

Attendance: 15
Apologies: Martin, Belinda, Helma

AGENDA:

We welcomed to our meeting today, David Jones—yes I know, not the shopping emporium, or the locker, but a very sociable chap who is President of the Redcliffe and Community Writers' group. David came to invite all CWL members to their up and coming Writer's Festival held in conjunction with the Sydney Writers' Festival, and with the support of the Redcliffe Library and the Fellowship of Australian Writers QLD (FAWQ).

This event will be held on Thursday 23 May to Sunday 26 May, being live-streamed in the Redcliffe Library. It will be a free event, and just requires a registering of interest so that the library has an idea of numbers attending. Please contact the Redcliffe Library for further details.

What can you expect; well there will be a range of authors presenting their ideas on writing, as well as an opportunity to connect with our writing community on the peninsula and to further stimulate your creative writing soul. Now this is not a bad way to spend some weekend time and for free as well.

David was also keen to see how another writer's group ran their meetings, and to make connections himself. We hope we delivered an enjoyable morning for him.

■ The above information of course led to other asides in conversation, mostly associated with the 'marketing' of one's work, and the opportunities available to engage not only readers, but also those who have yet to discover the joy of reading. It was recognized that things of a cultural genre were waning due to folks simply trying to cope with tight economic times, the housing crisis and the ardours of life. Never has the escape into writing and reading been more valuable it would seem.

■ Chair Peter raised an idea to put to the group, and that was to create a flyer (for want of a better word) to promote CWL as well as some of the writing of the group to readers. He suggested that something of A4 size, available at the library desk for starters could be worth considering. Member Lorraine was keen to participate in this activity, and the general group were very supportive of the idea. Homework might indeed have a home other than at the meeting and on our website, and perhaps we might also connect to our local reading community in such a simple way as a typed pick up when they visit the library. Member Bakhti also suggested that the local member offers printing assistance for community groups.

■ Today's HOMEWORK presentations:

Lexia wrote in a SCI/FI genre which showed the possibility of 'oops' in outer space, while Carolyn had us reflecting on the meaning of the hard work associated when one starts to lose physical abilities due to medical or aging conditions. Louise covered a loss of mementos, and Richard reminded us all of the powers of music to connect us with 'lost' memories and to have us wonder about choices of paths taken.

Bakhti explored what ever happened to disagreeable personalities, when they change into the polar opposite, while John exerted his particular style of humour, and had us reflect on humanity and what that means for most.

Dennis travelled on a train while overseas, and managed to create a picture of the pointlessness of war, while Sue brought us all much laughter with her poem concerning the joys of renovations when your neighbours are oh so close. She did agree that she may have exaggerated 'just a little' in her writing. Ah the joy of poetic licence eh Sue.

Merryl managed to write a very poignant piece about the guiding bright light that lead a dear family member from this life to the next, and Deb brought an honest touch to the pain of children's lies and who believes them, along with an understanding of how we learn by what we see modelled at home.

All this was concluded in fine style by Chair Peter, who made us all wonder about the reality, or unreality of imaginary friends and their power.

As you can see, it was yet another fine way to spend a Tuesday morning in the company of such diverse and unique individuals. No wonder we meet in the library, we are surrounded by such delights and experiences indeed.

NEXT TIME HOMEWORK:

- In a box under the floor boards.....
- He/She had waited 20 years.
- The horse came back alone.

Well that's your lot for this newsletter. Enjoy nurturing your writer's soul, may you find tasty nourishment in what you read, and we will do this all again next month. Cheers Janet