

E-bulletin No 1

14 December 2009

Dear Backroom Pressers,

Thank you for joining Backroom Press at our inaugural AGM. This is the first of our occasional E-bulletins to keep you informed about our activities.

Our management committee has now held its first two ordinary monthly meetings, and we are pleased to report some exciting changes of direction in our new guise as a not-for-profit Association.

Already, we are feeling the benefit of new minds and new skills. We have one manuscript in hand at present, and Robyn and Jacqui are working with the author to bring her work up to the best possible standard ready for publication.

As one of our major aims is to 'educate', we want to do more than just produce books. In response to some demand from people who feel they did not receive a good education in English Grammar, Joyce is running a six-week grammar class for adults during November and December. The weekly donation of \$5 from each student is going to Backroom Press.

We are also offering an occasional editing service for short-term projects, and Joyce has just completed an editing job, a proportion of the fees going to Backroom Press.

In the new year we will hold a brain-storming meeting, to decide what direction we want Backroom Press to take to best fulfill our purpose. Rather than merely waiting for manuscripts to come to us, we expect to become more proactive, initiating or seeking out new and worthwhile projects. We welcome suggestions from our members.

Meanwhile, we continue to sell our books as best we can. We recognise our major weaknesses to be in marketing and distribution, and will seek better ways of getting our books out to the public. This will probably mean finding a distributor we can trust to promote our titles beyond Broome and the Kimberley. If any of our members have some knowledge or good ideas about distribution, we would love to hear from you, by email, phone or in person. Our management meetings are open to our members, so please feel free to come along. Our next meeting will be on January 20 at 5.00 pm at our Head Office in Solway Loop.

At our December meeting, we decided that members should be offered the benefit of a generous discount on our publications. You can now buy any of our books, direct

from Backroom Press, at cost price, which is at 40% discount on the rrp. For Christmas presents, think books!

Special Christmas offer: We are offering our first two titles from the Kimberley Travellers Series, *When Harry Went to India* and *Jimmy and Pat Go to China*, at \$15.00 for the two books, which normally retail at \$16.95 each. After discount, that is a mere \$9.00 to our members, or \$4.50 per book! Get in touch with Joyce or Pat, or drop in and buy some.

We welcome new members, so please pass the word around or bring a friend along to our next meeting.

Wishing you all a very happy Christmas holiday. Jean, Maria, Jacqui, Robyn, Joyce and Pat.