

# Rockingham Writers Centre...

## Beginners' Writing Course

7pm to 9pm on Wednesdays, for five weeks commencing April 27.

Rockingham Arts Centre, 11 Kent Street, Rockingham (Upstairs meeting room, enter through rear gates)

**\$100 FoRAC members / \$120 non-members**

This short course presented by three successful authors will cover the basics for beginner writers. Find out what you need to know about writing craft and the business of being a writer in today's rapidly changing publishing world.

### Week 1 with Claire Boston - Starting Out

- Genres and their conventions
- How to get feedback on your work
- Organisations and groups that can help
- Tools of writing
- Finding a routine
- The basics of story-telling
- Brief overview of the publishing industry
- Brief overview of marketing and social media

### Week 3 with Claire Boston - Characterisation

- What makes a good character?
- How can you prevent your protagonist from being a stereotype?
- How to explore diversity.
- Using character sheets

**Claire Boston** is the author of the best-selling contemporary romance series, *The Texan Quartet*. The first book in her new series *The Flanagan Sisters* will be launched next month.

**Shona Husk** is a multi-published author of more than 40 titles in contemporary, paranormal, fantasy and sci-fi romance.

**Teena Raffa-Mulligan** is the author of more than a dozen children's books plus many short stories and poems for children and adults. She has edited magazines, newspapers, anthologies and fiction.

### Week 2 with Shona Husk - Plotting and Planning

- What is a plot and why if you write genre fiction you need one
- How to build a plot
- Using film to study your genre and plot
- If you aren't a plotter (it's ok to experiment and find what works for you)
- Planning: making time to write and strategies to keep you going when you get stuck
- Handy links, reference books

### Week 4 with Teena Raffa-Mulligan - Rewriting & Editing

- Transform your first draft into a submission ready manuscript.
- The difference between proofing and editing.
- Structural, story and copy editing explained.
- Self-editing basics.
- DIY or professional editor.

### Week 5 with Shona Husk - Publishing

- Self-publishing
- Traditional publishing
- Digital first publishing
- Vanity publishing (and why it's bad)
- What publishers do and don't do.
- Expectations about publishing

**For more information or to register contact Bec at [forac.inc@gmail.com](mailto:forac.inc@gmail.com) or 0410 906 656.**

**Places are limited, so please book early to avoid disappointment.**