

Present: 15
Apologies: Martin, Belinda, Louise, Carolyn

AGENDA:

Well welcome to our Melbourne Cup issue of our Newsletter. Your writer has just been delighted by an outsider win of 'Knights Choice', along with a champagne and chicken lunch in airconditioned comfort. It is so Australian to love an Aussie horse, ridden by an Irish Jockey, on a hot summer's day in a true rank-outsider fashion of a 23 year wait for an Aussie trainer. Kind of ticks all the boxes for me.

Today's meeting started with a goodly sized membership, who were all clearly pleased to see one another, and ready to share their writing experiences to date.

≥Chair Peter advised that he, along with member, computer guru, and treasurer Russell had been only a week ago to a recent Writer's Convention at Northgate Hall, and had not only enjoyed the presentations on offer, but also managed to sell one of our last anthologies to the purchasing public. Well done fellers.

Approximately 150 folk attended the Gillian Lloyd organised affair. Two speakers of note were Editor Lauren Daniels and Writer C T Mitchell (aka Greg Reed). We were advised of a new Amazon Prime feature for posting your e-book efforts, and that is Amazon Shorts, which translates as short stories written as a quick read, referred to as Flash Writes . These are approximately 500 words in length and according to Greg are financially rewarding as long as you churn out the words and consider the genre of choice. He's found crime stories on the edge to be particularly lucrative. Something to think about folks.

≥A reminder that in the Caboolture Park Shopping Centre on the 14th of November, a Thursday, there is an opportunity to on-sell CWL membership books, as well as anthologies. From 9 – 4pm as part of a community enterprise, Maurice, and Peter will be present for some of the day to wave our flag. If you

have any time available to join in the central space area of the Centre, your attendance would be appreciated.

≥ Member Denis regaled us all with his current visit to Charleville, and his random meeting with a Brisbane author, Lamisse Hamouda who has recently won a 2024 competition in a National Biography NSW, called The Shape of Dust. The book is available at Dymocks, Pantera Press, Booktopia and Amazon. It is the story of her father, an Egyptian national who returned home and was immediately arrested, and the ensuing fight to free her dad.

≥ Peter had found some interesting thoughts on Google, in that writing heals the soul territory. Writing apparently gives the writer the chance to rewrite our lives. He particularly liked the notion of what happens in reality being compared with the possibilities, if you could do it all again.

≥ We are advised of a new local company operating that caters to writers and the promoting of their work. **Book Tree** linked to previous CWL speaker Katy Moore and her husband, will on-sell your books for you. Currently, until the end of November books will be accepted free, but there will be a charge per title after this initial time frame. 5 books will need to be forwarded to be held in stock by the firm, with 75% of the sale price returned to the writer. It is wonderful to have someone who is advocating for local authors with the wealth of experience that Katy brings to the scene.

≥ Member Helma advised caution with ebook selling and not having all the details or the necessary paperwork being completed. Authors need to be mindful of the protection of the necessary financial declarations etc to be undertaken before running foul of the Australian Tax Office etc. See your accountant or financial adviser before proceeding. Apparently initial firms can distribute your work to others for promoting and selling and this can get out of hand without the safety precautions expected in Australia. A form w3 is needed when distributing and earning from your book sales.

HOMEWORK:

Today's reads were many and varied, with all producing much discussion about the rose coloured glasses being not so rosy when we look at past times,

messages to grandson's were filled with love, and the impact of past experiences with the behaviours of family members reminded us all of our shared experiences growing up.

NEXT MONTH'S homework:

It was as if an occult hand had.....

Stone the crows

The broken seed

Spirits in the

Christmas Spirit

Where have you been?

On this note, with Christmas launching itself at us at a rate of knots, we were reminded by membership about 'what are we doing for our last meeting of the year'? No food in the library, but I and others have been known to smuggle sweet treats/ confectionary into a meeting. While others have smuggled their musical prowess and instruments into the meeting.

Just something for you to think about, Peter is putting his thoughts together on this subject so watch for emails in the next few weeks. Happy writing and thinking and creating. Looking forward to catching up with you all next month, CHEERS JANET.