



Local poet  
praised

PAGE 9

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WANAKA'S INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

sunnews

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CAROLINE HARKER  
WANAKA SUN

The Outspoken Festival of Words and Storytelling continued this week with performances by two poets; Hawea Flat local Liz Breslin and Dunedin-based Sue Wootton (pictured outside Bistro Gentil where they performed). Sue also taught a workshop on poetry writing. She has won many awards for her work, which has been widely published both in New Zealand and internationally. Sue and Liz read a selection of their own and each

other's poetry and Sue was full of praise for Liz.

"I think you have an amazing poet in this community here with Liz," was just one of her comments, along with, "She should get a book out soon." Liz's poems took the audience on some interesting journeys, both emotional and geographic. Many exhibited her trademark sense of humour, others her thoughts on her twins Dylan and Lauren.

Sue encouraged the audience to tell their families, friends and neighbours about the festival. "You are so

lucky to have poets from all over New Zealand coming to your town," she said. "I hope the festival is well supported and becomes an annual event." Liz said she was pleasantly surprised to see many faces in the audience which she didn't recognise. "It's very exciting to see people who are new to the local poetry scene coming out of the woodwork," she said. "And they all seemed to have a good time. One person told me I made them laugh and I made them cry. What more could I ask for."



PHOTO: CAROLINE HARKER

## ticketgiveaway

The Wanaka Sun has a pair of tickets to a performance by the South Auckland Poets Collective to give away. Amongst the acclaimed performers coming to Wanaka will be Olive Asi, Sacha Norrie, Marina Alefosio, Dietrich Soakai and Ryan Teura. It's a rare opportunity to hear Pacific Island and Maori poets live in Central Otago. The performance is on Tuesday January 28 from 6pm at the Wanaka Masonic Lodge.

To enter email [admin@thewanakasun.co.nz](mailto:admin@thewanakasun.co.nz) with a short poem on why you want to see the performance.