

Present 18
Apologies Maurice, and Audrey

AGENDA:

Today's meeting started in the foyer, with some of our members showing off their confidence to check in using their newly installed Qld Government Qcode reader on their smart phones. It is always good to use new skills in the supportive environment of the Hub. Staff were eager to offer assistance to members if they were a little hesitant, or to stand beside and see if they were needed at all.

■ Chair Peter announced that there would be no more conversations around where we might have our meetings, as in his communication with the Mayor, Peter has been advised that we receive a 25% discount to our booking, which more than matches what we would be paying elsewhere in the community. Given that the Hub facilities are most suitable for our membership and that we have a history of being near the library, as well as the public have become used to this being our meeting venue. So it looks like \$5 per meeting per member for the near future.

■ Next on the agenda involved useful discussion about the expected format for our meetings, along with suggestions for what might be good to revisit, or to try. Membership are reminded that the meetings are about generating encouragement for all writers whatever the stage of their writing journey that they be on, so with this in mind, please find below a brief outline of discussion points.

- » having guest speakers
 - » having a writing focus or topic
 - » having the attending membership talk about 'what they do when..'
 - » discussing the skills that various members bring to their writing
- This could be linked to what they were in a previous working life.

» sharing writing strategies

» participating in quick writes during the meeting, for example...

Complete the line, *'It was 5 o'clock in the morning and.....'* or *'the eagle had landed and in its claws was....'* Etc.etc.

■ Chair Peter returned to the thoughts around the next writing project for CWL, declaring that a shared writing venture as in a novel, might need a lot more thinking through, and for the moment it will be put to one side. This doesn't however mean that members should be discouraged, as two of our writers are pairing up to share the writing of a sole production. Rose and Mike will keep us posted on how this progresses for them. Obviously a pair of writers is an easier task than a quartet etc. as first envisaged, yet we are sure there will be wonderful learnings to be had in giving the task a go.

■ Homework writing then came to the fore with members keen to share their efforts even though progressing the writing to a group write might not happen. Some members had chosen to present a synopsis of their story, while others had chosen the first part-chapter, while some chose characterisation as a little closer to their hearts.

It was pleasing to see those present keen to interact with the writing efforts, and to reflect upon what was enjoyable, what they wanted to know more about, what may not work in the time context, while those who had something to offer were more encouraged to continue with what they had started, and bring it back to share at the next meeting. It appears sometimes sharing what you have written or have ideas about, in the early stages, can be in fact very motivating for a writer. *Now that's something to remember.*

■ **Where to from here**, well for next meeting, **1.** some members will be adding to their stories from today's meeting, while others might choose **2.** to present a 300 word piece of their own choice to share, OR **3.** for the poets out there, using the topic of SUNSETS, they will be choosing a poetical form of their choice to present.

■ Next meeting Mike has agreed to talk a little about his life as a Detective in London, England, and how that now influences what he writes about in his fictional pursuits. Now that sounds like an opportunity to ask all those questions you really do want to know the answer to, and Mike has promised he will be totally honest in his remarks. *No pressure Mike.*

Looking forward to hearing next time about your writing efforts, and sharing the creative process with all, cheers JANET.