



# CDWC NEWS

## Chorley & District Writers' Circle newsletter



### ***The phrase 'kid in a candy shop' comes to mind! Candice practises her Barmaid of the Year routine***

With the Solstice proclaiming the official start of summer, what better time to remind ourselves of the basic principles of good writing, the seeds that grow into a healthy crop of stories and poems and possibly the odd best seller. The seeds in this case include character, plot and theme along with a healthy dose of creativity, good English and a sprinkling of some critical appraisal of our work. As is now customary, chairman Dr Greg followed up this introduction to our recent meeting with a warm-up word test focussing this month on the use of adjectives to spice up our prose and verse. These included one or two earthy examples which, sadly, cannot be repeated in a family newsletter. However, his dissertation on the origin of the names of the days of the week leading to the creation of an imaginary new calendar based on the Periodic Table, or 'Planet Periodica', provoked a lively discussion. 'Kalday', 'Magday' and 'Balday' will surely catch on before too long. Baffled absentees from the Coppull meeting will have to wait until our next zoom session for enlightenment.



Jane provided some excellent light relief with her entertaining post script to her report of April's visit to the London Book Fair. Delivered in story form, she recounted the exploits of herself, Greg, Eleanor, Kathleen, Kate and Candice as they took the capital by storm and even paid the occasional visit to the event!

The meeting continued with an animated debate on the definition of poetry with some members questioning the rigid parameters of the form as prescribed by the Oxford English Dictionary. Too narrow, argued some; the word of God, insisted others (Dr Greg). Inflexibility, however, forms the basis of this month's homework as we are all invited to compose a Haiku. This, to recap, is a short verse of 17 syllables divided into three lines of five, seven and five. It is meant to convey emotion and usually evokes one of the seasons. To start us off, here is an example from the Bard of Salford, Dr John Cooper Clarke:

*To convey one's mood*

*In seventeen syllables*

*Is very diffic*

Anyway, let's give it a go and it doesn't have to be in Japanese.

Below is a link to the latest interactive workshop and webinars from Writers Online. Chainlinks is a creative and arts opportunities site sponsored by Cheshire West and Chester Council.

<https://mail.writers-online.co.uk/73DN-32ON-ZSVPV-1MRKT-1/c.aspx>

[file:///C:/Users/ADMIN/Downloads/Chainlinks%20May%202022%20\(1\).pdf](file:///C:/Users/ADMIN/Downloads/Chainlinks%20May%202022%20(1).pdf)

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Our membership fees remain £25 pa with guest fees £5 per session. If you join after January, fees are on a sliding scale. Details can be found on our website [chorleywriters.org.uk](http://chorleywriters.org.uk).

