WORDS FOR CHANGE

Andrew Johnston | Curriculum Vitae

I train, edit and write for international organizations.

Since 2013 I have given 400 writing workshops around the world. I spent 25 years editing for daily newspapers, including 11 years at the *International Herald Tribune*, where I was deputy opinion page editor. I'm also an award-winning poet.

Since 2009 I have edited many major development reports, including the African Development Bank Group's *Annual Report 2024* and *Ten-Year Strategy 2024-2033*; the OECD *Skills Outlook*; the *Africa Progress Report*; *Reducing the Risks of Climate Overshoot*.

From 2010 to 2014 I was a P4 staff member at UNESCO, where I edited the UN's annual international education survey, the *Global Education Monitoring Report*.

My journalism experience includes:

Deputy Opinion Page Editor and Staff Editor, *International Herald Tribune*, 1999-2010
Sub-editor, *The Observer*, London, 1997-1999
Literary editor, *The Evening Post*, Wellington, New Zealand, 1991-1996
Staff editor, *The Dominion*, *The Evening Post*, Wellington, 1988-1991
Staff editor, *Otago Daily Times*, Dunedin, New Zealand, 1987

My training and teaching includes:

Writing skills trainer for international organizations, since 2013
Lecturer in Journalism, Institut Universitaire de Technologie, Caen, France, 1998
Tutor, Department of English, University of Otago, Dunedin, New Zealand, 1987

DATE OF BIRTH	7 September 1963
NATIONALITIES	France and New Zealand
LANGUAGES	English and French
EMAIL	andrew@wordsforchange.com
WEBSITE	wordsforchange.com
REGISTERED OCCUPATION	Communications consultant
PROFESSIONAL STATUS	Consultant/Professionnel libéral (SIRET 51305632500048)
QUALIFICATIONS	MA (Hons) in English Literature (University of Auckland, 1986)
	BA in English Literature (University of Otago, 1985)
	Certificate in Teaching English as a Foreign Language (TTI, UK, 1997).

Recent editing projects

- *Promoting and protecting teacher agency in the age of artificial intelligence,* UNESCO/International Task Force on Teachers for Education 2030, September 2025
- *Home-Grown School Feeding: Case Studies on Procurement and Financing,* Sustainable Financing Initiative for School Health and Nutrition/School Meals Coalition, June 2025
- *African Development Bank Group 2024 Annual Report,* African Development Bank Group, May 2025
- *Reducing the Health Risks of Climate Overshoot*, Climate Overshoot Commission, October 2024
- *School feeding and the Sustainable Development Goals*, ODI/Sustainable Financing Initiative for School Health and Nutrition/School Meals Coalition, September 2024
- *Missing voices: The violent erasure of land and environmental defenders,* Global Witness Annual Defenders Report 2023/2024, September 2024
- *GICHD editorial guidelines and corporate brochure*, Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining, 2024
- *Landscape of climate finance in France,* Institute for Climate Economics, December 2023
- *Reducing the Risks of Climate Overshoot,* Climate Overshoot Commission, September 2023
- *African Development Bank Group Ten-Year Strategy 2024-2033,* May 2023

Writing workshops for international organizations

328 dedicated workshops, 99 open workshops, 2013-2026

I have trained thousands of staff from UN agencies, NGOs, think tanks and development banks to produce clear, concise texts that are logical and persuasive. Participants learn to analyse and structure ideas coherently, maximise readability, tell stories and avoid impersonal language.

I've trained staff of many major global agencies, including:

ACDI/VOCA
African Development Bank
Danish Refugee Council
European Climate Foundation
European Investment Bank
FHI360
Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance
Global Witness
International Energy Agency
International Organization for Migration
International Organization for Standardization
Médecins sans frontières
Norwegian Refugee Council
OECD
Overseas Development Institute
Save the Children
The Global Fund
UN Development Programme
UN Environment
UNESCO
UNICEF
WaterAid
World Bank
World Economic Forum
World Food Programme
World Intellectual Property Organization

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My books

Selected Poems, Te Herenga Waka University Press, New Zealand, 2023
Fits and Starts (poems), Victoria University Press, New Zealand, 2016
Sol (poems), Victoria University Press, 2007; Arc (UK), 2008
Birds of Europe (poems), Victoria University Press, 2000
The Sounds (poems), Victoria University Press, 1996
How to Talk (poems), Victoria University Press, 1993.

My awards and fellowships

Ockham New Zealand Book Award for Poetry, 2017 (for *Fits and Starts*)
J D Stout Research Fellowship, Victoria University of Wellington, 2007
Writer in Residence, Villa Marguerite Yourcenar, France, November 2005
Writer in Residence, International Writing Program, University of Iowa, 1995
New Zealand Book Award for Poetry 1994 (for *How to Talk*)
New Zealand Book Page of the Year 1992, 1995 (for *The Evening Post*).

My life

Born in New Zealand, I moved to France in 1997. What sustains me? My three children.
Writers who nurture language.
Thinkers who care about inequality.
Poetry, photography, reading, cooking, travelling in Africa, birdwatching.
Art and music of all kinds.