



CDWC NEWS

Chorley & District Writers' Circle newsletter

Our last meeting included the presence of a few new faces as we opened our doors to guests and assorted non-members. They all seemed to enjoy the evening and many made some interesting and useful contributions. Hopefully, we may see them again soon. On the night, they were treated, as were we all, to an excellent presentation from Jane, who shared her experiences of the recent London Book Fair, also attended by Kate, Candice, Kathleen, Eleanor and Greg, along with some useful tips about getting published and, crucially, why we want others to read our work. She referred members to the Alliance of Independent Authors, a non-profit association for self-publishing writers, and highlighted three local independent book stores that will sell self-published work. These are: Clitheroe Independent Bookshop, Books and Bygones in Chorley and, in some cases but not all, Ebb and Flo on Gillibrand Street, Chorley.

Other important advice included the Seven Steps of Publishing:

- Cover design
- Interior design
- Editing
- Typesetting
- Proofreading
- Printing and distribution
- Marketing and publicity

And finally, the perennial but vital dictum – **READ YOUR CONTRACT**

We were also given some interesting examples of both an Elevator Pitch – 'Lift Pitch' does not carry the same authority so we must on this occasion use an Americanism – and the intriguingly named 'Query Letter.' The former is a brief – 30 to 50 words – plot summary delivered as if one is in an elevator, or lift. The latter, also brief, is a letter to a publisher containing a short plot description, possibly also an extract from the text, a little about yourself and maybe a reference to other authors who have inspired or influenced you.

Now the homework. Simply compose an elevator pitch and query letter and bring them to our next meeting.

Thank you for reading and if you wish to contribute any articles or would like to see specific items in the newsletter, please let us know at mail@chorleywriters.org.uk. If you no longer wish to receive this newsletter, please advise us at mail@chorleywriters.org.uk

