

Competitions

◆ Another round of writing and photography challenges to inspire you. Do jump in - the applause is refreshing.

Riots and Unrest

◆ Planning a trip overseas? The peasants are revolting in many places.

Spot the difference

◆ Shouldn't the heavy hand of justice come down harder on those 'with connections' who behave badly, than it does on the rest of us?

◆ But it seems it's easier to punish the 'small fish'. And home detention is nicer when you own a mansion.

Job Opportunities, near and far

◆ Including, maybe, the one you've been waiting for.

Fifty shades of erotica at your local public library

◆ Ready for a raunchy read?

Who sees your email? With some governments now being open about the level of spying they do, are we ready to realise how public our 'private' email really is?



Is the traditional press panicking?

◆ Chicago Sun Times lays off ALL its photographers!

Websites to explore

◆ Each month we'll bring you three more websites which caught our attention. They may catch yours, too.

Who benefits?

◆ Living on a street with a war; each breath could be your last.

Fiction to finish. P12.

Methinks they tweeteth too much

A little bird told me some people don't know when to shut up. Too much tweeting and excessive emailing can lead to trouble.



Ask Peter Dunne MP.

Ask US General David Petraeus.

Ask Evelyn Hammonds.

It seems Hammonds, the respected Dean of Harvard University who resigned recently, had conducted a secret search of emails sent by teachers. She was trying to discover who had leaked information regarding a plagiarism cheating scandal at ivy-league Harvard.

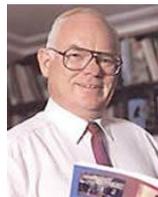
Investigating officials determined the lecturer in question had committed "an inadvertent error and not an intentional breach" by emailing confidential information to two students.

News of the secret search drew immediate criticism from some members of Harvard's faculty.

Professor Harry Lewis, himself a former Dean of Harvard, wrote in his blog: *"Why not tell people you are reading their emails? Isn't that the honourable thing to do?"*

What is to be gained by not doing so? Other than avoiding the embarrassment of acknowledging you are doing something to which the targets would reasonably object (if they knew about it.)" In the old days you could tell when a sealed letter had been tampered with. But spying on email traffic with PRISM doesn't leave clear fingerprints.

Foreign politicians and officials who took part in two G20 summit meetings in London in 2009 had their computers monitored and their phone calls intercepted on the instructions of their British Government hosts, according to documents seen by The Guardian. Some delegates were tricked into using spooked Internet cafes which had been set up by British intelligence agencies to read their email traffic.



"That's not sporting, old man."

The lesson is clear: consider every email you send is as open as an announcement pinned on a village notice board. □

Brian Morris ♦ Principal

Spice for the Principal

Brian Morris met radio host **Navtej Randhawa** through online auction site TradeMe.

It's possible Brian bought some red shoes, because he's being transported on Sunday to **Radio Spice**, an Indian radio station that broadcasts to South Auckland (and elsewhere, including over the net).

You can hear Brian talking about ebooks and other things at **7.12pm, Sunday night, 7 July.**



NOTE:

Institute Mailing Address

To help us get your work back to you quickly, please check the return address on your return envelopes (You may have some old ones):

**NZIBS
PO Box 282288,
Auckland 2147**

Please handwrite the new PO Box number on your reply-paid envelopes. Thank you.

Carol Morris ♦ Registrar



On our website

Learn new skills and make a new career for yourself.

Freelance Travel Writing and Photography:

http://nzibs.co.nz/?page_id=40

Journalism and Non Fiction Writing

http://nzibs.co.nz/?page_id=38

Sports Journalism

http://nzibs.co.nz/?page_id=60

Creative writing

http://nzibs.co.nz/?page_id=28

Romance writing

http://nzibs.co.nz/?page_id=58

Mystery and Thriller writing

http://nzibs.co.nz/?page_id=50

How to write poetry

http://nzibs.co.nz/?page_id=44

Writing stories for children

http://nzibs.co.nz/?page_id=83

Writing short stories

http://nzibs.co.nz/?page_id=79

Writing your first novel

http://nzibs.co.nz/?page_id=85

Life Coaching

http://nzibs.co.nz/?page_id=46

Digital Photography for Beginners

http://nzibs.co.nz/?page_id=30

Professional Freelance Photography

http://nzibs.co.nz/?page_id=130

Proofreading and Book Editing

http://nzibs.co.nz/?page_id=56

Information on any course we run is available by telephone:

09 5329059 or **0800 801994**.

You already have one foot on the first rung of a ladder. Your climb could take you to the stars.

*call **Carol Morris** ♦ Registrar, now.

Photography Clubs

They are everywhere - nationwide. Photography clubs keep you up to date with events, seminars, competitions, and more.

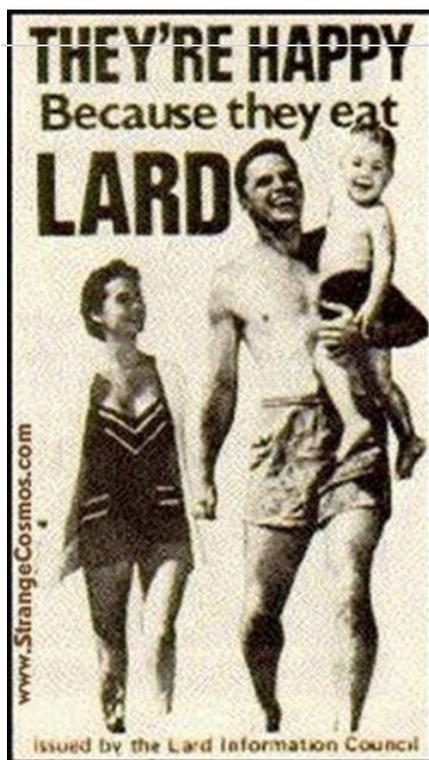
NZ Photographic Society details:

http://www.photography.org.nz/clubs_map.html

Kiwi Write 4 Kids

Kiwi Write4Kidz is an organisation for adults who like to write tales for children. If you want to learn more about technique, you can hear it direct from the mouths of the finest Kiwi children's authors.

<http://www.kiwiwrite4kidz.co.nz/>



International Writers' Workshop

meets on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month, February to November inclusive, at the Lake House Arts Centre, Takapuna.

<http://www.iww.co.nz/>

Hibiscus Coast Writers

Members enjoy workshops and up to six competitions a year including poetry, short stories, drama and non-fiction, all judged externally.

<http://hibiscuscoastwriters.weebly.com/>

Franklin Writers

This group meets at Franklin Arts and Cultural Centre, Pukekohe.

Contact Judy / Barbara 09232 0132.

Job Opportunities

[eCommerce Content Editor](#)

Farmers, Manukau

Are you a copywriter with an interest in fashion, etc?

No closing date.

[Media Advisor for New Zealand First](#), Wellington

Work on communications, media releases, research and publications. Closes 14 July.

[Communications Advisor](#), DairyNZ, Hamilton

The role includes writing and editing content as well as drafting media releases. Closes 14 July.

[Senior Advisor Government Services](#), Tertiary Education Commission, Wellington

Looking for an excellent writer and proofreader. Closes 10 July.

[Senior Journalist](#),

Newstalk ZB, Auckland

Develop stories, prepare scripts and conduct hard-hitting interviews. Closes 5 July.

[Web Content Editor/Administrator](#), SearchWorks, Wellington

Requires communication skills, including editing and presentation skills. No closing date.

[Associate Editor](#), Adis Medical Journals, Auckland

Shape the content of the Adis journals for the benefit of readers. Closes 7 July.

[Editor/Communications Advisor](#), Controller Auditor General, Wellington

Are you a quick-thinking, audience-focused wordsmith? Closes 14 July.

[PR and Promotions](#), Buy NZ Made, Wellington

Requires outstanding writing and interviewing skills. No closing date.

[Media Advisor - Japan](#),

Tourism NZ, Auckland

Inspire international media to promote NZ as a holiday destination. Closes 9 July.

[Communications Manager - Horticultural](#), Extenday, Auckland

Assist with the company's promotional activities and publicity. No closing date.

Don't bother applying for this

by **Brian Morris**

The job specs look interesting. You've got the right credentials and experience. You'd like the job.



Will you bother to apply? A lot of jobs go to 'one of the boys'.

Raelene Castle may have wondered. But she thought "I'll apply anyway. You never know."

After due process Raelene Castle was appointed CEO of the Canterbury Bulldogs.

"I have grown up with rugby league," says Raelene. "I believe my appreciation of its history and the importance of the game to the Australian sporting landscape will be an excellent platform for the business acumen I bring to the role."

Castle follows in the footsteps of Liz Dawson, who was chief executive of the Adelaide Rams during Super League, and Donna Burke, who was Cronulla chief in 1988/89. Her achievement is up there with Margaret Thatcher, Kate Shepherd, and Freda du Faur.

Raelene's experience in guiding Netball New Zealand to its current prowess and popularity certainly gave her street cred.

The Bulldogs club was in disarray after various breaches of NRL rules. They needed a strong hand at the helm.

Now they have a robust leader – and she wears a skirt.

Brian Morris will be on air 7.12pm Sunday night, 7 July.

Radio Spice. Broadcasting to Indians in South Auckland.

Here's the computer link >>>

<http://tunein.com/program/?ProgramId=482577&StationId=135826>

Brazil faces problems before big events

by **Brian Morris**

If you're planning a trip to Brazil to share in Pope Francis' July homeland visit, or the 2014 Soccer World Cup or the 2016 Olympic Games, it's time to reconsider.



Check what you might get: protest marches, teargas, rubber bullets and all the stuff countries don't want when there are international visitors in town.

What started as a minor protest over increased Sao Paulo bus fares has escalated into widespread public dissatisfaction with the Government, led by President Dilma Rousseff.



When China spent US\$40 billion building 12 new stadiums for their Beijing Olympics, their economy could afford it. China's dictatorial officials brooked no dissent.

They put on a good show in 2008 and the legacy of improved infrastructure in Beijing has left a 'feel-good' factor.

Those who did protest about shantytown removals, air pollution and the like were re-housed and re-educated in gulags thousands of miles away.

But President Rousseff declared "peaceful protests are part of the democratic process".

Hence, a little rally about bus fares soon overflowed into protests about official taxes corruption, high cost of food, drugs and gun problems.



We've seen nothing yet. Wait until the spring. That's usually when the real protest season begins.

Watch for nervous diplomatic 'assistance' being offered to Brazil as the high-profile sporting events draw closer. There are millions at stake for a lot of wealthy television networks.



Spot the difference

by **Brian Morris**

As I flick through the news, these items caught my eye.

Photos of Charles Saatchi gripping his wife's throat, strongly enough to make her cry, splashed across the UK papers.



He described the incident as "a playful tiff". He was given a "police caution" and sent on his way.

Rugby League player Paul Gallen landed two solid punches on Nate Myles in the Aussie State-Of-Origin Queensland v NSW match.



This was brushed off by NSW coach Laurie Daley as "The captain was taking a stand. It was a great Origin moment as far as I'm concerned."

If you assault someone in the street the cops will be after you. Do it in a flash restaurant or on the football pitch and "it's just a tiff" or "a great Origin moment".

Can you spot the difference?

A shoplifter in Rotorua pleaded guilty to stealing three trolley-loads of goods valued at \$800. The judge sentenced her to six months in jail.

Between 2006 and 2011 there were 46 finance company collapses affecting 200,000 investors who lost \$6billion of their savings. The Serious Fraud Office prosecuted only nine companies.

The directors of one sizeable finance company which went into receivership owing \$176 million to 6000 investors got home detention.

Can you spot the difference?

"When I owe the bank \$100 I've got a problem. But when I owe the bank \$100million the bank has a problem." This banking axiom has been attributed to many famous financiers.

It seems the corollary is also true. If you blatantly steal \$800 you go to prison, but if you fraudulently embezzle \$800million you're allowed to live in your own luxury home with air conditioning, swimming pool, TV, library and home comforts.

Is this what's meant, these days, in our classless, egalitarian world, by 'it is how the other half live'?

I'll be reminding my MP of the differences.

> Only in a gun-loving society.



Job Opportunities

[Photography Assistant](#), PhotoWonder, Auckland
Assist photographers at photo shoots. No closing date.

[Junior Designer](#), The Parenting Place, Auckland
Seeking someone with imagination, who has both design and copy skills. Closes 10 July.

[National Director of News](#), Fairfax Media, Wellington
Execute Fairfax's news growth plan. Closes 14 July.

[Campaign Manager](#), Fairfax Digital, Wellington
Organise the delivery, testing and scheduling of online advertising campaigns. Closes 12 July.

[Recruitment Editor](#), University of Canterbury, Christchurch
Develop recruitment publications and websites. Closes 14 July.

[Fashion Photography Intern](#), Project Bloom, Wellington
Work as a trainee assistant alongside pro photographers. No closing date.

[Portrait Photographer](#), Positive Negatives, Manukau
Looking for a creative and experienced professional photographer. Closes 12 July.

[PA / Administrative Assistant](#), LINK, Auckland
Tasks include proofreading, formatting and editing documents. Closes 22 July.

[General Manager – News Online](#), TVNZ, Auckland
Manage the digital product life cycle. Closes 7 July.

[Staff Writer](#), Marketplace Media, Auckland
Write for business to business magazines and websites. No closing date.

[Sports Reporter / Producer](#), TVNZ, Auckland
Produce world class sports stories for One News. Closes 2 July.

[Creative Communicator](#), SearchWorks, Wellington
Senior advisory role in a busy organisation. No closing date.

Society of Authors

The NZ Society of Authors works in the interests of authors in New Zealand. The Society (PEN NZ Inc) is guided by values of fairness, accountability and responsiveness.

The mission of the Society is to support the interests of all writers in New Zealand, and the communities they serve.

Join here:

<http://www.authors.org.nz/>

How to get a job is an ebook you'll find at Amazon. This short \$5 book gives you all the steps for getting a job. Age 16 to 65, this is the book. Call 0800-801994 for a chat about your upskilling career options.

<http://tinyurl.com/pqvqjky>

The Poets Society

Membership of the New Zealand Poetry Society entitles you to their bimonthly magazine and reduced fees in their annual competition.

Several other benefits include a **members-only** website page.

<http://www.poetrysociety.org.nz/join>

New Zealand Freelance Writers' Association

Have you found their site yet? You can't always find a writers group, so here's another place you can go to connect with writers.

<http://www.nzfreelancewriters.org.nz/>

Romance Writers of NZ

This non-profit organisation was founded in September 1990 by Jean Drew (NZIBS tutor). RWNZ has over 260 members (published and unpublished writers) from NZ, Aust, USA, UK and SA.

<http://www.romancewriters.co.nz/>

MEDIA caps for NZIBS graduates

- ❖ Journalist,
- ❖ Sports Journalist
- ❖ Photographer
- ❖ Travel Writer.

If you'd like one, please send \$10 and a letter detailing your name, postal address and former student number. White. One size fits all.



Public library chases raunchy readers

by **Brian Morris.**

Librarians worldwide are asking "Where have our traditional walk-in readers gone?"

They've gone to Kindle e-readers, Xbox, TXTing, Sky-TV, gym exercising and cooking classes on their iPads.

With its 55 libraries to fill, Auckland has brought in Dr Matt Finch to spruce up their customer appeal.

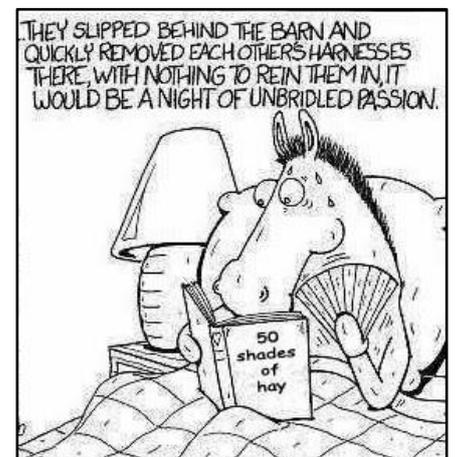


Calling on his English libraries experience, Dr Finch has introduced 'Erotica Nights' where there are readings from pop novels (including *50 Shades of Grey*), X-rated films, music, burlesque theatre, and experts to lead public discussions on topics not often talked about in the open.



"Libraries are here to cater for whatever people want to read," Finch said.

"Libraries are all about promoting lively discussion, so why not bring in authors, comedians and a psychologist who is an expert on sex."



Time will tell whether these special events attract 18-25 year olds back into libraries.

See what Whitesboro Library users borrowed last month:

[Adult Fiction](#), [Adult Non-Fiction](#)
[Juvenile Fiction](#), [Audio Books](#)
[Compact Discs](#), [DVDs](#)

Thanks to the nurses who treated me after I awkwardly tried to reenact the sex scenes in *Fifty Shades of Grey*.

someecards



Job Opportunities

[Media Advisor](#), Earthquake Commission, Christchurch
Identify media opportunities and prepare plain English content for EQC communication channels. No closing date.

[Communications Coordinator](#), Queen Margaret College, Wellington
Requires writing and photography skills. Closes 4 July.

[Marketing and Communications Manager](#), Bell Gully, Auckland
Requires high technical literacy and a passion for writing, editing and proofreading in plain language. No closing date.

[POI Editor](#), Ministry of Social Development, Wellington
Respond to requests for information made pursuant to the Privacy Act and Official Information Act. Closes 9 July.

[Senior Editor](#), Cuisine Magazine, Auckland
Play a pivotal role in the title's production. Closes 9 July.

[Editorial Assistant](#), Cuisine Magazine, Auckland
This entry-level role would suit a journalism/communications graduate. Closes 8 July.

[Advertising Features Writer](#), Christchurch Mail
Do you have a flair for writing and a way with words? Closes 8 July.

[Marketing Contractor](#), Momentum, Auckland
Ensure the accuracy of marketing collateral through to production. No closing date.

[Journalist](#), South Waikato News
Roll up your sleeves, and break stories. Closes 5 July.

[Reporter](#), Mid Canterbury Herald, Ashburton
Seeking all-round reporter with loads of initiative. Closes 5 July.

[Editor](#), Pex Publications, Auckland
Research, verify, enter information and edit reports. No closing date.

[Personal Assistant](#), PwC, New Plymouth
Create, proofread and edit documents. No closing date.



Were we so gullible?

A young journalist heard about a very old Jewish man who had been going to the Western Wall in Jerusalem to pray, twice a day, every day, for a long, long time.

So she went to check it out. She went to the Western Wall and there he was, walking slowly up to the holy site.

She watched him pray and after about 45 minutes, when he turned to leave, using a cane and moving very slowly, she approached him for an interview. "Pardon me, sir, I'm Rebecca Smith from CNN. What's your name?"

"Morris Feinberg," he replied.

"Sir, how long have you been coming to the Western Wall and praying?"

"For about 60 years."

"Sixty years! That's amazing! What do you pray for?"

"I pray for peace between the Christians, Jews and the Muslims. I pray for all the wars and all the hatred to stop. I pray for all our children to grow up safely as responsible adults and to love their fellow man.

"I pray that politicians tell us the truth and put the interests of the people ahead of their own interests.."

"How do you feel after doing this for 60 years?"

"Like I'm talking to a brick wall."

We can all relate to that!



An elderly man was stopped by the police around 2am and was asked where he was going at that time of night.

The man replied, "I'm on my way to a lecture about alcohol abuse and the effects it has on the human body, and the bad effects of smoking and staying out late."

"Really," asked the officer. "Who's lecturing at this hour?"

The man replied, "That will be my wife."

Her first novel is on Amazon!

Gay Cheesmur completed her Creative Writing course in 2008, studying under tutor **Michael Morrissey**. Since then she has completed her first book, **'Regrets'**, which was published by WingsExpress, under the nom-de-plume **Allie Cooper**.

Her book tells the story of a woman whose son suicides and the mother's torrid journey of recovery after that heart-rending event.



Gay, receiving her diploma from NZIBS Principal Brian Morris

Look for her book on Amazon <http://tinyurl.com/mtxhtmlh>

You can be one of the first to write a review.

Give it all the stars you think it has earned.

Online Openings

for editors and proofreaders

When searching online, search for variations of what you want, i.e:

- **Proofreading**
- **Proof reading**
- **Book editing**
- **Editing**
- **Manuscript correcting**

Get creative. Some more ideas:

Craigslist.org

Don't forget this international billboard of opportunities.

<http://auckland.craigslist.org/>

Chat-To-Your-Tutor

Look for the dates and times on the SDB - **First week in July.**

Online Writing Jobs.com

<http://www.online-writing-jobs.com/jobs/freelance-proofreading-jobs.php>

Virtual Vocations

The whole spectrum of vocations are here – so use a targeted search to find your specialty.

<http://www.virtualvocations.com/jobs>

iFreelance

Advertise your services here:

<http://www.ifreelance.com/>

Freelance Writing Gigs

Online references, contract jobs and plenty of contacts.

<http://FreelanceWritingGigs.com>

Freelance Writing

This site gives links to writing, proofreading and editing work:

<http://FreelanceWriting.com>

Elnance.com

<https://www.elnace.com/q/find-work/online-work-overview/>

Donanza.com

Donanza does draw its job listings from other places, so you may see ads you've seen elsewhere.

<http://www.donanza.com/jobs/proofreading>

EBOOK WRITING

Brian Morris will be conducting a LIVE workshop for novice ebook writers at Botany Library, Auckland. **Saturday 27 July. 2pm-4pm. Fee = \$25.**

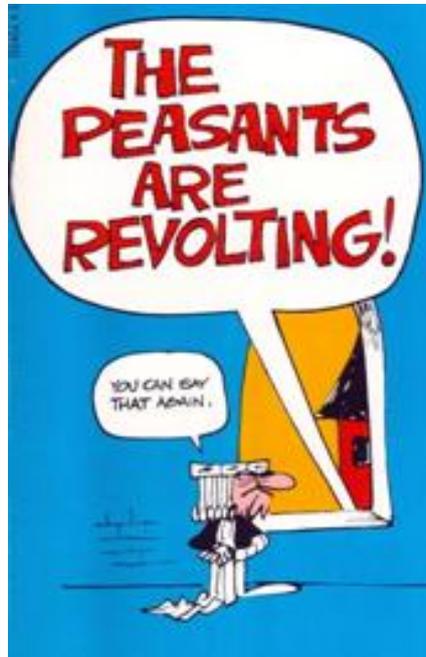
Enquiries: registrar@nzibs.co.nz

The peasants are revolting, your Majesty"

by *Brian Morris*

"Yes, aren't they?"

That old comedy gag used to get a laugh. Now it's a serious matter for the governments of Turkey, Greece, Syria and a dozen other places.



In Turkey, plans to cut down 606 trees was the trigger that has set off a nationwide protest aimed at unseating Prime Minister Erdogan.

It began as a small local protest, against building a new shopping centre on Gezi Park near Taksim Square in the middle of Istanbul. But it grew.



I recall the protest years ago when Christchurch road makers wanted to cull a dozen trees from Hagley Park to improve traffic flow around the sharp bend from Deans into Moorhouse Avenue.



Suddenly a 'few trees' provides a catalyst that shifts public opinion - and once a small group grows into a large voice, it can't be ignored.

The trees stayed and road engineers found another solution.

Where I live now, some locals are revolting against plans to build a supermarket and shopping complex on green fields currently dotted with sheep.

Supporters say "You can't stop progress" while the protesters declare "We will boycott the new shops".

Polarity divides a community, but at least we are not throwing petrol bombs or being doused with tear gas and water cannons.

Yet.

Maybe things will get more lively when we hear about Wellington's Frank Kitts Park being turned into a new casino with brothel.

Shame on me. That's how false rumours start.

Chicago newspaper lays off photography department

by **Brian Morris**

In a dramatic move the Chicago Sun-Times www.suntimes.com has laid off its entire team of 28 photographers, including Pulitzer-prize winner John White.



Management aim to retrain their journalists to use iPhones as cameras, and plan to use freelance photographers.

"Give us more videos" seems to be the boss's call. See what they got in this video report here: <http://tinyurl.com/mawtqbu>

Competitor newspaper Chicago Tribune photographer Alex Garcia shared these warnings: "Reporters are ill-equipped to take over (from photographers) because reporters use a different hemisphere of the brain to do their jobs.

Visual reporting and written reporting will take you to different parts of a (news) scene and hold you there longer."



He also cited the smartphone's shortcomings as a camera: "An iPhone is just a phone.

It doesn't have a telephoto lens to see past police lines or across a sports field or across a four-lane highway.

It doesn't have the manual controls needed to deal with countless situations automatic exposure will fail to capture."

It's interesting that when the Sun-Times was controlled by Rupert Murdoch's News Corp its front pages tended towards the sensational while its editorial stance was conservative.

Roger Ebert reflected on the first day of Murdoch's ownership:

"He walked into the newsroom and we all gathered around. He recited the usual blather then rolled up his shirtsleeves and started to lay out a new front page. He was a real newspaperman, I'll give him that. He threw out every meticulous detail of our beautiful design, ordered up big, garish headlines, and gave big play to a story about a rabbi accused of holding a sex slave. The story turned out to be factually flawed, but so what? It sold papers."



"Actually, it didn't sell papers. There were hundreds of cancellations. Soon our precious page 3 was defaced by a girl in a bikini promoting a cash giveaway."

The world of newspapers is dynamic. People still want news but the messengers and the delivery method changes over time.

Click here to get details of digital photography and journalism courses

Freelance Journalism

http://nzibs.co.nz/?page_id=38

Freelance Photography

http://nzibs.co.nz/?page_id=130

Job Opportunities

[Work Tutor](#), Responsive Trade Education, Hamilton
Design and deliver an employment skills/life skills programme.
No closing date.

[Communications Advisor](#), The Canterbury Community Trust, Christchurch
Requires experience in writing social media and website content.
Closes 8 July.

[Digital Content Producer](#), Bauer Media Group, Auckland
Looking for someone who is interested in growing their career in the digital publishing industry.
No closing date.

[Manager Web News](#), Radio NZ, Wellington
Help shape the future of Radio NZ's online news service. Closes 8 July.

[Communications and Marketing Manager](#), Child Matters, Hamilton
Plan and implement the strategic marketing direction of the organisation. No closing date.

[Proofreader / Mac Operator](#), Foodstuffs, Auckland
Proofread and help produce advertising and promotional material. No closing date.

[Web Editor](#), AbsoluteIT, Wellington
Seeking an experienced Web Editor for a 6-month contract.
No closing date.

[Graphic Designer](#), Techday, Auckland
Design two business magazines per month. No closing date.

[Photo Editor](#), More Images, Auckland
Edit images and add captions and headlines. No closing date.

[Marketing Communications and Online Coordinator](#), Clothing Journal, Auckland
Write content daily and manage technical components of the website. No closing date.

[PR Assistant](#), SKYKIWI.COM, Auckland
Photograph events and assist with PR communications.
No closing date.

Websites to explore

1. Finally, a website that tells you what will happen when you go there:

Waste so much time

The website name says it all, but it understates just how compelling the content is. Take [this teddy bear poster](#), for example. There is tremendous talent and thought put into a seemingly-inane illustration.

Or watch [this kid jumping rope](#). The coordination required here is impressive. The site name is very well earned, and you'll love every second you spend here. Don't tell us you weren't warned! ☺

<http://iwastesomuchtime.com/>

2. Where cool things happen

This photo blog is dedicated to inspiring news in art, travel, lifestyle, gadgetry, and most anything in life that will give you a 'WOW' feeling. The photographs here cover the entire spectrum of human experience, from sushi art, to driving dogs, to Mongolian desert hotels, to an insider look at Google's server farms.

<http://www.wherecoolthingshappen.com/>



3. Life hacker

Lifehacker' is a stylishly-named life and lifestyle tips and software recommendation site.

The mesmerizing appeal of Lifehacker is about how practically useful it is: all the advice focuses on accomplishing more in your everyday life. ☺

<http://lifehacker.com/>

Introducing people

by *Brian Morris*

There's a section in **Students Discussion Board** where new students introduce themselves to the general student body. (Look in **Competitions. Only for new students...**)

<http://www.nzibs.org/forums/showthread.php?t=4809>)

The purpose is for you to WRITE whatever you'd say to new people you meet at a cocktail party or village barbecue. A short word picture of yourself.

Tip: Throw something in which will elicit the response "That's interesting." Eg: "I used to be a chauffeur in California." (I did!)

The Fish Awards Short Story and Poetry

Stories on any theme written in English, maximum of 5,000 words.

The 2013/14 competitions will open soon. Details here:

<http://www.fishpublishing.com/writing-contest-competition.php>

The Story Mint

Participate in a serial here:

<http://thestorymint.com/story-mintery>

You can add one chapter of up to 500 words to the latest serial.

Put your name down for a slot and write 480 -500 words to carry the story forward.

About competitions

We have eight NZIBS competitions, plus URL links to dozens of worldwide competitions.

You are encouraged to enter as many as you feel inspired to enter.

The exercise keeps your brain sharp and nimble.

If you win a competition you'll enjoy the satisfaction of knowing you're up there among the best.

If you're not sure of your ability, enter anyway.

Remember, the Olympics is for those who scrape into qualifying just as much as for those who expect to win gold.



GLIMMER TRAIN

VERY SHORT FICTION

Guidelines:

Open to all writers, this category welcomes stories that have not appeared in any print publication. Maximum length: 3,000 words.

Next deadline: July 31, 2013

Writer's Relief

30 day Know Thyself Challenge.

Define who you are as a writer – and there's a prize... but you have to enter to discover it.

You do need a facebook account.

<http://www.facebook.com/writersrelief>

Photo Competitions

216 competitions are listed here:

<http://www.photographycompetitions.net>

Among them all, there **will be at least ONE for you. Enter it.**

2013 DANA AWARDS Fiction, Poetry, Novels

Novel award . . . for the first 40 pages ONLY of a novel either completed or in progress (in-progress submissions should be as polished as possible). All types of novels accepted (NO MEMOIRS). No novels for or by persons under 16. Typed, double-spaced only.

Short Story award . . . for the best short fiction. Maximum 10,000 words per short story. No stories for or by persons under 16. Typed, double-spaced only.

Poetry award . . .for the best group of 5 poems, judged on the overall excellence of all 5. 5 poems per entry. No light verse or verse for or by persons under 16. Poems may be thematically related but need not be. Poems longer than 100 lines are discouraged. Typed. Single-spaced preferred.

Submission deadline is Oct 31

Competitions



Go on . . . have a go

For details of all competitions, just click the links - and join in!

What's the Question?

(Answer supplied - you write a question that matches)

<http://nzibs.org/forums/showthread.php?p=25652>

That's Life!

What's happening?

<http://nzibs.org/forums/showthread.php?t=4953>

Chinese Whispers

(write a new verse for the poem)

<http://nzibs.org/forums/showthread.php?p=25664>

Simplify

(make extravagant writing simple)

<http://nzibs.org/forums/showthread.php?p=25663>

Romance Story

(write the **next** 50-100 words)

<http://nzibs.org/forums/showthread.php?p=25673>

Fable rewriting

(the fox and the hedgehog)

<http://nzibs.org/forums/showthread.php?p=25662>

Creative Photography

(June/July challenge: shape, shapeless, and translucent)

<http://nzibs.org/forums/showthread.php?t=4876>

The first 100-150 words

Write an imaginary novel prologue

<http://nzibs.org/forums/showthread.php?t=4888>

And more competitions here:

<http://nzibs.org/forums/forumdisplay.php?f=11>

Look who's entered

Here's some more word jousting with Andrea and David. Do join in: <http://www.nzibs.org/forums/forumdisplay.php?f=11>

DAVID MULLER:

Irritably she slammed her laptop shut. A pair of emails and now what? There were principles to keep. She was not going to be beholden to any male.

It had begun with an introduction from a dear friend; a blind date; then their wondrous relationship.

How she had reveled in the jealous stares of other women. Suddenly it was all going pear-shaped.

Her principal fear was that she had scared him badly with pictures of fancy engagement rings. Now he was running like a startled deer.

She snatched up her cell phone and punched in his number. Would he answer?

ANDREA FREILICH:

Lennard overheard Violet say that pear drops were her favourite.

"I shall send her two dozen jars at once, and ginger too."

She selected a pair of sweets, with plump fingers and put them to her dear, delectable, rosebud mouth. They fell onto her breast, leaving a faintly sticky trail there.

This image caused his heart to pound wildly; he fell to the floor.

Lennard saw two deer in the sun-dappled shade from his window, and hoped this was an omen of their future.

"If only I were my father's true son, I would not hesitate to reveal my love."

Yes, we believed this garbage!



Job Opportunities

[Junior Reporter](#), APN, Tauranga
Requires strong reporting and writing skills and an enthusiasm for news. No closing date.

[Public Relations and Marketing Manager](#), Wotif Group, Auckland
Travel company wants your top-notch verbal and written communication skills. No closing date.

[Studio Photographer](#), Vivid Photography, Wellington
Requires Photoshop skills and a desire to shoot and then produce print-ready images. No closing date.

[Admin, Prep & Photography](#), Chapman Family Industries, Hamilton
Photograph clothing and footwear for online retailer. No closing date.

[Rehabilitation Coach Assistant](#), Bupa Rehab, Gisborne
Assist clients moving towards their own goals and independence. No closing date.

[Instructional Designer](#), Atlantis Healthcare, Auckland
Create, produce and manage engaging eLearning courses. No closing date.

[Creative Writer/Producer](#), AssessSystems, Rotorua
Seeking someone able to fly gracefully between the twin trapeze of writing and audio production. No closing date.

[Studio Assistant](#), PixiFoto, Auckland
Position includes photography training. No closing date.

[Intermediate Website Designer](#), Mint Design, Christchurch
Small agency with a big brand needs a part-time website designer. No closing date.

[Instructional Designer](#), Atlantis Healthcare, Auckland
Create and produce engaging eLearning courses. No closing date.

[Marketing & Communications Specialist](#), Burger Fuel, Auckland
You need to be able to change between corporate and consumer comms. No closing date.

Who benefits?

by **John Thompson**

A short story example reproduced for students and graduates.

His world had been at war his entire life. From the moment he awoke each day, bitter words forged by chronic poverty flew through the home, piercing the fabric of the family like emotional weapons. His father left before the sunrise to escape the verbal pounding and to begin his 2 hour trip to possible employment - a trip that cost the family money it did not have. His mother left for her job shortly thereafter, fleeing the millstones of a system grinding down her family. The hardscape of the neighborhood directed every aspect of their lives.

At 13 he knew only a world filled with random acts of violence that created a universe defined by terror. Every action from placing a bed against an inner wall to sitting with his grandmother on the front porch was fraught with the possibilities of death.

Only yesterday, friends of his grandmother had been struck down by a car that had careened onto a sidewalk where people had been waiting for the breadline to open. The impact of the car had left its mark in the weathered brick walls, as had the 9mm rounds from last week's yet-another drive-by shooting, framed by graffiti art of rival gangs.

He eased out the door, cautiously assessing every movement in the stray shadows of dawn. The neighbour was up first thing, still trying to remove the stench from his car. No one knew exactly how he earned his living, but some unknown someone had put fresh fish and crabs under the back seat a few weeks ago, and now the smell of well rotted sea creatures permeated the block, wafting through the open windows where air conditioners were unaffordable.

The failing paint and desperate stoops showcased a parsimonious gathering of plant life that, like the

residents, came from many exotic places. First arrivals from distant lands still predominated but, here and there, newcomers from all over the world had put down roots and settled in. And in rare instances even a native or two could be found, though now headed for oblivion. At the corner was the market, a convenience store where patrons were greeted by proprietors behind thick glass who, like all the non native plants, had little interaction with the community. And yet the lack of connections and the aggregation of species and people from all over the world defined the neighborhood and gave it a feeling of something new, not quite defined, but somehow in the making.

He now faced a decision. To the left, across Main Street was safety of a sort. To the right, the modern city beckoned with its busy denizens facing their daily struggle with paralyzing indecisions of the size and type of coffee to buy, and the ever vigilant police to guarantee their safety. To the right along the shadows of decaying buildings were the lands between the 'Third and Main' and the 'Novas', a shorter route by far, but fraught with choices that were uncertain. The 'Third and Main' were the elders challenged by novelty from a different place and time. Here, along dark untended alleys and doorways that led to neon lit rooms, brave souls put rotted chicken on steel hooks and dared rats to make a stand.

If he went to the left, he would face extra travel time and possible explanations to the private security guards of the old college and nearby stores. He would have to cross a park where the creek once was and the storm water now ran when the fingers of God lit up the sky and the sound of creation thundered across the skies. The well-worn path through the park wandered diagonally through the bramble and wild, unmanaged thickets filled with life had no particular name.

A month or so ago, men in white protective suits with masks and air supply had scoured the disturbed abandoned lot he knew as the park. They had come when dead animals and dead fish began to smell much like his neighbour's car. Adults had whispered about something spilled uptown and mentioned words like cancer, but after a few days the men in white had disappeared.

For him there was a fear in the landscape that was different from the normal terror of his world. He knew the names of friendly citizens on the street. He knew and could tell the peaceful from the dangerous, uncared-for souls who were to be avoided. He was street literate and could read the writing on the wall, but in the park nothing had a name and everything reached out to touch him in ways that only dreams could imagine. Even the sounds of nature had no names; the easily identified noises of the city were replaced by an unknown orchestra that haunted day dreams of the unwary. Down here he knew nothing at all except that his day's journey ended on the other side.

He had chosen to go left and brave the unmanaged lot and its wild ways. He had avoided the bites of insects; feral pets had avoided him. He had not become entangled in poisonous plants, and emerged unscathed to re-cross the road.

He heard the yelling before he saw the commotion. The shouting and the screaming rushed over him drowning out the real and imagined threats of nature. He saw at once the well dressed man pull a handgun from his bag and point it at the pursuing police. He clearly heard each distinct bite of gunfire -each individually delivered chance to live or die. He knew he had been hit, and that today he would not learn about someone dead some time ago. He understood as he began to fall that today he would not be going to school. □