



KSP Writers' Centre Chairperson Report 2013

Renee Hammond
6 October 2013

Thank you for attending KSP's Annual General Meeting.

2013 began with many challenges. We said farewell to Shey Marque, KSP's much appreciated coordinator and secretary of the management committee. Guy Salvidge, as an existing committee member, stepped in as a 'temporary' secretary. Unfortunately Guy couldn't be here today, but I would like to acknowledge the fabulous job he has done as temporary secretary all year.

The coordinator's position requires an enormous amount of dedication, passion and skill, to keep KSP running as smoothly as we, the members, are privileged to experience it. Shannon Coyle, a former student volunteer from ECU, stepped into the role in February, and has done a superb job, for which we are grateful.

This all happened during preparation time of KSP's festival in celebration of the Asian-Australian voices, which turned out to be a huge success and a thoroughly enjoyable weekend. A big thank you to the management committee, KSP's patron Glen Phillips, Chris Oakeley, and the sponsors for the hours of work and funding you all put in to pull together such an event.

The literary program of 2013 has been well received and attended. Just when I don't think the WIR can get any better, we are privileged with another. Literary Dinners have seen our writing room, come restaurant, at full capacity. Attended by regulars, newbies and even past WIR.

The children's literary program, the two groups and Write-a-Rama, have been very popular this year. Being the facilitator of the home school group, it is very exciting to see such talented writers so young. Write a book in a day continues to see hundreds of writers, forming groups to participate in one of the nation's largest literary competitions.

Existing KSP writing groups continue to thrive, however the Script writing and Karibu groups are no longer running. The introduction of the Tuesday morning group continues to be popular.

The centres gardens and maintenance has been attended to by teams of men, volunteering from the Wooroloo Prison, as we can see they do a remarkable job. Plans for the garden project are progressing, but will take time. Grants and sponsorship programs will cover majority of expenses. Chris Oakeley, along with three ESHS, year twelve students, have produced a short documentary based on the centre, to support the crowd funding proposal to raise funds for this project.

The computer systems were replaced this year, a big thank you to Chris Oakeley for ensuring a smooth change over, and to Robert Perks, KSP's Treasurer, for the hours you've spent on the MYOB program.

The Literary Advisory Board have been busy interviewing possible WIR for next year's program, after reading and assessing the many applications received. I look forward to another exciting literary program in 2014.

I'd like to acknowledge one of our Life Members, a former KSP Chairperson, Sally Clarke who passed away in August, a remarkable lady who will be missed.

A big thank you to members, volunteers, and the Management Committee for another fabulous year at KSP.