



The English Teachers
Association of Queensland Inc.
Providing professional support
and advocacy for English teachers

Newsletter No. 2/20
February 2020

English Matters

ETAQ's first student event

The first week of October will see ETAQ's first student event, focusing on the external exam. ETAQ has been able to draw on the experience of the ETAs in the other states to create an exciting exam preparation event. The experts are lining up to ensure our students will have some excellent advice on nailing this, our first round of external exams. We hope your students are as keen as our team is for this first foray into student events.

A guiding principle in the planning and presentation of this event is working towards providing the opportunity for all students to access it regardless of whether they are in the metropolitan area, in Rockhampton, Townsville or Cairns or any of the other regions in Queensland.

As a first step we plan to conduct a very limited trial of streaming some sessions at the March seminar to

one location. Learnings from this will inform future decisions.

We know that a number of you are keenly interested in this option. Further information will be available later.



Stop Press

Jeffrey Wilhelm will be presenting at Ipswich Girls Grammar School on Monday 10 August and at Nudgee College on Wednesday 12 August 2020
Time 9:00 – 12:30

Sincere thanks to both these schools for hosting ETAQ on these occasions.

Membership is now due for renewal.

You can renew your ETAQ membership on-line or by mail

Join us in sharing the benefits of membership by going online or contacting Trish (trish.purcell@bigpond.com). Membership is the key to remaining connected to the community of English teachers and the best range of professional development around.



Fiona Laing
ETAQ President

March Seminar is offering a perfect chance for teachers of English to 'dive deep' into that central tenet of our practice, story. Workshops will book out very quickly and I encourage you to register early.

It's time to check all the events which are currently calling for presenters, Early Career Conference, May Masterclass and State Conference. ETAQ calls you!

features a wide range of award-winning student stories as well as stories from celebrated writers such as Will Kostakis, Tristan Bancks and Libby Gleeson.

Creating Micro Stories will be on sale at the March seminar and is also available on line from the AATE bookshop.

Diving Deep into Story: March Seminar at BGS

At our March Seminar, there will be some wonderful speakers to help us to take this dive into story on March 21 at **Brisbane Grammar School**.

Firstly, our keynote, Associate Professor Kim Wilkins, will provide insights into her work as a writer of fiction on the theme, ***What is now proved was once only imagined***.



The workshop presenters following the keynote include A/P Kim Wilkins, Dan Fallon, Danielle Ringrose, Rachael Christopherson, Garry Collins, Scott McDonald, Dr Lisbeth Kitson, Anne Wood, Jeffrey Lewis Candice Smees, Mel Dixon, Julie Arnold, Dr Lindsay Williams, and Dr Catriona Mills

Be sure to book early for your workshops. The March Seminar begins with ETAQ's AGM.

New text for teaching story-available at March Seminar

AATE has published a valuable new text about the teaching of short stories, ***Creating Micro Stories: Small Fiction with big impact!*** written by AATE past-president Erika Boas and Emma Jenkins. This text focuses on those sorts of stories that most of our students need to write, stories under 1000 words. The book



Townsville AGM and PD

On Saturday February 15, Townsville's ETAQ branch gathered for a workshop in Ryan Catholic College's library. Presenters Emma Monfries and Kiri Lucas, both English and Humanities teachers at Ryan, worked through their experiences of Unit Two. Emma presented the approach she took while teaching short stories, detailing specific learning experiences and reflected on their value, or lack thereof, with a specific focus on building independence among students.

Kiri presented her experience of teaching Leah Purcell's 'The Drover's Wife' and shared the exciting activities with which she taught her class, specifically focusing on achieving deep student engagement with a complex text. It was a pleasant and productive morning which saw many teachers leave buzzing with some new ideas to try with their classes.

The AGM for the Townsville branch saw the new committee for 2020 elected:



President: Heather Fraser

Vice President: Alison Lloyd
(SMMC)

Secretary: Emma Monfries (Ryan)

Treasurer: Kiri Lucas (Ryan)

What's in this mailing

English Matters
Program for March
Seminar: Diving into Story

Upcoming Events

March Seminar: Diving into Story – March 21

Diving into Analytical Writing – April 28 (Gold Coast)

Early Career Conference – May 9

May Masterclass: Diving into Feedback – May 16

Grammar Day – June 6

Did you know?

The Australian Association for the Teaching of English, our national body, is holding its national conference in Sydney July 3-6. This year, the conference coincides with the International Federation for the Teaching of English (IFTE) conference with the theme of IF. Head to the conference website for more details. The program is ready to go.

In 2021, Brisbane is the host for the national conference. Can you help with organising the social events for this wonderful event? There is a space for ETAQ members to take this on. If you are interested, email

adminofficer@etaq.org.au

Stock taking sale

We need to make room for new titles; this will be your opportunity to snap up some real bargains. **Look for the half price table and the \$2 bin.**

Membership

Your ETAQ membership runs from January to December. Therefore, it is time now to renew your personal and corporate membership for 2020 if you have not already done so. Membership ensures you:

- Keep up to date with updates on professional development events and resources in Queensland
- Register for PD at member's rates throughout the year
- Receive priority treatment for any special offers eg sponsorship for conferences - members always come first!
- Have access to the English teaching community through our social media platforms - so much good advice available to members
- Connect with English teachers nationally through your membership of AATE (The Australian Association for the Teaching of English) - connect on social media as well. Your national conference, in Sydney, will be an international conference in 2020 and a Brisbane conference in 2021.

Renewal of membership means logging in as a member on the website to pay on-line. If unsure how to manage this, you can contact Trish Purcell at trish.purcell@bigpond.com.

Contact

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