

Present: 14

Apologies: Belinda

AGENDA:

Welcome back to a new year of writing, ideas, discussion about craft and hopefully a terrific time spent with folk who love the same thing, the joy of words. CWL is now back in the Caboolture Library, in the conference rooms near the computers, where we feel we best belong. We are back among the words we love and the people who look after them. So onward and upward as is oft said, the new year starts.

Chair Peter welcomed all, and led off with an update on FAWQ- Fellowship of Australian Writers QLD, which as an entity provides us with our public insurance cover as part of our group's membership. FAWQ is currently looking forward to establishing management roles for the year, and setting their goals too for 2024. More information re this, as it comes to hand. So we remain a small local cog that is part of a much larger group supporting writers.

Discussion today brought us all up to date with the evolution of literature as a reflection of the times it represents; the dilemma of writing in context using credible characters that may or may not reflect the values of the writer, or the reader for that matter; and understanding the readership that as a writer you most wish to engage.

How times have changed was the overriding amusement, and despair for some, along with laughter reserved by and for those who don't get the current lingo. Yes one of our young writers has returned to the fold, thank heavens, to explain a lot of what us older folk don't quite get, and for Sam, well it is certainly a reciprocal arrangement. There was also an overriding impression that some things just don't change, and all folk of all persuasions can take umbrage at words chosen, topics written about, or the methodology chosen for them.

The Anthology production remains as our CWL focus for 2024, with 2-3 contributions being the target for our membership, whether that be poetry or prose.

Homework was read, and there was a fine contribution from those present. The leading topic of pleasure was 'The Bright Light' with member Sam leading off with a science-fiction approach, followed by Deb who was 'all at sea' and then Denis who made us wonder about

the afterlife, along with Bakhti who had a spiritual contribution. Sue and I chose 'Sapphire Shores' and a verse or two, while John impressed all with his poem that hit the mark on 'If only we knew', which received a resounding applause for his efforts. Well done John. Peter brought us all back to earth with a funny limerick about Bert's shirt, much to the delight of all.

HOMEWORK for MARCH

- Swept under the carpet
- Second hand clothes
- Nothing ever happens to David Brown
- Oh my God, they've multiplied

So without further ado, and sounding a little like Peter Cundall of Gardening Australia fame, that's your blooming lot for this newsletter. Keep beavering away at your writing; laugh when you can, seek joy for your soul and we'll catch up next month at the Caboolture Library, in the rooms among the words.

Cheers Janet