



INTERNATIONAL BOARD ON BOOKS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE



Newsletter 55 November 2022

IBBY

The International Board on Books for Young People (IBBY) is a non-profit organization which represents an international network of people committed to bringing books and children together.

IBBY Australia

You can join us or renew your membership [here](#). We would appreciate your continued support. There are lots of new links on our website to enjoy.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

IBBY Australia acknowledges the Traditional Owners and Custodians of the lands, waters and seas on which we work and live, paying respects to Elders, past, present and emerging.



President's Letter

Dear IBBY Australia Members and Supporters,

Attending another IBBY Congress is in one way a familiar experience, but also promises surprises. Claire Stuckey and I had an inspiring time representing our National Section, at the 38th IBBY Congress in Putrajaya, Malaysia (4–8 September). Over forty of the 80 sections of IBBY were represented there in an excellent program with many highlights.

Each Congress introduces delegates to inspiring creators as speakers, amongst whom were several international award winners in 2022. It also profiles many brilliant books from countries throughout the world via exhibitions and presentations of the HCAA nominees, the IBBY Honour List books and those included in other IBBY lists. It offers the opportunity to meet our counterparts from other national sections. And the introduction to the host country's culture is the special aspect of each Congress. [See my Impressions of the Congress p 3.] I'm on a mission now to read as much Malaysian literature as I can and have since read some brilliant works of adult fiction. The next IBBY Congress will be in Trieste in 2024. I hope that many of our members and nominees will consider attending.

In this issue we also report on recent awards and projects. The announcement of the annual White Ravens List is always exciting and this year it contains four Australian titles. The List was celebrated at the Frankfurt Book Fair which took place in October.

In our previous newsletter we reported on writer of classic works of children's fiction, Alan Garner, being shortlisted for the Booker Prize, which on the 17 October was won by Sri Lankan writer Shehan Karunatilaka. (Alan Garner celebrated his 88th birthday on the same day, which was noted as well.) I was delighted to read of the 2022 Booker's second connection with children's books. For the original trophy presented when the Booker was established in 1969 was designed by another great luminary of children's publishing – [Jan Pieńkowski](#) (1936–2022)! His statuette design has for this year's award been revived in his honour.

As the year comes to an end, sadly, our thoughts are with the many children whose access to books, and, indeed, whose lives are at risk in so many parts of the world. We wish our members and supporters a peaceful 2023.

Yours sincerely,
Robyn Sheahan-Bright

The White Ravens announced

These annual awards were announced at the Frankfurt Bookfair on October 20th. Five Australian authors were included in this prestigious [catalogue](#).

Carnavas, Peter (text/illus.) *My Brother Ben* St Lucia, Qld.: UQP, 2021

Foley, James (text/illus.) *Stellarphant*
Fremantle, WA: Fremantle Press, 2021

Lonesborough, Gary (text) *The Boy from the Mish*
Crows Nest, N.S.W.: Allen & Unwin Children's Books, 2021

Magerl, Caroline (text/illus.) *Piano Fingers* Newtown, NSW: Walker Books Australia, 2022

Nugent, Carly (text) *Sugar*
Melbourne: Text Publishing, 2022

IBBY Australia congratulates these creators on this international recognition. Gary Lonesborough was awarded the 2022 IBBY Ena Noël Award for Emerging Author.

You can search the White Ravens database [here](#)

The White Ravens Database is presented by Internationale Jugendbibliothek / International Youth Library Munich



Impressions of the 38th IBBY Congress in Putrajaya, Malaysia (4–8 September). Theme: 'The Power of Stories'

The Congress was a great success with thanks to IBBY Malaysia President, Mr Ahmad Redza Ahmad Khairuddin, and the convenors who were our generous hosts. Two expert chairs ensured that sessions flowed smoothly, eloquently and often humorously. Several engaging cultural performances were also included in the program, which is always a highlight of IBBY Congresses, and we were introduced to many fascinating Malaysian writers and illustrators. The program includes keynote sessions and panels, and alternative panel paper sessions from which you can choose to attend from 8.30am to early evening followed by evening award ceremonies including dinner.

Day 1. 'Pantun: the Unique Power of Malay Poetry', the keynote address by Dr Muhammad Haji Salleh, was so entrancing that a Finnish Honour List recipient penned a pantun for him! The presentation of the IBBY-Asahi Reading Promotion Award that night was acknowledged by an inspiring speech on behalf of the Pinnguaqta, a programme of Ilitaqsinniq by The Nunavit Literary Council of Canada. Joint winners of the IBBY iRead Outstanding Reading Promoter Award Jane Kurtz (US) for work in Ethiopia, and Zohreh Ghaeni for her work promoting children's literature in Iran also delivered memorable speeches.

Day 2. Various papers addressed the pressing needs of refugees and migrant children. The Honour List was presented and the keynote session speakers included the extraordinary ALMA winner Baek Heena. The HCAA 2022 awards were presented that evening to the brilliant Suzy Lee and Marie-Aude Murail, who both also spoke the next day.

Day 3. Panels I attended included our IBBY Chilean friend Mónica Munizaga, who was entertained by members of our committee in Sydney on her way to the Congress. [See story below.] A special session on seven decades of IBBY was another highlight featuring key players in that history. Ali Boozari (Iran) spoke on the Power of Images on Narrating the Peace. I also attended the General Assembly which elected new EC office bearers and addressed various issues. The gala dinner included the grand arrival of an entourage of Putrajaya dignitaries, escorted by a group in traditional Malaysian dress. They made presentations to senior IBBY representatives, and we were each given a generous gift bag. The evening included several cultural performances and a medley of '60s and '70s popular songs by two glamorous Malaysian female performers which ended with many delegates hilariously 'conga dancing' around the room, in a celebration of the Congress, and of the multiple cultural connections which bind us. Continued page 3

Farewell from Liz Page

Dear Friends,
I wish to thank you all for your kind support and understanding over these many years. I hope that you will give Carolina Ballester, the new Executive Director, the same support and consideration. As a new life opens before me, it will be my memories of IBBY that will keep me company. However, I will not vanish completely — I will take over as IBBY Treasurer from Ellis Vance for the next few years. These are your new contacts and their emails.

IBBY Executive Director:

[Carolina Ballester](#)

IBBY Administration and Communications Officer:

[Cátia dos Santos](#)

With all best wishes for the future,
Liz Page, Retired Executive Director



Liz Page was presented with a gift from IBBY Australia by National Executive Member Claire Stuckey and President Robyn Sheahan-Bright

Impressions of the 38th IBBY Congress in Putrajaya, Malaysia (4–8 September). Theme: 'The Power of Stories' continued

Day 4. On this final day, one of the loveliest papers I attended was by a South Korean storyteller Alicia Dongjoo Bang who was passionate about storytelling, and utterly charming. I also attended a paper about Mohammad Nor Khalid (known as LAT), a famous cartoonist/author of *The Kampong Boy*, and then was delighted to hear LAT himself deliver a speech! Those filming the Congress had already collated a video of the highlights of every session, in a brilliant documentation of the program. Liz Page was also farewelled in style, with a video of highlights of her tenure. Ellis Vance, retiring as Treasurer, was presented with Life Membership.

Of the five Australians who attended, Claire Stuckey delivered an excellent paper on Asian and Muslim voices in Australian young adult literature, and Christine Oughtred gave an expert paper on her research into virtual reality enhancements to literary texts. It was a busy four days as I attended every session, in both day and night, but I wouldn't have missed it, for the world. LAH*!

Robyn Sheahan-Bright

*LAH in Malaysian can mean an affirmation, dismissal, exasperation or exclamation in different contexts. It was used, to very charming effect, in presentations.



The closing ceremony photo shows the amazing auditorium with the executive team and participants.

Astrid Lindgren 2023



View the complete list of nominees, including Australian authors and organisations, [here](#) for the 2023 award. There are 251 names from 64 countries including some of the world's foremost creators of literature for children and young people.

Greenaway Greats

To celebrate the 20th Anniversary of Artsmark, CILIP has teamed up with Arts Council England and Peters Books to create a special selection of Kate Greenaway titles, 'Greenaway Greats', to offer young people a fantastic reading opportunity featuring outstanding illustration. Twenty titles have been selected from the alumni of past winners. Two Australian titles are included: *Tales from the Inner City*, written and illustrated by Shaun Tan; and *Way Home*, written by Libby Hathorn illustrated by Gregory Rogers.

Exciting times for Bolivian children's and youth literature

Please see [this article](#) by Isabel Mesa and Mariana Ruiz about the work they are doing in this country on children's and youth literature.



Asian Festival of Children's Content 2023

The Festival will be held 26th – 29th May 2023.

The theme is Light Up! Check the [website](#) for more exciting details or [Facebook](#) for updates. Held in Singapore annually and organised by the Singapore Book Council, this exciting festival's main program comprise conference presentations, panels, masterclasses, workshops, and lectures, as well as a line-up of free public program.

National Library of Australia Publishing imprint celebrates 50 years

Did you know that NLA Publishing is the biggest publishing program in a cultural institution in the country – with tens of thousands of books making their way into Australian homes and libraries every year – and a significant employer of both local and national authors, illustrators, editors, proofreaders, designers and printers. [Learn more here](#)

Muna Kalati

In June Muna Kalati and APIDCA (Association des Professionnels de l'Information Documentaire du Cameroun pour l'Afrique) signed a memorandum of partnership, their desire to collaborate on certain well-determined aspects in Cité du Savoir.

In view of the similarities in their projects and actions, they have decided to cooperate on the many aspects. Find out more about this [organisation](#).



IBBY Australian News

On 23 October, the IBBY Executive met to recognise Robin Morrow's extraordinary contribution to IBBY Australia with a special morning tea, and the presentation of a life membership. For some of the committee it was the first time we had met in person, for others the first time face to face since the Auckland Congress in 2016. Over a delicious high tea at The Tea Room in Sydney, we talked nonstop for more than an hour, sharing stories and memories of past gatherings and Congresses.

Thanks for everything, Robin, and to Robyn Sheahan-Bright for organising the get together.

Jo Andrew Vice - President IBBY Australia



L-R Robyn Sheahan-Bright , Bernice Cusack, Nella Pickup, Richard Pickup, Robin Morrow (Centre), Margot Lindgren, Joanna Andrew, Claire Stuckey (Karen Jameyson was also present)

Sydney Visit by IBBY Chile representative

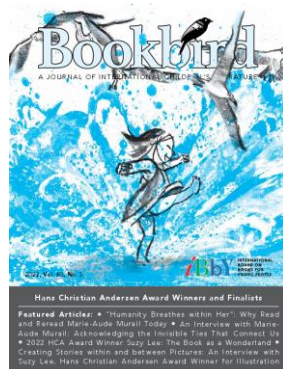
Mónica Munizaga Yávar (IBBY Chile) visited Sydney and met a few IBBY Australia members before heading to the 38th IBBY International Congress, held in Putrajaya, Malaysia.

Margot Lindgren (IBBY Australia Secretary) organised a tour of Imagine: The Wonder of Picture Books at State Library of NSW. Curator Sarah Morley answered questions and gave background to the selection of the exhibition books and the supporting material for the exhibition. Margot has penned a [blog about the exhibition](#).

At lunch, Mónica treated us to a mini-version of her conference presentation (Mónica Munizaga Yávar/Marian Lutzky Ribas(Chile): Gamification and creative writing in workshops of the Chilean group Qué lindo leer) as well sharing books she and her colleagues have published.

After lunch, Mónica, Margot and Dr Robin Morrow visited Redlands Junior campus, where teacher-librarian Victoria Roberts shared some books - mainly First Nations picture books and books on Australian birds. Mónica was able to read a book to one of the children visiting the library after school who by happy coincidence spoke Spanish. Mónica also enjoyed exploring nearly every book by Margaret Wild. The book *Fox* is popular in Chile.

Mónica Munizaga Yávar has a Master's degree in Contemporary Hispanic American Literature (UACH), a Bachelor of Arts with a mention in Hispanic Literature and Linguistics (PUC) and a Bachelor of Education, and she is also a Spanish teacher (PUC). Currently, she works as a teacher at UACH. Robyn Sheahan-Bright and Claire Stuckey were later very pleased to meet Mónica in Putrajaya at the Congress, and to attend her session there.



The latest copy of *Bookbird* is out now. See the contents [here](#) which includes an article Master of Her Craft: Margaret Wild by Robyn Sheahan-Bright

CBCA NSW Receives amazing donation

The CBCA NSW Branch celebrates the very special donation that we have been gifted by a children's book devotee, Peter Williams. Peter lived in WA and was awarded the Muriel Barlow Award by CBCA WA. He has spent a lifetime collecting first edition books that featured on the CBCA Book of the Year Awards. Many of these are signed by the creators.

In Peter's own words: "When Patricia Wrightson's *A Little Fear* (Hutchinson 1983) won the CBCA Book of the Year Award 1984, I tried for months to find a first edition copy of the book, but without success. It then occurred to me that it might be an interesting and challenging pursuit to try and put together a collection of Australian children's literature. Such a collection would ensure not only an interesting perspective from which to view the growth and development of children's literature in Australia, but would provide, literally, a lifetime of reading...Collecting children's books is a never-ending story."

The CBCA NSW branch now have the Maurice Saxby Reference collection and the Peter Williams Collection available for members, to access. If you are studying Australian Children's Literature, please email cbcansw@outlook.com to arrange a convenient time.

The CBCA NSW executive thank Peter profusely for this very generous gift. We would also like to acknowledge Toni Field, who secured a grant from our local federal MP, the Prime Minister, the Honourable Anthony Albanese, which has enabled us to re-vitalise our office and provide storage for the precious books. The committee has worked tirelessly to remove years of clutter, unpack, alphabetise and shelve the material.

Gail Erskine CBCA NSW President.



As our current Laureate reaches her halfway mark, the ACLF Board is embarking on the selection process for the Australian Children's Laureate for 2024 and 2025, and we would love to hear from you!

Please remember – the Laureate program is for all Australians and we thank you for suggesting the amazing creators who you believe could be our next national ambassador, actively promoting the transformational power of reading, creativity and story in the lives of young Australians.

[Read more here](#) including the Australian Children's Laureate selection criteria.



World Indigenous Peoples Conference on Education Event (WIPCE)

The Indigenous Literacy Foundation attended the [WIPCE](#) event in Adelaide in September. Participants found this was a great opportunity to meet Indigenous groups from all over the world and to share successes and strategies for culturally grounded education. This International conference will be held again in 2025.



Source ILF Newsletter 29/09/22.

Highlights from the 2022 Young Writers Festival

Read the wrap up [here](#) Communications Director Bianca Breen from #Love OZ YA shared her thoughts in the latest newsletter.



Book Links Queensland

Please see the [website](#) for an exciting range of annual events. Keep posted for 2023

Conferences and Events

- 2023** 6 – 9 March [Bologna Children’s Book Fair](#), Italy
- 26 – 29 May [Asian Festival of Children’s Content](#)
- 2 – 4 June Sydney [International Storytelling Conference](#)
- 19 – 24 August [Children’s Book Council of Australia Bookweek](#)
- 21 – 25 August [IFLA Conference Rotterdam](#)
- 18 – 22 October [Frankfurter Buchmesse](#) Frankfurt Bookfair
- 2024** 39th IBBY World Congress, Trieste, Italy
- 2026** 40th IBBY World Congress, Ottawa, Canada

Please check all events and dates with the relevant organisations.

Vale

Errol Broome please [see the tribute](#) from friend and fellow author Corrine Fenton.

Dr Ruth Starke please see the CBCA SA [Branch website homepage](#) to read Janeen Brian's tribute to Ruth Starke, a cherished member of the South Australian children's book community.

Barbara Fienberg Barbara Fienberg with her daughter Anna, wrote the wonderful *Tashi* books (illustrated by Kim Gamble), adored by children in many countries. Barbara also introduced the world of stories and their magic to generations of children through her teaching and storytelling as a dedicated and well-loved teacher-librarian.

John Nieuwenhuizen, Translator of many European titles.
Article here from [Books and Publishing](#)

Children in Crisis Fund

Ukrainian children, who have fled their country to escape conflict, have had their lives turned upside down. Give comfort to a Ukrainian child in Poland by donating to the Universal Reading Foundation based in Warsaw. They have established a project in conjunction with Polish and Ukrainian children's book publishers to put a book into the hands of each child who is a refugee from the Ukraine. [Read more about this project which is supported by IBBY](#)

Can you help?

Donate direct to the [Universal Reading Foundation](#) or through [IBBY Children in Crisis](#)

IBBY Australia Executive Committee

President: Dr Robyn Sheahan-Bright **Vice-President:** Joanna Andrew
Secretary: Margot Lindgren **Treasurer:** Bernice Cusack
Committee members:
Karen Jameyson Sara Khamkoed
Nella Pickup Dr Alyson Simpson Claire Stuckey

Would you like to know more about Malaysian literature?

Link [here](#) for some suggested titles.