

e-bulletin no 8
AUGUST 2012

Corrugated Lines Writers' Festival

Backroom Press has had an amazing few months since our last Bytes was published, showing the community what can be achieved by a group of committed and passionate volunteers. We instigated the inaugural Corrugated Lines Writers' Festival in Broome and had a highly successful and enjoyable time!

The festival was a great opportunity to raise our profile and let people know who busily works in the back room. In a way it was our 'coming out' and we did it in grand style. We forged a strong partnership with Magabala Books and made connections with other independent publishing houses such as Margaret River Press. We also got fantastic coverage in the print and radio media.

Each member of Backroom's committee worked on a different event, so Backroom had a presence throughout the festival. We are on again for next year — dates to be confirmed. So, if you have an aunty, sister, brother or second cousin who is a well-known author, invite them to come and visit and stay with you next year and we'll see if we can arrange an event they can join. You may laugh, but so many people I spoke to mentioned their connections to authors whom we would love to join us at Corrugated Lines...so start searching your family tree.

Our *Feast of Words* was very successful. Koolspot provided the feast, Peter Docker delivered the words. We are keen to hold such an event more regularly, so let us know if you would be interested. We were oversubscribed for our *How to Get Published* workshop, and Pat, Joyce and Jac provided useful guidance for the authors in the room. We now await polished manuscripts for our consideration. If you think of a topic to do with writing you would like to have a workshop on, let us know. Rumour has it that a grammar series may be coming...I think Pat has already booked me in! Sudha.

JOIN US FOR FUN IN THE BACK ROOM

It is that time of year again when we invite you all to come to Backroom Press headquarters to sip cups of tea, eat cakes, hear about what has been happening, talk about what you would like to happen and, importantly, consider taking a more active role in Backroom Press for the coming year...OK, I can't avoid mentioning the three letters — it is the AGM.

We will send out the agenda. This year we are asking people to consider what kind of involvement they can manage.

BACKROOM PRESS SUPPORTERS: receive our Backroom Bytes, let other people know about Backroom Press and our publications, let us know what you think about BP, and assure us that we have people out there supporting what we do.

BACKROOM PRESS ACTIVE MEMBERS: may be happy to take on some activities, such as being on a list of contacts for market stalls, work on our web page or deliver books to places around town on occasion, but don't want to or can't attend regular meetings.

BACKROOM PRESS COMMITTEE MEMBERS: need time and commitment to attend meetings once a month for about 1.5 hours and spend perhaps another 2 hours during the month following up on tasks they have agreed to undertake...so about 3.5 hours a month. It is a chance to spend time with some amazing people, enjoy lots of laughs and cups of tea, make things happen and, for someone like me, learn so much from those sitting around the table with me — and not just about publishing.

We have 8 committee members, 3 Office Bearers and 5 ordinary members. At present we have one definite vacancy: Robyn Wells, who had put a great deal of time into BP, resigned from the committee during the year but remains an active member. You may want to think about joining us.

Oh, and BP members get 25% discount on all our books!

Keep an eye on our facebook page, where we update links to writing events, competitions and other things literary. Like and share us! We also encourage new members to join Backroom Press, so if you know anyone who would be interested tell them about us.

See you all on the 23rd October.

Members' achievements

Founding member Joyce Hudson has been working hard on updating and putting on line the Walmajarri Dictionary she and Eirlys Richards, another of our members, produced. This is an amazing piece of work which they have been working on with speakers of the language since 'the time they had black hair'. Congratulations to both of them for this achievement. It can be accessed online so check it out. www.ausil.org.au

market STALL

We have been enjoying occasional outings to the Courthouse Markets — great opportunities for us to meet people and let them into the 'back room'. Our next market date is 6th October and we would love to have support from our membership in running the stall. There is always a committee member there so you are never alone. Email inquiries@backroompress.com.au if you are able to give some time on that day. Thanks to Anna McDonald and Jill Monroe for joining us at the last few markets.

WE NEED SPACE!

We are in need of space — 2 cubic metres — to store boxed books. We only have to access these boxes once a year, and they should be somewhere dry and safe. If you have an unused cyclone shelter, sea container, spare room or space in a shed, we would love to hear from you.

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5 pm Tuesday 23rd October
at our HQ: 23 Solway Loop

Agenda:

- present the annual report;
- receive and approve financial reports;
- elect a new committee;
- determine subscription fees for the following 12 months