



A message from Joy Martin
State President

Welcome to the October 2018 Forum Newsletter

In this edition some of our Forum members give a quick snapshot of “what Forum has done for them”... enjoy this food for thought!

It has given me a sense of belonging, an increase in personal confidence, a boost in overcoming shyness and nervousness, and a supportive outlet for me to "have my say".

Jane, Brisbane

Provided a place for me to grow, to learn, to speak, to share and to be an effective, compassionate and confident citizen.

Margaret, Gympie

Gave me the confidence to complete a university degree as a mature aged student. I would never have attempted it otherwise.

Margaret, Chermside

Forum has made me a discerning listener - a skill I find invaluable in today's climate where everyone is putting a 'spin' on everything.

Pam, Ashgrove

Talk to us today about what Forum can do for you.

Because everybody deserves to be heard.



ASHGROVE FORUM

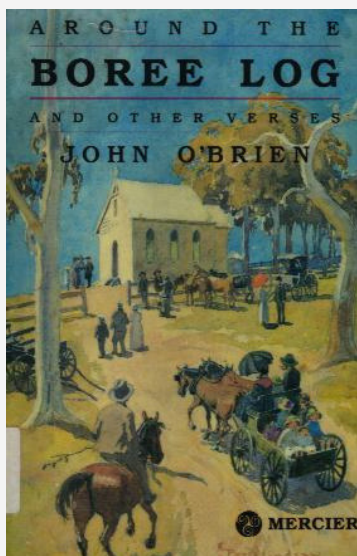
Small, but mighty, Ashgrove Forum has enjoyed another month of speaking fun and Forum fellowship.

"Poetry Alive" was the theme of our last meeting and we learned quite a lot along the way. The mission of the meeting was to keep the flame of poetry burning in our hearts by bringing it to the fore and fanning it a little.

As with any Forum topic, each speaker brought their own unique perspective to the meeting. One of our members spoke of the great Lawson/Paterson Debate of 1892 describing the historic event in great detail and quoting from the works of both of these famous poets to illustrate their points.

Rudyard Kipling's inspirational poem "IF" was beautifully read and its literary merits outlined.

The American poet Maya Angelou was lauded and her poems "I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings" and "Still I Rise" were read aloud, reminding us all of the value of these literary masterpieces which are beautiful, strong poems focused on the struggles of African American Women.



John O'Brien's humorous poem *We'll All be Ruined said Hanrahan* was recited for our entertainment and we were told some interesting details of John O'Brien's life and the period in Australian history which the poem describes.

We always learn something new at our meetings!!

CLERMONT FORUM

A Be Confident Modern Meeting Workshop will be held at Clermont on 13 October 2018.

This workshop will be of great benefit to everyone who attends, not only to assist with the smooth running of our Forum Meetings, but also for anyone involved in community organisations.

Correct meeting procedure is based on good manners, therefore following the rules of procedure will ensure that all meetings, if run properly, will be productive and have positive outcomes..

This Workshop will also provide specific training for our Clermont Forum members to assist as they develop their own Assessing skills. Within the wider Forum community, our accredited Assessors attend meetings to provide feedback and encouragement to all of our members. Our trained Assessors analyse the structure, content and delivery of speeches, and offer advice and support wherever and whenever it is needed.

This Workshop is subsidised by the Regional Arts Development Fund which is a partnership of the Queensland Government through Arts Queensland and the Isaac Region, to support local arts and culture.

BREMER FORUM

Bremer Forum's 6 week Public Speaking Course is nearly completed and it has been a great success. The course participants have been positive, engaged and enthusiastic, and it has been wonderful to have these lovely people at our meetings. We are looking forward to some of these attendees joining our Forum and we certainly hope to host more of these courses in the future.

CLEVELAND FORUM

Cleveland Forum held an Open Day on 6th September, which also included a free light lunch for our visitors!

This event was advertised on Facebook, local newspaper and on BayFM radio. Handouts were also distributed throughout the community advertising this wonderful event.

It was fantastic to get 10 expressions of interest from people who have never attended Forum before, and happily 5 of these were able to attend the Open Day to see what our Forum has to offer.

We showcased a variety of speeches on the day and were glad to have the opportunity to share the day with newfound friends.

Of course we are hoping they will return to visit us again and we are very pleased that we have 10 motivated people to invite to our 6 week Public Speaking Course which we will be hosting next year!

"If you can speak, you can influence. If you can influence, you can change lives."



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DALBY FORUM

Dalby Forum is hosting a Be Confident Breakfast on Wednesday October 24, 6.15am - 8am, tickets \$35

This is usually a sold out event, so we encourage you to purchase your tickets early. This is a great opportunity to hear some inspirational speakers from the Dalby community.

Guest speakers will be:

Mona Anau - Principal of Dalby State School

Mayberry Fogarty - Local Indigenous Community Elder

Teddi Zeisemer - Young Pharmacist and Small Business Entrepreneur

Tickets are on sale from: Bella & Spice, 60 Cunningham Street, Dalby.

Enquiries re EFT payments to:

Maureen Cesari 0428 680 164 or imcesari35@bigpond.com



ST LUCIA FORUM

St Lucia members are having a great time this session with everyone contributing engaging and entertaining speeches.

The topic for one of our recent meetings was “You’re never too old to.....” which paved the way for a plethora of information. This topic allowed the main speaker at the meeting to invite us to challenge and re-think the way our media reports a terrorist attack or serious incident and to not just accept the one-sided way things are often portrayed by the media . The message we gained from this speech is that we are never too old to change our mind set!

Another of our members has recently given us two wonderful presentations, with awesome photos accompanying both of these interesting and informative speeches. The first speech we heard was all about Iceland - its history, culture and amazing photographic opportunities. The second speech was about the Cretaceous Period - the era of dinosaurs - and what we now know about these creatures after uncovering and studying their fossilised remains.

Our members frequently contribute to two regular items on our agenda, which are ‘My Word’, where a member explains and discusses a particularly interesting word; and ‘Have Your Say’, a sort of soapbox where topical issues can be aired and your view put forward – always informative and fun.

We have recently had two combined meetings with our sister club, Ipswich Forum, with great success. Members from both clubs also regularly attend each other’s general meetings.



Our upcoming meeting on 15 October will be a special one as our guest speaker, a qualified podiatrist, will be doing a presentation about foot problems and what we can do about them. We are always open to learning from an expert!