

ATTENDANCE: 17  
Apologies: Martin, Graham and Brenda

### AGENDA:

Welcome to today's meeting and newsletter folks. We launched right into our meeting schedule today as we had a guest speaker, Katy More of Scribbly, a most wonderful resource for budding writers of all capabilities who wish to take that next step in their writing journey. Katy has spoken with us before, at some length on the skill of using AI and today she was here to do a follow-up on the free service - that the business of SCRIBBLY offers folk.

Scribbly is available online and offers a place to consider what you want from your writing. You can follow them on Facebook, listen to their podcasts, read their magazine (published fortnightly) or purchase a hard copy for currently \$20 if you prefer. Contact details etc are all available on the website.

Katy is also available for personal consultations if you're ready and know what you want, or even if you'd like to talk it over with her, before you make a move. Katy has already been used in this facility by some of our members, who spoke glowingly of her support for their writing endeavours.

Katy allowed the membership questions to direct the flow of today's presentation, which was very relaxed and informative, and truly met the real needs of the group. We started with the confidence in using AI as a writing tool, and from there what were the needs to be careful of, when using AI, the legalities etc. Apart from recognizing AI as a tool for writing, Katy recommended caution and care with just accepting AI offerings, and suggested that always, always to review what is offered by the use. Do your checking, ask for links to be given by any research done by AI, and always recognize the help that you have received in your writing by the tools you have used. Acknowledge for example, in your disclaimers that AI has been used and how, as you would also recognize any other forms of assistance.

We also discussed using Scribbly as a writer who just has a drawer full of written stuff, or files on the computer, and who want to prepare something in a legacy book format for family, or who have a story ready to go..but go where, nothing is too small or too demanding. What you do need to know is where you think you'd like to take your work.

Many, many thanks to Katy for her time, enthusiasm and her information. It was very much appreciated.

## HOMework:

Dennis spoke of the days of party lines and the old time spreading of information over the phone- good old landlines and shared lines indeed. It was often very hard to keep some information private in the true sense of the word.

Louise presented us with memories of growing up with the notion of shared chores, along with the passing of clothes that were no longer required and were taken to the second-hand charity shop for passing on. Much mirth was created along with much tact being needed when you went to a social function, and saw a dress that was a family member's dress, but was passed off as having been purchased at a very boutique establishment.

Richard entertained us with his frivolous idle thoughts moment, while waiting for the dryer to finish its washing load. Such an insight into family dynamics, roles within families as well as deciding on the very important topic of what was he going to do for tea.

Bakhti placed us in the hairdressers, again a good sharing place for stories and exaggerations which could become nearly a starting point for serial events of grand proportions. The current movie *Scream* would not have been out of place in this hairdressers.

Sue had played with idle thoughts and rhyming words that paired, creating some interesting and amusing pictures, while Ken learned a lot by a drive in the country on a new job, and getting more than he'd bargained on.

Janet had a go at some rhyming poetry for a change, with Surprises in the form of 3 peacocks who had surprised her over the weekend by setting up residence on her veranda, While Deb multi-tasked in reading Peter's homework on The Op shop. So, what was in that beautifully ornated black box Peter? Deb's own story, also about the Op shop had us wondering about what did indeed happened to the ladies who had opened the box that had been handed into the shop. Definitely mystery was the motivator for a number of our writers today.

## NEXT MONTH'S HOMEWORK:

1. A message in the tea leaves
2. A folder full of unsent letters
3. Memoirs of my old school days
4. An English tourist at the Middleton hotel. (this hotel is halfway between Winton and Boulia, in an area known for the Min Min lights.

*Well folks today was very informative, some of us feeling very encouraged to take those next steps. My current next steps will be, as always to try and understand how something so simple on Windows10 is now nearly a degree in using a computer for Windows 11. No I don't think I am getting stupider, but obviously my expectations about if it's not broken then don't change it need some serious readjustment. Wish me luck, after all I just want to*

*create a new file, with a new name and not use an existing old file. Maybe I am not recycling enough according to Windows. Ho hum. Keep sane folks, and keep writing, that's the only thing keeping me sane. Cheers Janet*