

SHOUT OUT!

STORYTELLING COMPETITION

[UNBREAKABLE]

TIPS AND TRICKS

So you're interested in submitting a story for Shout Out! — great, but where do you even start?

We've rounded up some tips & tricks to make your story stand out.

THINK ABOUT A TIME WHEN YOU'VE FACED A CHALLENGE IN YOUR LIFE

TIP #1

Make it about you.

We want to know about your life in the Western Downs and the event or experience that made you unbreakable. Personal stories are the most compelling.

TIP #2

But don't make it your whole autobiography.

Focus on one story, avoid being too general, and remember the word/time limit.

TIP #3

Look for turning points.

Was there a moment in your unbreakable journey where things took a turn for the worse — or better? These stories are great to read.

TIP #4

Write what you know and write how you speak.

Authenticity is key!

SHOUT OUT!

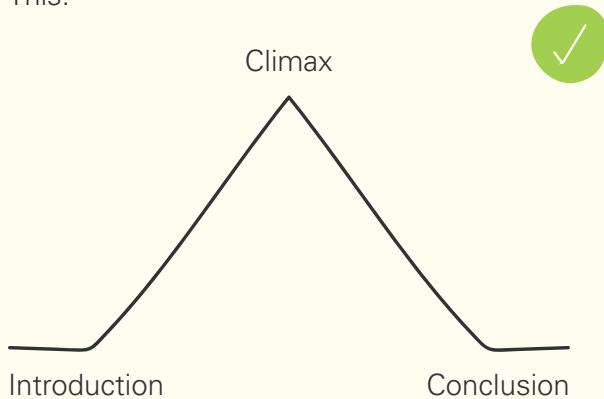
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TIPS AND TRICKS

When thinking about the narrative structure of your story, remember to KISS (Keep it Simple, Stupid).

This:



Not this:



And when writing your story, keep these things in mind:

- * Write in first person (I, we, me)
- * Include vivid imagery and lots of detail
- * Try to use dialogue
- * Weave your emotions through your narrative

HOW DOES THE THEME APPLY TO YOU?

We've all had a moment where we've gritted our teeth and made the decision to push through a tough situation. It could be something big (like surviving a bushfire, the loss of a loved one, or an ongoing illness); something smaller (the clean up after a flood, a neighbour in trouble), or even something you face every day — for example, what are the difficulties around living regionally or remotely? How have you been impacted by the ongoing effects of natural disasters?

Also think how this has shaped you as the person you are today. What's changed? And what has remained the same? Would you do it again, if you had the choice?

This is a *storytelling* competition. If you're not a great writer, but you have a great story — we want to hear it!

SORTED?

View the factsheet for more or enter now at westerndownslibraries.com/shout-out

