

Welcome to the Museletter! Ninth edition! Hot off the press (or at least off my keyboard!) A monthly newsletter where I'll update you on my creative endeavours, books that I've enjoyed (with links where relevant), and some musings on the creative process.

Time is precious and I don't want to waste yours, so...

 While I don't appreciate the imposition of a foreign celebration (Halloween has nothing to do with New Zealand history or customs), I do appreciate the humour of this picture.

Halloween is one of those bizarre celebrations. Deep pagan roots that are only superficially acknowledged in the costumes that people choose, and another emphasis on buying.

More than that, it's the one time of



FLUFFY THE VAMPIRE SLAYER

the year that we encourage children to take candy from strangers. And more than that, to go up to their houses and ask for it. Mixed messages?

Additionally, this year, we find ourselves having to be extra vigilant with our health. However you choose to celebrate this event, I hope you remain safe.

Hmmm... masks... maybe the trick-or-treaters are on to something!

• My update:

I am in the final stages of converting my current children's book "Wagging His Tail Behind Him" to be print-ready. Wagging His Tail Behind Him

Written and Illustrated by Matthew Goodall This simply means creating a file that the printers can use, as well as a second version that works for people buying the e-book version.

It's not hugely difficult, but it is a little time-consuming and I have to keep referring to manuals as it's not something I do often enough to quickly remember.

 My recommendation this month is <u>Nanowrimo (National Novel</u> <u>Writing Month)</u>.

"Writing a novel alone can be difficult, even for seasoned writers. NaNoWriMo helps you



track your progress, set milestones, connect with other writers in a vast community, and participate in events that are designed to make sure you finish your novel."

Nano (as it's commonly called), is free to use, doesn't penalise you for not achieving any targets, and best of all, helps you to establish good, consistent writing goals.

I did Nano last year, and it was during this that I mostly completed the first draft of my Middle Grade novel "Scratching Paper."

If you think you've got a story inside you, waiting to be told, I'd encourage you to have a look at the website and consider signing up!

- If you have any questions about my writing, stories, or have a book that you'd like to recommend, please drop me a line so I can include it!
- ...and, just to make you groan: Singing in the shower is all fun and games until you get shampoo in your mouth - then it becomes a soap opera.

Thanks for your time. Max and I will 'see' you next month. Mauri ora!





