

Present: 18

Apologies: none tended

New: Jim Higgins

AGENDA:

Welcome to March, and what was explained carefully by Russell for those members who had not quite understood the humour of Peter's remarks related to a late start for this month.

I'm back from caring for my husband and his gentle passing, to the caring fold of creative minds and clever repartee, oh how I have missed you all. Many thanks must go to Rose who stood in for me in the writing et al department, and for the kind words and thoughts of CWL membership both past and present.

Peter started the meeting off with an innocent remark related to the censorship of the words of Roald Dahl, and the decision by publishers to rewrite his use of such confronting language as 'fat' and 'ugly' from his work. This then segued into an often times hilarious discussion of the intent behind this publishing decision, and a more serious conversation around how writers choose their words, what is their intent, and the impact of the times you write in and the readers you write for.

Of course, dialogue and characters occupied some space, along with the purpose of writing, and the less than desirable outcome of 'bland' or is the word 'beige' writing. If the best you have to offer is political correctness, then perhaps writing isn't your strength or your passion.

Obviously writing is an evolving dimension, not only influenced by publishers, but by writers and now, we have the advent of artificial intelligence dominating our conversations of the written product.

What is certain is the power of words continues to challenge various readerships, and it is most certainly a force to be reckoned with on so many levels. All hail the power of words!

Homework:

Our committed writers liked equally the topics of 'From my back verandah' and 'A pair of silk stockings' as their preferred offerings. Of course, there is always one exception and in this, member Wayne gave a pictorial and poetry piece that had membership wanting either an omelette, seafood, or an ambient location to indulge their psyche. Thank you to the members who had taken the time to produce today's entertainment.

NEXT TIME:

The space between

Cracked Pepper

What did you learn from the crow? (a reference to Edgar Allan Poe)

NEWS:

Tomorrow evening, between 6pm and 8.30pm at the Strathpine library, there will be a workshop on Dialogue. This is a free event, and will be most enjoyable for those who have struggled with the use of dialogue as part of the writing process.

NEXT MEETING:

Time to review what CWL is going to put together for the next anthology. Janet suggested some new writing to a theme, as well as the inclusion of a 'taste of the author' section whereby published members might include a chapter from one of their tomes, and the purchase details if you'd like to read more of this writer or the book the chapter has come from.

Looking forward to our next meeting, first Tuesday of April...4th April, at the library. Cheers Janet