

Present: 13
Apologies: Martin, Rose, Belinda, Steve

AGENDA:

Well, it was a mighty fine welcome back to a 'real' meeting, even if we did keep to our Covid-19 seating requirements, and practised speaking a bit louder than usual and bit clearer too to accommodate the distances between us. We had a well-proportioned room on the first floor of the Hub, just above the library, with full tea and coffee making facilities, so we did soon feel quite at home.

It was fun to catch up on everyone's news, and to hear the enjoyment of folk in their writing endeavours, given they have had a lot more time to spend in front of their computer, or with a pen in hand. Peter's knee has been updated, Wayne has gone into his drawer of many bits of paper and resurrected and near completed an 84,000 word tome called 'Vietnam-a Memoir', Ken has had one of his fortune teller books published which is going gang-busters, while Bakthi has achieved a Diploma of Editing.

The rest have been reading, reading, reading along with planning their next writing adventures.

■ In order to hire the new room, we have affiliated with FAWQ so that as a club we might take advantage of the liability insurance. This insurance is a prerequisite to room hire, so after hours on the phone by member Russell, along with research on options by members Ken, Richard and Wayne, CWL finds itself safely in residence in a double seminar room on the first floor of the Hub at Caboolture. We have the room booked from 8.30 to 12 noon, so we have good amount of time at our disposal.

Of course, this has come at a cost, with an amount of \$522 for 6 months being required. As a result, we now have to request a small payment from members per meeting, currently \$5 to cover costs. However given tea and coffee are provided, plus a really quiet and comfortable meeting space, this seems more than reasonable.

There is also an affiliation fee for FAWQ, of \$50 per annum. However this will not be onerous, as the opportunity to now apply for literary grants, receive and participate in the quarterly magazine 'Scope', be able to take advantage of their insurance coverage, along with literary connectivity, and be supported in our own projects, is good news.

■ Russell presented the current CWL bank statement, which sits at a balance of \$419.

■ **Our anthology is finished**, and is currently with Amazon. Reflections of a Writer's Palette will soon be in hard copy for review at our next meeting. Peter anticipates that each editor who has been involved, will be able to quickly review it so that any electronic adjustments can be made via Russell. Hard copy is through snail-mail which in the days of covid, is very slow.

It has been decided that, post the final edit, CWL will purchase copies at the **prepaid request** of members. Currently we are anticipating a cost of \$10 per anthology for members of CWL. There will be more news down the track about payment options that members can use.

■ Guest speakers – Peter advises us that President Jim of FAWQ is still keen to speak to CWL, and once covid and meeting times free up, this will be on offer.

Russell is also hopeful to have a spokesperson from *Ingram Sparks* present their affordable option of self-publishing.

CWL may well revisit members leading small presentations about their passions, learnings or skills as a way to enthuse and inform others in their writing development.

■ The issue has been raised by today's meeting participants as **to where CWL is heading as an encourager of all things writing**. We realised today that we are on something of a cusp when it comes to representing authorship in our Caboolture area, we have had to find new spaces to be able to meet safely, as a result we have needed to be resourceful in finding insurance support, and we were lucky that we had a little money in our bank account. So folks things now need thinking about.

Here is an opportunity to fully understand why CWL just works so that we can continue to meet the needs of our writing participants. I am sure we don't want to become 'just a part or an off-shoot of FAWQ but remain with our own identity intact. That is what we need to think about.

All members are asked to have a good reflection on what they currently like about being a member, why they joined CWL, and more importantly why they stay. This is what makes us tick, and we need to keep doing more of it. We do need to embrace some money making strategies, and we need to meaningfully share time together. So thinking caps on, ask for ideas, come up with an idea of your own, let's seize the moment to ensure CWL goes forward on its writing trek.

■ Writing things:

Peter shared his success with using Watpad for posting stories, and receiving feedback. He spoke about his 'And the music played' story which is written in the genre of ghost story. Currently it has been read by over 5,000 readers. *Terrific Peter.*

Russell discussed a recent FAWQ meeting at Sunshine Coast University – Petrie Campus. The university is very keen to become involved with 'real' writers in some meaningful way. Russell sees this as very exciting, with possibility for readership, marketing, presentations and shared dialogues as but a small way to move forward and to very much involve CWL as well.

■ Homework things:

Today we shared the 300 words of Fortune Tellers, Ghosts in Barns, Stolen Necklaces and a tantalising Feathers as part of the enjoyment of being together. As per usual there were no disappointments, several I want to know how it now ends, and one, goodness, I did not see that coming.

NEXT MONTH:

It's 300 words/ or a few lines of poetry on the following:

Choose a title, write your words, and THEN finish on a cliff-hanger.

1. Royal Flush
2. Out of Time
3. Twilight of Algorab (apparently this is a star)

It's been a long time between newsletters, many thanks must go to our most able chair Peter for assuming the role of keeping folk informed, and also keeping us all ticking along with ideas for zoom meetings, and homework and using the web site. I hope this newsletter finds you well, or at least coping, that you have stayed relatively sane during lock down, and may we find ourselves not back there in the days to come. Keep writing , CHEERS JANET