

# Newsletter 27

June 2005

## IBBY at the Bologna Children's Book Fair 13–16 April 2005

It was all about good news: the new website was launched on 2 April; the tsunami relief collection has been very successful; the new selection for the disabled project was unveiled; new projects are starting and IBBY is ready to respond to new demands.

### The Press Conference

#### Andersen Bicentennial

In front of an enthusiastic and large audience, Peter Schneck, President of IBBY, opened the IBBY Press Conference 2005 with the celebration of the Bicentennial of Hans Christian Andersen. His birthday gift from IBBY was a beautiful poster and card with a message by Martin Waddell, 2004 Andersen Award winner for writing, and illustrated by the late Max Velthuis, 2004 Andersen Award winner for illustration. The O'Brien Press, Dublin, generously sponsored the design and printing. Jant van der Weg, President of the Dutch Section of IBBY and Executive Committee member talked about Hans Christian Andersen's life and work. President of IBBY Ireland, Michael O'Brien presented the poster and the card to 'Hans Christian Andersen' – check out the photo – and everybody sang Happy Birthday!

#### International Children's Book Day 2005

Manorama Jafa, the Secretary General of the Indian IBBY Section read the message she wrote for the worldwide celebrations of ICBD. The message is called Books are my *Magic Eyes* and

it is based on an ancient Indian legend. Jagdish Joshi, the well-known Indian artist, illustrated the poster. Manorama Jafa also presented a collection of Indian folktales, compiled especially to celebrate ICBD, called: *Once upon a time in India*. Available from IndianBBY: [awicbooks@yahoo.com](mailto:awicbooks@yahoo.com)

#### Project Development

María C. Posada, the new IBBY Director of Communications and Project Development presented an overview of the umbrella project called: **The Child's Right to Become a Reader. Books for Children Everywhere**. The project includes the following components:

#### – Books for Africa – Books from Africa

Initially this sub-project will focus on Africa and then later will be expanded to include other parts of the world. It comprises workshops for creators, publishers and teachers, book donations for school libraries, a worldwide touring exhibition of book from Africa with an online catalogue, and the establishment of IBBY regional committees for collaboration.

#### **– Networking in Asia**

The projects that have been established to alleviate the trauma experienced by the young victims of the tsunami disaster will be monitored in their development and their specific needs will be met.

#### **– Networking in the Caribbean and Latin America**

To ensure that the IBBY sections in this region profit from their membership, selected important IBBY material will be translated into Spanish and posted online.

#### **– Keeping National Children's Literature Alive**

IBBY will look for ways of supporting independent and regional-based publishing in Eastern Europe.

#### **The Tsunami Appeal**

Chieko Suemori, IBBY Executive Committee member from Japan, presented the results of the collection for the children affected by the tsunami tragedy. The appeal was very successful and IBBY has raised over CHF 135,000. The funds will support children's literature projects in the region, which will be led by the IBBY sections in India and Thailand, and IBBY's Individual Member in Indonesia. The Maldives and Sri Lanka will also benefit from IBBY's help.

#### **www.ibby.org**

Liz Page, IBBY Administrative Director, presented the new IBBY website. Although it had only been online for two weeks, many messages of congratulations had been sent: 'clear', 'full of information', and 'user friendly'. As with every good website, this one has the ability to grow and become a great service and resource for the IBBY community, as well as for everyone interested in children's books.

#### **China 2006**

Liu Haiqi, Vice President of CBBY, Huang Jianbin IBBY Executive Committee member, and Zhang Mingzhou, Congress Organizer, presented the 2006 Congress by means of a short film enticing the audience with exotic glimpses of China to participate in the 30th IBBY Congress in Beijing, 20-24 September 2006. The main theme of the Congress is *Children's Literature and Social Development*. The programme, the call for papers and the registration forms can be downloaded from the IBBY website (see Activities > Congresses > Next Congress).

#### **Bookbird**

Siobhán Parkinson, one of the editors of IBBY's journal *Bookbird*, spoke about the quarterly publication. From January of this year *Bookbird* has had a new look and a new editorial direction. The new editors, Siobhán Parkinson and Valerie Coghlan, write that they want to "communicate new ideas about international children's literature to the whole community of readers interested in children's books, not just specialists."

#### **Outstanding Books for Young People with Disabilities 2005**

Every two years a new selection of books for and about young people with disabilities is presented, complete with an annotated catalogue. This IBBY project, led by Heidi Cortner Boiesen, Director of the IBBY Documentation Centre for Young People with Disabilities, receives a great deal of attention not only from specialists but also from the general public. The 2005 selection of 40 books from 14 different countries was a focus of attraction for visitors to the stand. The selection is available for exhibitions. For more information contact the IBBY Secretariat or the IBBY Documentation Centre in Norway: [heidicbo@online.no](mailto:heidicbo@online.no).



Hans Christian Andersen' receiving his birthday card helped by Jant van der Weg and Michael O'Brien



Sissel Hofgaard Swensen, Heidi Boiesen and Josiane Polidori looking at the 2005 exhibition of books for disabled young people



Press conference:  
l-r Jeff Garrett, Huang Jianbin, Zhang Mingzhou, Peter Schneck, Heidi Boiesen, Siobhán Parkinson



The CBBY delegation: Huang Jianbin, Zhang Mingzhou, Ma Weidong and Liu Haiqi



Alida Cutts, Jant van der Weg, Peter Schneck, Joan Glazer and Manorama Jafa enjoying the reception after the press conference



EC members Shahaneem Hanoum, Jant van der Weg and Anne Pellowski at the IBBY stand



Alida Cutts, Chieko Suemori and Urs Breitenstein



The IBBY stand 2005

## Hans Christian Andersen Award Jury 2006

As always, this was one of the most eagerly awaited announcements of the day. Jeff Garrett, Jury President, announced the following members of the Hans Christian Andersen Award Jury 2006:

- **Vasja Cerar**, editor of teenage fiction at Mladinska Knjiga in Ljubljana, Slovenia.
- **Isabelle Nières-Chevrel**, professor of general and comparative literatures at the University of Rennes II, France.
- **Lona Gericke**, head of the children's library at Bellville Public Library, Cape Town, South Africa.
- **Grazia Gotti**, co-founder of the Giannino Stoppioni cultural cooperative and children's bookshop in Bologna, Italy.
- **Maija Korhonen**, head of the children's department at Kallio Branch Library, Helsinki, Finland.
- **Angela Lebedeva**, senior lecturer in children's literature at the Sholohov University of Education in Moscow, Russia.
- **Bill Nagelkerke**, co-ordinator of children's and young adult services at Christchurch City Library, New Zealand.
- **Parnaz Nayeri**, children's literature specialist and translator in Tehran, Iran.
- **María Cecilia Silva-Díaz** of Caracas, Venezuela, currently editor at Ediciones Ekaré in Barcelona.
- **Junko Yokota**, professor of reading, language arts and children's literature at National Louis University, Chicago, USA.

The Jury will meet 24-25 March 2006, prior to the Bologna Children's Book Fair. The announcement of the results will be made at the IBBY Press Conference on the first day of the book fair: Monday, 27 March 2006, and the Awards will be presented to the winners during the opening ceremony of the 30<sup>th</sup> IBBY Congress in Beijing on Wednesday, 20 September 2006.

## Back at the IBBY Stand

Totally international! This is how the 2005 IBBY stand at Bologna Children's Book Fair can be described. Many accents, many colours, many interests gathered there and an atmosphere of enthusiasm was present throughout the four days. As always, the stand is a meeting place for IBBY members from around the world: old friends, new friends, friends from a long way away and friends from Bologna. The days (and evenings) are full and many contacts are renewed or rediscovered. The colourful congress poster for China 2006 could be seen from afar; the colourful books of the 2004 IBBY Honour List were displayed; the fascinating selection of outstanding books for disabled young people attracted much interest; past *Bookbird* issues were available to browse through, and always, people were warmly welcomed to the stand.



## Tsunami Appeal: Results and Activities

The result of the money collection is very gratifying with approximately CHF 135,865.00 donated from friends around the world.

The money will be divided between the areas most badly affected: 50% to Banda Aceh Province in Indonesia and 50% divided equally between India, Thailand and Sri Lanka. The Maldives will also be included.

Letters were sent announcing the good news to and answered enthusiastically by: Murti Bunanta, IBBY's individual member from Indonesia; Nilima Sinha, President of IBBY India; and Porn-anong Niyomka, Secretary of IBBY Thailand. Projects in Sri Lanka and the Maldives will be coordinated from India. Information and updates about specific projects will appear in future Newsletters.

## The Basel Book Fair

From 6 to 8 May 2005, the Basel Book Fair took place and IBBY of course was there.

The IBBY stand was located in a very strategic place: the Children's Hall, where the children went to meet authors, to take part in different kinds of activities or just to lie on a big cushion and read. Amongst many others, authors such as Jutta Bauer and Hanna Johansen gave readings and signed books for the children. Obviously, the children's parents went as well, and these were the visitors to IBBY stand, interested in our organization. The Honour List books attracted a lot of attention and many people sat at the stand and went through the books with care.

It is worth noting that the Fair was visited by a great amount of people and that the Children's Hall was busy from the moment it opened until the very last minute before closing. More and more parents, teachers and others who work with

children want them to be close to books and to enjoy reading as an activity that not only takes place in school. As one mother put it: "We want them [the children] to know that the world is bigger than our house".

Here you did not feel, as happens with many book fairs, that Children's Literature was a second-class event, here it was a main event. And even if this book fair does not have all the international visitors that Bologna does, its visitors are interested in children's literature from all over the world.

## IBBY's President in the East

Peter Schneck, IBBY President, was invited by CBBY to attend the Tianjin Book Fair, where he spoke at the press conference: *When IBBY was founded 50 years ago by well-known literary figures, such as Jella Lepman, Astrid Lindgren, Lisa Tetzner and Erich Kaestner, it was based mainly in Europe. This has dramatically changed: IBBY now includes 65 National Sections worldwide! The National Section of China joined IBBY in 1986, thus the Beijing Congress will also celebrate 20 years of CBBY. One of IBBY's main activities is the international Hans Christian Andersen Award, which is the highest international recognition for an author and an illustrator of children's books. The 2006 Andersen presentation ceremony will be one of the Beijing Congress highlights; by coincidence it will be the 50th anniversary of the author's award and 40 years of illustrator's award. So you can see, there are plenty of 'round' anniversaries to celebrate!*

*The IBBY Press Conference at the international Children's Book Fair in Bologna, one of IBBY's main international events, gave us the opportunity to warmly welcome IBBY's youngest member: IBBY Mongolia. I am fortunate and very*

*happy to be able to combine this visit to Tianjin with additional stops in South Korea and Japan in order to meet IBBY colleagues. Today, IBBY is well-represented in East Asia, and the forthcoming Beijing Congress will help strengthen and develop this already substantial network.*

Under the theme 'Children's Literature and Social Development' the lectures and discussions of the 30<sup>th</sup> IBBY Congress will focus on the most important aspects of children's lives: the future and the chance of a peaceful world, which can only come from education and a fruitful combining of good well-tested traditions with new approaches.

The visit included meetings with the Minister and Vice-Minister of Press and Publications and with the Vice-Minister for Chinese Youth. The 2006 Congress will be announced weekly on China Educational TV, so the 375 million children in China will know that IBBY will be there!

Other agreements that have emerged from his visit include the translation and publication by the All China Children's Books Publishing House of *A Bridge of Children's Books*: the autobiography of Jella Lepman, and of *Under the Spell of the Moon*; originally published by Groundwood, Canada in 2004 as an IBBY fundraising project, by the Tomorrow Publishing House.



Hideo Yamada and Peter Schneck at the Yamada Bee Farm

From China, Peter Schneck went to Japan, to meet Hideo Yamada, of Yamada Farms, one of IBBY's most generous donors. The President presented the project: **The Child's Right to Become a Reader. Books for Children Everywhere**, to Mr. Yamada, demonstrating the way in which IBBY wants to develop its work in the next years.

## The IBBY-Asahi Reading Promotion Award

By now, 17 projects related to children and books have received the IBBY-Asahi Reading Promotion Award. The Award was established in 1988 and projects from countries all over the world have received it: Venezuela, Thailand, Zimbabwe, India, Mali, Spain, Lebanon, Colombia, South Africa (twice), France, Japan, Palestine, Peru, Russia, Argentina and Bolivia. Anne Pellowski, a member of the IBBY 2004-2006 Executive Committee, was commissioned to research the long-term results among recipients of the Award. The results are very gratifying. Out of the 17 projects, all but three answered Anne Pellowski's queries about their functioning in the sense that they are alive and well. After winning the Award, some of the projects have been continued by private enterprises, some gained a legal standing that has allowed them to develop effective fundraising and thus reach a larger number of children.

The IBBY-Asahi Award "is a nice monetary 'icing on the cake' for many of them [the projects], but its real value lies in the fact that it makes local governments and agencies sit up and take notice of their work which has been recognized by such a prestigious company as the Asahi Shimbun". (For more information about the IBBY-Asahi Reading Promotion Award please visit our website [www.lbby.org](http://www.lbby.org))

## Worldwide News

### Cuba

**Reading 2005: To Read the 21st. For a Culture of Peace**, 25-29 October 2005. The IBBY Cuban Committee and the *Mirta Aguirre* Ibero-American Chair co-sponsored by the Foundation of Books for Children and Young People of Brazil (FNLIJ), IBBY Canada, and Fundalectura Colombia – Brazilian, Canadian and Colombian Sections, respectively, of IBBY – is organizing the conference to commemorate the 110<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of José Martí's fall in combat and to celebrate the Ibero-American Reading Year, the Hans Christian Andersen Bicentennial, the 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the First Edition of Don Quixote and the 30th IBBY World Congress in September 2006. Contact: emyga@cubarte.cult.cu or aimee@icaic.cu

### Estonia

The new President of IBBY Estonia is Ilona Martson (Kivirähk); a children's magazine editor and literary critic. We wish her the best of luck during her presidency.

### Mongolia

We are very pleased to announce that during its April meeting, the Executive Committee voted to accept the National Section membership application by Mongolia. The Section is based in the capital Ulaanbaatar, and Ms Sundjidmaa Jamba is the Executive Director, with Mr Dashdondog Jambyn as Liaison Officer.

The Section can be contacted at:

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### Palestine

The Tamer Institute for Community Education, the Palestinian IBBY Section, was awarded the First Medchild Award for Best Practice for the category of Education and Culture. "The Tamer Institute was chosen in respect of the innovative and persistent work that has been implemented for more than 16 years in community education and reading promotion among children and youth and in appreciation of its special publications and activities in children's literature as well." For more information visit [www.tamerinst.org](http://www.tamerinst.org)

### Spain

In Valencia, from 27 to 30 June 2005, OEPLI (Organización Española para el Libro Infantil, Spanish IBBY) together with its branches, Consejo General del Libro Infantil y Juvenil, Consell Català del Llibre per a Infants i Joves, Galtzagorri Elkarte and GÁLIX (Asociación Galega do Libro Infantil e Xuvenil), and APPLIJ (Associação portuguesa para a promoção do livro infantil e juvenil), the Portuguese IBBY Section, is hosting the *Congreso Ibérico de Literatura Infantil y Juvenil*. The theme is: **Reading, Identities and Globalization**. For information, contact: [cclij@cclij.org](mailto:cclij@cclij.org), or, visit [www.congresoepli2005.com](http://www.congresoepli2005.com)

### United Kingdom

In Oxford, from 16 to 18 September 2005 the Children's Writers and Illustrators Group of the Society of Authors is hosting the conference: **Shock of the New: Innovation in Children's Books**. For information, contact [enid.stephenson@3-c.coop](mailto:enid.stephenson@3-c.coop)

## Websites

More and more National Sections have developed websites. We ask all Sections to keep the Secretariat informed of your developments and

to always make a link to [www.ibby.org](http://www.ibby.org). Although we try to keep the addresses in the Section IBBY Worldwide on the IBBY website up-to-date, we need your help! Please inform the Secretariat whenever there is a change in personnel, telephone or fax number, address and in particular a change in your e-mail address.

#### Australia

Australia has launched its own website. Visit [www.alia-org.au/~ibby/](http://www.alia-org.au/~ibby/)

#### Italy

Visit IBBY Italy at: [www.bibliotecasalaborsa.it/ragazzi/ibby](http://www.bibliotecasalaborsa.it/ragazzi/ibby)

### IBBY Agenda June - October 2005

For more information and news of further events visit the IBBY website [www.ibby.org](http://www.ibby.org) > IBBY Worldwide > Agenda 2005

<b>June</b> 27-30	III Congreso Ibérico de Literatura Infantil y Juvenil, Valencia, Spain. Contact: <a href="mailto:cclij@cclij.org">cclij@cclij.org</a>
<b>July</b> 30 June-2 July	Publication: <i>Bookbird</i> Volume 43 # 3 South African Children's Literature Conference, Potchefstroom University, South Africa. Contact: Betsie van der Westhuizen: <a href="mailto:afnesvdw@puknet.puk.ac.za">afnesvdw@puknet.puk.ac.za</a>
<b>September</b> 6-7 9 19-21	5 <sup>th</sup> International Literature Festival Berlin, Germany. Contact: <a href="http://www.literaturfestival.com">www.literaturfestival.com</a> XX Biennale of Illustrations Bratislava: BIB'05. Contact: <a href="mailto:bib@bibiana.sk">bib@bibiana.sk</a> Asian Conference on Storytelling, New Delhi, India. Contact: <a href="mailto:awicbooks@yahoo.com">awicbooks@yahoo.com</a>
<b>October</b> 19-23 25-29 28-30	IBBY Newsletter 28: <i>please send your news to the IBBY Secretariat by 30 September 2005.</i> Frankfurt Book Fair. IBBY participation at the German IBBY stand Cuban Congress 'Reading 2005: To Read the 21 <sup>st</sup> . For a Culture of Peace' in Havana. Contact: <a href="mailto:emyga@cubarte.cult.cu">emyga@cubarte.cult.cu</a> or <a href="mailto:aimee@icaic.cu">aimee@icaic.cu</a> USBBY Regional Conference: 'Children's Books. Messengers of Peace' at Callaway Gardens, Georgia. Contact: <a href="mailto:acutts@reading.org">acutts@reading.org</a>

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