



INTERNATIONAL BOARD ON BOOKS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE



Newsletter 50 August 2021

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.

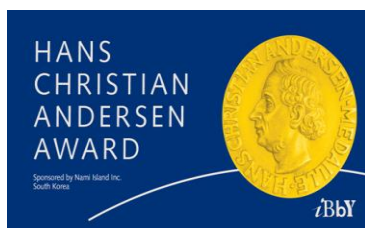
IBBY Australia

Here is our updated website, including great new graphics and a [join here](#) page. You can join us or renew your membership. We would appreciate your continued support.

IBBY Australia AGM

Save the date 19/08/21

Members will receive an invitation in their email account.



President's Letter

Dear IBBY Australia Members and Supporters,

This is the fiftieth issue of the IBBY Australia newsletter, which is something to be celebrated, and so we invited Jenni Woodroffe, founding editor, to write an article on her memories of, and reflections on, these past several years.

A notice of our AGM to be held this month on 19 August was sent to members this week. It will again be a virtual meeting with no guest speakers, as it was in 2020, and members are very welcome to attend. In this alternate year, committee members are not elected as that voting takes place on a biennial basis.

From 10–12 September some of our committee members will attend the IBBY Congress in Moscow, albeit virtually.

Bookbird: A Flight Through Time, edited by Val Coghlan and Evelyn B. Freeman, has just been [released](#). It celebrates the history of IBBY's official journal.

In this issue of the [newsletter](#) we regretfully farewell Lesley Reece AM, retiring director of The Literature Centre, who has been a passionate advocate for children's literature in Australia for the past thirty years. Her work in establishing The Literature Centre in Fremantle is nothing short of a pioneering effort of national and international significance. On behalf of IBBY Australia I congratulate and thank you, Lesley, for the decades of work you have invested in promoting Australian creators, and am sure your legacy will continue to grow.

This issue contains an extremely worrying piece on [COVID-19 in India](#). Our thoughts are with our IBBY colleagues there.

And finally, we are all looking forward to the announcement of the CBCA Awards on 20 August, and I'll be celebrating by attending the Qld Branch's CBW event at the historic Bogga Road Gaol that night, where writer Trent Dalton will be in conversation with playwright Tim McGarry about the forthcoming production of Trent's Brisbane-based and classic coming-of-age novel *Boy Swallows Universe*. The play will be shown at QPAC as part of the Brisbane Festival in September. I wish all our Australian members a very successful Children's Book Week in 2021.

Yours sincerely,
Robyn Sheahan-Bright

IBBY announced

The Silent Books collection

2021. The fifth Silent Books collection was introduced during the virtual 2021 Bologna Children's Book Fair. The [Honour List](#) books and information can be viewed on this link in Italian and English.



IBBY

Bologna Press Conference

[This digital presentation](#) offers highlights of IBBY activities and international members.

Congratulations to

Poet and novelist Jason Reynolds for his first Carnegie Medal for *Look Both Ways* (Knights Of). Author and illustrator Sydney Smith secured a second Kate Greenaway Medal for *Small in the City* (Walker Books).

ALMA

The [Swedish Arts Council](#) has named writer and librarian Balsam Karam and researcher Katerina Eriksson as new jury members. Their terms will commence on July 1, 2021.

Reflections for the 50TH Newsletter

As inaugural newsletter editor, I am delighted to be invited to contribute to this, our 50th issue of the IBBY Australia e-newsletter. It is an exciting legacy to look back on the growth and development of our section and the expansion of our contribution to the world-wide movement of IBBY. Issue No 1, March 2009, was only 3 pages long, featuring 3 Executive Committee members: President Dr Robin Morrow, Vice-President/Secretary Jenni Woodroffe, and Treasurer Karen Jameyson.

A huge leap forward was to become a separate incorporated body. Synchronistically Patricia Wrightson, our first and only Hans Christian Andersen Award winner for writing, died on the same day in 2010 that ALIA accepted our need to become independent.

Since 2010 the need for finances to pay our Section fees and the right to nominate for both the HCA Award and IBBY Honour Books were paramount. Only paid-up Sections had the right to make such nominations. Australia was in the second highest category, and levies were based on the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and Personal Purchasing Power (PPP), and to our fledgling group the fees seemed astronomical. The need for finances dominated those early years, and the early newsletters contained news of fundraisers and membership drives to swell our coffers. The receipt of the first three-year Copyright Agency Cultural Fund in February 2014 was an enormous boon, enabling travelling opportunities for speakers and IBBY Award winners as well as panellists for their time and voluntary contributions. The CACF was not to be used for day-to-day running expenses, nor for our fees to Basel.

With the need for fundraisers alleviated to some extent, the generous donations of a Limited Edition print by national illustrators such as Mark Wilson, Ann James, Julie Vivas, Jeannie Baker, Shaun Tan, Caroline Magerl, Terry Denton and Frané Lessac have contributed to the incentives to renew memberships through eligibility to go into the annual membership renewal draw. Another exciting contribution to IBBY's Children in Crisis Fund was the Online Mask Auction, organised by the brilliantly creative Isobelle Carmody from 6th May-30th June, 2016.

One of my greatest joys was the opportunity to send a congratulatory email to both individual and institutional members on their receipt of an award, be it an Australian Day Honour, an IBBY HCA Award, the IBBY Honour List, Ena Noël Award, Outstanding books for Young People with Disabilities, Silent Books nominations or other overseas recognition when known. It is important that our deeply sensitive and thoughtful creators and their work be celebrated with joy and verve.

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International News

On 26th May, Australian Sorry Day, the [Kluge-Ruhe Museum in Virginia](#) announced the repatriation of 17 culturally significant items from the museum's permanent collection to the Arrernte, Warlpiri and Warumungu peoples. As the works are restricted and sensitive in nature, they have never been exhibited and their provenance beyond Edward Ruhe is not clear. 'We are so excited to see these items return home to country, and so grateful to [AIATSIS](#) and the Arrernte Senior Elders, Senior Warlpiri Tribal Men and Warumungu Senior Elders for facilitating this process' The announcement on the regular e-newsletter was made as the Australian illustrator Dub Leffler and author Coral Vass held an online presentation on their book *Sorry Day*. Dub Leffler has been a guest artist in residence since January where many of his works have been displayed. Online programs with Australian and overseas creators have brought the huge range of [international indigenous collections](#) and collaborations at the Kluge-Ruhe Museum to the world.

IBBY Egypt

Read the latest news from IBBY Egypt with this new bilingual newsletter published jointly by IBBY Egypt (EBBY) and Hadi Badi Books [here](#).



Reflections for the 50TH Newsletter cont.

Attendance at IBBY International Congresses confirmed my love of travel and meeting new people. The smaller AORIC gatherings contributed to networking opportunities and were less demanding in terms of time and finance.

Robin Morrow's words with their eternal wisdom are still as vitally important in 2021 as when she first wrote them for the first newsletter in 2009: 'My vision for IBBY Australia is that we do everything possible to let the wider world know about these wonderful books that mirror our children's lives; and that we also work to seek out "window" books, those from other lands and other languages that broaden the experiences of our young readers.'

As financial pressures tighten, it is important to remember that Jella Lepman began her work in grim times when many must have viewed her plans as ridiculously idealist. Let us be idealistic for IBBY Australia!'

Jenni Woodroffe
Life Member, IBBY Australia.



A highlight: Presenting Robert Ingpen with his Life Membership of IBBY Australia certificate on the 5th April, 2014

Awards

Inaugural Prize for Humour Writing for Young People Award.

On 17th June the State Library of NSW announced the winner of the 2021 Inaugural Prize for Humour Writing for Young People Award. Congratulations to Philip Bunting, author-illustrator of *Wombat* (Scholastic Books).

Aurealis Awards Announced

See the full list of winners [here](#) on the website.

Queens's Birthday Honours List

Congratulations to Julie Watts (publisher) and James Bradley (writer and critic) on receiving an OAM in the Queen's Birthday Honours list in June.

Nan Chauncy Award

The Children's Book Council of Australia (CBCA) has announced Jan Nicholls as the winner of the 2021 Nan Chauncy Award for her contribution to children's literature.

NSW State Library Aboriginal Creative Fellowship.

Writer and artist Bronwyn Bancroft was named inaugural recipient of this award 21 July. See an article from the Create NSW [website](#). Bronwyn was an IBBY Australia nominee for the HCA Award in 2016.

The Feelix Library: An overview

Our national clientele are not wholly Vision Australia clients; we also send materials to people with a print disability, and some schools in support of a student with a print disability, or vision impairment.

This [link](#) shows an example of one of the Feelix kits. In the image on the page, you will see a copy of a book, a toy and the small, bound, white additional tactile representation of the story. The original picture book in the kit has the Braille overlays added to it by Vision Australia, in the Kooyong Office. The tactile representation of the story has elements of the story brought to life in a textural form. For example, if you had a Feelix kit for *The Very Hungry Caterpillar* you would find in the tactile book representations of the strawberries, apples, pears, etc that the caterpillar eats through, in an order that follows the story, and identifying text to help the parent or carer locate the page while reading. The client can feel the shape of the object and engage more fully with the text of the story. These do not have ISBNs as they are not published; rather they are crafted by people who work for Vision Australia to enhance the reading experience for our library clients. We present many children's stories; Australian authors and authors who are people of First Nations are included, and some classics and LOTE materials are also included.



Victoria Rogers, Feelix Library

Lesley Reece Retires

As The Literature Centre approaches its 30th year, Lesley Reece's own chapter as Director and Founder is closing. For over 29 years Ms Reece has championed and promoted Australian literature, inspiring many thousands of students and teachers through stimulating programs. Her passion and dedication have broken through the barrier of indifference to bring awareness and investment in her field. Since establishing The Literature Centre in 1992 as a project of national significance, housed in the old hospital of the former Fremantle Prison, Ms Reece has been celebrated as a powerhouse of determination and endurance. To see the full testimonials by Jackie French AM, Markus Zusak, Shaun Tan and Anthony Eaton visit the Centre's website [HERE](#).



Lesley Reece

Photo Courtesy of the Literature Centre
Source: MEDIA RELEASE – Friday 11 June 2021

The Bologna Bookfair 2021

The special Poetry category of the 2021 Bologna Ragazzi Award received 210 entries from 28 countries and regions of the world. The jury of experts awarded the prize to *Cajita de fósforos*, an anthology edited by Adolfo Córdova (Ediciones Ekaré).

There were four special mentions: *Love Letter* (Animo Chen, Locus Publishing), *Niños* (María José Ferrada - María Elena Valdez, Alboroto ediciones), *The Girl Who Became a Tree* (Joseph Coelho - Kate Milner, Otter-Barry Books), and *Tiger Tiger, Burning Bright* (Fiona Waters - Britta Teckentrup, Nosy Crow).

Independent New Zealand/Aotearoa publisher Oratia Media was awarded the Bologna Prize for the Best Children's Publisher of the Year in the Oceania category. The winner's citation describes Oratia Media as 'eclectic ... with a strong focus on high-quality editing, design, and printing'. Founded as a publishing services business in 2000, the company has developed as a publisher since 2008, focusing on children's, Māori, history and general nonfiction books.

Source: *Bookseller & Publisher* June 14th

For all the **Bologna Ragazzi Award Category winners 2021** see the [website link](#)

Reaching out: Diversity and Inclusion in Children's Literature, International Children's Laureates and Reading Ambassadors Forum

The Australian Children's Laureate Ursula Dubosarsky joined Laureates from Finland, Sweden and Ireland for a robust discussion. This special online event was moderated by Julia Eccleshare, Children's Director at the Hay Festival, UK. The conversation is available to view until 31 August 2021 [HERE](#).

'Italian Excellence' soon in Amsterdam.

In addition to Bucharest, the exhibition 'Italian Excellence' has added a new venue to its international tour: Amsterdam, where the Italian Cultural Institute will host the show of 20 new-generation Italian illustrators from 10 to 26 November. You can watch the presentation of the exhibition with English subtitles on the BCBF TV.

[Watch the video](#)

Source: Bologna Bookfair News 22/07/21

IBBY Tasmanian ICBD Quiz

Q1: Name the author who, in 1962, co-invented a cerebral shunt used to drain excess fluid from the brain.

Q2: Name the title of Dame Lynley Dodd's first published picture book (as an illustrator).

Q3: A bored boy goes on a journey to rescue two princesses from the castle in the air. What was his name? Bonus points for naming the princesses.

If you knew the answers to these questions, why didn't you join us for the 2021 IBBY Tasmanian Quiz, held on the 1st May?

A small gathering of 4 tables with groups named Bikies, Up & Comings, Hairy Maclarys and The Pedants (the winners of course) enjoyed a fun and laughter filled afternoon raising almost \$600 to support the work of IBBY Australia.

Events such as these cannot eventuate without help. Thanks to Julie Hunt and Gay McKinnon who designed the flyer; Black Buffalo for the venue; Elise Archer MHA for a donation towards cost of refreshments; Tamar Valley Writers Festival for the membership voucher. Thank you to MC Dennis Mann, Carol Fuller, Jennie Bales and Maureen Mann for assisting. PS. Answers to the questions above: Roald Dahl; *My Cat Likes to Hide in Boxes* by Eve Sutton; Milo. Princesses Rhyme and Reason from Norton Juster's *The Phantom Tollbooth*.

Nella Pickup

National Executive – IBBY Australia
Young People/IBBY Australia
Inc

The Indian Lockdown

As the first wave of the corona pandemic struck, it swept across our country, throwing life out of gear. It forced offices and markets to shut down and locked people indoors. Schools and colleges were closed, and important Board exams were put on hold. Since then, it's been a long and lonely year, most of all for children, who have not been able to attend school, or meet teachers, classmates and friends. It took a while, but schools shakily got into the lockdown act with online classes for a few hours. Much to the relief of parents, children could now be at least in touch with their teachers and classmates on iPads, laptops and phones, as the new academic session began. Online school is, of course, a poor replacement for regular school life with its outdoor and other multiple activities involving different skills.

It's been a hard time for Indian book publishers too, like all other businesses. A few have gone into the media podcast business and look for audio rights from authors. Many authors and storytellers now tell stories online on the social media. NGOs, like AV Baliga Trust, have also pitched in, teaching activities like gardening, yoga, cooking, art and music for different age groups. Online libraries are an attractive option in metro cities for those who can afford the price tag.

The Indian Section /Association of Writers and Illustrators for Children (AWIC) runs 170 home libraries all over the country in rural and urban areas, slums and even parks. However, the lockdown has made these impossible to open, and we have not had much feedback from our librarians, especially as our office in the heart of New Delhi has remained closed for over a year. We work on our activities from home and attend to correspondence. Zoom meetings and the social media keep us connected.

The second Corona wave has peaked in our crowded cities, bringing hospitals and healthcare to their knees. The wave is now abating, but there is a new worry. The pandemic is spreading its vicious tentacles to villages and rural areas, which had initially escaped the deadly virus. Well over half our children live here. However, even basic healthcare facilities are limited in rural areas. As government schools here close with the general lockdown, online classes are a distant dream for many areas have no internet connections. Some NGOs have collaborated with state governments, community, and childcare centres to reach books to rural children, but their efforts are really a drop in the ocean. Till the pandemic is controlled with better protection and awareness all round, these crucial childhood years will remain on hold.

Nita Berry, AWIC/Indian Section of IBBY

[Love OZ YA BLOG](#) - Article [-What Teens are Reading](#)

#LoveOzYA is for teachers, writers and readers of Australian youth-lit.

Italia's Silent Books Collection Goes to France

Penni Cotton from the UK has kindly shared [her article](#) on the wonderful Silent books collection exhibition and its use in France. Coming after the Silent Books 2020 exhibition in Queensland at the State Library and in Sydney at Lost in Books in recent months, it is fabulous to know that IBBY's activities are truly international.

ILF News

Three graphic novels were launched in Alice Springs in July as part of the 2021 [NAIDOC Week](#) celebrations. The ILF worked with four young Indigenous authors and illustrators for three years. The project was sponsored by the Flew Foundation. These books are sold in bookshops Australia-wide as well as the ILF online shop. Also announced in May was the news that agreements with local and international publishers, including Penguin Random House and Allen & Unwin, were secured to publish several beloved children's books, including titles like *The Very Hungry Caterpillar* and *Run Like a Rabbit* in Indigenous languages.

Sourced: ILF online newsletter
25/05/21

The CBCA Book of the Year

Winner and Honour Books:
announced at noon AEDT on
Friday, August 20.



Conferences and Events

2021

20th August Children's Book Council Book of the Year Announcement
Old Worlds, New Worlds, Other Worlds.

19th – 26th August World Library and Information Congress-Online

1st September Indigenous Literacy Day

10th – 12th September 37th IBBY World Congress, Moscow, Russia
Great Big World Through Children's Books
Hybrid (Online and in-person)

20th – 24th October Frankfurt Book Fair

19th – 21st November China Shanghai, International Children's Bookfair

2022

5th – 8th September 38th IBBY World Congress, Putrajaya, Malaysia
The Power of stories

2024 – 39th IBBY World Congress, Trieste, Italy

2026 – 40th IBBY World Congress, Ottawa, Canada

Please check all events and dates with the relevant organisations.



Story Furnace

IBBY Australia offers this special limited-edition print by Internationally acclaimed Australian author/illustrator Shaun Tan. Shaun generously made available one original illustration, Story Furnace, for giclée digital prints in a limited edition of 200. Each print is signed and numbered with proceeds supporting the continued work of IBBY Australia.

Prints can be purchased from Books Illustrated, an IBBY supporter.
info@booksillustrated.com.au Cost: \$150 (unframed) Australia \$15 postage Overseas \$35 postage

IBBY Australia Executive Committee

President: Dr Robyn Sheahan-Bright
Secretary: Margot Lindgren

Vice-President: Joanna Andrew
Treasurer: Bernice Cusack

Committee members:

Karen Jameyson
Nella Pickup

Sara Khamkoed
Dr Alyson Simpson

Dr Robin Morrow
Claire Stuckey

Children in Crisis Fund

IBBY regularly seeks donations for projects under its Children in Crisis Fund to provide support for children whose lives have been disrupted by war, civil disorder or natural disaster.

The two main activities that are supported by the fund are the therapeutic use of books and storytelling in the form of bibliotherapy, and the creation or replacement of collections of selected books appropriate to the situation.

We hope the program will not only provide immediate support and help, but that it will also make a long-term impact in the communities, thus supporting IBBY's belief that every child has the right to become a reader. IBBY selects the communities where the projects will be funded based on predetermined criteria.

Follow us!

