

Attendance: 20

Apologies: Belinda, Malcolm, Jeff, Cynthia, Marion



Agenda:

Today's meeting was a decidedly frivolous affair, with much laughter, chatting and no gavel to call all to order, so Chair Peter had to use his assertive skills, and sigh a lot, and twitch his eyebrows (sort of) and hope that all would recognise he was in charge. *Well this is my chance for a story, and I cannot miss the opportunity as presented.* Today membership, apart from bringing plates of edible goodies, had to write as part of a Round Robin devised by member Judy and Chair Peter, so as we talked CWL individuals took turns to write their offerings to the story as it circulated the group. Hopefully it will be found attached at the end of this newsletter for all to read. *I say hopefully for as I sit in what I am sure is at least 50°C, with the fan on jet-force, and try to use my limited computer skills, I will open member Ken's emailed copy of the finished product and cut and paste.*

Thanks were the order of the day, with firstly a big thank you going to Member Russell for his patience with membership who struggle with all things digital, and his web management for CWL. Russell has indicated he is most happy to remain in this role of computer guru for the next year, hallelujah, as he gets pleasure from being able to assist folk. *Now I can't believe the word pleasure and computer could be found in the same paragraph, but it's proof we are a most unusual group of people.*

Recognition of Member Martin and his prolific writing skills and his achievements with his writing was also shown today, with a very formal letter written by councillor Adam Haines, and a certificate organised by member Bakthi, presented to Martin by Chair Peter, on behalf of the local community and CWL. Although Martin has been recognised on the world stage for his works, he has informed me of his great pleasure at this level of local recognition for his writing. Martin continues also to be pleased to assist membership as required with his learnings about publishing and marketing. Thank you Martin.

Progress of the current project, **the Anthology** was reviewed also today. The editing group have met, and apart from a certain amount of most enjoyable chatter, have identified extending the time for contributions to be made by members for inclusion of their works. Deadline is now until the next meeting, which will be February 4th, 2020. This will accommodate those new members, and also those who have had to contact Russell with their computer dilemmas. Submissions will be divided up amongst the editing group of Peter, Ken, Janet, Rose and Richard, and forwarded out to them by member Russell. **Criteria for editing will follow ease of communication, acceptability of content, and suitability for general readership, along with a given that whatever item is submitted is minimum length requirements: 1500 words-3000 words for short story, and 10 – 30 lines for poetry.**

Member Russell advised he had won a FAWQ writing competition with one of his short stories, which is great news particularly as it came with a monetary award as well. It was unfortunate that this had to be shared with a co-winner of the first prize, *but heavens, just think on it folks, real moolah. Amazing!* Congratulations Russell.

Administrative positions of CWL were then discussed, and nominations called for. Current Chair Peter and the sidekicks of Ken – treasurer and support, and Janet – scribe, indicated their preparedness to be called on, along with Russell on web and digital technology. All were reinstated, along with another Scribe, of Judy Nicholson who with Janet will keep CWL informed of membership goings-on etc.

I am extremely pleased to have the valuable support of another member in the position of scribe, as sometimes life can dish a few curve balls and it is good to know that there will be minimum impact on others. So welcome to the mob that tries to keep things ticking over, Judy. We appreciate your offer of support, thank you.

Future plans for 2020 CWL were discussed briefly, as we look to find ways to support membership and be relevant in their writing lives. Apart from finishing the anthology started in 2019, we look forward to drawing on the many skills of membership perhaps in the form of short presentations, to the group. We discussed ideas for writing skills, performing research, understanding genre requirements, computer skill requirements, etc. etc. We hope the membership is not intimidated by giving a small talk, or in some way presenting their learnings on the journey of refining their craft. We all have something to offer, or to learn from others. If members attend other learning opportunities across the Moreton Bay Region, bringing that learning back to CWL and sharing it with membership would be most appreciated.

Well, I have given the story from Ken's email a fair amount of time, and I can tell when I am not going to be able to send, copy, attach, find, relocate, translate a photo to the printed word, and share the document blah, blah, blah. So Russell, I am still obviously work in progress, and my ability to find another way to pass onto folks the story we wrote, has become "I guess you had to be there" as my solution. Enjoy your Christmas everyone, and before I drop the computer into a big bucket of concrete, FAREWELL, ADIEU, AND UNTIL NEXT YEAR. JANETx