

Locals write on with Indigo

THE Fremantle-based Out of the Asylum Writers' Group is breaking new ground by launching a literary journal exclusively for WA writers.

The journal will be known as *Indigo* and manager-editor Donna Ward said nothing like it had been tried in WA before.

"*Indigo* is unique because it is only open for WA writers," she said.

"The other journal based in WA is the *Westerly* and, like the majority of journals, it takes submissions from all over Australia, in fact, all over the world."

Ward, a Jungian-based psycho-therapist, said she'd noticed the limited opportunities for WA writers to get published when she became president of OAWG.

She resigned her presidency in order to establish the journal.

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"By establishing *Indigo*, Out of the Asylum aims to provide an opportunity for all WA writers to publish their work and develop their profile as a writer," she said.

"This is particularly the case for new and emerging writers."

Ward hoped *Indigo* would provide a positive advantage to those engaging in the stiff competition to get a publication record.

"I believe WA writers have a chance to develop a career in this state instead of feeling forced to move east," she said.

Ward said the lifestyle in WA was great but the cultural life was constantly under threat from poor funding and the exodus of talent.

"We need projects that will assist our



• The *Indigo* team – president Josephine Clark, prose editor Alan Hancock, and managing editor Donna Ward are providing a journal for WA writers.



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BRENDAN FOSTER

talented people to stay here."

Based at the Fremantle Arts Centre OAWG was formed in 1996 and Ward said it was at the forefront of providing publishing opportunities for WA writers.

Submissions are open to WA writers. To receive a hard copy of the guidelines for submissions to *Indigo*, send contact details to *Indigo Journal*, Out of the Asylum Writers' Group, PO Box 142, Fremantle 6959, or visit www.indigojournal.org.au. Submissions close April 27.