

Boroondara Writers' Bulletin — June 2008

Boroondara Writers Group is a supportive and knowledgeable community of writers working in all genres and at all skill levels. Our monthly workshops are designed to encourage, to improve and to applaud members' writing.

Change of Date!

Book Launch

Thursday, November 27th 2008

Due to scheduling issues within Hawthorn Town Hall close to Christmas, the December Soirée, and therefore our book launch, will now take place on Thursday, November 27th, not December 12 as advised last month. So please change the date in your diaries.

It is important to get a good attendance for the launch as we make most of our sales on that day, so please let friends and family know about this event in good time. We have an excellent time with entertaining readings from the anthology and good food, and it will be the last occasion for members to socialize in 2008. So get together and bring guests to make up a table.

Creating Characters Workshop

Saturday, July 26

Leader: Molly Travers

\$5 members, \$10 visitors

Just bring yourself, pen, paper and your imagination to the July meeting.

Molly will guide us through the subtle and not-so-subtle ways of making our characters believable.

Be ready for Molly's usual challenging and fun exercises and experimentation.

Don't miss it!

Family History Event

Members attending the May meeting will remember discussion of repeating our successful 2007 event to celebrate Family History Week. In August last year about twenty members and guests gathered in the salubrious (and free) surroundings of the Town Hall Gallery (behind Hawthorn Town Hall) for afternoon tea and readings from members' memoirs, family histories and anecdotes, with an open mic session for guests who wish to read from their own work.

Unfortunately the gallery will not be available during Family History Week this year (August 2-10), because the exhibition at that time will take up most of the floor space. However if members would nevertheless like to hold a similar function, I propose that we hold it in October when my exhibition, 'Seeing Ourselves', is showing and there will be adequate floor space for chairs.

Anyone wishing to read at the event can read from existing material or you may like to write something for the event, especially if memoir or family history is not what you usually write, and encourage your family and friends to join in as well.

Email your workshop pieces to Rebecca!

Come on everyone, play nice.

We all know how valuable Rebecca's workshop comments are, but she could do even better if she had a copy of the text on her computer. So please, email your workshop pieces to her at beckybrl@vicnet.net.au before the workshop.

If you are already doing this, you are a hero.

Anthology News

Earl Livings, former Boroondara Writer-in-Residence and former moderator of the Boroondara Writers Group, has confirmed his willingness to launch our anthology on November 27th. Earl's long association with BWG makes him the ideal person to comment knowledgeably about the anthology and the writers' group in his address.

After numerous quotes, Gray Tham and I are close to choosing a printing firm for the anthology, so please everyone who has not yet provided a biography and some quotes about writing and the writers group, please do so, otherwise I will assume that you are happy for me to use the biographies from the 2006 anthology.

Anthology Title

Here are some suggestions for the anthology title. We will take a final vote at the next meeting so if you don't like these (which are the titles of some of the pieces in the book) bring your own ideas:

- Whole Salmon
- Versatile Hands
- Ephemera
- Tea with Milk

Don't forget the Boroondara Literary Awards

Entry forms available at the meeting. We really should enter this.

Not since Caroline Petty in the late 1990s or early 2000s, has any member won as much as an honourable mention (as far as I know – sorry if I'm wrong). I believe this is because we don't even enter, I know I don't, but let's make this the year the Boroondara Writers Group made its presence felt.

“For me the private act of writing poetry is songwriting, confessional, diary-keeping, speculation, problem-solving, storytelling, therapy, anger management, craftsmanship, relaxation, concentration and spiritual adventure all in one inexpensive package.”

Stephen Fry, *The Ode Less Travelled: Unlocking The Poet Within*, London: Hutchinson, 2005, xii.

