

# Newsletter

January - June 2016

## A Maze of Story Inc

Explore . Imagine . Write .

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Welcome to our latest newsletter, which reflects a busy six months for A Maze of Story's Board, Committee members, Story-weavers and Tutors.

### Major news in a nutshell:

- We have now published 180 stories
- We have been successful in securing a \$5000 grant!
- Planning for our art auction ART - MEETS - STORY is progressing
- We want to open a writing Hub for children and young people in Northbridge
- We sold 600 sausages in buns at the AMoS Sausage sizzle
- We desperately need more volunteer tutors
- Annual membership fees are due

### Successful grant

I am delighted to announce that A Maze of Story has received a CommBank Community Grant of \$5,000.00. A big thank you to the Commonwealth Bank for supporting us.

### Our 2017 goal: a Northbridge Creative Writing Hub for children and young people

Two weeks ago, we submitted an application to the Crown Resorts Foundation, Packer Foundation for a grant of \$60,000.00. The project is to establish A Creative Writing Centre for Children and Young People in Northbridge, the cultural precinct of Perth, to maximize community engagement and partnership with neighbouring arts institutions. This location ensures ease of access for a large catchment area and will open up the cultural precinct to children and young people from diverse backgrounds. If we are lucky enough to receive this grant, our goal will be to open the new centre, The Hub, in April 2017.

### Membership dues

It's that time of the year.

We rely on you — our members — to help fund this worthwhile program.

Mark Vincent, our Treasurer, will be sending out membership renewal notices. We urge you to support us, so that we can continue to change children's lives, one story at a time.

### 180 stories

We are pleased to announce that as at the end of June, A Maze of Story will have published 180 stories written by the children who participated in the workshops that we have completed.



## STORY - MEETS - ART ... Our Art Auction

Our major fundraising event for the year will be the Art Auction: STORY - MEETS - ART.

Eighteen art works have been kindly donated by established and emerging artists, and a further eight will be selected from works completed by talented school art students from four secondary schools. Each school art class has chosen a story from one of the AMoS children's anthologies as their inspiration for their artworks. Two AMoS board members in conjunction with the Head Art Teacher from each school will select two paintings from each class for the auction. We are looking forward to seeing the different ways in which the chosen stories will be interpreted by each art student. On the day of the auction the four selected stories will be read out, and the young writers and artists will be present.

The AMoS Board, and the Art Auction sub-committee thanks all the artists who have promised artwork, and a very big thank you to Caroline Wood, Director of the Centre for Stories for offering us pro bono the wonderful space in her building on Aberdeen Street, Northbridge.

The auction will be held from 4 - 6pm on 9<sup>th</sup> October, at The Centre for Stories, 100 Aberdeen Street, Northbridge. Online bidding will be open 29<sup>th</sup> September - 7<sup>th</sup> October.

## Sausage sizzle

Last month AMoS ran a sausage sizzle at Bunnings in Morley. The stall was staffed by board members and their families. 600 sausages in buns with onions were sold. 25 kilos of onions were peeled and chopped the night before!

In total, we raised \$1600, thanks to the generosity of our donors.

The sausages and 250 drinks were donated by A Maze of Story members. The onions were donated by Morley Fresh.

The AMoS Board and Funding Committee extend heartfelt thanks to the three donors.

## HELP! - We need more volunteer tutors

This year we had hoped to double the number of workshops held each year; instead of the usual four, we had hoped to do eight. Unfortunately, we have not been able to achieve this. **It is not a lack of schools that prevents us from meeting our goal – it is a lack of volunteer tutors.**

Our creative writing tutors are the backbone of our organisation. AMoS has achieved what we have through the dedication of the people who generously give their time to tutor on each five week workshop.

At the moment we have forty nine wonderful tutors but we need very many more than that before we will be able to double the number of workshops!

**If you are not able to volunteer to be part of a workshop tutoring team, perhaps you know someone who can. We ask you to spread the word amongst your friends, colleagues and neighbours.**

Tutors do not need any particular skills, just a willingness to engage with and encourage a child or two to create a story.

If you can help in any way, please contact Gae directly or via the AMoS website.

Thank you so much!

## Volunteers' Morning Tea

AMoS's Volunteer Committee is planning a morning tea in August for our listed volunteers and for those interested in becoming volunteer tutors.

Date TBA.

Thank you.

Gae Oaten, Founder and Chairperson