

Emma Robinson

Emma Robinson is a sixteen year old, Year 12 student at Awatapu College in Palmerston North.

She comes from a family of scientists, but has always been encouraged to read and write. Emma says she likes writing because it helps her get ideas out of her head and onto paper.

While at intermediate school, Emma won the regional Nestlé 'Write Around New Zealand' competition. She was a National finalist in the competition at age eleven.

'I've usually got several writing projects on the go at once - at the moment, I'm editing a novel, drawing a graphic novel and writing a play script.'

While Emma's best subjects are maths and science she says she doesn't particularly like either of them.

'Drama and Japanese are my favourite subjects, even though sometimes my marks aren't as good.' She has made several short music videos, a short documentary and written numerous scripts.

It was Awatapu College's writer's group teacher, Jane Esmond that encouraged Emma to enter this year's BNZ Katherine Mansfield Awards. Emma says the story she wrote is loosely based on reality as she has a close friend currently living in Japan who she regularly writes to.

'The postcards in my story stemmed from the fact that if anyone were ever to find and read the letters she's sent me, they would only have her half of the story, and be left to imagine mine.'

When she isn't writing, Emma keeps busy with Taekwon-Do, playing the piano, surfing and extreme sports like rock-climbing.

She lives at home in Palmerston North with her parents and younger brother. Emma's future ambition is to be a film director.

