



INTERNATIONAL BOARD ON BOOKS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

iBBY
AUSTRALIA

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

NEWSLETTER No 25

May, 2015

President's Letter

Dear members and supporters of IBBY Australia

This is an exciting and challenging time for IBBY Australia. This month vice-president and secretary Jenni Woodroffe is off to the Regional Congress in Kuala Lumpur, to represent Australia and present her paper. International Children's Book Day has been celebrated with events in three states. And we have proudly announced the new Australian Hans Christian Andersen Award nominees: Ursula Dubosarsky (writer) and Bronwyn Bancroft (illustrator). We congratulate them and wish them well now that the panel of international judges has begun reading and deliberating for HCA 2016.

Please continue to support IBBY Australia's unique activities by renewing your membership. One lucky renewing (or new) member who replies by 30 June will receive a beautiful limited edition print, the generous gift of illustrator and IBBY member Mark Wilson (see details p 13).

No other organisation fulfils the vital role of showcasing Australia's youth literature to the world. We know our talented book creators deserve to be nominated for the HCA, the highest accolade in children's literature. The nomination process takes much energy and expertise, but also money. We gratefully acknowledge assistance from the Copyright Agency Cultural Fund with costs of printing the dossiers and posting books to the international judges.

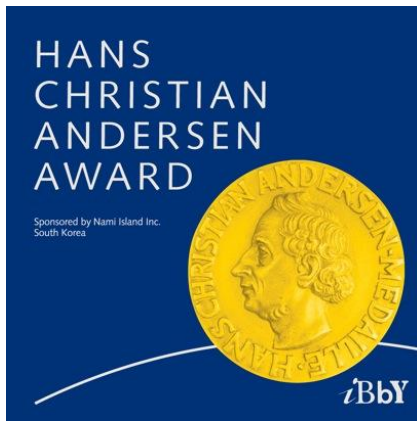
The most recent nominees, Nadia Wheatley (writer) and Ron Brooks (illustrator), have received the IBBY certificates which I carefully carried in my luggage from Mexico City (see pp 3 and 7). Highlights of my visit to Tasmania included attending a judge's talk in Devonport by Tricia Scott, Tasmanian CBCA judge; as well as poring over a number of beautiful translated editions of *Fox* with Ron. Nadia Wheatley's *Flight*, the breathtaking picture book released this month by Windy Hollow Books, is illustrated by another HCA nominee, Armin Greder.

Another international activity of IBBY Australia is to support the Children in Crisis Fund, helping deliver books to children in direst need. We do this only through targeted fundraising. We have just sent a total of \$2,000 to the appeal to rebuild the IBBY libraries recently destroyed in Gaza. Much of this money was raised at a film fundraiser organised by EC committee member Joanna Andrew in WA. Members in other regions may wish to emulate WA with a similar film event.

Enjoy this newsletter with items from around the world. Author and IBBY member Elaine Forrestal chose to place an inflatable globe on the Creator's Table at the Bologna Book Fair—you can read (p 6) what this evoked. This globe could also stand as a fitting symbol for IBBY's work in spreading the best of books and reading worldwide.

With best wishes

Robin Morrow, AM



Congratulations

to

the following Australian nominees for the
2016 Hans Christian Andersen Award

Ursula Dubosarsky For Writing

Ursula Dubosarsky (1961-) was born in Sydney, graduated from Sydney University and spent a year on a kibbutz in Israel, before publishing her first picture book *Maisie and the Pinny Gig* (1989). She has since written several picture books, and novels for older children, including *The First Book of Samuel* (1995), *Abyssinia* (2001), *The Red Shoe* (2006) and *The Golden Day* (2011). Recipient of nine national literary prizes, including five NSW Premier's Literary Awards, she was inducted into the Speech Pathology Australia Hall of Fame (2013) for services to children's speech and literacy. Her works are published in the UK and USA, and have been translated into several European languages, and Korean, Chinese, Japanese and Hebrew. International honours include: ALMA nomination 2015, 2014 and 2013; IBBY Honour List 2014, and Luchs (Lynx) Award for Children's Literature for *The Golden Day*. She is one of Australia's foremost writers for young people.



Photo: Vickie Skarratt

And



Bronwyn Bancroft For Illustration

Bronwyn Bancroft (1958-) is an acclaimed Aboriginal artist and a descendant of the Djanbun clan of the Bundjalung nation. Born in Tenterfield, and trained in Canberra and Sydney, she has worked as a fashion designer, artist, book illustrator, and arts administrator. Bancroft began illustrating children's books in 1993, with Diana Kidd's *The Fat and Juicy Place* (which won the Australian Multicultural Children's Book Award) and Oodgeroo Noonuccal's *Stradbroke Dreamtime* (1993, 1972), and has since written and/or illustrated over 30 children's books, including some by prominent writer and artist Sally Morgan. Her latest is a collaboration with her son Jack Manning Bancroft, *The Eagle Inside* (2015).

In 1994 she was the Australian candidate for the UNICEF Ezra Jack Keats International Award for Excellence in Children's Book Illustration. In 2009 Bancroft received the Dromkeen Medal for her contribution to children's

literature. Her artistic work has been extraordinarily diverse and highly influential.

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**CULTURAL
FUND**

Isobelle Carmody Stars in Sydney's ICBBD Afternoon

While New South Wales voters busily did their civic duty on 28 March, about fifty attendees of the NSW International Children's Book Day celebrations bravely navigated their way through voter-heavy traffic to Santa Maria del Monte School in Strathfield. The reward? A wonderful afternoon, highlighted by award-winning writer-artist Isobelle Carmody's sparkling presentation.

Following an Acknowledgement of Country from school parent Cassandra Gibbs, IBBY National President Dr Robin Morrow welcomed attendees to this annual celebration of children's literature inspired by the birthday of Hans Christian Andersen (who would have been 210 years old).

As well as providing an overview of IBBY's efforts and accomplishments, Robin acknowledged the absence of life member Maurice Saxby, who had died near the end of 2014. Maurice provided wise ongoing support for IBBY Australia over many years, also serving for two terms as an international judge for the Hans Christian Andersen Awards. With this reference to the HCA Awards, it was a fitting moment for Nadia Wheatley, IBBY Australia's highly accomplished 2014 Nominee for Writing, to be presented with her official HCA certificate by national EC member Karen Jameyson. In accepting this certificate, Nadia spoke of the unique way such IBBY nominations showcase to the wider world the books, not only of the nominated writer or illustrator, but other Australian creators too



Karen Jameyson with Nadia Wheatley

And then Isobelle stepped up to the microphone and the audience listened, captivated, as she talked about 'Travels with Crow', the



Crow, "the real writer" with Isobelle Carmody

fascinating and entertaining story behind

the creation of her 'Little Fur' Books. Hand puppet Crow was there himself, raucously announcing to the audience, 'I am the real writer of Isobelle Carmody's books' Isobelle's talk took listeners back to her childhood, including her earliest efforts at illustrating, and then through her experience of living in Prague during the four hundred year flood: 'an interesting time to be a writer'. She celebrated the 'groovy imaginations of children' and shared details about the important role her daughter has played in her writing. She did not, however, share details about a forthcoming publication, which she's 'not supposed to say a single word about'! As the audience listened, captivated, the minutes flew by towards afternoon tea, including custom-made Little Fur cupcakes.

Paul Macdonald and the Beecroft Children's Bookshop were in attendance as well so participants were able to buy copies of Isobelle's titles for autographing as they nibbled at the cupcakes and other refreshments and chatted.

Proceeds from the afternoon's raffle will go to support the rebuilding of the libraries in Gaza. IBBY members around the world have been contributing to this effort.

The event's success was due not only to Isobelle's spellbinding presentation but also to the support of Santa Maria del Monte school, staff member Jane Sulis and her many colleagues, who turned out in force.

Karen Jameyson EC and NSW IBBY Member

Ping, Tigger and Treasure Island : The IBBY 2015 International Children's Book Day Quiz

On an autumn evening in Perth, over seventy enthusiastic children's book lovers and friends sounded out a drum-roll on their quiz tables, happily obliging a request from inimitable MC and storyteller Glenn Swift to mark the opening of the 2015 IBBY International Children's Book Day Quiz. Smiling faces and friendly banter quickly became serious and hushed when the first round of questions began.



MC Glenn Swift and Cate Sutherland of Fremantle Press

Whispered answers and knowing nods rippled throughout the room as one by one, familiar and not-so-familiar silhouettes of characters from the world of children's literature flashed onto the screen. Peter, Ping, Miffy – rabbits, rabbits and more rabbits – who would have guessed that there were so many rabbits populating our favourite children's stories? The "Books to Film" round sparked lively debates about "Who voiced *Paddington Bear* in the film of the same name?" While a quote from *The House at Pooh Corner* had quiz goers vacillating between Eeyore and Tigger. "Apples... strawberries... plums..." – What order did that hungry caterpillar eat those fruits? – had everyone reciting a well-loved picture book text to those sitting next to them. The "Classics" round had many remembering back to the last time they read *Treasure Island* – what was the name of that cabin boy? Not content with the rounds of questions designed to test the knowledge and stamina of the quiz-going audience of librarians, teachers, children's authors and illustrators, booksellers and bemused friends, the organisers provided additional challenges.



Gaye Margetic and Phuong Dang – City of Wanneroo Libraries

A list of opening lines from classic and contemporary books circulated around each table with an occasional "ooh" or "ahh" as words or sentences were remembered and books identified – "At 9.59 on Thursday morning, Jodie drew a duck." And those adept at remembering publication dates took on the task to rank titles in order from earliest to most recent.

During a break in proceedings, storyteller Christine Begovich retold a little known Hans Christian Andersen tale as an apt reminder of the significance of the event. As the evening drew to a close, the scores revealed a tie for first place which was decided with the question "What date is International Children's Book Day?" The winning table was rewarded with wine and, of course, books. A Limited Edition print by 2012 HCA Award Australian nominee for illustration, Bob Graham was the raffle prize won by emerging writer Renae Hayward. An amount of \$1,467 was raised during the evening, from raffle sales and entry fees, all of which will go towards supporting the work of IBBY Australia.

The success of the event was due to the wonderful work of organisers, Jenni Woodroffe and Joanna Andrew; question-crafting support from Jan Nichols; fair-minded judge, Cate Sutherland; tireless raffle master, Denise Robins; talented flyer designer, Karen Blair; incomparable MC, Glenn Swift and unflappable technical assistant, Louis Blackwell.

Nola Allen WA IBBY member

ICBD Celebration in Gladstone, Queensland

In the coastal port of Gladstone, Queensland another ICBD event took place. This took the form of a professional development evening and opened with an acknowledgment of the traditional owners of country followed by an introduction by Dr Robyn Sheahan-Bright of the history and role of IBBY. Robyn discussed the nominated Australian authors and illustrators for the HCA Award and her process of assembling the dossiers to send to the international judges. Gladstone Youth Services Librarian and storyteller Bettina Nissen read the poem that formed the UAEBBY ICBD message.

Bettina then went on to discuss the 2015 ICBD theme of "Many Cultures, One Story" and explored the recurrent themes in stories across

cultures. To illustrate our shared humanity, Bettina focussed on folktales about Names and the power of Naming. She encouraged those present to introduce themselves with their name and share the story of their name, followed by a telling of two well-known 'Name game' stories - Rumpelstiltskin and a Yoruba story from Nigeria about how the tortoise, Ijapa, guessed the name of hippopotamus and outwitted him.

The evening concluded with Robyn reprising her paper *What's Wrong with the Wobbegong? Across Borders: the Inclusive and Multinational Work of Gregory Rogers* delivered at the Mexico Congress and sharing with



Robyn Sheahan-Bright with dossiers and boxes awaiting despatch



Robyn Sheahan-Bright and Bettina Nissen

her audience the friendship she had enjoyed with this creator, the Australian nominee for the 2012 IBBY Honour List for illustration. This fabulous evening was a fitting way to celebrate ICBD and the ongoing work of the Curtis Coast Literary Carnivale as well as the enduring power of friendships formed through story.

Bettina Nissen Storyteller and Qld member of IBBY

BOLOGNA BOOK FAIR – My First Visit

In 2015 I was invited by the Australian Publishers Association to attend the International Book Fair in Bologna. My latest book, *To See the World*, (NLA, Canberra, 2014), had been chosen for inclusion in the Association's annual catalogue and would be promoted at the Fair.

I could not have been happier – or more excited. Ever since I became an author of children's books the Bologna Book Fair had loomed large on my horizon. I knew that this was where deals were done, translations organised and contracts for foreign rights signed. I also knew about the carefully guarded professional nature of the Fair, restricted to publishers, rights managers and assistants, agents, booksellers and representatives of huge global companies. Individual authors can be spectators, but not stand holders. Every second year, SCBWI, of which I'm a member, does have a stand, but, while authors are welcome, its main focus is illustrators whose work can be easily displayed and make the stand more eye-catching. In fact, walking around the Fair, one can easily see that it is heavily skewed towards illustration.

While this is also the case with the APA Stand, which is organised on behalf of the Association by Ann



Elaine Forrestal at the Creator's Table at the Hello from Australia 2015 stand

Haddon and Ann James of Books Illustrated fame, they have instigated a Creator's Table. This gives the authors and illustrators whose books they are promoting their own presence at the fair. It allows individuals to set up their own display and speak directly to anyone who shows an interest in their work. In fact, this year there were two Creator's Tables, within the stand to accommodate the Australian authors (2) and illustrators (14) who accepted their invitation to attend. We were each allocated two sessions of one and a half hours on the Creator's Table roster. As I am not blessed with any illustrating skills, I decided to use an inflatable globe, on which I marked the route taken by Rose de Freycinet on her voyage around the world. Once

inflated, this globe was certainly large enough to attract the attention of passers-by and played a big part in the success of the Fair for me.

It also provided some funny moments. Three Slovenian women were tracing Rose's route on the globe, then discovered my copy of *Someone Like Me*, translated into Slovenian, which I had also displayed on the Table. They could hardly believe their eyes. An Australian book in their own language! After much exclamation their cameras came out, and pictures of the whole stand were flashed across borders and around the world.

Other highlights for me were the panel session on dyslexia, with two Italian and two English presenters. Since I speak very little Italian, it was lucky for me that the two Italians were illustrators and used the big screen extensively. And, of course, there was the very exciting Laureate's Summit featuring Children's Laureates from around the world including our own Jackie French.

Making contacts is the main game at the International Book Fair. I followed up email contacts made from Australia at the Fair. I now have expressions of interest from two French and one Italian publisher, and only one was on my original list. Some of my most solid agreements have come, without any previous contact, from people who have been trawling the aisles in the enormous Halls and have come across me and my books at the 'Hello from Australia' Stand. Fingers crossed that the groundwork done during those intense but exciting four days will bear fruit. Ideally, in my case, translations of *To See the World*, into French and Italian, in time for the 200th anniversary celebrations of Rose de Freycinet's incredible voyage around the world.

Elaine Forrestal, Author and WA IBBY member

News from Queensland

Book Links (QLD) Inc: The Centre for Children's Literature is pleased to announce the inaugural **Book Links Lecture in Children's Literature** with the theme *Reading the wider world: book choices to expand the world view of young readers*. Join us for a night of input, creativity and discussion at this inaugural lecture, exploring the role of children's literature in a changing world, hosted by Robyn Sheahan-Bright, and featuring special guest Dr Robin Morrow AM. Robin advocates a global perspective on children's and youth literature; and claims that children's books have a deep connection with *social justice*, both in their content and in the matter of access to reading material. Come and join the vital conversation about this challenging topic. Dr Morrow has dedicated her life to children's books and is the National President of the International Board on Books for Young People (IBBY) and has been acknowledged for her service to children's literature and to the writing and publishing profession with a Member (AM) in the General Division of the Order of Australia in the 2014 Australia Day Honours.



Presented by Book Links and the Queensland Writers Centre, this inaugural lecture is designed to raise the profile and value of children's literature and to stimulate discussion and disseminate the results of current research on children's literature.

Date and Time: 27th June from 6.00 – 8.00 pm.

Where: Auditorium 2, Level 2, State Library of Queensland, Cultural Centre, Stanley Place, South Bank, Brisbane.

Cost: \$20.

News from Victoria

IBBY member Hazel Edwards OAM has expressed her concern for children in detention through writing *Upside Down Insect With No Name Tag*. She has kindly donated this link to her story in the hope that IBBY members and emerging writers will find it helpful in provoking discussion on the issue of asylum seeker children being held in detention.

http://www.hazeledwards.com/page/opportunity_for_first_timers.html

News from Tasmania



Robin Morrow presenting Ron Brooks with his HCA Award certificate

On her recent visit to Tasmania, National President Robin Morrow visited Ron Brooks to present him with his HCA certificate as Australian nominee for illustration. The photo shows them with Ron's topiary *Bunyip of Berkeley's Creek*. Scenes from the beautiful Huon Valley, where Ron lives, will be familiar to readers of his picture books, specially *Old Pig*, *Henry's Bath* and *Honey and Bear*.

News from New South Wales

Libby Gleeson's Eloquence Shines at Maurice Saxby Lecture

'We are here tonight because of one man', Libby Gleeson stated. While smiles flashed and heads nodded, she looked around the room in the Education Building at the University of Sydney and continued, 'He was a friend and teacher to so many of us.'

That one man, of course, was Maurice Saxby* himself, who died in December. And the occasion was the Maurice Saxby lecture, sponsored by the New South Wales Branch of the Children's Book Council of Australia and delivered by esteemed writer Libby Gleeson AM on 6 May. As NSW CBCA president Gail Erskine commented in her introduction, the fact that Libby was instrumental in the conception of the Maurice Saxby lectures made her a particularly appropriate choice as speaker, and indeed she rose to the occasion magnificently.

'Story saturates our lives,' Libby claimed. She proceeded, in her usual invigorating and articulate style, to explore the topic of story in our personal experiences and in the larger framework of life as well. Libby's flowing narrative was punctuated with fascinating literary facts, such as that readers of serious fiction have better social skills than nonfiction readers; and that reading fiction allows us to practise emotions before life exposes us to them. She took the audience to Gallipoli and a myriad other places, leaving them with much to cogitate. And, not surprisingly, quotes from and stories about Maurice, formed an integral part of her address.



Margaret Hamilton, Libby Gleeson and Gail Erskine –photo Gail Erskine

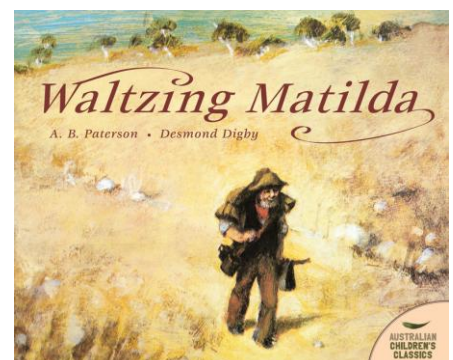
Although this lecture in his honour was the first one that Maurice was unable to attend, his influence was felt throughout the evening. Not only in Gail Erskine's introduction, Libby's address and the gracious acknowledgement by National CBCA Board Member Margaret Hamilton AM. Not only in the images of Maurice that flashed up on the screen. But also in the many happy conversations among audience members, both before and after the program. It was a

night that the audience clearly appreciated and one that Maurice Saxby himself would have enjoyed thoroughly.

Karen Jameyson EC and NSW IBBY Member

Vale Desmond Digby

Winner of the 1971 CBCA Picture Book of the Year with his evocative portrayal of the swagman in A.B Paterson's *Waltzing Matilda*, Desmond Digby died on the 10th April after a short illness. He also illustrated the *Botternikes and Gumbles* series by S.A. Wakefield between 1967-1989 and is noted for his work as a landscape artist and theatre designer.



News from Greece

On a recent visit to Athens in April I was excited to meet local IBBY representative Maria Kritikou. I had sent a short email of introduction before arriving and received a warm welcome from the President Vagilius Iliopoulos. Maria was able to meet with us in the central area of the city, suggesting we have coffee in the multistorey bookshop PUBLIC overlooking Syntagma Square. We enjoyed a fabulous morning with Maria sharing her wonderful portfolio of projects and events principally bringing quality literature to children and young adults. As an IBBY representative Maria has attended many events, including the Mexico conference, and hopes to see us in New Zealand in 2016. She has been to Australia, travelling from Melbourne to the Gold Coast by car. It is a reflection on the current economic climate that the organisation that Maria used to work for has been closed. But she continues to be an active member of IBBY Greece and we have already continued to exchange news about children's literature.



Claire Stuckey with Maria Kritikou

Claire Stuckey EC and NSW IBBY member

News from New Zealand

The 35th IBBY International Congress is to be held in Auckland from the 18-24th August, 2016. Submissions for Abstracts opened from the 1st May – 30th September, 2015 and the Congress theme is *Literature in a multi-literate world*. The Congress celebrates the multiplicity of language, literature and literacy in the world today. Throughout the world, literature and literacy are in many languages and many scripts, yet expression of ideas, imagination and emotion captured in very different contexts can be expressed universally. The three sub-themes are: Global, local and indigenous literature; Diverse literary forms and format; Engaging readers.

Details for making submissions for presentations or posters can be found at http://www.ibbycongress2016.org/theme.html#call_for_papers



News from the UK

NSW IBBY members who attended the September, 2013 IBBY Australia AGM will remember the fascinating talk by Dr Alice Curry on the Commonwealth Education Trust and the many pathways that led to the publication of *A River of Stories: Tales and Poems from Across the Commonwealth*. Since then, Alice's life has taken a few more twists and turns and she is now the founder and director of Lantana Publishing, a small independent publishing house specialising in children's books by authors and illustrators of diverse cultural backgrounds. In her blog on their website at www.lantanapublishing.com Alice wrote, "However you choose to judge the criteria, the estimated percentage of books published in the US and Canada in 2014 by authors and illustrators of diverse cultural backgrounds about culturally diverse experiences comes in at **under 5%**. This is quite a shocking statistic...The tireless staff at the CCBC put it this way: 'what the low numbers for multicultural literature mean is that publishing for children and teens has a long way to go before reflecting the rich diversity of perspectives and experiences within and across race and culture'. The UK lags behind the US in researching this area, and comparable British statistics simply don't exist, but the percentage of children's books by Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic writers (BAME) in British publishing is likely to be comparable" In the words of Walter Dean Myers, 'Books transmit values. They explore our common humanity. What is the message when some children are not represented in those books?'

In her email Alice commented: 'Shipping costs to Australia are quite prohibitive unfortunately. However, if you know of anyone who may be interested in buying our books, we have a contact who is collating pre-orders made by customers in Australia so that we can organise a couple of bulk shipments to reduce costs. If this is of interest, please do get in touch at alice@lantanapublishing.com'.

News from India

Storyteller Cathryn Wellner of Kelowna, British Columbia, included this item in her blog *This Gives Me Hope* at <http://thisgivesmehope.com/2015/03/02/1209-superhero-fights-gender-based-violence/> showing how an Indian film maker, Ram Devineni, devised the superhero Priya to change gender-based violence through the medium of comic books and apps:



Like an achingly high number of women around the world, Priya is gang-raped. In the patriarchal culture of village India, that makes her an outcast. Her family throws her out of the home. The panchayat (local government) accuses her of bringing it on herself.

Priya flees into the jungle, where she is stalked by a tiger. The Hindu goddess Parvati intervenes and endows her with special powers. Now fearless and able to transform people's beliefs, Priya tames the tiger and rides him back to her village. There she begins her fight against gender-based violence.

The brutal gang-rape of a 23-year-old New Delhi woman was the impetus behind Ram Devineni's decision to create Priya. Days after the rape, the New York film-maker spoke with a New Delhi policeman, who intimated the young woman deserved or provoked what had happened to her. Travelling around India, Devineni was disheartened by the attitudes towards women and the suffering of rape victims.

So he decided to create a superhero who would ride around India on her tiger (shakti, her power), changing the world through persuasion. The comic book heroine's name, Priya, means love. In the above link, the video from Animation Xpress, Devineni says his purpose in creating *Priya's Shakti* was to challenge patriarchal values. Doing so through a comic superhero is brilliant. She will raise awareness among young men and give courage to young women. The comic is available free, in multiple and augmented formats.

USBBY List of Outstanding International Books.

This year the United States Board on Books for Young People celebrates its 10th year of recommending books published in other countries before being published or distributed in the US. The following Australian titles were included in the 2015 list:

Once a Shepherd by Glenda Millard, illus by Phil Lesnie

Rules of Summer by Shaun Tan

Other Brother by Simon French, published in the US as *My Cousin's Keeper*.

The Wrong Boy by Suzy Zail, published in the US as *Playing for the Commandant*.

For further details see

http://www.usbby.org/list_oibl.html



THE ASTRID LINDGREN MEMORIAL AWARD

2015 ALMA goes to South Africa

Announced on the 31st March, the Astrid Lindgren Memorial Award went to the Project for the Study of Alternative Education in South Africa (PRAESA). The citation reads:

With the joy of reading as its compass point, PRAESA opens new routes into the world of books and literature for young readers in South Africa. Through innovative reading and storytelling projects, PRAESA brings people together and brings literature in multiple languages alive. PRAESA's outstanding work shows the world the crucial role of books and stories in creating rich, full lives for our children and young people...

The award will be presented in Stockholm on the 1st June, 2015.

For further details www.alma.se/en/

News from the Secretariat

We are pleased to welcome two new Sections to IBBY – Hungary and Bosnia & Herzegovina. Making its inaugural appearance is the Latin American and Caribbean newsletter and we look forward to hearing news from this area. See

http://www.ibby.org/fileadmin/user_upload/1_Buletin_LatCa.pdf to read contributions from the different sections in this region.

News from EBBY



The Egyptian Board on Books for Young People was first founded in 1987 and has just launched its inaugural newsletter. In October, 2014 it launched its new website at www.ebby-egypt.com and established a social media presence on Facebook and Twitter. As well as hosting a number of events, it plans to establish itself as both a nexus and an advocate for all things related to children's and young adult literature in Egypt. For further information, including book reviews and events, see their 4 page newsletter at http://www.ebby-egypt.com/uploads/2/3/8/9/23899046/ebby_newslatter_-_no.1_-_march_2015.pdf

News from the US

An original manuscript by the much loved author Dr Seuss was recently discovered by his widow, and *What Pet Should I Get?* will be released in July by Random House.

Fans of Dr Seuss are encouraged to visit the first Dr Seuss Art Gallery outside of the USA at the Trevor Victor Harvey Gallery, QVB, Level 2, 33-35/455 George St, Sydney, NSW 2000, where an extensive range of Limited Edition artwork is for sale.

Forthcoming Conferences and Events

2015

15th May – 28th June HeARTlines Children's Literature Festival, Mundaring Arts Centre, Mundaring, WA. See www.mundaringartscentre.com.au/heartlines/ for further details.

27th May National Simultaneous Storytime at 11.00 am. Aaron Blabey's *The Brothers Quibble* is the book for 2015. See <https://www.alia.org.au/nss> for further details.

29-30th May Reading Matters 2015: Centre for Youth Literature, State Library of Victoria. Melbourne May 29-30 2015 (Secondary focus)
See <http://www.slv.vic.gov.au/event/reading-matters> for further details.

29th May-7th June Asian Festival of Children's Content, National Library, Singapore. See <http://afcc.com.sg/> for further details.

21st June 2nd Australian Fairy Tale Society Conference: *Transformations: Spinning Straw Into Green and Gold*. Judith Wright Room, NSW Writers' Centre – Garry Owen House, Callan Park, Balmain Rd, Rozelle. See <http://ausfairytalesociety.com.au/> for further details.

27th June Inaugural Book Links Lecture in Children's Literature by Dr Robin Morrow AM presented by Book Links (Qld) Inc and Queensland Writers Centre, Auditorium 2, Level 2, State Library of Queensland, Cultural Centre, Stanley Place, South Bank, Brisbane.

24th-27th July Curtis Coast Literary Carnivale alternate year programme featuring Andy Griffiths. See <http://carnivale.gladstonerc.qld.gov.au> for further details.

16th–18th October 11th USBBY Regional Conference, Léman Manhattan Preparatory School, New York City. Theme: *The Wonderland of Children's Books* See http://www.usbby.org/conf_home.htm for further details.

27th-31st October Congreso Internacional Lectura 2015: Para Leer el XXI. La Habana, Cuba. *We must get to know the forces of the world in order to harness them.* See http://www.ibbycuba.org/congreso_lectura/ for further details

30 – 31st October Celebrate Reading National Conference: *The Inside Story on Quality Australian Literature for Children*. The Literature Centre, Fremantle. For further details see www.celebratereading.org.au

2016

20-21st May, 2016 12th National Children's Book Council of Australia Conference. *Read: Myriad Possibilities*. Menzies Hotel, Sydney.

18-21st August 35th IBBY Congress, Auckland, New Zealand. For further details see www.ibbycongress2016.org

2018 36th IBBY Congress, Istanbul, Turkey.

MAKE AN IMPACT: JOIN IBBY AUSTRALIA OR RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP

IBBY Australia membership for the coming financial year (1 July 2015–30 June 2016) is now available. Please join (or renew) and help us continue as an independent body, introducing Australian authors and illustrators for young people to the world stage. IBBY Australia:

- Nominates Australian authors and illustrators for the prestigious international Hans Christian Andersen Medal and IBBY Honour List
- Encourages young Australian authors and illustrators through the Ena Noël Award
- Provides books to children in need through the Children in Crisis Fund.

ONE RENEWING OR NEWLY JOINED MEMBER WHO PAYS BY
30 JUNE 2015 WILL BE RANDOMLY SELECTED TO RECEIVE
THIS LIMITED EDITION PRINT, KINDLY DONATED BY
AUSTRALIAN ILLUSTRATOR MARK WILSON.



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This is our Current Executive Committee – All Volunteers

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