



Hawke's Bay Literacy Association Welcomes...

Heather McQuillan Writing is NOT Brain Surgery

What if our young writers could:

(a) write with joy and excitement, *then* (b) look critically at their own work in terms of how they write, as well as what they have written, *then* (c) struggle with making the changes necessary to improve clarity and reader engagement? Well, *then* they'd be writers!



Many of our young writers have picked up on the writing myth that they have to get it "right" first time. Writing is not brain surgery! It can be a glorious and messy process and, thank goodness, there are key techniques teachers can implement to guide students through this process, enabling them to create original, exciting and relevant work.

In this session we will briefly discuss ways to free young writers so they are excited about getting lots and lots of first drafts on the page. Then we will turn to ways for them to approach selective redrafting with confidence and courage. Teachers will discover simple feedback cues to assist their writers and guide them to becoming 'redrafters' and therefore 'real writers'.

When: Wednesday 14th June

3.30pm: Refreshments

4:00—5:30pm: Heather McQuillan

Where: Napier Central School Hall

Napier Terrace

Napier



Heather McQuillan

Writing is Not Brain Surgery

Bio:

For a long time Heather McQuillan has been a teacher who wrote, now she is a writer who teaches. She was launched into writing novels for young people when she won the *Tom Fitzgibbon Award, 2005* and recently developed her interests in short story and poetry.

In 2016, Heather won both the *NZ National Flash Fiction Day Competition* and the *Micro Madness Award*, and was placed third-equal in *The Sunday Star Times Short Story Competition*. Her flash fiction and poetry appear in a number of anthologies, including a micro story included in the international *Best Small Fictions, 2017* due out later this year.

Heather is a Masters of Creative Writing student at Massey University and is working towards her first flash fiction collection as part of her thesis.

Through her role at The School for Young Writers in Christchurch, Heather works with hundreds of young writers aged 7-19, and is passionate about guiding them and their teachers to better understand the joys and struggles, as well as the 'hows' and 'whys', of the writing process.



Hawke's Bay Literacy Association

Heather McQuillan Registration Form Wednesday 14th June

Registrations close **Monday 12th June**

Internet Payment: 03 0698 0977242 00

Code: HBLAHM

Reference: School Name

If making internet payments please email registrations to:
yvonne.lovelock@hastingscentral.school.nz

Cheques: make out to Hawke's Bay Literacy Association

We are a registered charity—cc48123

Please attach completed registration form and post to:

Yvonne Lovelock
Hastings Central School
400 Karamu Road South
Hastings 4122

Name of School: _____

Contact Person: _____

Phone/email for contact person: _____

HBLA Membership Schools: # attending @ \$35 _____

Non Member Schools: # attending @ \$50 _____

Total Paid: _____ (by cheque or internet)

Amount enclosed: \$ _____

Confirmation of your booking will be made by email.