
RING OF BRIGHT WATER – May 2018

The Society of Women Writers Qld. Inc.

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All Mail to the Secretary

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Words from your President

Greetings and welcome new members.

In a bag I bought at the Writers Group Convention, from Judy of *The Letter Lounge*, was a quote from Ernest Hemmingway: "There is nothing to writing. All you do is sit down at a typewriter and bleed." (Sadly the Letter Lounge has closed down.) Well, I haven't bled very much recently - too much else to do - but am hoping to get more organised when I move to the Bribie area, house sitting for several months. I am, however, updating my *Penzu* journal more regularly, as well as working on my novel, with meetings with two editors/writers on a weekly basis.

It was wonderful to see so many SWWQ members at the Convention on April 21st – we did well, with Carolyn Coombes winning the Writing Competition, and two of our members getting lucky door prizes. I am sure we will all benefit from much of the information shared by speakers. Congratulations Carolyn.

Watch for information in a later edition of ROBW about the Sandcliffe Festival, in August. We are hoping that more members will be able to attend this year.

The Stella Prize was won by Alexis Wright, who was born in Queensland. Her book, *Tracker*, is interesting. It has over 600 pages, and I am not sure I will be able to read it all. I have read only one review of it, which wasn't very positive. Mmmm.

I mentioned [Penzu](http://www.Penzu.com) above – if you would like to have your own free online journal – have a look at www.Penzu.com. There is a free version and a paid one.

Another exciting publishing company – [NettPress](https://nettpress.com/market) (<https://nettpress.com/market>) – was represented at the Convention, and is worth looking at. If you want to join them you need to be quick to get the 50% discount they are currently offering.

Our next meeting with Vicki Bennett should be interesting and I am sure we will all learn many things. Her presentation, which will be followed by a quick meeting to update the constitution, is on May 8th. Bring a friend. Members will be asked to contribute a \$5 donation to attend, and everyone will receive a lucky door ticket.

See you then,
Keep Writing,

Dí



Women Writers
Queensland

Upcoming Events

Next Members' Meetings

8 May 2018

Writing for Adults and Children, presented by Vicki Bennett (See page 2).

*Brisbane Square Library. 10 a.m.
Community Room,
Ground Floor*

Special General Meeting to follow at 11:15 – 11:45
See page 3 for details

12 June 2018

Note change of venue for JUNE meeting only:

**Queensland Writers Centre
Level 2, State Library of Qld**

See page 3 for more details

Donation at the door for these meetings is \$5. This includes a ticket into a raffle prize draw.



Like us on Facebook

And please like and comment on posts to keep our page active.

Brisbane Writers Convention 21st April 2018

Ten members of SWWQ enjoyed a time of networking, education, and encouragement at the Brisbane Writers Convention held at Enoggera Bowls Club.

About 100 participants were encouraged to follow their writing passion, with dedication to discipline, writing process (including grammar, and punctuation), and systematic learning, such as workshops and competitions.

Avid reading on all types of genres was promoted. Hearing from published authors and publishers about new options was interesting.

Two of our members were fortunate to win two lucky door prizes, and one, the writing competition.

Why not consider attending next year? The venue has parking and accessibility for all, including wheelchair users.

Carolyn Coombes

Editor's Note: Carolyn won the writing competition at this event for her story 'An Author Who Inspires Me'.

Congratulations Carolyn.



8 May meeting

Brisbane Square Library, 10 am

Vicki Bennett will speak about writing for Adults and Children

Vicki Bennett is a bestselling author of 27 books for adults and young people. Most of her books are internationally successful and have been published in numerous languages. Her latest book, **The Little Stowaway**, published by Scholastic Publishers in 2018, is a story about a little French orphan who was smuggled to Australia in an oat bag.

Her books include: *Programme to Succeed*, *Mirrors - An Adventure into Ourselves*, *Take Me To My Garden*, *Mummy?*, *Making Dreams Come True*, *I've Read the Rules, Now How do I Play the Game?*, *Life Smart*, *The Effective Leader*, *Signposts for Life* and *What Do Women Really Want?*

**NON-MEMBERS MAY ATTEND ONE MEETING TO TRY US OUT BEFORE JOINING
SO WHY NOT BRING A FRIEND ALONG TO THE NEXT MEETING**

Competitions

We take no responsibility for accuracy. Please check the websites for more information entry forms/conditions etc.

Society of Women Writers Qld Estelle Pinney SS Competition

Closing Date: 30/06/2018

Open to: All Australian Women Writers.

**SEE PAGE 3 AND ATTACHED
FORMS FOR MORE DETAILS**

Society of Women Writers Tasmania SS Competition

Closing Date: 30/8/2018

Fee: \$10

Word Count: 1200-1500

Theme: Life Changing

Open to all Short Story Writers

Prizes: 1st - \$200; 2nd \$50 plus highly commended and commended certificates.

**More information is available
from** SWWT Website:

www.swwtas.org

Or the competition coordinator,
wendylaing02@gmail.com

Peter Cowan Writers Centre Patron's Prize for Poetry

Closing Date: 8/6/2018

Fee: \$10 or \$20 for 3 poems

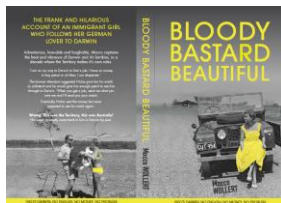
Maximum: 50 lines per poem

Theme: open

Prizes: 1st \$200; 2nd \$100; 3rd \$50 plus 4 x highly commended and 4 x commended certificates

For conditions and entry forms, go to pcwc.org.au and click on the 'competitions' button.

MARKETING YOUR SELF-PUBLISHED BOOK – after the book launch



Member Mocco Wollert sold the first print run of her memoir, *Bloody Bastard Beautiful* and is working on the second, chipping away at stocks by attending events, such as the Brisbane Writers Convention, where she signs and sells copies. She also approaches local stores to organize book signings. Recently, she set up at her local NEXTRA store and sold 11 copies in 3 hours. She said she would have stayed longer and sold more but her *feet gave out!* Her book is available on Amazon and in selected book stores, or from Mocco herself – email mocco.wollert@bigpond.com

If you have some publishing or competition news to share, email robweditor@womenwritersqld.org.au

JUNE MEETING VENUE

Don't forget that the June meeting will be at the Queensland Writers Centre, which is on the second floor of the State Library at South Bank. The Library does not open until 10 am so if you are early you might enjoy a coffee at the café downstairs, which opens earlier.

You will need to go through security to the lifts - but it is all easy. When you get out of the lift, turn left and you will find QWC a very short walk away.

If you take the train into the city, go to South Brisbane Station. You might like to walk through the gallery or the other walk to SLQ, or go along Grey St, to the Library. Buses stop near the Art Gallery and some right at the SLQ. Check your bus route.

Put it in your diary!!! (If you do accidentally go to the Brisbane Square Library, it is a pleasant walk across the Bridge and along to the State Library of Queensland.)

SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING

A Special General Meeting will be held on 8th May 2018, in the Brisbane City Library, at around 11:15-11:45am, directly after the speaker's presentation, where we will ask financial members to approve the updated constitution for our organisation. A copy of the proposed constitution was circulated to members on 24 April 2018 with the official notice of this meeting.

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

President: Di Hill - president@womenwritersqld.org.au

Secretary: Carolyn Coombes -
secretary@womenwritersqld.org.au

Treasurer: Wendy Svartz -
treasurer@womenwritersqld.org.au

Committee Members

Adele Moy; Sue Wagner; Trudy Graham; Bernadette Ketter;
Helen Boardman and Marj Wilke

Announcing the Estelle Pinney Short Story Competition

Closes 30 June 2018

Open to all Australian women writers with free entry for financial members of the Society of Women Writers Qld Inc, for up to 2 short stories of a maximum of 1500 words.

First: \$350

Second: \$150

Third: \$75

Plus certificates for winners and commended and highly commended

See the attached conditions and entry form for more information