

## **BYRON BAY WRITERS FESTIVAL GETS YOU WORKED UP**

### **IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Before you settle back in the white marquees at this year's Byron Bay Writers Festival, get in the mood with a writing workshop. The Festival offers an entire week of workshops bringing the finest industry practitioners off the page and into the classroom.

The series begins with a double act featuring celebrated writers Sarah Armstrong and Alan Close. Designed for the full gamut of experience from absolute beginner to confident craftsperson, *From Woe to Go: write a short story in two days* guarantees you will emerge from your two day intensive clutching your new short story and a bag of tools to write more. This is indeed a joyous marathon of writing tuition, taught by two of the Northern Rivers regions most dynamic authors Sarah Armstrong is a Walkley Award winning journalist and novelist, whose first foray into fiction, *Salt Rain*, evolved from a short story to become a Miles Franklin contender. Sarah's workshops are legendary and here she is joined by Alan Close, former Sydney Morning Herald columnist and writer of both fiction and non fiction. Alan and Sarah will cover every essential aspect of short story writing and whether you have the barest nub of an idea or a fully developed theme, this fun and practical workshop will bring it to life.

Alan's newest book will be published in 2008 by Random House and is a masterly exercise in life writing, which makes his solo workshop a must. *Your Secrets and Everyone Else's as Well* promises to unlock the secret story within you and challenge your inhibitions. Learn to write with courage and honesty and reveal the hidden you. Alan is the master of teasing out uncomfortable truths and this could be the turning point in your writing development. Attend with open heart and enquiring mind and you will be rewarded.

Love a who dunnit? *Straight, Bent and Barbara Vine* is taught by Australian crime fiction legend Garry Disher. Get down and dirty with plot, sink your teeth into a juicy murder and create your perfect sleuth in this workshop with the internationally acclaimed and locally lionised master of the genre. Garry creates killer characters and an unerring sense of place. His books are bestsellers world wide and his teaching second to none. To miss this workshop would be a crime: book your place and plot the perfect murder, or at least a misdemeanour.

Workshop details [www.byronbaywritersfestival.com](http://www.byronbaywritersfestival.com) or Jetset 6685 6262