Kiwi Writers Guide to Member Challenges

So, you have plot bunnies running amuck, words running rampant, stories just begging to be let out into the world or a to-be-read pile that you just can't seem to get through and none of the challenges on offer at Kiwi Writers suit you. You're in luck! This is where we hand the story over to you and you get to create the next challenge.

Creating a challenge is where the fun starts. You get to set the scene and tone of the challenge and put your creativity to work coming up with a name that will appear on participant and winner icons.

Add a Challenge

Follow these even simple steps to lay down your challenge.

1. Choose your **Category**

The category does two things. It tells us what we're doing and what we're counting. Choose from one of the following categories:

- Writing (words) – ala NaNoWriMo, SoCNoC, Waitangi Weekend Word Wace and many more.
- Preparation (hours) – used for any (or is that many) of the myriad of preparation tasks to precede writing.
- Research (hours) – a slight difference from preparation this is all about learning and discovery.
- World Building (hours) – applicable to any genre world building will enhance your story.
- Outline (scenes) – planning out the wood before you plant the trees.

- Reading (pages) – we all love books and so often don't read enough of them.
- Critique (pages) – provide invaluable feedback to your peers and discover what you can learn for your own writing.
- Editing (hours) – ala NaNoEdMo.
- Editing (pages) – for when a measurement of hours just doesn't seem like progress enough.
- Finishing (things) – added for The End Is Nigh.

If you have suggestions for more categories please post them within The White Glove forum.

2. **Title** your Challenge

Title (line 1):		(max 13 chars)
Title (line 2):		(max 13 chars)
Title (line 3):		(max 13 chars)

Note: Your full title will be made up of the above three lines, each of 13 characters or less. This enables us to draw a nice Participant and Winner icon. Spread your title over 1, 2 or 3 rows.

Create a clever, descriptive or just plain wacky title and spread it over the three title lines, keeping each line no more than 13 characters. This allows us to produce shiny participant and winner icons for your challenge.

EXAMPLE:

Title:
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Southern
Cross Novel
Challenge 2007
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Note: Please use 3 lines of no more than 11 chars

SITE CHALLENGE
Southern
Cross Novel
Challenge 2007
Participant
KIWIWRITERS.ORG

SITE CHALLENGE
Southern
Cross Novel
Challenge 2007
⭐ *Winner* ⭐
KIWIWRITERS.ORG

3. **Describe** your Challenge

This description is the blurb that will attract members to your challenge, along with that interesting title. Try and keep it to five lines, which will translate into three lines on the final page.

EXAMPLES:

Southern Cross Novel Challenge (SoCNoC, pronounced "sock-nock") held in June, with a long weekend and wintry weather, is NaNoWriMo for the Southern Hemisphere.

This August Kiwi Writers challenges YOU to either finish a work of fiction or complete anything else writing related.

4.   Lay down the **Rules**

The Rules are where you spell out the detail of the challenge. This is where you can describe just how lenient or strict you are going to be, provide some useful information or explain your intent.

You can use [BBCode](#) within the Rules section to add formatting such as **bold** and *italics* as well as adding links to other references such as the challenge forum thread (see below) and external references.

Check out the rules for [The 6,000 Word Easter Challenge](#) and [The End Is Nigh](#) for two very different styles of rules.

5.   Set the **Goal**

The goal relates directly back to the category you chose in step one. This is the number of words, hours, scenes, pages or things that you have to achieve to win the challenge.

When setting the goal remember to keep it SMART: specific (rules), measurable (category), attainable (goal), realistic and timely (start and end time).

6.   **Time** it

The start and the end of your challenge is one of the most important things about your challenge. It can be what differentiates between a sprint and a marathon.

Both the start and end date must be set down to the second and be entered in the dd/mm/yyyy and 24 hour hh:mm:ss format.

EXAMPLE:

12/09/2007 21:25:00

7.   Add **Challenge**

Click the 'Add Challenge' button to set down your challenge.

Promote Your Challenge

Members at Kiwi Writers hang out on the forums so make sure you go to the Challenges forum and post a topic about your challenge. We'll add it to the Challenge Index and you'll be sure that everyone knows about the gauntlet you've lain down.

We suggest you title your forum post with the title of your challenge and within the topic you should consider:

- Adding a link to the challenge page
- Describe a little bit about the challenge
- Invite members to join
- Invite participants to post more information about their project in the challenge thread

If your challenges gathers a lot of participants and discussion on the forums please contact one of the administrators via KiwiMail, our contact page or in The White Glove forum (see below) so that we can look at giving your challenge it's very own forum.

Help on Member Challenges

You can get further help on member challenges in the How Do I? forum. Post question you have about member challenges, problems you're having with the member challenges part of the site, amendment you want made to the details of your challenge or just drop by to tell us how you like it.

Accept the Challenge.

Kerryn Angell