

NEWSLETTER—4 JULY 2023

Members Present: 15.

Apologies: Janet, Caroline and Louise, Michael, and Audrey.

Chair Peter welcomed all members.

Business:

Peter advised that **Richard Lancaster** from Redcliffe will be a guest speaker next month. Katy More from Future Magazine suggested him as a “person of interest”, so to speak.

Lexcia Dalton will give a presentation on writing short stories in September.

Maurice Hardy’s children’s book MIA was on view for those who wished to have a look or purchase a copy.

Martin Kari proudly advised that he had received a lucrative contract from a publisher. An agent who remembered him from meeting with him in London had contacted him. They have lined several of his books up for films. Martin is a world-renowned author, has extensive publications and has been a member of the Caboolture Writers Link for some 20 years. He felt that an author’s website was imperative. The members extended their sincere congratulations to Martin.

Jim Higgins informed the meeting that the **Maureen Freer Literary Competition** will this year contain one category: Short Story. For those who wish to make submissions, there have been some adjustments to past practice. The major change is that all submissions to the competition must be online through the link: <https://fawq.com.au/competitions> or as an email attachment to competitions@fawq.com.au. Entries are now open and will close on Friday 25 August 2023. Payment can be made via Paypal or by direct deposit.

Jim further advised that early next year FAWQ will reinvigorate the competition to include poems and memoirs.

The Fellowship were also in the process of redeveloping how to interact with people. At \$2,000.00 each edition, the SCOPE publication was no longer feasible to print and is now available as a PDF attachment. Jim, who is editor of Scope, advised that he would welcome poems and stories for publication. The publication now comprises 17 pages rather than the previous 32 pages.

First Prize for the Maureen Freer Literary Competition will be \$300 and Second Prize \$150. A short list of 10 selected by the judge will be offered entry into future publications of SCOPE. Prizewinning entries to be published in the November edition.

Chair Peter advised he had received the following email:

Hunter Writers' Centre is delighted to announce entries are now open for Australia's most significant literary award – The Newcastle Poetry Prize. All details are available on our website (www.scribewriters.com) under the Competition tab (just run the mouse cursor over the tab and click on the appropriate drop-down item).

Gary Crew's book *In the Secret Place* will be launched at the Northlakes Library at 10.30 am on 12 August, 2023. Currently, there are 7 places left.

Lexcia Dalton informed the members that the Rainforest Writer's Retreat on Children's writing would be held on the weekend of 30 June 2024. Those interested can book for the workshop only or include accommodation.

The "Writer's at Sea" cruise in October was a seven-day cruise, which could also be booked in two parts (workshop and accommodation).

Paul Williams and Shelley Davidow have published "Writing the Radical Memoir: A Theoretical and Craft-based Approach" on how to write the truth in Memoir by bringing together a lived experience in Apartheid South Africa.

Memoir writing workshop at the Nambour RSL on Sunday 17 July 2023 at 9.00am.

Russell Perry will do a presentation on Marketing on the 16 July 2023 at 6.30pm at the Strathpine Writers Group.

Rose Enstrom enquired whether some of these workshops could be zoomed in order that those who were unable to attend could avail themselves of the valuable information on offer. Jim advised that FAWQ owned all the equipment to enable Zoom workshops, however, these needed a lot of preparation.

Members congratulated **Meryl** for her first ever competition entry, which was shortlisted.

Project 2023: recap regarding the next project.

There were several possibilities.

These were a 5,000-word story per each member;

A maximum of 5,000 words per member to be used as they wished, two short stories, mixed with poetry, etc. It would be an author's choice to be submitted by the end of August. Russell asked that all entries be edited as best as possible, in Times New Roman 12 pt. Peter offered to type any entries where the member could not use a computer.

Homework for the month was a free choice. *Welcome Stranger* tugged at the heartstrings as Dennis reflected on the homeless person to whom he gave a shirt; Richard's *M26 Hand Grenade* to mention a few.

Homework August:

1. He/She and his/her dog were having such fun in the muddy water until
2. She felt for the lock in the dark.

3. He/She is in their late forties and comes from a poor background, but this invention of his/hers will make him/her
4. He/She kept absolutely still as the footsteps got louder.

The next monthly meeting will be held on Tuesday 8 August 2023.

Cheers,

Rose