



INTERNATIONAL BOARD ON BOOKS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

iBBY

**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 who are committed to bringing books and children together**

## **NEWSLETTER No 8**

### **February, 2011**

### **President's Letter**

Dear IBBY members and supporters,

Welcome to IBBY Australia's first newsletter for 2011. This promises to be an exciting year for our organisation, as we move into a new era of independence. But firstly, this summer has brought a seemingly endless chain of challenges: devastating floods in vast areas of Queensland and Victoria, extreme heat in some states, then the cyclone damage in the north and terrifying bushfires in Western Australia. Our hearts go out to those affected and to all those helping them face the gruelling work of cleaning up and beginning again. IBBY reminds us that the need for stories and books and libraries in rebuilding children's lives is a vital one, not an optional extra.

The AGM will be held in Strathfield, NSW, on 2nd April, at the close of an afternoon entitled **WINDOWS and MIRRORS: Books for Today and Tomorrow**. At the AGM members will be asked to approve the Constitution, and elections will be held for officers. All members will be sent a notice in March with details of the agenda, and a copy of the proposed Constitution will be posted on the IBBY Australia website for members' perusal. Please check with Jenni Woodroffe ([jennij@inet.net.au](mailto:jennij@inet.net.au)) that you are a financial member and eligible to vote. Note that proxy votes are available for interstate members and others who cannot be present on the day. We are calling for nominations for positions on the executive and committee on page 4.

International Children's Book Day commemorates the birthday of Hans Christian Andersen. On 2nd April as well as the event in NSW there will be a wonderful dinner in WA, and events in Tasmania and Queensland (see page 3). If you decide to hold a celebration, large or small, in your town, library, school or bookshop, please tell us about it.

The country sponsoring International Children's Book Day this year is Estonia. The beautiful posters are available now (see page 3). Order posters early so you can display them and publicise this important day.

The number of new members is increasing each week, and IBBY Australia now has 128 individual members and 8 institutional members. We know that our future survival and growth are dependent on the membership. Please respond to your notice of renewal when it arrives early in the year. And if each member were to enlist just one other, we would be well on the way to that dreamed-of independence.

My wish for you is that 2011 will be a year filled with the riches of reading. Help us in IBBY Australia to work towards the realisation of this wish for every child.

*Robin Morrow*

# WINDOWS & MIRRORS:

•BOOKS FOR TODAY AND TOMORROW•



## CELEBRATE INTERNATIONAL CHILDREN'S BOOK DAY WITH IBBY AUSTRALIA

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Saturday April 2nd 2011  
from 1:30 to 4:00pm

Santa Maria del Monte School  
59 The Boulevard Strathfield NSW



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Two eminent Australian authors will discuss their latest books:

**Jeannie Baker** - *Mirror*

**Nadia Wheatley** - *Playground*

- Afternoon tea will include a birthday cake for Hans Christian Andersen
  - The event will be followed by IBBY Australia's AGM  
Book at <http://ibbyaustralia2011.eventbrite.com>
  - \$25 IBBY member/concession      • \$30 non-member
- 



AUSTRALIA

INTERNATIONAL BOARD ON BOOKS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE **iBbY**

# 2011 INTERNATIONAL CHILDREN'S BOOK DAY EVENTS

## Western Australia

### ICBD DINNER

Saturday, 2<sup>nd</sup> April at 7.00 pm

**VILLA ROMA, 9-13 High St, Fremantle**

Come and join in the worldwide celebrations of Hans Christian Andersen's birthday with local IBBY Australia members, WA authors and illustrators including Frane Lessac, Mark Greenwood, Meg McKinlay and Amanda Betts.

Share your favourite quote or verse from a much-loved children's book and bring along the book. Raffles and Spot Prizes. Help us with this fundraiser to contribute to the levies that IBBY Australia pays to the IBBY Secretariat so we can nominate our talented Australian authors and illustrators for the biennial HC Andersen Award for a body of work and the IBBY Honour List for an outstanding title by author, illustrator or translator for a given few years.

Cost: \$55 (Cash only and drinks available from bar).

RSVP: Jenni Woodroffe on 9367 4759 or Email: [jennij@iinet.net.au](mailto:jennij@iinet.net.au) by Monday, 28<sup>th</sup> March.

## Tasmania

All authors and those interested in promoting children's literature are invited to join the Children's Book Council of Australia (Tasmanian Branch) as we celebrate Hans Christian Andersen's birthday/ ICBD. We particularly invite authors attending Home Truths, the Tasmanian Writers' centre's weekend literary festival, to join us. Venue tbc

for Hobart details contact Patsy Jones [patsycj@ozemail.com.au](mailto:patsycj@ozemail.com.au)

for Launceston details contact Nella Pickup [nellapickup@gmail.com](mailto:nellapickup@gmail.com)

## Queensland

The Storytelling Guild of Queensland will again be hosting a celebration for ICBD. Storytellers and lovers of children's books are invited to come along to a gathering on Saturday April 2<sup>nd</sup>. Venue to be confirmed.

Contact Bettina Nissen at [bettinanissen@bigpond.com](mailto:bettinanissen@bigpond.com)

There will also be a celebration in the small rural town of Mt Perry, about 100kms from Bundaberg. This will be hosted by the local school and the public library. Once again, details to be confirmed.

## International Children's Book Day



This thought provoking poster for International Children's Book Day 2011 comes from Estonia, with a beautiful design by Jüri Mildeberg (aka Jüri Mildebergius). The theme is 'The Book Remembers'.

IBBY Australia has A3 sized posters available for a cost of \$7 for members, \$8 for non-members, plus \$8 postage and handling fee. For bulk orders the charges are \$35 for 6 posters, and \$50 for 10 posters plus \$8 for postage and handling. Send cheque made out to IBBY Australia, or use direct deposit. Let us know if you require an invoice for your school or library.

Email your request to [robin.morrow@wordsandphrases.com.au](mailto:robin.morrow@wordsandphrases.com.au) and **be sure to include an address for posting.**

Send cheque to IBBY Australia, PO Box 329, Beecroft NSW 2119;

OR direct deposit **WITH YOUR NAME** and **Poster** to IBBY Australia, Westpac Bank BSB 035-002 account number 18 1992

# Call For Nominations

The annual general meeting of the members of IBBY Australia will be held on Saturday, 2 April 2011, at Santa Maria del Monte School, Strathfield, at approximately 4.15 pm. It will take place immediately after **WINDOWS and MIRRORS: Books for Today and Tomorrow**.

This annual general meeting is important because, firstly, we wish to take steps towards **incorporation** of the association and, secondly, we need to hold an **election** for membership of the association's management committee.

## Incorporation

We have been advised that, for legal reasons, IBBY Australia should become incorporated – i.e. as “IBBY Australia Inc”. In particular, incorporation gives the association its own separate legal identity and generally protects its members and its management committee from liabilities incurred in the name of the association. You are all probably aware that most non-profit organisations of any standing are incorporated. At the annual general meeting, we intend seeking the association's approval of the constitution which has been prepared for us and which we consider will serve us well.

## Election of Committee and Nomination of Candidates

The Committee consists of the President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer and up to four ordinary members, and the election at the annual general meeting will be for all of these positions.

We now call for the nomination of candidates for election to each of these positions. The nomination of a candidate should be made using the correct form, which can be requested from the Secretary, Jenni Woodroffe at [jennij@inet.net.au](mailto:jennij@inet.net.au), which when completed, should be sent to IBBY Australia at PO Box 329, Beecroft, NSW 2119 to arrive **not later than 4 March 2011**.

The following members of the existing committee are eligible for re-election and have expressed willingness to be re-elected to their current posts:

Dr Robin Morrow	President
Ms Jenni Woodroffe	Vice-President and Secretary

And the following members have expressed willingness to be elected as committee members: Joanna Andrew, Robyn Sheahan-Bright and John Foster.



Hostess Nadia Wheatley

## A Hot Ticket in Sydney - 5<sup>th</sup> February Fundraiser

More than seventy supporters of IBBY attended a get-together at Nadia Wheatley's place, despite the weather—5<sup>th</sup> February was the hottest day in Sydney for eighty years. Guests included teachers, librarians, teacher-librarians, authors, illustrators, and other people who work in the children's book world and in the area of peace and social justice. It was particularly pleasing that representatives of the Children's Book Council of Australia attended, as well as many of its members.

Generous authors and illustrators had donated more than thirty books for the raffle; there were many happy winners and the raffle raised \$473. A team of tireless helpers worked on registrations, drinks (iced water was popular!) and the delicious food. We were thrilled with the results for IBBY's coffers from takings at the door and donations, and especially that nearly twenty people filled in membership forms as a result of the evening.

Robin Morrow acknowledged the presence of a number of IBBY Honour Book awardees. She also outlined IBBY Australia's aims and aspirations for the future.

[Cont on Page 8]



Allan Baillie with Robin Morrow

## Children in Crisis Fund – Pakistan Appeal



Australia has responded to this appeal in different ways. At the NT CBCA AGM in November, our Northern Territory colleagues voted to send enough money for a Library Pack to assist the work of Alif Laila in Pakistan. At the Christmas gathering of President, Robin Morrow's Book Club, members had a whip around and contributed \$US 210.00 for another pack. The "Books Build Bridges" Kit includes - 150 Story Books; 5 Craft Kits; 5 Marionettes; 5 Bubble Making Kits; 1 Interactive Storyboard; 5 Mini Blackboards with Colored Chalk; 5 Whiteboards with Markers; 30 "Read" Caps; 5 IBBY Promotion posters and a wall pocket library. Replenishable materials cater to a group of 30 children, but the books can be used by the entire school. Each kit costs Rs.20,000 (US\$ 210). In her response to a recent donation forwarded by the IBBY Secretariat, Basarat Kazim wrote:

*The good things first. 85 libraries were put together with the U.S.\$17000 that we received from IBBY. Of those 60 ( 20 each) have been sent out to organizations in the Punjab, Sindh and Khyber Pukhtunkhwa. 9 will be sent to Gilgit Baltistan and 16 to Baluchistan later this week. Schools are closed for the winter break and will reopen next week. The organizations we are working with will be sending in photographs, lots of them, and children's responses as well to the books and other materials that they will now find in their schools. Yesterday's incident in Islamabad with the Punjab Governor being assassinated by a religious bigot reinforces my opinion that we need to devote our energies towards opening hearts and minds and getting rid of narrow mindedness, which means books, books and more books. Thank you for making it possible for Alif Laila to do this for a few thousand children in Pakistan.*

## Congratulations To Patsy Aldana

Patsy Aldana, recently retired from her 4 year term of office as President of the International Board on Books for Young People, was appointed a member of the Order of Canada for a lifetime of outstanding achievement, dedication to the community and service to the nation. The announcement was on 30<sup>th</sup> December, 2010, and Patsy was also named as the 2011 recipient of the Ontario Library Association's Les Fowlie Intellectual Freedom Award. This excerpt from the Jan 3, 2011 edition of the *Globe and Mail* outlines Patsy's beliefs in the importance of reading: *Adults sometimes forget what reading means to children... Reading is a window into oneself and others. Reading is a bulwark of democracy. And we don't do enough to nurture our children's love of reading. Each child should have access to books that are right for him or her... [Reading] talks to you about who you are, or it tells you something about who the other is... and it's essential to becoming a free person in a democratic society. If you become a reader, you have a chance to become a critical thinker, to be a person who has some power over your life.*

[See [www.papertigers.org/wordpress](http://www.papertigers.org/wordpress) for more information]

## 2011 Outstanding Books For Young People With Disabilities

A number of titles were submitted by the Australian Section and Heidi Cortner Boisen of the IBBY Documentation Centre of Books for Disabled Young People has confirmed that four Australian titles were chosen. They are *I've Got a Feeling* by Stephanie Owen Reeder, pub National Library of Australia; *White Crane* (book I of Samurai Kids series) by Sandy Fussell, illus Rhian Nest James, pub Walker Books Australia; *My Silent World* by Nette Hilton and Vincent Agostino, pub Lothian, Hachette Australia and *The Glasshouse* by Paul Collins, illus Jo Thompson, pub Ford Street Publishing.

## USBBY 2011 List of Outstanding Books

Congratulations to the following Australian authors whose titles have been included in the USBBY 2011 Outstanding International Books, which features titles first published in countries other than the US: Bob Graham - *April and Esme, Tooth Fairies*; Odo Hirsch - *Darius Bell and the Glitter Pool*; Morris Gleitzman - *Once*; Glenda Millard - *A Small Free Kiss in the Dark*; Ruth Starke - *Noodle Pie*; Lucy Christopher - *Stolen*; Martine Murray - *How to Make a Bird*. See [http://www.usbby.org/outstanding\\_international\\_books\\_list.htm](http://www.usbby.org/outstanding_international_books_list.htm)

## 33rd IBBY World Congress 2012 London, UK

Please note there is a change of date from our last newsletter. The Congress will now be held from the 23<sup>rd</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup> August, 2012. Do check out the congress website at [www.ibbycongress2012.org](http://www.ibbycongress2012.org) and download the flyer with its wonderful illustration by Anthony Browne. The theme is *Crossing Boundaries: Translations and Migrations*. The Congress will be held at the Imperial College London in South Kensington, the cultural heartland of London. The Royal Albert Hall, the Natural History Museum, the Victoria and Albert Museum and Hyde Park are just a short walk away from the Congress venue. We look forward to seeing you there.

Further attractions include London 2012 Arts Festival, the finale of the cultural Olympiad in the UK- from midsummer to September when the para-olympics start. <http://www.london2012.com/index.php>  
[http://www.mla.gov.uk/what/programmes/setting\\_pace/stories%20of%20the%20world/Stories\\_of\\_the\\_World](http://www.mla.gov.uk/what/programmes/setting_pace/stories%20of%20the%20world/Stories_of_the_World)  
<http://www.creativescotland.com/news/first-commissions-announced-for-london-2012-festival>

### IBBY Secretariat

We wish Forest Zhang Godspeed as he departs from the IBBY Secretariat in Basel, Switzerland to begin a new chapter in his life. We warmly welcome Luzmaria Stauffenegger, the new IBBY Administrative Assistant, as she takes up her position. Luzmaria can be contacted at [luzmaria.stauffenegger@ibby.org](mailto:luzmaria.stauffenegger@ibby.org)

### IBBY in Cambodia

Our apologies to all concerned that we were premature in our last newsletter, as a new Section for Cambodia has still to go through the necessary procedures and has yet to be ratified. We offer our support and encouragement to Susanna Coghlan and her colleagues as they seek to promote children's literature in Cambodia.

### Travelling Australians

As many of our readers are great travellers, you may wish to check out [www.ibby.org](http://www.ibby.org) for the European newsletter, which gives details of upcoming events in Europe, which you may wish to include in your itinerary. If the US is your destination you may wish to attend the **9<sup>th</sup> USBBY Regional Congress from 21-23<sup>rd</sup> October** at the Arne Nixon Center for the Study of Children's Literature, Fresno, California, USA. See [www.usbby.org](http://www.usbby.org) for registration details and latest congress updates.

## Notes From One Australian Traveller

In November 2010 I was lucky enough to spend a month travelling in Europe and the US visiting some of the 'sacred' sites of children's literature. My trip began in St. Gallen, a medieval town in Switzerland, which is home to an extraordinary library (Digital Abbey Library can be found @ <http://www.cesg.unifr.ch/en/>). The University of St. Gallen hosted The 8<sup>th</sup> International Conference on the Book, an amazing inter-disciplinary conference that brings together people to talk about the past, present and the future of the book. The Australian contingent numbered a dozenish, and our table during breaks was always one of the most raucous as we swapped ideas! The next conference will be held at the University of Toronto (details: <http://booksandpublishing.com/conference-2011/>).

I presented a paper on Robert Ingpen's illustrations for and design of *Halloween Circus* (2002) by Cherise Neugebauer, specifically the innovative endpapers (the Ingpen unfold) which become a backdrop against which the book plays out.

In the UK I visited Seven Stories, first national repository of material to do with children's and YA literature and illustration in the UK. Paula Wride very kindly showed me the original artwork/manuscripts for a number of titles including Bob Graham's *Jethro Bryde*, *Fairy Child* and Jan Ormerod's *Sunshine*. The most moving was to read the long hand version of Michael Rosen's *The Sad Book*, and the most exciting was a toss-up between holding a box of Enid Blyton's rusty pins which she used to edit her work and a box of Edward Ardizzone's sticky tape, so lovingly scraped off by Peter, their dedicated conservator of works. If you're in the UK it is well worth the trip to Newcastle Upon Tyne to experience this interactive centre, or just browse their fabulous website ([www.sevenstories.org.uk/](http://www.sevenstories.org.uk/)).

It was fitting that my last stop was the Eric Carle Museum of Picture Book Art, in Amherst Massachusetts, USA. ([www.carlemuseum.org/](http://www.carlemuseum.org/)). Nick Clarke, the founding Director, took me into the archives where I was able to pore over the original working and finished artwork for *Halloween Circus* artwork gifted by Robert Ingpen to celebrate the opening of the museum in 2002. There is much work to be done analyzing and researching this artwork and I hope one day in the not too distant future to be able to return and do just that.

*Sarah Mayor Cox*

Chairperson

2010 IBBY Honour List Australian nominations

## International Conference on Book Therapy

9 February – 11 February 2012  
New Delhi, India

The Indian Section of International Board on Books for Young People (Ind BBY), the Association of Writers and Illustrators for Children (AWIC) is holding a three-day International Conference on Book Therapy. For further details contact: Email: info@awic.in Website: www.awic.in

### Vale Ruth Park

We mourn the passing of Ruth Park in December 2010. Rosina Ruth Lucia Park was born in Auckland, the daughter of a Scottish father and a Swedish mother. Ruth's childhood was affected by the poverty and disruption of the Depression. She entered the world of journalism and travelled to Sydney where she met and married her penfriend D'Arcy Niland. The Nilands together journeyed through rural NSW on the shearing circuit and then moved into Surry Hills where the tough lives of those around them provided material for *The Harp in the South*, Ruth's novel which was the winner of the *Sydney Morning Herald's* literary competition in 1946. The success of this book turned the Nilands' careers around but also caused controversy, as it frankly portrayed the conditions of slum life. D'Arcy died in 1967 aged 49. Ruth's writing career was to span a long lifetime and include *Poor Man's Orange*, sequel to *The Harp*, and two volumes of autobiography.

Ruth Park's contribution to children's literature was established with a much-loved radio serial for the ABC about the Muddle-headed Wombat and his friends, which lasted for 3139 sessions as part of the Children's Session from 1951 to 1972. A number of his adventures were published in book form with imaginative illustrations by Noela Young. *The Hole in the Hill* was commended by the CBC in 1962, *Callie's Castle* was highly commended in 1975 and *Come Danger, Come Darkness* was commended in 1979. But it was the publication of *Playing Beatie Bow* in 1980 which made the greatest impact in the world of children's books. This gripping timeslip novel, in which Abigail moves

from her own time into a poor tenement area of late nineteenth-century Sydney, had both critical and popular success, and was later made into a film. It was CBC Book of the Year in 1981, and an IBBY Honour Book in 1982.

Ruth's twin daughters, Deborah and Kilmeny, are both known for their illustration of children's books, and Kilmeny predeceased her mother last year.

Among her many awards, Ruth Park was the recipient of the Lloyd O'Neil Magpie Award for services to the Australian book industry.

A personal footnote: In July, 1981 Ruth Park agreed to a signing session in The Children's Bookshop, Beecroft of *Playing Beatie Bow*. It was rare for her to make public appearances and a big crowd turned up. Unfortunately a dock strike stopped copies of the book (a Nelson hardback) from arriving in time. Those in the queue waited patiently for an opportunity to talk with Ruth, and went away carrying only a receipt for the cost of a copy of the book (\$10.95 each). A week or so later, when the stock arrived, Ruth Park was hurried into the back room of the shop where she signed copies for all those who had met her on the official visiting day.

*Robin Morrow*

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### Farewell to UK & US Authors

On the 4<sup>th</sup> January, 2011 Dick King-Smith, author of over 100 titles of books for children, passed away in his sleep at his home, near Bath, England. He was a much-loved author, whose books-which sold about 15 million copies world wide-were usually about the animals he loved. First published in his fifties, *The Sheep-Pig* later transformed into the film *Babe* which catapulted him to fame. He was awarded the OBE in the 2010 New Year Honours list.

US author, Eleanor Coerr passed away on the 22<sup>nd</sup> November, 2010. Her classic work, *Sadako and the Thousand Paper Cranes*, published in 1977, is the story of Sadako, a promising athlete, who succumbs to the dreaded "atomic sickness", and inspired by an old Japanese legend, begins folding a thousand paper cranes as she faces the challenges of her terminal illness.

## IBBY Ecuador

We have received an invitation from Maraton del Cuento for an Australian author or illustrator to be included in their 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Storytelling Marathon from 16-22<sup>nd</sup> May, 2011 in Quito, Ecuador. It will be conducted in Spanish. Please contact either Robin or Jenni if you would like to participate in this event. Please check it out at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QlgFmrEtS8YMay> or click on to Worldwide, then Ecuador on the [www.ibby.org](http://www.ibby.org) site

### A hot ticket in Sydney cont.

The host, Nadia, writes: 'I was overwhelmed by the effort that people made, just to get here, and by the good humour and conviviality shown in the really trying circumstances. However, lovely though it is to get together for fundraising events such as Saturday night's party, IBBY Australia is trying hard to boost membership so that it can apply for sustainable long-term financial support, rather than relying on ad hoc events.'



Relaxing in the garden and catching up with friends – old and new.

### WANTED – 172 Members for IBBY AUSTRALIA

We look forward to welcoming 172 more individual Members for IBBY Australia and another 17 institutional Members. Please join us and help us become an independent and incorporated body to assist in showcasing Australian authors and illustrators for young people on the world stage.

RSVP to Dr Robin Morrow, PO Box 329, Beecroft, NSW 2119 or Email [Robin.Morrow@wordsandphrases.com.au](mailto:Robin.Morrow@wordsandphrases.com.au)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Tel: (w) \_\_\_\_\_ (h) \_\_\_\_\_ Mob: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Cost: Individual \$25.00 Institution \$100.00

#### Payment

Please make cheques payable to IBBY Australia

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Westpac Bank

Account Name IBBY Australia

BSB 035-002 Account Number: 18 1992

**Please ensure your name is visible in the description box on your payment.**

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