

allaboutwriting



Short Story Weekend

Join Allaboutwriting for a stimulating short story weekend at Temenos in McGregor in the Western Cape from 18 – 20 November 2016

It's a retreat with a very specific objective: to produce a book of short stories written by the participants.

Novelist Jo-Anne Richards and screen and script writer Richard Beynon will be on hand to prompt, critique and guide the participants. We'll provide a range of possible seed ideas – or help participants devise their own stories from scratch. We'll give formal input on various aspects of writing, and finally we'll provide ongoing support as all the participants work their way through their stories.

PROGRAMME

Friday 18 November:

- Arrival 4pm
- Initial session which will include a run down on what the challenges of writing a short story are – with some suggestions about how to meet those challenges.

Saturday 19 November:

- We'll meet over tea and coffee on Saturday morning before plunging into an initial discussion of the dozen or so story ideas that Jo-Anne and Richard will have devised in advance.
- These will include both "literary" ideas – and genre ideas. You can pick one of these for development over the weekend – or you can choose to pursue your own. If you need assistance in brainstorming these, then we can either do that in a group – or Jo-Anne and Richard can meet with you between "plenary" sessions to help you flesh out your ideas.
- Then you'll be on your own until lunch-time, either to start writing, or to spend a little more time developing your idea. Jo-Anne and Richard will be available (and circulating) to offer help, suggestions and encouragement.
- You are at your leisure for lunch (eat at one of the village restaurants – or at Temenos) – and then have a short "plenary" to discuss problems you've encountered, and to give a pep-talk on other pressing issues involved in character and story development.
- You'll then be on your own for the afternoon, again with access to Jo-Anne and



Richard whenever you need us. The venue for our retreat, Temenos, in McGregor, also offers wonderful walks, in the gardens or beyond, should you feel the need for some outdoor rumination.

- You'll be free to pick up a cup of tea and a biscuit before continuing with your writing until we gather for drinks and an informal post-mortem of the day's progress.
- Dinner will be followed by chat – unless you choose to go to your rooms, and continue writing. That's entirely up to you.

Sunday 20 November:

- Breakfast on Sunday will be followed by a Q&A session at which Jo-Anne and Richard will explore issues pertinent to your short stories, help you with further brainstorming, and so on.
- Then, more writing. You should be on the home-stretch now. We'll continue to check on your progress, help you with Act 3 problems, and guide you into the winner's enclosure. We'll have tea while we work.
- After lunch each of us will read what we've written.
- And then home or stay on and write a second draft and spend Sunday night 20 November at Temenos for free!



Non-writing spouses/friends/partners are welcome.

COST

Option one: Single occupancy R 4 830 per person.

This includes the two day workshop, single accommodation for Friday 18 November and Saturday 19 November, two suppers, Sunday lunch, two breakfasts, morning and afternoon teas and coffees.

Option two: Double occupancy both doing the workshop R 4 510 per person.

This includes the two day workshop, shared accommodation for Friday 18 November and Saturday 19 November, two suppers, Sunday lunch, two breakfasts, morning and afternoon teas and coffees. Please specify below if you'd like a double or twin beds.

Total for two writers sharing – R 9 020

Option three: Double occupancy, attending with a friend/partner who will NOT be doing the workshop

- R 4 510 for yourself
- R 2 060 for your friend/partner

This includes shared accommodation for Friday 18 November and Saturday 19 November, two suppers, two lunches, two breakfasts, morning and afternoon teas and coffees. Please specify below if you'd like a double or twin beds.

Total for one writer and one non-writing partner – R 6 570

Plus free accommodation for Sunday 20 November if you choose to stay on!

In due course, after you've had a chance to do a final edit on your stories, we'll gather them together (no more than a week or so after we've returned), and publish them, as promised, online via Amazon and in hard copy.

To book your place please contact us via email - admin@allaboutwritingcourses.com or call us on 082 652 4643