

Present: 20
Apologies: Judi, Marion
New: Steve Cherrill

AGENDA:

Welcome back to previously unwell members, Rose and Richard. Welcome also to new attendee Steve. Steve hails from Deception Bay and prior to that from England about 9 years ago. He likes all writing, but currently is invested in murder mysteries aimed at young adults.

■ Our anthology is now officially closed to new entries, and now progresses to the editing phase. Folk are reminded that this will cover such criteria as length of submission, font and layout, acceptable use of grammar, spelling, punctuation, as well as fluency, and audience suitability. Currently, some members are reworking their submissions in order to achieve the appropriate length. Well done to them for their efforts.

■ Chair Peter advised he has used Microsoft 365 as a helper to editing his work. This particular program offers a voice reading of your work in the review section, and he has found it particularly useful for highlighting errors in phrasing. Apparently you can choose the male or female voice, as well as American or Australian accent.

■ Member Rose has achieved high success with her recently published book, "Flight to Freedom" and has received an invitation to do an author talk. The date has been booked for 27 June at Bookshop 507 at Annerley. I know she is keen to also present more locally as well; I will keep members in the loop for when this might occur. Among many things Rose's book looks at is her flight from South Africa, and the impact of this on her life.

■ Member Martin is also on the presentation trail with an invitation to speak at Strathpine Library on the 19th March between 6.30-8.00pm. Contact the library if you would like further details. Martin will be talking about publishing your writing.

For your information: Regarding the Boonah Writers' Festival (brochure attached)

Just a note to remind everyone that the Early Bird registration - \$50 discount - for the above event closes on the 16th March!

SIX registered attendee writers who would like to submit their WiP for assessment - cost \$70 extra - will need to have this into the Secretary by 30th March for a report before the Festival. Ms Lynne Stringer, Editor and Manuscript Assessor will be doing this.

Those who have books published are invited to bring some along for display and sale - at NO cost to themselves - this is a courtesy we extend to our attending writers.

Remember that Sam Cutler - author and retired former road tour manager of the Rolling Stones pop group is the Guest Speaker!

This is a long weekend, so accommodation needs to be booked. We have a caravan park at the showground if you have a van, which is a few minutes walk from the main street. Any accompanying family will find plenty to do - lakes, national parks, wineries...!

Any partners or member of the public is welcome to come to the dinner - \$75 pp for them, \$70 if a member of the Foundation. The meal will be gluten-free and I am assured that there will be a vegetarian option available. Any other dietary requirements, please let us know!

For those attending, your morning and afternoon teas, lunches and the Saturday night dinner is included in your registration. The event finishes after lunch on Sunday, about 2 - 2.30 PM.

[www:boonahwritersfestival.org.au](http://www.boonahwritersfestival.org.au)

The program and all information are on that site :)

Anyone who wants to clarify something or have a chat is most welcome to phone me on: 07 5463 2644. My new mobile is 042 871 8960.

Diana (Convenor) www.dianahockley.webs.com

■ **Discussion** today concerned itself with the author's ownership of their written material. This came about as a result of a serious concern from member Audrey who has not been recognized as the author of piece of work entered into a university competition, and then had it used as part of a publication as a result of the competition. As she stated, she won the competition but never received due acknowledgement of her authorship in the publication, nor was she consulted as it was further used in various university contexts.

Membership all encouraged our member to send an email to the university concerned, expressing the hope that the matter can be rectified. Even though this occurred some time ago, we are sure matters can be put a right. CWL feel most aggrieved for our member's treatment, and we intend to identify where ownership of the written word stands in the Australian context so that we may all benefit from having up to date information.

Another member Wayne has similarly been treated when a poem he penned, was used minus recognition of his authorship. He is aware of this occurring on two occasions, after stumbling across his work being used and attempting to set matters straight.

Things to think about, indeed.

HOMEWORK

Today we heard about The Abandoned Suitcase, or Long Past Dawn. Choices were evenly spread across both topics, with a majority choosing to respond in narrative genre. Just 2 poems appeared, with one being from last month's selection. All efforts were well received, and reflected well on the thoughtful nature of our membership. It was appreciated that all attempted to stay within the 300 word limit, so well done everyone.

NEXT MONTH'S TOPICS

Rather than a title subject, Peter found a random word generator on the internet. So, using your imagination, write something using the two words as a prompt. No need to include the two words, just so long as your 300 (roughly) words is written about the theme. When you are presenting your work, indicate which theme you are using:

- Ice-cream and Fairy Tale. Example: Little Jonny/Mary visit a Theme Park where all seemed magical.
- Frequent and Scintillating: Like the old Rolf Harris song 'Now the fascinating witches who put the scintillating stiches in the britches of the boys etc.'

We have to admire Peter's constant search for challenges for the membership, have fun working with these two choices.

Looking forward to catching up with you all next month.

Cheers Janet