

RING OF BRIGHT WATER

The Society of Women Writers Qld. Inc.

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Bi-Monthly Newsletter

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**MEETINGS 2nd Tues every
month**



Hello everyone,

Good news! We now have the SWWQ anthology in our hot little hands, ready for those keen to read what others have written around the theme of 'Home'. Orders are coming in regularly, so don't miss out! We've also become very organised about holding panel discussions in the City Library, (thanks to Adele Moy). The exciting list of what we'd like to do grows each month, just check the diary dates on page 2. We'd like you to become involved with all of this activity. I know that this is impossible when you live in Longreach or Chinchilla, but that doesn't mean we can't have an event in your locality at least once a year. You must let us know and we'll see how we can do that. Not IF we can do that, but HOW we can do that.

Here it is, already May! Not quite the 'merry month' as it is in the Northern Hemisphere, but our Autumn is probably a welcome relief to most. Some of my tutorial sessions at our local University of the Third Age revolve around writing on topic(s) related to colour. So it's red, for passion or danger, or little Red Riding Hood. Blue is for the deep sea, skies, or blue moods or redheads. Green is for algae, forests or envy, and so on. I think May is a yellow month, as things are drying out. July could well be about various shades of blue as rain clouds drift in and out, while September is about green, perhaps? What about November? It might even be good to have such a theme for our ROBW issues. You could send some snippets about such a colour. We could have workshops generating ideas around those as well. Yes, we're planning more workshops, especially for our retreat on Bribie Island in October.

Will we see you there? I hope so.

Thea.

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May 2017

Members' meetings Community Meeting Room,
ground floor, Brisbane City Library.

9.45–10.15

**Report back to members about c'tee
decisions.**

10.15–11.30 - activity

NOTE the starting time

We ask for a donation of \$3 per attendance.

A door prize raffle is held at each meeting for \$1 p.p.

Program:- June 13, July 11, Aug.15, general
meetings

Committee meetings Every fourth Tues. Rm 1.06,
1st floor City Library.

Room opens at 9.45a.m.

Submissions to the C'tee should be addressed to
the Secretary to be received **a week prior** to C'tee meetings.

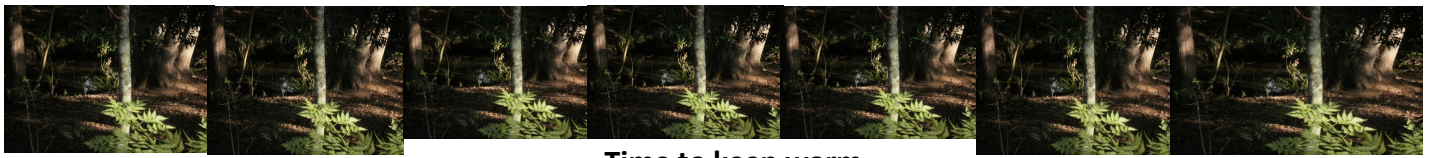
Proposed Guest speakers—

July— Estelle Pinney and Thea Biesheuvel (?) on Memoirs

August—speaker to be confirmed

Sept—Our AGM and "How Writing Works" by Ros Petelin (TBC)

October—Bribie Island Retreat + workshops 18–22nd



Time to keep warm

Dates for your Diary

23rd May Committee meeting. Not usually all that exciting, but we have some quite good discussions about events “in the pipe-line”

17th June Literary Lunch and formal launch of our Anthology. There will be speakers (yet to be confirmed). Venue: Ship Inn at Southbank. Costs \$40 for members, \$50 for non-members. Separate information will be sent out.

Sat. 26th August Garden City Library. The Lord Mayor’s delegate, Cr. Stephen Huang was so impressed with our panel discussion at the City Library that he asked for something similar to be held in “his” library at Garden City. Separate information will be sent out.

12th Sept. our A.G.M. We need our members to have a say at this meeting and hear what we think we’ve achieved.

18 – 22 October Bribie Island Retreat with some

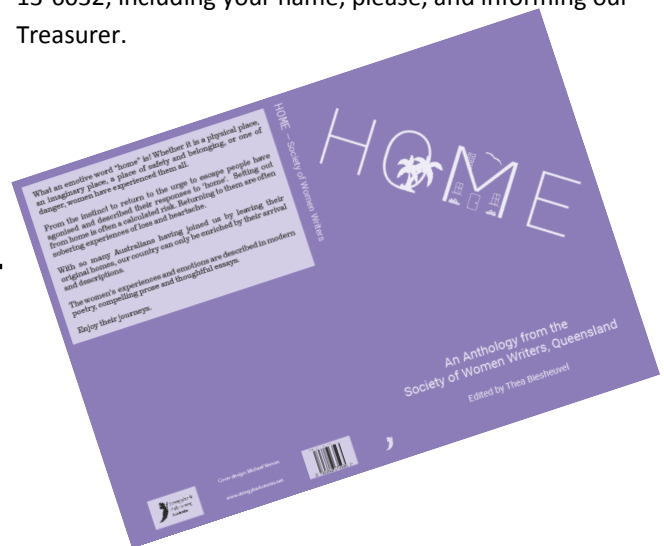
workshops to help ‘polish up’ your writing competition entries before it closes.

12th December. Our end of year meeting with the announcement of the winners and the presentation of prizes

Please remember that Annual subscriptions are always due at the end of the financial year, 30th June and are valid from 1st July to 30th June the following year. You can pay by cheque or Direct Debit as detailed below.

You will receive your copy of our Anthology as soon as we receive your payment of \$22+ \$5 for postage, either by sending us a cheque made out to the Society of Women Writers Qld,

or by Direct Debit to our Westpac BSB 034-050 Account No. 13-6032, including your name, please, and informing our Treasurer.



Members’ Achievements

We know that many of you don’t care to write for competitions or with the aim of getting your work published, which is your prerogative, of course.

We know that quite a few of you do achieve success in competitions or manage to get your work published. We’d all like to know about these so we can help you celebrate your victory.

In the last 12 months we’ve seen the launch of Helga Parl’s book, “Angela’s Boys” and Joan Turnour’s book, “A Colourful Tapestry”, as well as Thea’s sequel anthology of poetry, “Even Further”. Mocco Wollert is about to launch her book about her Darwin days and Estelle Pinney her Memoirs. Margaret Dakin’s play is about to be performed. All this as well as several of Mocco’s poems being published, Margaret’s short stories (5) finding an audience/readership and Di Hill’s continuous Blog.

Since we document in our Constitution that we encourage and support women writers in Queensland, I’d like to recommend Susan Currie’s biography of Dr. Janet Irwin, “A Prescription for Action”, launched in the City Library one Sunday morning recently. All excellent Achievements!

Your Biography

Yes, yours! Several new members have commented on ‘finding us’ either on the world-wide web or on Facebook. We’d like to introduce ourselves **better**, but having small, biographical details about **you** linked to those two publications. Why not write us some 100 or so words on such things as why you write, what you read, your writing life and perhaps on your inspiration. A small photo jpeg would be good as well.

Di Hill can link those to the web-page and on our Facebook page.

Please send this **biography and photo** to her at

aussidi@gmail.com You’ll save her many sleepless nights and gain us many more friends.

Have you got Style?

Of course you have.

If you're reading this, you'll probably write in English as well. It is said that this is the most difficult language to master. There seem to be several exceptions for every "rule". Spelling is not uniform. Then there are these "rules" about punctuation. Most publications and competitions will also expect some standards in formatting your work. We've been talking about how you can navigate these hurdles safely. We've constructed a ***Style Guide*** for our members to use when submitting work, especially in our writing competitions. This guide will come out to you before the end of May. Non-members will need to pay \$2+postage. It will help you and it will also help our judges apply some standard criteria to your work when you submit it.

The 2017 Writing Competition

This year there will be no "theme" around which you will be asked to write. We will also not publish the work submitted. An "open" competition and publication will happen again in 2018.

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|-------------------------|-------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. Poems | up to 50 lines | Winner \$50 + publication |
| 2. Short stories | up to 2,000 words | Winner \$50 + publication |
| 3. Non-fiction articles | up to 2,000 words | Winner \$50 + publication |

Certificates for the following categories: Winners, runners-up, highly commended and commended entries.

CONDITIONS OF ENTRY: The work submitted will be the original work of the author and not be under consideration in any other competition or by any other publisher or already published.

All work will be accompanied by *a separate title page*, with the name and pen-name of the author and full contact details; The title page will not be seen by any judges.

No name will appear on any works submitted. A pen-name may be added as a footer to a page.

All work will be in Times New Roman, 12 point font with double spacing and use the ***Style Guide*** to judge the punctuation and formatting of stories, articles and poems.

A maximum of 3 entries per category;

SEND YOUR ENTRIES TO:

H. J. Boardman, 5/19 Masters Street, NEWSTEAD . Q. 4006+

CLOSING DATE: 31st October, 2017

WINNERS ANNOUNCED ON 12th December, 2017 at our final meeting for 2017

The judges' decisions will be final. No correspondence will be entered into

We expect to hold workshops during our October, Bribie Island Retreat to enable authors to "polish up" their work. Formats and facilitators for these workshops will be advised closer to the date.

OPPORTUNITIES and COMPETITIONS

Winning an award can earn a new writer recognition, credibility and some prize money, but it can also open up opportunities for reprints such as Melbourne Books' yearly *Award Winning Australian Writing* anthology

This is only open to short stories and poems that won first place in an Australian Award in the previous year, giving award winning writers an opportunity to further extend their audience.

StylusLit

An Australian, bi-annual online literary journal, *StylusLit* has opened submissions for its September 2017 issue. Only previously unpublished work will be accepted. You may submit poems, fiction or creative non-fiction. Submissions close **30 June**. Check on their web-site.

fourW Anthology

The Booranga Writers' Centre is currently accepting submissions for its next edition of *fourW*. It welcomes submissions of poetry, fiction and graphic or artwork not previously published. Guidelines apply. Submissions close **30 June**. Check their web-site.

Love Gone Wild Conference

The 26th Annual Romance Writers of Australia will hold their Conference at the Pullman King George Square Hotel in Brisbane **August 11–13th**, 2017. Many Oz and overseas authors, such as Marion Lennox as well as Kate Forsyth and Editors from Harlequin, Hatchette and Penguin Random House will be there. There will be two full-day workshops and a Masterclass by Kate Forsyth. Open to all authors, aspiring, emerging or established writers, come spread your wings, find your tribe and get ready for a *Wild* ride. Contact, Tania Joyce, on tania@taniajoyce.com or look at www.taniajoyce.com for Romance Writers' details.

Best of Times

Short story competition #23. View on **www.bestoftimes.com.au**

Humourous short stories (any theme) up to 2,500 words. First prize \$300—\$500 depending on the number of entries, second prize \$100

Closes **31st May**. No entry form is required but include your cover sheet with a name and address, story title and word count. They'd like to know where you heard about the competition. Entry fee is \$10 per story. Send cheque or money order made out to Chris Broadribb or use PayPal to paycabbook-23@yahoo.com.au Post your entry to PO Box 55, Blaxcell, NSW2142, include a SSAE if you want your story returned or the results, or email it to cabbook-23@yahoo.com.au

ACU Prize for Poetry

Entries for the 2017 Australian Catholic University (ACU) Prize for Poetry are now welcome, with writers competing for the coveted \$10,000 first prize. The prize will be awarded for outstanding poetry with the **theme "Joy"** which will be presented on Thursday 31st August in Melbourne. Celebrated poet, Prof. Chris Wallace-Crabbe AM will judge the prize. The Prize's sponsor, ACU's director of Identity and Mission, Fr. Anthony Casamento reflecting on this year's theme commented: "*At a time of uncertainty across the world now, as much as any time in the past, we need to be joy-filled people. Poetry is a powerful medium for reflecting on how joy can be manifested, or how its absence can be damaging.*" Entries open between **3rd April and 3rd July**. Make enquiries from aculiterature@acu.edu.au or look at the web-site www.acu.edu.au/poetry-prize. Social media contact: #ACUpoetry

Don't forget ***The SWWQ 2017 Writing Competition*** (see also page 3)

This year there will be no "theme" around which you will be asked to write. We will also not publish the work submitted. That will happen again in 2018.

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Please note The Pres. will be incapacitated for the month of June. Vice-Pres. Mocco Wollert will be in the chair.