

Present	19
Apologies	Maurice, Richard, Judy
New	Sue Henninger

AGENDA:

Welcome back to the membership of 2021 and a big hello and welcome our new member at today's meeting, of Sue. Well, did we all have a nice Christmas or does it feel like eons ago, and too many Covid experiences, to have even felt like Christmas? I am sure we have become used to nuking our hands, not hugging, maintaining our personal space and divulging addresses and phone numbers ad nauseum. Ah the new way of being, no wonder writing and creating and reading have become the new attraction for the masses and an affirmative action for the membership of CWL.

■ Chair Peter allowed some little time today for all to catch up. It is the joy of actually having someone to really talk to other than on ZOOM or facetime as it is called. When we actually assumed more serious talk, we started with the need to reinvent our bookmarks, which are currently not accurate, do not reflect the CWL logo, and need an update generally. Peter has decided to investigate the cost of replacing them, making even a potentially rash statement of 'they might be a present from him'. Membership wonders if he's won lotto, or if Santa has indeed been generous.

■ The notion of grants was also raised today, with Janet and Peter both having received an email from Terry Young, Federal MP for Longman. It was agreed that this was worth investigating, and Peter and member Russell have been nominated to attend the workshop next week being offered in Terry Young's rooms at Caboolture. At this workshop, the protocols for grant application will be explained further.

Discussion ensued re the possible use of grant money as related to the criteria of establishing closer community ties. At the very least the provision of rent for some roof over our head as a monthly accessible meeting place, as well as funding that may address the connectedness factor of a care plan for the website, social media marketing and workshopping for our local membership. The idea of addressing marketing through the local radio station was also identified as worthy of pursuit.

Russell identified that through our connection with FAWQ, we access someone with grant writing skills to continue our journey down this funding path.

■ Membership were reminded of our own CWL web site, and that available there are links to various useful web addresses that may assist the writing journey. Links to web sites

like Wordsmith.org, Amazon, and Blurb, and publications like Grapevine can all be found to name but a few.

■ HOMEWORK was its usually entertaining affair today, with most folk attempting one of the choices sent out by Peter for our consideration. Either there is no such thing as a mystery related to ghosts, or the stuck in a time warp of the past featured equally in folk's interest levels. With the exception of Martin's contribution of writing from his 98 year old friend who was trying poetry for the first time, all chose the genre of the narrative today.

Next month's temptations are as follows:

1. They found themselves abandoned in this place with little prospect of rescue, so they were going to have to learn to get along.
2. Was it simply luck that had caused him/her to turn down this street?
3. When his/her father was drunk he'd say you used to have a twin brother/sister, you know and he'd get a faraway look in his eyes.

REMINDER.....300 words approximately, or 5-10 lines of poetry, just so folk have the opportunity to read their work out to the captive audience of their peers.

■ Member Michael promoted his new book of *Killing Time*, which is a collection of 12 short stories in the theme of murder, of course given Michael's previous career as a policeman. He uses a variety of approaches from mystery, to humour and to emotion tugging to sell his craft. Purchase is available for \$15, just let him know of your interest.

■ Membership are also reminded of the web address of *Australian Authors.net.au*. This particular site which is managed by member Russell, attempts to encourage the marketing of Australian authors and their offerings. It allows a variety of search requests to be used to assist readers to find their interest area reasonably quickly and is most certainly a worthy venture for our member. It is relatively straight forward for our writers to have themselves included on this site, so check it out folks.

■ Member Russell submitted his treasurer's report for consideration today. It is pleasing to see we are still in the black, with the anthology proving its worth.

■ In pursuant to furthering our use of the local radio, member Robert has volunteered to explore how we might put a package together for general airing and offering to FM101.5 and will report back to our group in future meetings.

See you all at our next meeting, Level 1, the Hub, on Tuesday 2nd March. CHEERS JANET