing from you.

For now, I wish you all 'happy writing'

Regards

Susan McVey

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Meet Lesley Traynor



My name is Rebekah McVey and I am currently studying journalism at Stirling University. You can imagine my delight when I was asked to interview Lesley Traynor, the Affiliation and Outreach Secretary of SAW for the newsletter.

I was a bit nervous when I met Lesley in the cafe at the Sport Centre in Stirling University Campus. My Mum advised that this was an important task and I was not to let her down! Anyway, with questions at hand and my phone on record, there was no need to worry . . . Lesley put me at ease right away.

I was supposed to ask questions my Mum had given me . . . being a tiny bit of a rebel . . . I asked my own first.

Q. What do you like most about working at Stirling University?

A. I like to meet lots of different people. I love teaching which combines everything. Stirling is a beautiful campus. I'm susceptible to bad places and I wouldn't like to work in the middle of a city. I like the fact that I can dictate what I do during the day and the freedom I have to generate the course work that I do.

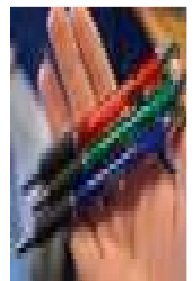
Q. What makes a student stand out? (This was selfish of me but something that every student should want to know!)

A. Commitment, handwork and the willingness to develop themselves. Personally, I'm not looking for perfection but a student must have a willingness to develop them self.

So I now imagine my Mum shake her head in annoyance and think – I better ask the questions that the Scottish Association of Writers would ask!

Q. Let's get to know you Lesley! Who are you – where do you come from?

A. I come from a semi rural location near Busby. It was a place where everybody knew everybody. I was the eldest born and have three younger brothers and sisters. There is eighteen months between my sister and I and then a big gap. Then another 18 months between the boys.



Q. Favourite colour?

A. The shade of green / blue that you see in Nordic – Swedish houses.

Q. Where does your passion of writing come from?

A. I have always written. I can't remember ever not writing! As a teenager I would write lyrics to put to a friend's music. She would churn out lovely tunes and I found writing the lyrics really easy. My Mother also enjoyed writing. My Father, however was dyslectic and would avoid writing. My passion definitely came from my Mother.

Q. What was your first pet?

A. My Dad hated animals but this did not deter me or my siblings from sneaking a few into the house. We found an old stray which we named Goldie - a beautiful golden collie which followed us from school. My Dad, unknown to us contacted the police and they took him away, let him loose at the top of the road, for him to find his way back to our house again. My to my Dad's disappointment we would sneak animals into the house all the time. We even found a tortoise once! We made up for not having animals later on in life.

Q. What is your favourite book?

A. Sense and Sensibility but I would back track to Pride and Prejudice. I actually have a list of books that I would take with me to a desert island.

Q. What is your burning desire?

A. Recognition for my writing. Not that I'm looking for enormous sales, just to be acknowledged and for people to recognise my work.

Q. Do you have any words of wisdom for those entering the SAW competition in March?

A. Do it . . . just do it. It's really useful to go through the process. You may not be successful but you will get really good feedback. Just taking part gets you to start discussing and sharing your work. It can be scary but it is how you grow and develop.

I would like to thank Lesley for being kind to me on my very first interview and for the Scottish Association of Writers for giving me this opportunity.

If I **ever** become a world class journalist – I have you all to thank.

The Guillotine Choice
By Michael Malone
with Bashir Saudi

Please sign the petition to help clear Bashir's fathers name at www.change.org

Promote Your Club

Should you wish your club to feature in future newsletters, please contact Susan McVey at susanscribes@gmail.com

Promote a Member

Do you have a member in your club who deserves some well earned recognition? If so, please let us know and we would be delighted to feature them in future newsletters. Contact Susan McVey on susanscirbes@gmail.com

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MEMBERS' INTEREST



Marc Sherland presents *The House of Zoomania*, a children's poem presented with fine illustrations by Mandy Sinclair.

Based on the old saw Old Mother Hubbard went to the cupboard to fetch her poor dog a bone...and then wondering who else lived in her house.

You may know Old Mother Hubbard had a dog but did you know she had an Aunt Tess who had a giraffe?

Come for a colourful romp through the Zoomania house and meet the rest of this animal-mad family and their odd assortment of pets, all looking for dinner in strange and zany places.

Published through Wild Word Press at the Christmas perfect price of £5.99 this is a romp, bound to entertain children of all ages. It can be purchased by contacting Marc at marcsherland@me.com



Tony Capaldi has recently released a book of his wonderfully rich Scots language poetry, through Wild Word Press, titled "Tha Work in Scots o' Tony Capaldi". A popular performer at open mike spoken word events, Tony gives of his talent, freely and with joyous zeal.

He is a popular member of the Cumbernauld Burns Club, often asked to recite from memory many Burns poems, which he delivers with his own special brand of actor's panache. Indeed Tony is somehow related to the actor Peter Capaldi and, if truth be known, his real first name is Peter, though to save the other's embarrassment, he chooses to perform as Tony.

If ever there was a "people's man," it is Tony Capaldi, his verse shows that from first through to last. Poet, actor, historian, Capaldi writes about his passions: people, theatre, language, and religion. His writing, both playful and serious is inspired by and modelled on his hero, Robert Burns. This is Scottish writing, full of rich Scottish characters and vernacular, and travels from Springburn to the fields of Culloden.

Despite his Italian heritage, Tony is passionate about Scotland and he knows every inch. As a very young boy, Tony sustained severe injuries after falling from a tree (*Yon Tree*) which left him with physical disabilities. Not able to drive, he nonetheless donned his kilt and set off, hitchhiking and walking his way through glens and over bens, staying at youth hostels and befriending countless people along the way. He partially lost use of his right hand and taught himself to write with his left, producing hundreds of beautiful poems about the people and places of Scotland.

Tony is a wordsmith. His love of language and natural ability as a linguist compel him to play with words. His expressive language is full of puns, metaphor, spoonerism, and of course, rhyme. Recently published through Wild Word Press his book 'Tha Work in Scots o' Tony Capaldi' is proving to be a publishing success.

First and foremost, Tony Capaldi is an entertainer, available for hire to clubs and events where he will perform his own and Burns poetry with that unique and particular verve that is his trademark. Tony can be booked via his publisher Marc Sherland, either through email marcsherland@me.com or by phone 0791 860 1799.'

SAW Newsletter Advertising Rates 2014

	SAW MEMBERSHIP RATES		NON-MEMBERSHIP RATES	
	BLACK & WHITE	COLOUR	BLACK & WHITE	COLOUR
FULL PAGE	75.00	120.00	120.00	150.00
HALF PAGE	50.00	75.00	75.00	100.00
QUARTER PAGE	37.50	50.00	50.00	75.00
EIGHTH PAGE	20.00	35.00	35.00	50.00

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Email: susanscribes@gmail.com

Advertisement Info:

All artwork image resolution to be at least 150dpi, supplied either as eps, pdf or jpeg preferably. Microsoft Word and Publisher may be accepted but not always useable. All images to be supplied as jpegs.

Discounts available for advertisement block-bookings in more than one issue of the newsletter

Let's Have Fun!

Crosswords Answers From Previous Edition



Autumn Sudoku

Every row, column and mini-grid must contain the letters L E A F.
Don't guess - use logic



F			
			A
L			
			E