

## Competitions

- ◆ There are several writing and photography challenges to inspire you. Join in!

## Capturing photos

- ◆ How to make the most of moments, and get them the way you remember them.

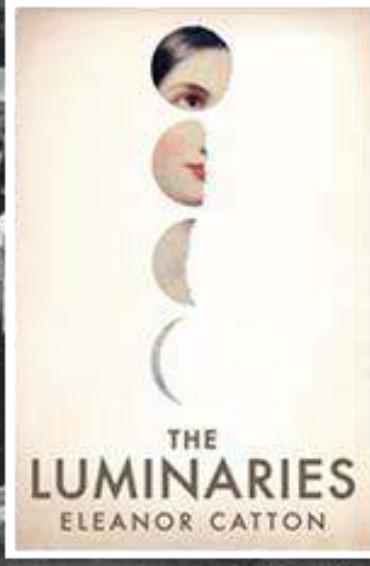
## Why be a writer?

- ◆ What's in it? Or do you write because you can't do anything else?

**New Zealander  
Eleanor Catton  
wins literature's  
exclusive prize**

**The Man  
Booker  
Prize**

**2013**



## Job Opportunities, near and far

- ◆ Do you want a new career, or a new part-time position, or perhaps you'd just like to 'see what's out there'?
- ◆ There are plenty of opportunities here. Perhaps one that's right for you.



## Shall we close the entire Government?

- ◆ Or just the parts that inconvenience ordinary folk, for do they really matter?

## Hope and Comfort

- ◆ How much love is used on a loved one dying? How much is kept for the trysts to come?

**Fiction to finish. P12.**

## What can we learn from the US Govt shut down?

Any motelier will tell you, "A bed not slept in is revenue you can never get back".

Americans NOT serving hotdogs to Senate workers and tour buses NOT taking people into national parks all discovered that lost business is never replaced.



### The shut down cost USA \$24billion.

The only people who benefited from being sent home on furlough were those who used their time to write a book, set up their ecommerce website or otherwise earn a second income.

America may be the home of entrepreneurship but people have learned the merit in having a reliable second income. We never know when our first income will dry up through redundancy or closure.

There have been many enquiries about writing novels and proofreading since Eleanor Catton won the Man Booker Prize.

Have you started writing yet? Writing and publishing is so straightforward now, that if you decide you'd like to, you can. And you won't be so dependent on that JOB with royalty income coming in.



Royalties from *The Little Yellow Digger* are just as sweet as those from the *Harry Potter* series or *The Luminaries*.

Graduates and students interested in writing novels, romances, thrillers, short stories or poems for adults or children are invited to request the free NZIBS report 1073: **'How to write your novel in 30 days.'** □

**Brian Morris ♦ Principal**

## Eleanor Catton reaches a high summit in literature

**She didn't tell people** she wanted to write; Ellie Catton kept her dream wrapped up like many do. She'd say she wanted to 'work in publishing.'

That's all changed now. The whole literary world knows her dream, and at 28 she is already one of the most lauded writers of her generation.

The Nobel apart, the Man Booker Prize is perhaps literature's most prestigious, and she is the youngest writer to win it, with the longest book: 832 pages in hardback.

Three Kiwi novels have made the shortlist for this prize in 46 years; the only previous winner was Keri Hulme's *The Bone People* in 1985.

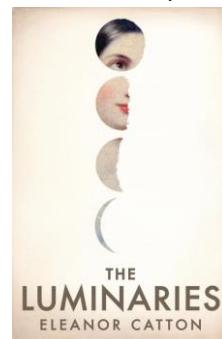
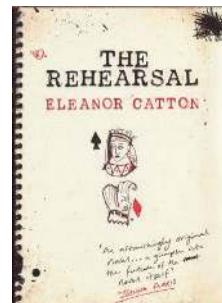
On the Man Booker website it states:

*"there were an extraordinary 151 novelists submitted for the prize and from this rich field of literary wheat hers is the one head that remains standing, waving in the warm breeze of the judges' favour. Life for Eleanor Catton will never be the same again."*

Her novel ***The Luminaries*** opens in 1866, in Hokitika, during the era of West Coast's gold rush. A group of 12 men meeting are joined by a stranger to town, and a multi-layered tale begins to unfold.

The story is told from multiple points of view, with each character adding their piece until the whole tapestry is complete.

It's an extensive work, which also uses astrological elements 'behind the scenes'.



Each of the book's 12 chapters halves the length of the previous giving the novel a sense of galloping to its climax. But Catton insists these structures are 'much more than just an exoskeleton'.

You can see Eleanor Catton's acceptance speech here:

[The video of her acceptance](#)

And the text of it here:

[The text of her acceptance](#)

We shouldn't be too surprised. She's been winning for some years. In 2007, Catton won the Sunday Star-Times (NZ) Short Story Competition, 2007, for *Necropolis*.

Her MA thesis, which was her first novel *The Rehearsal*, won the Adam Award in Creative Writing, also in 2007. The novel was also shortlisted for The Guardian first book award in 2009, and long listed for the Orange Prize in 2010.

Joshua Ferris of *The New Yorker* described Catton's first novel, *The Rehearsal*, as:

*"...an astonishingly original novel. Catton has earned her reputation as one of the most dazzling and inventive writers working today."*

Catton also won the Betty Trask Award, 2009, for *The Rehearsal*, and the New Zealand Society of Authors Hubert Church (Montana) Best First Book Award for Fiction, in 2009, for *The Rehearsal*.

### Then she won the Booker.

Catton had hefty competition.

Other titles on the Man Booker shortlist for 2013 were:

***A Tale for the Time Being***  
by Ruth Ozeki.

***Harvest***  
by Jim Crace,

***The Testament of Mary***  
by Colm Toibin,

***We Need New Names***  
by Noviolet Bulawayo, and

***The Lowland***  
by Jhumpa Lahiri

## Eleanor Catton

Praise for *The Luminaries* is fulsome and varied.

From the International Institute of Modern Letters, at Victoria University, where Catton received her MA:

*"Ellie's achievement is of course an individual triumph, made from years of meticulous work and motored by massive skill. At the IIML, where Ellie wrote her first novel, we also like her generosity in always suggesting that the community of writers she studied with and became friends with, has been a sustaining force in her writing."*

Damien Wilkins - IIML Director



The Man Booker chair of judges Robert Macfarlane described the book as a "dazzling work, luminous, vast." It is, he said, "a book you sometimes feel lost in, fearing it to be 'a big baggy monster', but it turns out to be as tightly structured as an orrery."

Macfarlane and his fellow judges were impressed by Catton's technique but it was her "extraordinarily gripping" narrative that enthralled them.

*"We read it three times and each time we dug into it the yields were extraordinary, its dividends astronomical."*

*The Luminaries* is a novel with heart, said Macfarlane.

*"The characters are in New Zealand to make and to gain – the one thing that disrupts them is love."*

Will readers be put off by the book's bulk?

"No", was Macfarlane's emphatic response. *"Length never poses a problem if it's a great novel."*

*The Luminaries is a novel you can, as if for gold, and the returns are huge."*

MacFarlane did point out that *"those of us who didn't read it on e-readers got a full-body workout from the experience".*

The judges were impressed by Catton's ability, at her age, to produce a work with the depth of *The Luminaries*. Macfarlane again:

*"Maturity is evident in every sentence, in the rhythms and balances. It is a novel of astonishing control."*

Eleanor Catton is currently a lecturer in Creative Writing at Manukau Institute of Technology, and Writer-in-Residence at the Michael King Writers' Centre.

Here, buy [The Luminaries](#), or read the first few pages of Eleanor Catton's award-winning novel. □

**"The word 'good' has many meanings. For example, if a man were to shoot his grandmother at a range of five hundred yards, I should call him a good shot, but not necessarily a good man."** G. K. Chesterton

**"The nine most terrifying words in the English language are, 'I'm from the government and I'm here to help.'** Ronald Reagan

**"If the English language made any sense, a catastrophe would be an apostrophe with fur"** Doug Larson

## Work

### Job Opportunities

[Publishing Coordinator](#), Madison Recruitment, Wellington  
Management of all aspects of the production life cycle from brief to distribution. No closing date.

[Publications Editor](#), NZDF, Auckland  
Prepare, proof and edit operational publication masters.  
No closing date.

[Wedding Photography Editor](#), WE DO Photography & Design, Wellington  
The role is purely post-processing, but you will learn the ins & outs of the photography world.  
No closing date.

[Professional Photographer](#), Andrew Simms Motor Group, Manukau  
Photograph new and late model used vehicles for Trademe.  
No closing date.

[Coach/Motivator](#), Club Physical, Auckland  
Coach your booked clients, set goals, motivate and make them laugh. No closing date.

Journalist, Web Content Admin, Radio Trainee.  
3 jobs at Radio NZ. Details here > <https://radionz.careercentre.net.nz/Job/Index>

[Communications Officer](#), NZ Church Missionary Society, Christchurch  
Tell the stories of mission through creative writing. No closing date.

[Photographer](#), Overland Footwear, Auckland  
Product photography for catalogues and websites.  
No closing date.

[Santa Photography Set Supervisors](#), Scene to Believe, National  
Operate photography equipment and provide technical support.  
No closing date.

[Digital Editor](#), razzbri Recruitment, Auckland  
Ensure the digital/online offering is effective and continuously optimised. No closing date.

[Portfolio Editor](#), Thomson Reuters, Wellington or Auckland  
An in-depth knowledge of the NZ legal system is essential.  
No closing date.

Sign over a Gynaecologist's office:

"Dr. Jones, at your cervix."

\*\*\*\*\*

Sign in a podiatrist's office:

"Time wounds all heels."

\*\*\*\*\*

On a septic tank truck:

"Yesterday's Meals on Wheels"

\*\*\*\*\*

At an optometrist's office:

"If you don't see

what you're looking for,

you've come to the right place."

\*\*\*\*\*

On a plumber's truck:

"We repair what your husband

fixed for you."

\*\*\*\*\*

On another plumber's truck:

"Don't sleep with a drip.

Call your local plumber."

\*\*\*\*\*

At a tyre shop in Milwaukee :

"Invite us to your next blowout."

\*\*\*\*\*

At a towing company:

"We don't charge an arm and

a leg. We want all your tows."

\*\*\*\*\*

On an electrician's truck:

"Let us remove your shorts."

\*\*\*\*\*

In a non-smoking area:

"If we see smoke, we will assume

you are on fire and take

appropriate action."

\*\*\*\*\*

On a Maternity Delivery Room

door: "Push. Push. Push."

\*\*\*\*\*

At a used car dealership:

"The best way to get back on your

feet is to miss a car payment."

\*\*\*\*\*

Sign outside a muffler shop:

"No appointment necessary.

We heard you coming."

\*\*\*\*\*

In a veterinarian's waiting room:

"Be back in 5 minutes. Sit! Stay!"

\*\*\*\*\*

At the electric company

"We would be delighted if you send

in your payment. However, if you

don't, you soon will be."

\*\*\*\*\*

In a restaurant window:

"Don't stand there and be hungry;

come on in and get fed up."

\*\*\*\*\*

In the yard of a funeral home:

"Drive carefully. We'll wait."

\*\*\*\*\*

At a propane filling station:

"Thank heaven for little grills."

\*\*\*\*\*

At a Sonora radiator shop.

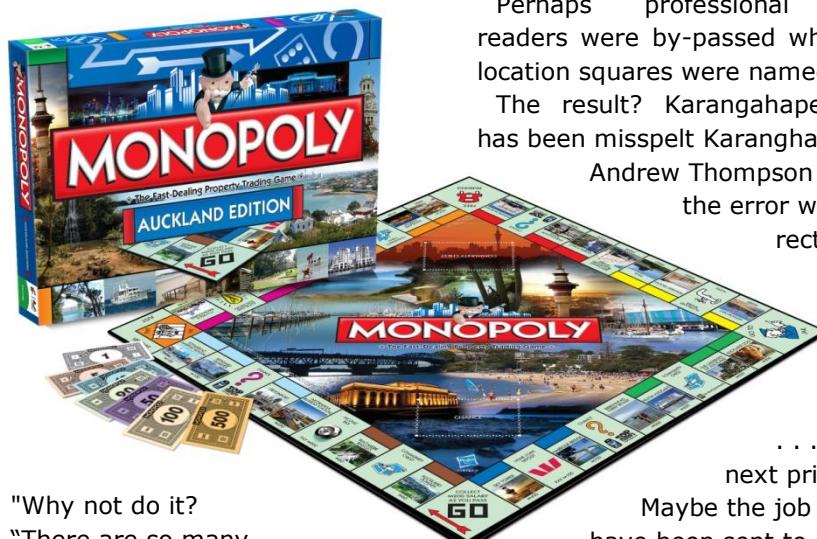
"Best place in town to take a leak."

\*\*\*\*\*

## There's no MONOPOLY in making errors

After 77 years of playing MONOPOLY with London landmarks and streets, New Zealand enthusiasts now have their own Auckland version.

The Auckland edition uses local attractions and streets to replace the English names. There has also been a shift away from using just street names as properties, to using local features and attractions.



"Why not do it?

"There are so many

beautiful attractions in Auckland. It would be a shame just to have streets. It makes it much more engaging," said Andrew Thompson of Winning Moves, which manufactured the game.

The board's 22 locations were selected from thousands of nominations made by the public on a dedicated Facebook page.

"It was enlightening consulting with the public who resoundingly favoured our two famed properties, the Sky Tower and the Harbour Bridge, and so we decided to assign the top property to the Sky Tower. It encapsulates everything that is Auckland and Greater Auckland with its magnificent views for up to 80km in every direction."

Certainly, it'll be refreshing to buy Queen Street instead of Oxford Street; Sky Tower instead of Tower Bridge.

And collectors have another piece of Monopoly kitch to buy.

Other locations chosen for the game include a selection of Auckland's beaches - Piha, Waiheke Island and Mission Bay; its parks - the Auckland Domain and the Waitakere Ranges; and its transport networks - Britomart, Newmarket Railway Station, Birkenhead Wharf and the Akoranga Busway featuring.

The Red set of properties contains three key Auckland streets; Queen Street, Dominion Road and K Road. But there was a hiccup with K Road.

They misspelled it.

Perhaps professional proof readers were by-passed when the location squares were named.

The result? Karangahape Road has been misspelt Karanghape.

Andrew Thompson says the error will be rectified

. . . in the next print run.

Maybe the job should have been sent to NZ for checking before printing.

Books publishing and games production are worldwide activities which follow a 24/7 timeline.

As much of this happens on the other side of the world, New Zealand is in the right spot to be the world's proof reader.

Proper checking is an insurance policy against ignominy.

Ten proofreaders who work at home for four hours each could - overnight - move a project forward by a whole week.

Interested? Perhaps you know someone who might be.

Ask for the free NZIBS Report 1020 'How to get proofreading jobs from foreign book publishers'.

**"How to turn inquisitive clicks into customers"** – Ask about our newest training course for website entrepreneurs who want to sell stuff all over the world using the Internet.

# How long does it take to write an eBook?

From Graduates Club Newsletter 1012

For most authors, writing a book is a fairly extensive project. But it doesn't have to take years! In fact it is quite reasonable to complete a traditional book over a period of several months. Many ebooks can be written in a shorter time especially as they tend to have fewer pages.

Here are some examples of best-selling authors who wrote their books very quickly. It is reported that...

'Don't Sweat the Small Stuff', the self-help book by Dr Richard Carlson, was written during a transatlantic flight. It went on to become one of the fastest-selling books of all time.

-Ray Bradbury wrote the first draft of *Fahrenheit 451* in less than two weeks.

-Charles Dickens wrote his literary classic '*A Christmas Carol*' in only two weeks.

-Dianna Booher wrote '*Communicate with Confidence*' in just 22 days and it is a whopping 402 pages.

Those are just a few examples but if you do some searching you will easily find more.

It's clear: If you want to finish your ebook quickly, you must make a plan and stick to it.

At first glance you might not like some of those courses that offer to help you 'write a book in a month' or 'write an ebook in a week' but there is something critical that many of these programs have in common.

They all teach you to break down your writing project into manageable chunks, to draw up a schedule of writing each section, and they motivate you to keep to your plan.

**Here are a few tips to help you write your non-fiction ebook quickly.**

1. Be prepared. The more you prepare in advance the quicker your writing is going to be. Research any material that you might need. Collect any references or quotations that might come in handy while you are writing.

Don't get so stuck in research that you forget to write. Set a time limit for research and keep to it.

2. Break up your project into chunks. One of the best ways to do this for a non-fiction ebook is to write down the topics of your chapters. Now organize them into an appropriate order. This will later become your Table of Contents.

At this stage it is a good idea to go through each chapter and write down some sub-headings. Then when you start to write all you need to do is add the paragraph content under each sub-heading.

Because you have already mapped out your headings this should help you to keep the words flowing since your direction is mapped out ahead of you.

3. Schedule time to write, and keep to your schedule. It sounds simplistic but if you give yourself the target of writing one chapter every day you just might achieve it. Often it's the simple plans that achieve the best results.

4. Don't try to get everything perfect on the first draft. Just write it. You can always come back and edit it later.

Imagine if you wrote a chapter a day for the next 3 weeks. Within a month you would be well on your way to finishing your next ebook.

It's your job as the writer to come up with something that makes your work unique — some little description that intrigues the reader and makes pages turn as if by magic.

You can do it – so get writing! □

## Job Opportunities

[Technical Writer – Junior to Intermediate](#), Global Attract, Auckland

Write, proofread and maintain key documents. No closing date.

[Chief Reporter](#), Ashburton Guardian

Seeking an experienced innovative reporter to take charge of the newsroom. No closing date.

[NZX Agri News Editor](#), NZX Talent, Manawatu

Ensure Farmers Weekly, and the agrihq.co.nz sites are market-leaders. No closing date.

[NZX Agri Sub Editor](#), NZX Talent, Manawatu

Experience in subbing news and feature content is required. No closing date.

[Reporter](#), Bay of Plenty Times, Tauranga

Seeking a junior journalist with experience either on a community title or daily paper. Closes 16 Dec.

[Camera Assisting Internship Programme](#), Broadcast & Film NZ, Auckland

You will be tutored in camera, editing, grip and lighting. No closing date.

[Web Editor/Copywriter](#), Technical Futures, Hamilton

Edit and write a range of print and electronic publications. No closing date.

[Reporter – Te Karere](#), TVNZ, Auckland

Deliver reliable and accurate stories across all platforms and programmes. No closing date.

[Webmaster/Administrator](#), Potentia, Auckland

Train and support internal publishers and editors to ensure they are able to manage their own content. No closing date.

[Citizen Sports Journalist](#), Citizen Media Group, Auckland

Write articles, generate discussion and host forums. No closing date.

[Junior Reporter](#),

Whakatane Beacon  
they want an enthusiastic reporter who will learn a varied role.  
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/pgvgjky>

### 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 writer's 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.

### Why write?

don't be like so many writers,  
don't be like so many thousands of  
people who call themselves  
writers,

don't be dull and boring and  
pretentious, don't be consumed  
with self-love.

the libraries of the world have  
yawned themselves to sleep  
over your kind.

don't add to that.  
don't do it.

unless it comes out of  
your soul like a rocket,  
unless being still would  
drive you to madness or  
suicide or murder,  
don't do it.

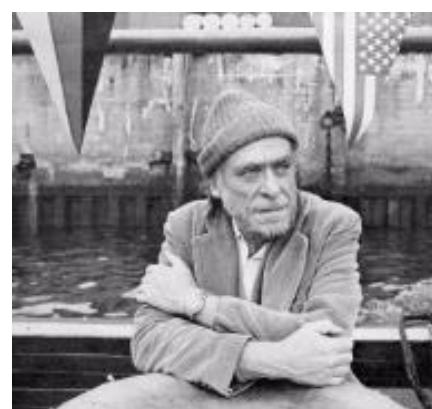
unless the sun inside you is  
burning your gut,  
don't do it.

when it is truly time,  
and if you have been chosen,  
it will do it by itself and it will keep  
on doing it until you die  
or it dies in you.

there is no other way.

and there never was.

### Charles Bukowski 1920-1994



You might not write seven books and make a billion dollars in royalties, like JK Rowling, but then just a few years ago, no-one had ever heard of her, or her characters. So what if they haven't heard of you yet? Say "They will."

It's a wonderful way to spend  
your time.

So write, and let it come out of  
your soul like a rocket! □

### Why on earth would you be a writer?

From Graduates Club Newsletter 1061

Generally, you'll be a writer because you do not want to be anything else. You are as driven to write as you are driven to breathe.

Charles Bukowski, a poet first published in the 1940s, wrote this poem about writing. (He didn't believe in using Capital Letters.)

#### So You Want To Be A Writer

if it doesn't come bursting out of  
you

in spite of everything,  
don't do it.

unless it comes unasked out of  
your

heart and your mind and your  
mouth

and your gut,  
don't do it.

if you have to sit for hours  
staring at your computer screen  
or hunched over your typewriter  
searching for words,  
don't do it.

if you're doing it for money or  
fame,  
don't do it.

if you're doing it because you want  
women in your bed,  
don't do it.

if you have to sit there and  
rewrite it again and again,  
don't do it.

if it's hard work just thinking about  
doing it,  
don't do it.

if you're trying to write like  
somebody else,  
forget about it.

if you have to wait for it to roar  
out of you,  
then wait patiently.

if it never does roar out of you,  
do something else.

if you first have to read it to your  
wife

or your girlfriend or your boyfriend  
or your parents or to anybody at  
all,

(to get their approval) you're not  
ready.

## Remember Red Skelton?



He was a great entertainer, known for 'one liners' and clean humour.

### RED SKELTON'S RECIPE FOR THE PERFECT MARRIAGE

1. Twice a week we go to a nice restaurant, have a little beverage, good food and companionship. She goes Tuesdays, I go Fridays.
  2. We also sleep in separate beds - her in California, me in Texas.
  3. I take my wife everywhere, but she keeps finding her way back.
  4. I asked my wife where she wanted to go for our anniversary. "Somewhere I haven't been in a long time!" she said. So I suggested the kitchen.
  5. We always hold hands. If I let go, she shops.
  6. She has an electric blender, electric toaster and electric bread maker. She said "There are too many gadgets, and nowhere to sit down!" I bought an electric chair.
  7. My wife told me the car wasn't running well because there was water in the carburettor. I asked where the car was. She told me, "In the lake."
  8. She got a mud pack and looked great for two days. Then the mud fell off.
  9. She ran after the garbage truck, yelling, "Am I too late for the garbage?" The driver said, "No, jump in!"
  10. Remember: Marriage is the number one cause of divorce.
  11. I married Miss Right. I just didn't know her first name was 'Always'.
  12. I haven't spoken to my wife in 18 months. It's because I don't like to interrupt.
  13. The last fight was my fault though. My wife asked, "What's on the TV?" I said, "Dust!" These were the good old days when humour didn't have to start with a four letter word.
- It was just clean and simple fun! □

## Living Ohio man Donald Miller ruled 'legally dead'

A US man declared dead after he disappeared nearly three decades ago cannot now be declared officially alive, though he has returned home and is in good health, a judge has ruled.

Donald Miller of Ohio left behind a wife, two children and significant debt when he fled his home in 1986.

He was declared legally dead in 1994, then re-emerged in 2005 and attempted to apply for a driving licence.

A judge this week found death rulings cannot be overturned after three years.

Judge Allan Davis handed down the ruling in Hancock County, Ohio, probate court on Monday, calling it a "strange, strange situation", according to media reports.

"We've got the obvious here. A man sitting in the courtroom, he appears to be in good health," he said, finding that he was prevented by state law from declaring Mr Miller legally alive.

"I don't know where that leaves you, but you're still deceased as far as the law is concerned."

## Apostrophes Rule's!



## Job Opportunities

[Marketing Assistant](#), NZ Wealth Mentor, Auckland  
Copywriting, proofreading and basic graphic design skills required. No closing date.

[Reporter](#), The Guardian, Motueka Report for a weekly community newspaper in the Tasman region. No closing date.

[Digital Producer/Editor](#), Healthy Life Media, Auckland  
Seeking tech-savvy journalist to create, edit and publish content on various digital platforms. No closing date.

[Professional Photographer](#), Full in Love Studio, Auckland  
Portrait, landscape, wedding and engagement photography. No closing date.

[Graphic Designer/Photographer](#), Auckland  
Catalogue production, website maintenance and product development. No closing date.

[Digital Content Editor](#), Mighty River Power, Auckland  
Drive brand awareness and engagement by leveraging all Mercury Energy digital properties. No closing date.

[Comms and PR Contractor](#), Momentum, Auckland  
Provide first-class writing for the business' publications. No closing date.

[Mid Weight Writer](#), Jobmedia, Auckland  
This is a role for someone who wants to learn, but doesn't need their hand held. No closing date.

[Corporate/Life Coaches](#), YB 12 NZ, Auckland  
Coach individuals and/or groups. No closing date.

[Journalist/Reporter](#), Northsouth Multi Media, Dargaville  
Seeking an industrious reporter. No closing date.

[Online Visual Demonstrator](#), Etailer, Auckland  
Requires skills and experience with studio and product photography and Adobe Creative Suite. No closing date.

## 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/>

**Sign on the back of another septic tank truck:**

**"Caution - this truck is full of politicians' promises"**

### 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/>

### There is always a need for proof readers

Sign at a Ruakaka garage:

**Puncher Repairs \$10**

### Freelance Writing

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

<http://FreelanceWriting.com>

### Elance.com

<https://www.elance.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>

"No matter that you have a PhD and have read all of Henry James twice. If you still persist in writing "Good food at it's best", you deserve to be struck by lightning, hacked up on the spot and buried in an unmarked grave." — Lynne Truss

## How to capture the moment that makes a great photo.

Reproduced for educational purposes.

From Graduates Club Newsletter 80

Mary Crockett's suggestions (abridged) can help you take better photos.

**Listener art director** Alex Bowie (one of the Listener photographic competition judges) puts it bluntly: "If you're not THERE, you won't produce a winning photo. With a good eye, you should be able to pick up any camera and take a good photograph."

Bowie, a photojournalist for Time magazine in a former life, often uses an instamatic.

*"The choice is not as restrictive as it once was, and they have the advantage over more complicated cameras in being light to carry and quick to use."*

The better the camera, the better the possibilities. But if you don't have a feeling for what's going on, you're unlikely to end up with anything great.

The "being there" Bowie talks about is as much an emotional thing as a physical one.

*"If you're in tune with what's happening, you can make a stunning photo out of any normal, everyday activity or occurrence. And never forget, the simplest things often make the best photographs."*

*"Be emotionally involved. Do it with passion."*

Bowie's other piece of advice?

*"Stalk your prey like a hunter would stalk a deer. You have to think ahead: what is the deer likely to do? At your child's birthday party, for instance, you know someone will light the candles and the child will blow them out. But what happens next?"*

If you have considered the possibilities, you have more chance of "being there" in the physical sense to capture the unique moment which makes a great shot.

## Through the lens

Remember the war photographer Robert Capa:

*"If your pictures aren't good enough, you're not close enough." Be there."*

(Sadly, Capa was killed on assignment in Vietnam)



Robert Capa photo

There are fashions in photography, as with everything else. Bowie has no time for the current love affair with selective focusing - having one sharp image against a blurred background.

He likes everything in a photo to be sharp, with subjects set clearly within their environment - either in tune with it or making some comment about it.

But there are times when a sharp central image and a blurred background are exactly what you want. Bowie is pragmatic too.

*"Every situation is different, and every photographer is different. It's the uniqueness of the photographer's view that matters, and everything about a good shot comes from that uniqueness of vision."*

Listener chief photographer Jane Ussher (co-judge of the Listener competition with Bowie) has made studio photography her specialty.

*"It's a different technique, asking someone to pose for the camera."*



Jane Ussher photo

"But the same basic rules apply. There needs to be spontaneity in the shot, and a sense of empathy between photographer and subject."

Ussher looks for balance, some conscious use of light and shade, and imaginative use of foreground or background. But she doesn't want to "see the joins".

"It's the same when you're watching a movie. You don't want to be saying to yourself, that's a good camera angle.

If you find yourself thinking about the technical things too much you've usually, quite literally, lost the plot."

Composing a portrait shot, whether in the studio or at the beach, requires a deal of careful preparation, as Ussher describes.

"To start with, you want an adventurous choice of subject. And it's so easy to fall into cliché, eg the child dressed cutely."

When photographing people, you have two basic options: to capture the essence, the character of the individual, "or to treat them as some kind of symbol within their environment". If it all sounds too complicated for the amateur to attempt, think again.

"The ideal for any photographer is to be in control" Ussher admits, "because there's a satisfaction that comes from taking a photo opportunity and manipulating it in some way. But there are great shots that just happen too. The lucky accident. The holiday snap with a uniqueness about it that simply works."

A final tip from the judges: look back over photographs you've taken already and analyse them. Think how you might have done things better, then experiment with ways to achieve the effect you want.

"Developing an eye for what works is essential" says Bowie. "And for that, there's no better way than analysing the work of people who make their living at it. Think to yourself all the time, 'What makes a great photo?'" □

## 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](http://nzibs.co.nz/?page_id=40)

### **Journalism and Non Fiction Writing**

[http://nzibs.co.nz/?page\\_id=38](http://nzibs.co.nz/?page_id=38)

### **Sports Journalism**

[http://nzibs.co.nz/?page\\_id=60](http://nzibs.co.nz/?page_id=60)

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

Call **Carol Morris, Registrar.**

## Job Opportunities

**Weight Loss Coach**, Jenny Craig, Whangarei

Help people achieve their weight loss goals. No closing date

**PR and Communications Manager**, Colliers International, Auckland Write and edit features for Colliers International's regular publications. No closing date.

**Junior Reporter**, Whakatane Beacon Seeking an enthusiastic reporter who is willing to learn in a varied role. No closing date.

**Journalist**, Auto Media Group, Auckland Write, proof and sub-edit news articles, interviews and research pieces. No closing date.

**Senior Communications Advisor**, H2R Consulting, Wellington Build and enhance the organisation's reputation. No closing date.

**Community News Journalist**, Digital Media, Manukau You need fantastic interviewing, writing and photography skills. No closing date.

**Editor**, NZ Property Investor Magazine, Auckland Write news and features; plan content and manage the magazine. No closing date.

**Reporter**, The Oamaru Mail Develop your journalism and news-gathering skills in small-town New Zealand. No closing date.

**Photography Internship**, Duo Photography, Wellington A hands-on photography training programme working alongside pro photographers. Closes 10 Nov.

**New Zealand Publisher**, Allen & Unwin, Auckland Seeking an experienced publisher to commission a broad range of commercial non-fiction titles. Closes 8 Nov.

**Senior Communications Advisor – Internal**, MBIE, Wellington Requires demonstrated ability to advocate, influence and challenge. Closes 8 Nov.

**International****Writers' Workshop**

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

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

**Hibiscus Coast Writers**

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

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

**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](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/>

**When in Greece . . .**

Spell like a native!



The GKBCinc International Short Story Competition is open for submissions all year round. It is a Bi-Annual competition, so runs twice a year. There is no entry fee. The theme for the current competition is CRIME.

**Next closing date is Dec 31**

**The Fish Awards****Short Story and Poetry**

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

The 2014 competitions will be 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.

**GLIMMER TRAIN****FICTION OPEN**

Entrant guidelines:

Open to all subjects, all themes, and all writers.

Most entries run from 2,000 to 8,000 words, but stories from 2,000 to 20,000 words are accepted. Held quarterly: Open to submissions in MARCH, JUNE, SEPTEMBER, and DECEMBER.

**Next deadline: Dec 31.**

**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**

**200+** competitions are listed here:

<http://www.photographycompetitions.net>

Among them all, there will be at least ONE you'll like. Enter it.



**WRITER'S DIGEST  
SHORT SHORT  
STORY COMPETITION**



Do you think you can write a great story in less than 1,500 words? Enter the Annual Writer's Digest **Short Short Story Competition** for your chance to win \$3,000 in cash. **Entry closes Nov 15.**

<http://www.writersdigest.com/competitions/short-short-story-competition>

The winning entries will be on display in the 14th Annual Writer's Digest Competition Collection.  
<https://app.wizehive.com/apps/login/WDShortShort13>

## Competitions



### Have a go! ☺

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

**Winners' names are posted on the SDB after the competitions are judged at month's end.**

**See the competitions here:**  
<http://nzibs.org/forums/forumdisplay.php?f=11>

**Groucho Marx (1890-1977):**

'I never forget a face, but in your case I'd be glad to make an exception.'

## Photography Challenge:

Photography tutor Robert has created a different kind off a challenge for this month.

You can photograph each or all of the following words:

**Damp, Lace, Cup, Stark**

You can also write a very short "story" or description using these four words, and illustrate it.

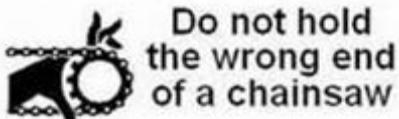
**Details here:**

<http://nzibs.org/forums/showthread.php?t=5143>

Some beautiful images and poetry has been shared.

Go and see ☺

**DANGER**



From one of Brenda's challenges this month, Hugh created a reply to inspire a unconfident youth to become brave and overcome . . .

### A letter to a shy young man

"You already are half way there, my son. You see the gift of self-insight and honesty. What you want you know. You are young and can hear yourself and laugh. You have friends. Talking to the opposite sex, ahhh you have the gift of touching perception. You walk upon a stage. The play, the setting, the story is yours. You speak as you breath. You choose your colleagues as you choose your work. You stutter, but the affection of the gods will soon be hidden in your story's depths. Listen to the silent voice inside dictating the themes and taste your dialogue...." **Hugh Allan**

## PROJECT:

### Help compile a list of KIWI authors we consider 'good reads'.

Join in. Offer your recommendations and read the books others suggest. Eleanor Catton thinks NZ is about to see a burst of great fiction writing. But there's already a lot out there. What are your picks?

<http://www.nzibs.org/forums/showthread.php?t=5168>



This is a clothing label from a small American company that sells their product in France. Here's the translation of the French part of the label.

Wash with warm water.  
Use mild soap.  
Dry flat.  
Do not use bleach.  
Do not dry in the dryer.  
Do not iron.  
We are sorry that our president is an idiot.  
We did not vote for him.

## Job Opportunities

**Reporter**, Timaru Herald

You will need good writing and photography skills and the ability to cover a wide range of news rounds. Closes 8 Nov.

**Communications & Marketing Manager**, Fairfax Media, Auckland

External communications and marketing for Fairfax Media at a strategic level. Closes 5 Nov.

**Senior Media Advisor**, Ministry of Health, Wellington

Research and prepare media releases and organise events. Closes 5 Nov.

**Head of News**, Fairfax Media, Auckland

Drive Auckland coverage across the news cycle every day. Closes 4 Nov.

**Web Content Administrator**,

Radio NZ, Wellington  
Requires experience in copy editing and proofreading for the web. Closes 4 Nov.

**Youth Worker**, Wise Group, Rotorua

Support young people to build confidence, resilience and wellbeing. Closes 3 Nov.

**Editor/Writer**, Te Wananga o Aotearoa, Waipa

Write, edit and proof institutional documents. Closes 1 Nov.

**Reporter**,

Academy Publishing, Christchurch  
Write news, features and articles. Closes 1 Nov.

**Web Editor**, The Press,

Christchurch  
Edit content for press.co.nz and promote it on social media. Closes 1 Nov.

**Journalist**, Local Matters, Warkworth

Report across a range of subject matter, from hard news and features to business and sport. Closes 1 Nov.

**Online Junior Entertainment Editor**, APN, Auckland

Generate and manage the entertainment content on nzherald.co.nz's various platforms. Closes 1 Nov.

## **Hope and Comfort**

by **A J McKenna**

Reproduced for educational purposes for students and graduates.

**Charley Foley calls** into the Mater Misericordia Hospital to visit his wife.

'How are you feeling?' he asks, sitting at the bedside, close to Dolly who is smiling up at him, her black hair resting on the white pillows.

'I'm fine,' Dolly says, quietly. She looks old and tired to Charley; she is deathly pale and has black pouches under her eyes. When she slips her fingers into Charley's he notices two ugly brown liver spots on the back of her small hand.

'You look tired,' Charley says. 'Aren't you sleeping?'

'I was a bit restless last night.'

Dolly does not mention the pain: she doesn't want to upset her husband.

'Any word from Linda?' she asks.

'She phoned again last night. I told her you were grand. I said there was nothing to worry about.'

Linda, their eldest, teaches in a university in Galway. Linda will come home for the holiday in August. Their son, Colm, and his children live in Australia. Colm hasn't been told that his mother is unwell. Colm's a worrier: it's best he's not upset.

Charley gazes dreamily across the chattering hospital ward, bright with pale afternoon sunlight. Other visitors are doing their duties, gathering around the sick, bringing flowers and fruit, offering words of hope and comfort.

'Have you seen the doctor again?' Charley asks his wife.

'Tomorrow maybe.'

'Any idea how long you'll be in?'

Dolly turns away and coughs into a tissue, then settles back. She takes Charley's hand again.

'They'll let me know on Monday. They have to do lots more tests. They won't let me home until they know. I'm sorry to be such a bother.'

Dolly's small chest heaves under her heavy nightdress. Charley thinks of a frightened bird. Sweet Dolores Delarosa he used to call her long ago when they were courting, mocking her sorrowful eyes and the way she took everything too seriously.

He can't help wondering if she made herself sick with worry.

Poor Dolly Delarosa!

'Don't let them budge you until you're absolutely better,' he says.

'Are you managing, darling?'

'Grand.'

Charley is eating out and staying away from the house as much as possible. He's managing alright.

The minutes pass in heated tedium. Charley is watching the visitors and glancing at the small alarm clock beside his wife's bed. He can hear its distant ticking and recalls the irritating ring when it dragged his wife from bed at the crack of dawn and moments later her breakfast sounds clattered in the kitchen, keeping him awake, reminding him that there's a day's work ahead and children to be schooled and fed.

Tic-tic-tic-tic- tic-tic-tic.

The kids are all grown up now. Second grandchild imminent. Time is running out. A grey face in the shaving mirror reminding Charley of middle age and the rot ahead. Where's the point in having money if you can't enjoy it? Why can't clocks take their time? What's the hurry?

Ah - God have mercy! Dolly Dolorosa. How different might it have been without her?

Dolly's eyelids droop. Her mouth opens a fraction. She looks almost dead. Moments pass slowly.

'This must be very boring for you,' she says, without opening her eyes.

'Not at all. It does me good to see you.'

'It's not nice having to visit anybody in hospital. It's so depressing.'

'Nonsense.'

Dolly settles her dark head further back against the white pillows. Grimaces for an instant then braves a smile.

'You should leave now, Charley. I think I might sleep for a while.'

'Are you sure?'

'Positive.'

Charley bounces to his feet.

'I'll come in later,' he says.

'Please don't. With it being Saturday the wards will be crammed with people. Leave it till the morning. Come after Mass.'

'Is that's what you want?'

'It is, darling.'

Dolly opens her eyes, smiles like a child. It's been a long time since Dolly was a child.

'You look tired, darling,' she says. 'Aren't you sleeping?'

'I was a bit restless last night.'

'Try to take things easy.'

Dolly squeezes her husband's hand, presses her ringed finger against his gold wedding ring. Her fingers are light as feathers.

'Off you go, darling,' she says. 'Try to not worry.'

Charley bends and kisses Dolly's hot forehead.

'I'll see you tomorrow,' he says.

Dolly's eyes close. Her fingers slip from his.

Tic-tic-tic-tic-tic.

Charley walks along a polished corridor and finds the exit. Outside in the bright car park he locates his car and sits inside. He glances around at the visitors coming and going. Nurses walk past, reminding him of butterflies. Charley reaches for his mobile phone and taps in a number. The call is answered almost immediately.

'Katherine?' he says.

'Where are you? I've been waiting ages for you to call.'

'I'm outside the hospital. I've just been in to see her.'

'How is she?'

'Alright. As well as can be expected, I suppose. Who really knows?'

Charley pulls down the sunshade to protect his eyes from the blinding brightness then returns his attention to his new friend, Katherine.

'She'll be in for a while longer.'

'Will I see you later?' she asks.

'I expect so.'

'Stay tonight, if you like.'

Charley thinks of his own empty house, the quietness without Dolly and the dreadful silences she left behind.

'I'd like that, darling,' he says.

'Come now,' Katherine whispers with a smile in her lovely voice. 'I'll cheer you up.'

Charley says goodbye and puts the phone away. He smiles properly for the first time that day.

As he drives away, Charley glances through the rear view mirror. The grey hospital building looks like a prison as it recedes.

God help me, he thinks. God help us all. □