



Autumn Programme 2021

September 2021

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1. WELCOME TO VIENNA'S WORLDWIDE WRITING COMMUNITY

As Sunday Writers' Club enters its 4th year we are excited to offer more events, more sessions and more writing opportunities than ever before. Vienna may be our home city but we reach creative writers all around the world, offering them a unique Viennese writing experience wherever they may live. We will be running community writing sessions, feedback groups, club night readings, author-led workshops – as well as our very own blog, podcast and new Discord group. You don't have to be an official SWC member to take advantage of many of our events and sessions but membership now confers even more benefits than in previous years.

You will find special member-only benefits listed at the end of this programme.

Are you a casual writer who simply enjoys that wonderful feeling of getting your thoughts, stories and poems down on the page? Or are you someone who wants to build their confidence, nurture their talent and develop their skills en route to publication? Either way, the SWC community has lots to offer.

We hope you enjoy browsing our autumn programme and look forward to sharing writing inspiration with you soon.

Cheers from

Keith, Paul, Jasmine & Jen



2. SUNDAY WRITING SESSIONS

Every Sunday morning from 10am (CET – Vienna time) we run our unique 90 minute creative writing session and you can **take part whether you live in Vienna or not**.

Our **parallel in-café and online creative writing sessions** are built around our world-famous creative writing prompt menus, specifically designed each week by published authors Paul Malone and Keith Gray. Every menu is guaranteed to leave you with fresh writing ideas you never even knew you had! (And it's yours to keep at the end of the session – to inspire your writing all week long.)

During each session we write together for an hour, and then there is always an **opportunity to share** your brand new story or poem with your fellow writers if you'd like to. No pressure, but we've found that reading new writing aloud to like-minded souls is a great way to **build confidence** in your writing as well as making **friends with fellow writers**.

Our autumn Sunday Writing Sessions will run every Sunday morning from September 12th until November 28th. **You don't have to be an SWC member to take part**. In-café sessions cost €10 while joining online is only €5. Online sessions use the Zoom platform, but we hope to still offer a touch of Vienna as we link up with the in-café session.

FREE TRIAL SESSION

Your very first session with us, whether in-café or online, is completely free.

See details on our website and Meet-Up page:

<https://sundaywritersclub.com/creativewritingsessions/>

<https://www.meetup.com/Creative-Cafe-Austria/>



3. MEET THE PROFESSIONALS – WITH AN **ALL-NEW FOLLOW-UP SESSION**

Every month we bring you a **unique voice from the publishing industry** who can answer your questions and offer you advice. We introduce you to agents, editors, creative writing lecturers, screenwriters, poets, authors and give you the time and space to chat with them. Think of it as a conversation with a friendly, knowledgeable, interesting person who has experience and understanding of how to get published and what may be the best routes to take when breaking into the industry.

New to our Meet the Professional events is the **follow-up session** which will be open to all attendees after the main event.

Each event lasts approximately 1 hour, giving you plenty of opportunity to **join in the conversation and ask the questions you need answering**. At the close of the main event all attendees are welcome to continue the discussion in a follow-up session where you can meet, chat and discuss all of the new and interesting information you've been given by the publishing professional. This **30 minute follow-up session** will become an integral part of the MTP experience and a great way to firm up in your own mind the new gems of knowledge you've just discovered, as well as help fellow writers focus on what might be useful to them, in a informal and friendly environment.

Our Meet the Professional sessions are **open to both SWC members and non-members**, but we keep the audience purposely small so that all attendees have the opportunity to ask questions if they wish to. Which means SWC members are top of the list for a place in the audience, taking precedence over non-members.

These events use the Zoom platform. The time is from 8pm (CET) until 9pm for the main event. Then immediately following from 9pm until 9.30pm if you choose to stay online for the follow-up session.

Tickets cost €10 and must be booked on our website.



4. UPCOMING MEET THE PROFESSIONALS EVENTS

We are incredibly fortunate to have two wonderful writers lined-up for conversations this autumn.

Patrice Lawrence MBE

Sunday 19th September, 8pm CET

online | €10

On Sunday 19th September we welcome Patrice Lawrence MBE. Patrice is a **British writer and journalist**, who has **published fiction both for adults and children**. Her writing has won awards including the Watstones Book Prize and The Bookseller YA Prize. In 2021 she won the Jhalak Prize for Book of the Year by a Writer of Colour in its inaugural children's and young adult category. Patrice worked for more than 20 years for charities supporting equality and social justice. These themes (along with a serious amount of music) inform her wonderfully enigmatic stories.

Dr Claire Askew

Sunday 24th October, 8pm CET

online | €10

On Sunday 24th October poet, crime-novelist and creative writing guru Dr Claire Askew will be our very special guest. Claire has so far published two collections of **award-winning poetry**: *The Mermaid and The Sailors* (Red Squirrel Press, 2011), and *This changes things* (Bloodaxe, 2016). Perhaps uniquely, Claire is **also a critically acclaimed crime novelist** with her first novel in the DI Helen Birch series *All The Hidden Truths* (Hodder, 2019) being shortlisted for the Crime Writers Association Gold Dagger and winning both the Lucy Cavendish Fiction Prize and the Bloody Scotland Crime Debut of the Year. Claire has also published one of the most thoughtful, helpful and fun to read **creative writing guides** of recent years – *Novelista: Anyone Can Write A Novel (Yes Even You!)* (Teach Yourself, 2021) comes highly recommended by the SWC team.

If you would like to join the conversation with either of these amazing writers, as well as take advantage of our new follow-up session with fellow attendees, then **visit our website to book** your place. Our November MTP guest is yet to confirm, but the information will be available on the website as soon as possible.



5. ALL-NEW WRITERS' LAB LIVE ONLINE - SWC MEMBERS ONLY

Our members-only Writers' Lab benefit is changing. We have listened to our members and taken note of what they believe will be most useful in helping them develop their skills and talents. **Writers' Lab Live is a monthly online critiquing group** where members can submit their writing to receive valuable feedback from the rest of the SWC community.

Writers' Lab *Live* will take place on the **first Tuesday of every month** from 7pm until approximately 9pm CET and will be chaired by author and SWC co-founder Keith Gray. Any members who would like some advice, guidance or an encouraging boost with their current work-in-progress is invited to submit up to 2,000 words of prose or 2 poems which will be discussed during the session.

Feedback sessions and crit groups are at their best and most useful when everybody has read each others writing. Therefore, if you plan to take part in a Writers' Lab *Live* session you will be required to submit your own writing one week in advance of the session, as well as commit to reading your fellow writers' work in the days running up to that month's session. See the timetable below:

5th October Writers' Lab Live

- 28th September (midnight) – registration and submission deadline for writing to be discussed at October's WLL
- 29th September – submissions will be collated and emailed to all registered participants of October's WLL
- 5th October, 7pm CET – Writers' Lab *Live* session.

2nd November Writers' Lab Live

- 26th October (midnight) – registration and submission deadline for writing to be discussed at November's WLL
- 27th October – submissions will be collated and emailed to all registered participants of November's WLL
- 2nd November, 7pm CET – Writers' Lab *Live* session.



7th December Writers' Lab Live

- 30th November (midnight) – registration and submission deadline for writing to be discussed at December's WLL
- 1st December – submissions will be collated and emailed to all registered participants of December's WLL
- 7th December, 7pm CET – Writers' Lab *Live* session.

Please be aware that if our Writers' Lab *Live* sessions turn out to be popular (which we obviously hope they will be) we will open extra Zoom rooms to be certain everyone's writing receives thorough and thoughtful feedback. Extra rooms may be allocated before the day of the session so that participants will know which other writers' work to read before attending. Attendees will never be expected to read more than 5 fellow SCwer's submissions.

We are pleased to be able to offer Writers' Lab *Live* sessions as a **free online SWC members-only benefit**. We will be using the Zoom platform.



6. ALL-NEW SWC CLUB NIGHT READINGS

We will be running SWC Club Night readings 3 times a year. **SWC members are invited to read aloud to an audience from Vienna and beyond.** We will advertise the Club Night Reading far and wide using all of our usual social media channels to gather together an enthusiastic and appreciative audience.

Are you a member?

Perhaps a Sunday Writing Session sparked the inspiration and you went on to polish your story or poem with the help of your fellow SWCers at a Writers' Lab *Live*. Now you'd like to **share your writing with as many others as possible.** Invite your friends and family to hear you read alongside your fellow members.

Slots for readers may be limited if we need to keep the evening to a sensible length, so if you'd like to read you will need to register in advance. Readings must also be kept to a strict maximum of 5 minutes.

Currently we are planning for a hybrid event - a live event in Vienna with members and an audience from all over the world joining in. We are still working on a venue - keep an eye on our website for further registration details.

FIRST SWC CLUB NIGHT READING

Thursday 25th November 2021



7. CREATIVE WRITING WORKSHOPS - NOVEMBER 2021

'Beginnings' with Joanna Nadin

Sunday 7th November, 7.30-9.30pm CET
online (Zoom)

Non-member ticket €45 | Member ticket €29

See our Workshops page for sign-up details:
<https://sundaywritersclub.com/workshops/>

The bestselling novelist and creative writing lecturer Dr Joanna Nadin was one of our most popular guests for Meet the Professionals earlier this year. We are extremely excited to now be able to offer a 2 hour online creative writing workshop with Joanna – genuinely an opportunity not to be missed!

Joanna holds a doctorate in young adult fiction and is a senior lecturer in creative writing at Bristol University. Her books for children include the 'Flying Fergus' series, which she co-wrote with 6-times Olympic gold medal winning cyclist Sir Chris Hoy. Her tough but life-affirming young adult novel, 'Joe All Alone', has been made into a BAFTA-winning, Emmy-nominated BBC TV drama. Her novel for adult readers 'The Queen of Bloody Everything' was longlisted for the Guardian newspaper's Not The Booker award.

We all know the weight of a great first line, but what else goes into a well-planned novel opening? Joanna will take you through some of the greatest openings, show you how they work, and help you shape your own.

Joanna will discuss introducing characters, backstory, setting and description. The Beginning is only the start – everything a writer puts in their opening pages must resonate for the reader throughout the rest of the novel.

The workshop will be held online using the Zoom platform on Sunday 7th November from 7.30pm to 9.30pm CET and is open to both SWC members and non-members.



7. CREATIVE WRITING WORKSHOPS - JANUARY 2022

'Growth Mindset For Writers' with Brigid Whoriskey

Tuesday 11th January 2022, 7-9pm CET
online (Zoom)

Non-member fee €29 | Member fee €19

See our Workshops page for sign-up details:
<https://sundaywritersclub.com/workshops/>

Looking to the new year, we'll be running a different kind of workshop for writers thanks to the wonderful Brigid Whoriskey.

Brigid is as an executive coach who specialises in helping business leaders take control of their future roadmap by setting clear goals for themselves. She is a natural collaborator who always uses an ethical and inclusive approach and is driven to help the people she works with achieve the goals they set for themselves. Brigid is also a passionate creative writer. During her workshops she teaches many valuable techniques that we can all learn to successfully apply to how we approach our writing.

How often do you promise yourself that you are going to set aside time to write, but never do? How challenging do you find it to make time for your writing and, honestly, how well do you utilize that time? Do you set clear writing goals? Do you constantly worry if your writing is good enough? How do you pluck up the courage to send off a submission? How do you cope with receiving yet another rejection letter from a publisher? How do you maintain the focus and positive mindset to keep moving towards achieving your ultimate goal of publication?

If these questions resonate with you, our 2 hour 'Growth Mindset For Writers' workshop might be just the thing you need.

The workshop will be held online using the Zoom platform on Tuesday 11th January 2022 and is open to both SWC members and non-members.



8. BLOG AND PODCAST

We **love to publish our SWC members' writing** - whether it's personal reflection, poetry, song or fiction. Our blog can be read and enjoyed by readers all over the world.

This year we have **made changes to our 'Comments' facility** on the Blog. It means that whenever a reader wants to offer an enthusiastic word or two the writer will immediately receive a notification. It's a great way for SWC members to keep in touch with their readers.

Our **podcast** has been steadily gaining attention throughout the previous year. We only ever feature SWC members. In conversation with SWC co-founder Paul Malone, they talk about their writing journey, offer their own hints, tips and inspirations to listeners, before rounding off the interview with an always superb reading of their own work.

Have a read of the wonderful writing on the blog and listen to previous podcast episodes.

BLOG & PODCAST

<https://sundaywritersclub.com/blog-and-podcast/>



9. ALL-NEW DISCORD GROUP - SWC MEMBERS ONLY

Our community of friendly writers here in Vienna has grown to include writers from all over and it can be hard to stay in touch with friends across time zones. We wanted to make it a little **easier to support each other** from Sunday to Sunday, so we've created a **Discord community**.

Discord is a messaging platform. It makes it easy to stay in touch, have wide ranging chats, and support each other through our writing experiences.

It is different from Whatsapp because all the conversations are contained in dedicated channels on the community server.

Need some feedback on a couple of paragraphs? Post it in **#story-snippets** and then people can chat with you about it in **#story-discussion**. Were you served one of those coffees where the foam is literal art? Post it with a picture of your pen in **#food-and-pens** for others to enjoy. Was a doorway you passed on your walk this morning beautiful? Post it in **#inspiration**. And let the fellow SWCers know what you are working on with a photo of your notebook posted in **#notebook-pictures**.

Your **guide to Discord** will be Schroedinger, our virtual café waiter. He is here to serve you up a virtual *Wiener Mélange* and help you when you can summon his attention (not always easy with real-life Viennese waiters).

We are looking forward to seeing all SWC members on Discord. There **will be a blog post** to explain all about activating a Discord account and we will send out the invite link to all SWC members.

Chat soon!



10. MONTHLY NEWSLETTER - SWC MEMBERS ONLY

On the last Sunday of every month **SWC members receive our newsletter**. It's a round-up of what's happened in the previous month as well as information about what's to come. We also include a curated selection of writing competitions, eager publishers on the lookout for new writers, Instagram accounts worth following, the most useful How-To guides, worthwhile online groups and fun festivals we feel are worth checking out.

Our goal is to make the newsletter as interactive as possible and **we love input** from our members. We are **happy to share your news, your publications, your blogs and websites**. Keep in touch with us and we'll keep you in touch with the rest of the SWC community.



11. A SUMMARY OF MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

Sunday Writers' Club is a Vienna-based not-for-profit Kulturverein, but we charge a rolling annual membership fee of €70. Below is a list of the many benefits of joining our SWC community:

Weekly Creative Writing Prompt Menu

A brand new and unique SWC Creative Writing Prompt Menu delivered to your inbox every Sunday morning* to inspire your writing for the whole week.

Writers' Lab Live Online

Our monthly free online critique group.

Club Night Readings

Club Night Readings are open to the general public, but only members will be invited to read.

Discord online group

Chat about your writing, talk about the book your reading, ask for quick hits of writerly advice and build friendships with like-minded folk from within the SWC community.

Get published on the SWC Blog

Have your writing published on our Blog. Only SWC members are eligible to be published, but your story or poem can be read worldwide.

Podcast

Be the star of our podcast where we interview SWC members about their writing,

Newsletter

The SWC monthly newsletter will arrive in your inbox once per month.

Discounts on Workshops

Discounts on all our professional development writing workshops. But please be aware places for these workshops are always sold on a first-come, first-served basis.



Top of the List

Whether it's a space on a writing workshop or a place as part of the Meet the Professionals event, SWC members will ALWAYS be informed first.

In short, Sunday Writers' Club offers you time to write, writing to share, many ways to develop as a writer and several routes to getting your writing read. And we do it all within a friendly, encouraging community of like-minded souls.

Why write alone?

*We take a break every August and December and take the odd Sunday off, but members get a menu on every Sunday that we run a Sunday Session.