

Membership in attendance

18

AGENDA

■ A warm welcome to our 2022 CWL meeting, the first for the year. As with all things post an extended break it is sometimes difficult to resume focus mode, particularly when you've been on a hopefully creative break and been off with those creative fairies ... you know the ones, they call to you in your dreams, offer up flights of fancy, and tempt you with possibilities for a great story, or a most interesting character usually at 2 am or other such inconvenient times. So we hope that all budding writers are starting the year out in a well recharged mode and ready to go.

First item today was to hear from Chair Peter re the 2021 FAWQ book sale opportunity. Unfortunately the change in date seemed to have a significant impact on the purchasing of things literary, along with a rather unfortunate location in the North Lakes site (the library was the only open centre in the hub) which then affected the passing traffic. Marketing too seemed to bear little fruit, so suffice it to say ALL the books have come back to us. No doubt there will be other opportunities to offer our anthologies to market.

■ Interestingly the conversation did morph into the many challenges facing writers in engaging with their audiences, both intended and along the way, with richness of reading experiences being the desired goal for both the writer and the reader. It was important to also recognise that the writer's craft is a personal journey, and that not all are driven to make great sales, or to reach world-wide markets, and that some are on a more intimate relationship with their gift. Good to have a shared conversation amongst a group of talented folk however, and certainly it helps reduce that sense of isolation that can often be the baggage of creative people.

■ **LEFTOVERS** (*another descriptor for homework writing*) Much laughter with the new title, I think it may signify the writing for only this forum, which has nowhere else to go, though unsure if it will survive more than this newsletter either.

>Wayne lead the charge with a 'eulogy piece' as his motivator. His theme was a 'mate' and a reflective piece of prose that considered how the notion of mateship develops as we grow up sharing some significant parts of life's journey, and why we connect to some folk.

>Dennis presented his thoughts on Australia, and the dissent that is often shown by members of the community about celebrations of Australia. It was a balanced presentation of past and present actions, and gave a sense of hope of the possibilities for all through the leadership of the first peoples.

>Sue took on the challenge of replicating metre in a poem, and asked us to identify the poem she had attempted to imitate. Her poem of choice was Hiawatha, and unfortunately we were not of the mindset to be accurate in our guesses, but full marks go to Sue for challenging herself to progress in her writing, without a challenge none of us will grow.

>Bakhti and Maurice took us on reflections of life, with Maurice's whimsical take on telephoning an insurer. Many hours later, while still juggling with the firm's opening menu He was finally told that it was close of day and to call back tomorrow, as a truly valued customer of course. Sadly the CWL collective present could all identify with his predicament and the irony of some of the recorded messages that Maurice aired.

See, those creative fairies have been busy during the downtime of holidays, much to the enjoyment of the listeners of LEFTOVERS.

NEXT TIME

Maximum of 300 words or 10 lines of poetry
on **a topic of your own choice.**

Or, if you are up for a challenge:

1. The grandfather clock starts running backwards and stops in 1950.
2. A collector buys an unpublished manuscript, written 50 years ago by an obscure writer that describes an event which will happen next month.

■ Treasurer reports that our funds are adequate for the year's bill for a meeting venue, and that he is currently owed \$30 which will be reimbursed from the account.

■ **Project WANTED**
lots of ideas,
or at least one idea
for a focus for CWL as a shared writing project.

NOTE Michael and Rosalie have just finished and published a Joint Project. Although they did reveal broadly how they went about it, maybe they could go into a bit more detail. As part of meeting procedure, we can make use of the whiteboard to analyse everybody's thoughts.

The above aims to support and encourage the continued writing of the membership, as well as to lead to a sellable product for the club's coffers. So it is thinking hats on folks, and even if it outside the usual box, BRING TO THE NEXT MEETING.