

WRITER'S SURGERY

:90-Minute Mentorship



What is the Writer's Surgery?

QWC's Writer's Surgery is a member's only, writing 'check up' to help you overcome hurdles and achieve your writing goals.

You'll submit 20 pages of your work (be it a novel, short story collection, non-fiction work or poetry) for review and comment, then engage in a 90-minute conversation with your mentor, who will provide advice according to your goals.

The Writer's Surgery consultation is focused on you as a writer – rather than just your writing. Your session will address any questions about writing you may have, discuss your ideas and intentions and gain practical advice on technique and industry practice.

Members are invited to join their mentor via Skype or phone, or face-to-face in QWC's offices.

Booking your appointment

Please fill out the attached booking form listing your sessions in order of preference (1-3) with the mentor you think will suit you best. On receipt of a 20-page sample, a one page synopsis and a completed application form, a QWC staff member will be in touch to confirm your appointment. **Applications must be received no less than 10 working days before the elected consultation date.** The mentor will assess your sample and will then meet with you for a 90-minute consultation, in person at QWC offices, or over the phone, to discuss your work.

Please note: this is neither an editing service nor a manuscript appraisal service. The Writer's Surgery is directed to the author, not the manuscript. The consultant, while referring to a sample of writing provided, does not read the entire manuscript. The service is geared toward allowing the writer to complete their project according to their goals by creating awareness of industry practice, procedure, and statistical realities.

Cost: \$150

Bookings: Complete the booking form and return to QWC with a 1-page synopsis and a 20-page writing sample to qldwriters@qwc.asn.au or PO Box 3488, South Brisbane, Qld 4101.

Payment: Payment can be made on the day, or contact QWC office on 07 3842 9922 to make alternative arrangements. If your consultation is not held at QWC, payment must be received before the consultation.



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Name:

Member number:

Address:

Email:

Phone number:

Mobile number:

Title of manuscript:

Stage of manuscript development:

I would like feedback, advice on (please tick):

Approaching publishers/agents

Manuscript development

Finding a market

Overcoming writers' block

Structure

Characterisation

Dialogue

Formatting and presentation

Editing and redrafting

Other (Please specify)

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My elected consultants are:

The genre of my work is:

My preferred dates for a consultation are:

1.
2.
3.

My preferred times for a consultation are:

Submission guidelines: Synopsis and writing sample **must** be formatted according to industry standard: 12 point font, double-spaced, numbered pages, etc. For more information please refer to QWC's Resource Sheet [How do I format a manuscript?](#).




Important: Information on consultants and their respective genres can be found on the following page. You are welcome to select more than one consultant, but please select only three (3) dates.

To retain details, save the pdf form to your computer and return as an attachment.

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Consultant		Availability
	<p>Angela Murphy: Writing for Performance/Short Fiction</p> <p>In 2006 JUTE Theatre Cairns and the Darwin Theatre Company co-produced Angela's first play <i>The Boathouse</i>. She went on to write <i>Survival Instincts</i> with a comic but edgy depiction of the classroom jungle. It won awards at the Sydney (2009), Brisbane (2009) and Canberra (2010) Short and Sweet Festivals. In 2011 JUTE Theatre produced her latest work <i>What are the Odds?</i> This journey about friends, family and secrets on a steamy Cairns Melbourne Cup day as a box office hit. www.creativecommunications.net.au</p>	<p>Wednesdays from 2pm</p> <p>7, 14, 21, 28 March 4, 11, 18 April 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 May 6, 13, 20, 27 June</p>
	<p>Angela Slatter: Cover Letter & Synopsis/General Fiction/Short Fiction/Speculative Fiction</p> <p>Angela Slatter is the award-winning author of two short story collections, <i>The Girl with No Hands & Other Tales</i> (Ticonderoga Publications) and the Aurealis Award winning <i>Sourdough & Other Stories</i> with Tartarus Press (UK). Her short stories have appeared in anthologies such as Jack Dann's <i>Dreaming Again</i>, Tartarus Press' <i>Strange Tales II & III</i>, Twelfth Planet Press' <i>2012</i>, and in journals such as <i>Lady Churchill's Rosebud Wristlet</i> and <i>Shimmer</i>. She is also a graduate of Clarion South 2009 and the Tin House Summer Writers Workshop 2006.</p>	<p>Wednesdays 10am-3pm</p> <p>7, 14, 21, 28 March 4, 11, 18 April 6, 13, 20, 27 June</p>
	<p>Christine Bongers: YA Fiction (ages 14+)/Upper Primary Fiction (ages 10-13)</p> <p>Christine Bongers is a former broadcast journalist who has published critically acclaimed novels for children and young adults. Her debut novel <i>Dust</i> was a 2010 CBCA Notable Book for Older Readers, and was long-listed and Highly Commended in the Prime Minister's Literary Awards for Children's fiction. <i>Henry Hoey Hobson</i> has been short-listed for the 2011 CBCA Book of the Year for Younger Readers and the WA Premier's Book Awards for children's fiction.</p>	<p>Wednesdays 10am-3pm</p> <p>14 March 10 April 9 May 13 June</p>

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Consultants		Availability
	<p>David Stavanger: Poetry/Writing For Performance</p> <p>David Stavanger – and his performance alter ego Ghostboy - have become known for their distinct work on both the page and the stage, with pieces published in poetry magazines such as <i>Blue Dog</i>, <i>Cordite</i>, <i>Going Down Swinging</i>, and <i>The Spoken Word Revolution: Redux</i> (USA). David has performed live on ABC & Triple J radio and featured at many festivals. David writes and edits poetry and performance text for children, YA and adults, as well as running acclaimed performance and poetry workshops for all age groups. www.smallchange.com.au</p>	<p>Tuesdays 2-4.30pm and Thursdays 10am-2pm 6, 8, 13, 15, 20, 22, 27, 29 March 3, 5, 10, 12, 17, 20 April 1, 3, 8, 10, 15, 17, 22, 24 May 5, 7, 12, 14, 19, 21, 26, 28 June</p>
	<p>Graham Nunn: Poetry/Self-Publishing</p> <p>Graham Nunn is a founding member of Brisbane's longest running poetry event, SpeedPoets. He blogs at Another Lost Shark: www.anotherlostshark.com and has published five collections of poetry, his most recent, <i>Ocean Hearted</i> (Another Lost Shark Publications, 2010). His debut CD, <i>The Stillest Hour</i>, was shortlisted for the Aural Text Award. In 2011, he was the recipient of <i>The Johnno</i> for his outstanding contribution to QLD writers and writing.</p>	<p>Fridays from 3.30pm 2 March 6 April 4 May 1 June</p>
	<p>Hélène Young: Romance Writing/Commercial Women's Fiction/Suspense Fiction</p> <p>Hélène Young is a contemporary suspense author who lives in far north Queensland. Her first novel, <i>Border Watch</i>, was released by Hachette Australia in March 2010. Her second novel, <i>Shattered Sky</i>, is due for release in February 2011. <i>Wings of Fear</i> (formerly <i>Border Watch</i>) was recently awarded the Australian Romance Book of the Year (R*BY) by the Romance Writers of Australia.</p>	<p>Mondays 5 March 2 April 7 May 4 June</p>

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Consultants		Availability
	<p>Kate Eltham: Digital Publishing/Website Assessment</p> <p>Kate is the CEO of the Queensland Writers Centre, with a background in creative industries. She has previously worked as a small business consultant focusing on micro enterprises, non-profits and individual artists in the creative sectors. She supports the development of new opportunities for writers and publishers in the digital age through if:book Australia, QWC's international centre of excellence for digital literature.</p>	<p>Thursdays from 2pm</p> <p>8 March 12 April 10 May 14 June</p>
	<p>Katherine Battersby: Children's Writing and Picture Books (inc. illustrations) ages 3 - 12</p> <p>Katherine Battersby is a children's writer and illustrator whose first picture book, <i>Squish Rabbit</i>, was published by Viking (Penguin) in 2011. Her next picture book, <i>Brave Squish rabbit</i>, is forthcoming in September 2012. She has had short stories published in <i>The School Magazine</i> and anthologies such as <i>Short and Scary</i>.</p>	<p>Thursdays 10am - 3pm</p> <p>1, 8, 15, 22, 29 March 5, 12, 19, 26 April 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 May 7, 14, 21, 28 June</p>
	<p>Narelle Oliver: Picture Books/Lower Primary Fiction</p> <p>Narelle Oliver is the author-illustrator of a number of award-winning children's picture books. Narelle has tutored in Language and Children's Literature subjects, Faculty of Education, University of Southern Qld, and is a registered mentor with Qld Writers Centre and the Australian Society of Authors. She is a regular speaker in schools, at conferences and literature festivals and has conducted numerous residencies in primary, secondary and tertiary institutions.</p>	<p>Saturdays 11am only</p> <p>18 February 10 March 17 March 14 April 2 June</p>

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Consultants		Availability
	<p>Peter Ball: Crime Fiction/Speculative Fiction/Short Fiction</p> <p>Peter M. Ball's first published SF story showed up in <i>Dreaming Again</i> in 2007, and since then his short fiction has appeared in publications such as <i>Fantasy</i>, <i>Strange Horizons</i>, <i>Apex Magazine</i>, <i>Eclipse 4</i>, and <i>Years Best SF 15</i>. His faerie-noir novella, <i>Horn</i>, was published in 2009 by Twelfth Planet Press, and was followed by <i>Bleed</i> in 2010. He can be found online at www.petermball.com.</p>	<p>Wednesdays and Saturdays</p> <p>7, 10, 14, 17, 21, 28 March 4, 11, 14, 18 April 2, 9, 12, 16, 19, 23, 26, 30 May</p>
	<p>Sally Collings: Memoir/Non-Fiction/Self-publishing/Cover Letter and Synopsis</p> <p>Writer, publisher and speaker Sally Collings has worked in book publishing for more than 20 years, building unparalleled expertise and a sparkling reputation in non-fiction. Sally is the author of the bestselling <i>Sophie's Journey</i>; <i>Positive</i>; <i>The World According to Kids</i> and <i>Parenting With Soul</i>. She is also former associate publisher (non-fiction) with HarperCollins Publishers Australia and editorial director for Amber Books in the UK. Sally is co-founder of Red Hill Publishing.</p>	<p>Wednesdays 10am-12.30pm</p> <p>14 March 4 April 2 May 6 June</p>
	<p>Sandy Curtis: General Fiction/Romance Fiction/Crime Fiction</p> <p>Sandy Curtis is the author of five romantic suspense thrillers published in Australia and Germany. Her novels have been shortlisted in the Ned Kelly Crime Awards, and two have been finalists in the mainstream section of the Romantic Book of the Year Award run by the Romance Writers of Australia. She has won awards for her short stories, writes a weekly newspaper column, and organises WriteFest, the annual Bundaberg Writers festival. She is currently writing her second women's fiction novel.</p> <p>www.sandycurtis.com</p>	<p>Wednesdays from 2pm</p> <p>7, 14, 21, 28 March 4, 11, 18 April 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 May 6, 13, 20, 27 June</p>

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Consultants		Availability
	<p>Simon Groth: Digital Publishing/Website Assessment</p> <p>Simon Groth is the manager of if:book Australia. His short fiction has been published in <i>Overland</i>, <i>Island</i>, and <i>Meanjin</i> as well as other literary journals in Australia and the United States. In 2010, Simon was the co-editor with Sean Sennett of <i>Off The Record: 25 Years of Music Street Press</i>, published by UQP. Since 2001, Simon has experimented with digital publishing platforms, and his web site offers fiction in both print and digital forms and chats with an automated character</p>	<p>Mondays</p> <p>5 March 2 April 7 May 4 June</p>