

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 20

February, 2014 President's Letter

Dear members and supporters of IBBY Australia

2014 promises to be an active and exciting one for IBBY Australia.

International Children's Book Day will be celebrated in at least three places this April. See later items for details of events in Gladstone, Queensland and in Perth. Then in Strathfield, NSW *An Afternoon with Robert Ingpen* will provide a unique chance to meet and hear Australia's only living recipient of a Hans Christian Andersen Award. In 1986 a large contingent of Australians travelled to Tokyo to witness the presentation of HCA awards to Patricia Wrightson and Robert Ingpen. The Strathfield event on April 5th will serve as a reunion for those who attended the Tokyo Congress, so spread the word about it, especially if you know someone who was in that party. Everybody is welcome to attend, and hear from this illustrator of international acclaim, whose more than 100 books include those he wrote himself, as well as a much loved edition of *Storm Boy* and classics such as *The Wind in the Willows*.

Last year we applied for some grant money from Copyright Australia, with the project title 'Showcasing Australian youth literature in a global market,' and I am delighted to report the success of this application. Much of the CA grant will help defray the expenses of preparing nominations for the Hans Christian Andersen Awards and IBBY Honour Books. Award fees, printing of dossiers and postage charges for book parcels to judges, are expensive, and the CA contribution is most welcome. Of course the mainstay of IBBY Australia remains the time and energy generously donated by volunteers, such as the many hours of professional work by Dr Robyn Sheahan-Bright in compiling the HCA dossiers. Every person who renews membership, or attends an International Children's Book Day event, makes a valuable contribution to IBBY. Look out for the 6th IBBY Asia-Oceania newsletter at www.ibby.org and IBBY panel session at the 2013 Frankfurt Book Fair is online at http://youtu.be/P13atQJALXQ

Finally I want to mention my Australia Day award of AM, Membership in the general division of the Order of Australia. I accept this honour in gratitude, happy for recognition of the importance of children's literature. I have been involved in bookselling, editing and teaching, and in voluntary projects with books, libraries and readers—so of course I know the value of teamwork! A heartfelt thank you to all the colleagues and friends, with whom I have shared and continue to share the challenges and joys of this work. Especially I want to acknowledge the tireless efforts and encouragement of Jenni Woodroffe and other members of the IBBY national committee; our predecessors as National Presidents and members of IBBY Australia; and the support of all those who work towards IBBY goals.

With very best wishes

Robin Morrow AM

Raise your glasses!



It is with great pride and pleasure IBBY Australia Inc toasts our National President, Dr Robin Morrow, on the announcement by the Office of the Official Secretary to the Governor-General on the 26th January, 2014 of her appointment as Member (AM) in the General Division of the Order of Australia for significant service to children's literature, and through leadership roles with a range of professional associations.

Owner/Manager, The Children's Bookshop, Beecroft, 1971-1996, the first specialist children's bookshop in New South Wales. The shop became a well-known gathering place for readers, authors and illustrators from around Australia and overseas for talks on literary matters to promote literacy and reading.

Speaker at schools, colleges, universities and book groups in the 1970s and 1980s. Visiting lecturer in Children's Literature, University of Technology Sydney, Macquarie University and the Australian Catholic University. Currently Online lecturer, course on Australian children's literature for postgraduate students, Simmons College, Boston, USA. Continues with speaking engagements, articles and presentations in Australia and internationally to share Australian children's literature.

President, Australian Section, International Board on Books for Young People (IBBY), since 2009, and/or represented Australia and delivered papers at six IBBY biennial world congresses. Awarded a three-month scholarship to the International Youth Library in Munich in 2006. Judging Panel roles have included Hans Christian Andersen Award nominees for Australia; the IBBY Honour List nominees for Australia; the Ena Noël Award for the Australian Section of IBBY; NSW Judge for the Children's Book Council of Australia 2001 and 2002, NSW Premier's Literary Awards and the Dorothea Mackellar National Poetry Competition.

Awards include the Lady Cutler Award for Distinguished Service to Children's Literature in NSW, Children's Book Council of Australia, 2004; John Hirst Award for outstanding service to teacher librarianship and school libraries in NSW, ASLA. 1998; and the Pixie O'Harris Award for Dedicated and Distinguished Service to the Development and Reputation of Australian Children's Literature, APA, 1996.

INTERNATIONAL CHILDREN'S BOOK DAY - NSW

An Afternoon with ROBERT INGPEN



IBBY Australia invites you to celebrate International Children's Book Day with world-renowned illustrator Robert Ingpen. Robert is the only living Australian to have won the Hans Christian Andersen Award, the highest accolade in the world of children's literature. This is a rare opportunity to hear Robert speak about the many books he has created, and the experience of winning the HCA.

When: Saturday, 5th April 2014 from 2 pm

Where: Santa Maria del Monte School 59 The Boulevarde (cnr Carrington St), Strathfield NSW

Books for sale and signing

Gourmet afternoon tea

\$30 IBBY member/concession \$35 non-member

Book through Eventbrite at https://www.eventbrite.com/event/9025530605









Book your tickets here: https://www.eventbrite.com/event/9025530605







IBBY AUSTRALIA INC & CURTIS COAST LITERARY CARNIVALE COMMITTEE

CELEBRATES INTERNATIONAL CHILDREN'S BOOK DAY WITH TWO SPECIAL EVENTS IN GLADSTONE

On Wednesday 2 April 2014 from 5.00pm – 7.00pm: Robyn Sheahan-Bright will deliver an illustrated address and speak about IBBY and the work she's done since 2010, as a member of the IBBY Australia Committee in writing, compiling and sending the dossiers to international judges, to accompany the nominations of an Australian writer and illustrator for the Hans Christian Andersen Awards. As a special highlight, acclaimed storyteller, Bettina Nissen will also tell a Hans Christian Andersen story, and speak about storytelling, and how the oral tradition has enriched our literature. This is a professional development opportunity for teachers and librarians, for interested parents, and for anyone interested in children's literature. Attendance: \$15 per person, including wine and cheese. Lucky door prizes will be drawn and proceeds will be donated to IBBY Australia Inc and the CCLC. Venue: Gladstone City Library.



Dr Robyn Sheahan-Bright operates justified text writing and publishing consultancy services. She is a member of the IBBY Australia Inc Committee and chairs the Sub-Committee which organises the Australian nominations for the HCA Awards. She is also a member of the Board of the Australian Children's Literature Alliance which administers the Australian Children's Laureate program, and she is President of the CCLC.

Bettina Nissen is GRC Youth Services Librarian. She has worked in public libraries across Queensland and

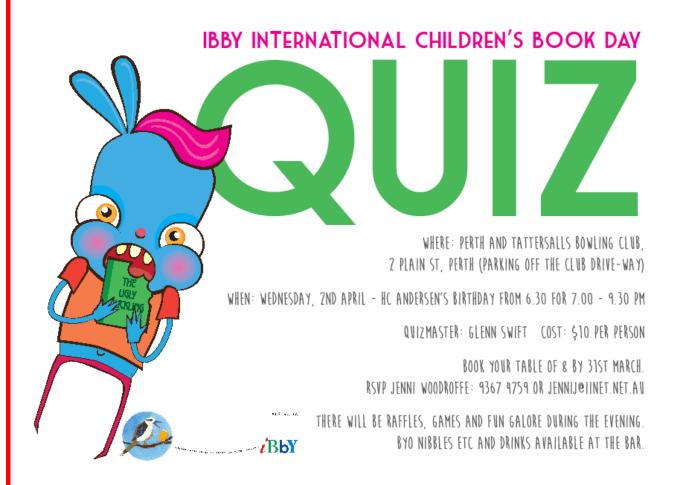
Victoria. She is an experienced storyteller and has performed in schools, libraries, museums and festivals around Australia and overseas. Bettina is a founding member of the Storytelling Guild of

Australia (Queensland) and continues to sit on conference committees and contribute the development of storytelling as an art form internationally. She is a member of IBBY Australia Inc, and the CCLC committee.

On **Saturday 5 April 2014** at **11am Bettina Nissen** will hold a special HCA session of the regular monthly Story Saturday – a storytelling session for children. **Attendance:** Free. **Venue:** Gladstone City Library. **Contact for Bookings:** Bettina Nissen, Youth Services Librarian, GRC, Ph 07 4976 6407 email BettinaN@gladstonerc.qld.gov.au



to





MEMORIES OF HCA AWARDS AT 1986 TOKYO CONGRESS



Ruth Jones of Alice Springs, NT recalls:

It was just ten years since I had started teaching and I took long service leave to attend this wonderful conference in Japan.

The greatest highlight was meeting Robert Ingpen and Patricia Wrightson. How special to be there when not one, but both the Hans Christian Anderson Medals were presented to Australians! It was a truly rousing moment when their names were announced! A time when I felt truly proud to be Australian.

The Australian contingent was thrilled to be invited to the Australian Embassy for a cocktail party in honour of our medallists. I wasn't really sure what to wear to the embassy but as Julie Vivas and I lined up in our cotton frocks, I felt in exalted company! The ambassador was Mr Jones, and he and I had a giggle about our names, putting me right at ease again.

The Japanese were so open and friendly and I made many friends during the week of the conference. This was a most worthwhile and memorable event.

Maurice Saxby, NSW also recalls:

Perhaps my most vivid memory of the Tokyo conference is the bus ride back to the hotel after the presentation of the awards, with Robert walking the aisle, showing off his medal. Then at the hotel a gathering in Ena's room, I think it was, Maurice & Norma celebrating along with Robert & Angela Ingpen, Patricia Wrightson and one of the other judges, Jo Tenfjord from Norway. Somewhere I have photos to prove it; but I can't find them and my record of the day is in note form only

Bob and I often have recalled the first morning in Tokyo when Bob and I discovered a small eatery that served a 'breakfast set': 'Fruit & Tea' for 450 yen — ie \$4.50 at that time. Every morning from then on, the Ingpens and Saxbys enjoyed the juicy grapefruit 'starter' followed by salad & egg roll and later the tea — and that was a great beginning to the busy day ahead.

Julie Vivas, NSW – 1986 Honour List for illustration, remembers:

To be in Japan in 1986 for the Ibby Congress, amongst fellow travellers who were aficionados of children's



literature was exciting and an honour. Kind librarians, teachers and writers helped me find my way with the first and only international event for me, where *Possum Magic* was being awarded an honour.

Illustrator Robert Ingpen, whose illustration I was in awe over and author Patricia Wrightson were each receiving the Hans Christian Andersen IBBY award. Patricia Wrightson's two stories *I Own the Race Course* and *The Nargun and the Stars* I had read with my daughters and loved them . These two people, Robert and Patricia, were so exceptional I feel sorry I can't recall something of what was said in their acceptance speeches .

Being in Japan, where there was evidence at each turn for the reverence for nature in everyday utilitarian objects, and in their architecture, clothing and gardens. The much softer light than I was accustomed to made many experiences visually exotic and the more beautiful for me.

I recall the drama of walking across a bridge in Kyoto and there was a very scary people crush, as people panicked towards the end of the bridge, until we could peel off the sides to banks on the shore.

It was early evening on a public holiday for ancestor worship period; on each surrounding hill, due North, South, East and West fires were lit.

IBBY does so much in the world enabling children to access books and I admire those working actively for it to happen and would support them .

Robyn Sheahan-Bright, Queensland, continues:

In 1986, I attended the 20th IBBY Congress (Theme: 'Why Do You Write For Children? Children, Why Do You Read?') which was my second such international conference. The first had been the Loughborough Children's Literature Conference in Stirling, Scotland, when I was a young traveller in Europe in 1979.

I was then a youngish librarian, who'd been appointed in 1981 to establish the first children's librarian's position at Toowoomba City Library, after returning from 18 months on a working holiday in Europe to Brisbane. I'd no idea that Australia was going to play such a prominent role when I registered. And despite having spent that time in Europe, I hadn't been to Asia, and the trip to Japan seemed a very exciting prospect.

But I was most enticed to attend, I realise now, because I had previously attended the regional Australian IBBY conference at the University of Sydney a few years earlier, where Ena Noël officiated as inaugural Australian President, and where writer, publisher and academic Aidan Chambers gave an address which changed my thinking about children's literature and really influenced everything I wrote after that time. He spoke (and wrote) then about text being changed by nascent media in a manner which was extraordinarily prescient. Remember his novel *Breaktime* (1978) which included graphics and comic devices? How did he know then, that media would have such an impact on text? He was a true visionary.

We set off on a three week trip, but I have no recollection at all of the flight to Japan, with my friend, library colleague, and later publishing colleague, Robyn Collins, except that we were very conscious of the looming Japanese dollar crisis, and that hence a fellow traveller had brought food to cook in her room! I was a little star-struck by the whole event. I remember Julie Vivas being there, along with a horde of about 80 Australians, including Robin Morrow, Albert Ullin, Nance Donkin, Juliana Bayfield, and Maurice Saxby. And when Robert Ingpen and Patricia Wrightson won both HCA awards it was such an amazing and exciting moment. And with so many delegates from Australia, it was a big party of celebrants! Nevertheless, I probably didn't fully realise the significance of it, until more recently, having been involved in the dossier preparation for our nominations, and having observed the number of outstanding nominees for these significant awards, from so many countries.

The cultural events attached to the Congress were memorable. We attended an opening reception at the Children's Castle and another reception at the Australia Embassy to honour Ingpen and Wrightson; the congress opening included a feast of Japanese food, where we were presented with a wooden saki bowl, which I still own. We attended a Noh Theatre production, a Japanese tea ceremony, an Ikebana demonstration, visited a 'Bunko' (a community based-library) and a Japanese bookshop; I still have the Japanese counting book which I purchased there. (Now that I have also attended the Santiago Congress in 2010, I know that IBBY Congresses traditionally include such fabulous cultural events.)

As for speakers, I particularly remember Mitsumaso Anno, Michael Ende and Phillipa Pearce, and was introduced to others with whom I was not previously familiar. Topics covered at IBBY conferences are a curious mixture of literary studies and social advocacy, so every session presented a new subject. I don't recall there being so many breakout sessions in Tokyo as there were in Santiago. Perhaps conference numbers have grown since 1986, necessitating more alternative sessions? And, if you'd told me in '86 that I would later deliver papers at subsequent IBBY Congresses, I would have been shocked. It all seemed quite remote to me then, and very 'grand'.

It was a fabulous three weeks, the memories of which I treasure. It was the last time (in that pre-digital



Bi Bingbin (China) Christina Priest (WA) & Robyn

age) that I ever made up a photo album of any trip, and this one includes tickets, nametags and every piece of ephemera I collected along the way, like the true librarian I was at the time! Here are some photographic memories of the welcoming reception:



Robyn, Pamela Royds (Andre Deutsch) & Robyn Collins

Joy Whitaker, NSW remembers her time in Tokyo:

Staying in a Ryokan. Futon on the floor, tatami matting, table low to the floor and cushions for seating. Sliding timber framed paper doors. Leaving my shoes in a box near the front door and wearing slippers and a yukuta when inside.

Shops that just sold teapots.

Streets lined with dazzling, blinking fluorescent signs selling only electrical goods. Then turning a corner to find myself in a quiet lane where a neighbourhood festival was in full swing, traditional dress, drums, paper lanterns, people gently smiling and bowing their greeting to me. I felt as if I was in a time slip.

At the conference - the graciousness of the hosts.

Attending a traditional tea ceremony.

Watching a demonstration of kamishibai theatres (and buying one). Still in my garage.

Attending a performance at the National Noh Theatre. I think I almost stumbled out, dazzled by the light and sound

Being overwhelmed by the true international flavour of IBBY.

Hearing of efforts to take books to children everywhere. The image of a young boy in Thailand resting on the back of a water buffalo whilst reading a book is one that is still very clearly with me. The book had been chosen from one of the inspired Portable Libraries ... A folding wooden bookcase holding a selection of books taken to rural and remote areas of Thailand.

Seeing and listening to a wide range of speakers: authors and illustrators who had only ever been names

on title pages... Mitsumaso Anno, Philippa Pearce, Michael Ende, Shigeo Watanabe and of course Patricia Wrightson and Robert Ingpen.

And, of course, the excitement of the awards ceremony for Patricia and Robert.

And now for a cup of tea from the little teapot I bought in Tokyo, still in daily use and a wonderful reminder of The 20th IBBY Congress.



Jenni Woodroffe, WA also remembers:

Sitting behind Angela Ingpen as Robert left the stage and came down into the auditorium to be with his wife as he proudly showed her his golden medal. A special moment in time. Later in the Congress, with all the Australian delegates in the coach, Robert generously walked down the aisle to share with us his prize.

Another highlight was Patricia Wrightson's presentation, *Why Do We Do It?* She was proudly introduced by her friend and colleague, Maurice Saxby, and I was privileged to be given permission by Patricia to read an excerpt from her talk at the 2002 6th National CBCA Conference, *Write, Right, Rite at the Edge* in Perth.

Australian delegates were delighted to see Julie Vivas go forward to receive her Honour Certificate and my newly made Canadian friend, illustrator Ian Wallace, was similarly honoured. Below are some of my



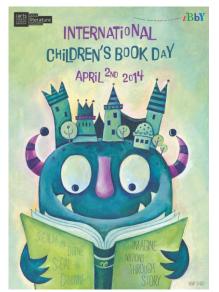
treasures, including the invitation to the Australian Embassy, the wooden Saki bowl signed by Norma and Maurice Saxby, the Congress Proceedings, bookmarks, catalogues of Japanese illustrators past and present, and a lovely

carved owl, not forgetting glorious picture books, including some by keynote presenter Mitsumaso Anno.



INTERNATIONAL CHILDREN'S BOOK DAY

2ND APRIL, 2014



This year iBbY Ireland are the sponsors for International Children's Book Day (ICBD) for 2014. ICBD is observed annually on the 2nd April, the anniversary of the birth of Hans Christian Andersen, and is celebrated all over the world. They have chosen the motto *Imagine Nations Through Stories* and wish to encourage children, parents, teachers, librarians, writers, publishers and policy –makers across the world to get involved in making 2nd April, 2014 the best International Children's Book Day ever!

The poster was designed by Ireland's current Laureate na nÓg Niamh Sharkey, honouring the idea that stories play an important role in how children understand the world and those around them. Award- winning author and former Laureate na nÓg Siobhan Parkinson has written a message to the children of the world, expounding on the importance of imagination in the creative life of the writer and reader, and how children play an important role in bringing stories to life. If you would like a digital version of the poster or message, please email secretary@ibbyireland.ie and they will be happy to

send you a high quality PDF to use in your promotion of ICBD. Grainne Clear, President of iBbY Ireland, writes "If you have ideas or suggestions, or would like to work on a joint project to celebrate the day, please contact us through our email, tweet us @iBbYIreland, or get in touch through our Facebook page:www.facebook.com/ibbyireland."



Come and join Robin Morrow and Robyn Sheahan-Bright

as they journey to Mexico City to present their papers at concurrent sessions at the 34th IBBY International Conference. Among the keynote speakers with whom you may be familiar are past Hans Christian Andersen Award Winners: 2010 UK's writer David Almond (*Skellig, Kit's Wilderness, The Fire-Eaters* and *Clay*); in 2008 Italy's illustrator Roberto Innocenti (*Cinderella, The Adventures of Pinocchio, A Christmas Carol* and *Rose Blanche*); in 2012 Argentina's writer Maria Teresa Andruetto, whose work is well known in Spanish speaking countries. For further information and registration and programme details please check out www.ibbycongress2014.org

New Australian Children's Laureate For 2014-15

It was with great excitement that the children's literature network in Australia learnt that the 2008 Australian nominee for the Hans Christian Andersen Award for writing, Jackie French, had been appointed as the new Children's Laureate for Australia. The announcement was made at the National Library of Australia on the 27th November by Rhys Muldoon. Jackie succeeds the inaugural laureate, which was shared by Alison Lester and Boori Monty Pryor.



The Three Laureates: Alison Lester, Jackie French and Boori Monty Prior. Photo courtesy of ACLA.

The theme for her two- year term will be Share A Story. Jackie said "There are a million ways to share a story. To read to a child on your lap; to have a child read to you while you cook dinner; to read to the dog when it has to go to the vet to calm it (or you!) down; to join a storytelling session at your library. You can also tell your grandchildren what life was like when you were young over the phone or Skype or read to thousands of people via video conferencing...Stories tell

us who we are. They teach us empathy so we understand who others are. They give us the power to imagine and create the future". See www.childrenslaureate.org.au for further activities and information.

Children's Picture Book Illustrators' Initiative 2014

The Australian Society of Authors is delighted to announce that it will once again administer the Children's Picture Book Illustrators' Initiative, on behalf of the Australia Council for the Arts. Now in its third year, the initiative provides grants of up to \$15,000 to support the development of picture books, comics and graphic novels. The program has been a great success, with many previous recipients securing publication with major publishing houses in Australia. These outcomes, along with the consistent high quality of applications, have reinforced the need for a grant program specifically for book illustrators. The continuation of the initiative provides illustrators with the opportunity to be assessed by experts who understand the specialised work processes used to develop a visual narrative.

This year, grants are available for emerging, developing and established illustrators with at least two picture books published. Applicants must have a specific work-in-progress they'd like to advance through the program, and are limited to one application only. Applications open **3 February 2014** and close **3 March 2014**, with results announced in April. Illustrators wishing to apply should refer to the Submissions Guidelines and Frequently Asked Questions available at: https://asauthors.org/childrens-picture-book-illustrators-initiative. Queries should be directed to Lucie Stevens on 02 9211 1004 or at https://asauthors.org/childrens-picture-book-illustrators-initiative-winners-2013.

IBBY Documentation Centre For Young People With Disabilities

The complete collection of the IBBY Documentation Centre for Young People with Disabilities has moved to Toronto, Canada. The IBBY Documentation Centre features a large international collection of books for and about young people with disabilities. The books are selected by the IBBY National Sections, as well as by independent experts and publishers. Collection highlights include:

- books in over 40 languages
- special formats such as Blissymbolics, PCS, Braille, sign language, tactile and textile books
- fiction books from the regular production that portray children and teens with disabilities as characters in stories and novels
- books for adults with developmental delays, language disabilities or reading difficulties The Documentation Centre offers:
- a variety of books for hands-on experiences in the library
- research opportunities in the development and evolution of children's and teen's literature in this specialized field
- inspiring examples of book design and construction in unique formats
- ideas and booklists for teachers, parents, caregivers and librarians outstanding books in the field for authors and illustrators to study

Visit the collection at North York Central Library, or visit online **www.torontopubliclibrary.ca/ibby/**.

Forthcoming Conferences

16-18th May, 2014 CBCA National Conference, Rex Hotel, 250 Northbourne Ave, Braddon, ACT 2612 Theme: *Discovering National Treasures*. See http://www.cbcaconference.org.au/ for further details.

30th May – 4th June, 2014 Asian Festival of Children's Content, Singapore. See www.afcc.com.sg for further details.

6-8th **June, 2014** Sydney International Storytelling Conference. See www.storytellersnsw.org.au for further details.

9th June, 2014. *The Fairy Tale in Australia.* Paddington Uniting Church, 395 Oxford St, Paddington, NSW. See http://www.faeriebard.com/conference-form/ for further details.

27th – 30th July, 2014. Curtis Coast Literary Carnivale, Gladstone, Queensland. See http://carnivale.gladstonerc.qld.gov.au for further details.

23rd August, 2014 Satellite Meeting of the IFLA Conference, Bibliothèque nationale de France, Paris, France. Theme: 15 to 20 year olds reading across the world: Why? Where? How?

10-13th **September, 2014** 34th IBBY International Congress, Mexico City, Mexico. *Reading as an Inclusive Experience.* See http://www.ibbycongress2014.org/ for further information.

31st October-1st November, 2014 Celebrate Reading National Conference, The Literature Centre, Old Prison Hospital, cnr Knutsford St and Hampton Rd, Fremantle. See www.thelitcentre.org.au for further information.

2015 IBBY Asian-Oceania Congress in Kuala Lumpur.

25-28th August, 2016 35th IBBY Congress, Auckland, New Zealand.

2018 36th IBBY Congress, Istanbul, Turkey.

IBBY AUSTRALIA (INC)

Limited Edition prints by 2008 HC Andersen Australian Illustrator Nominee

SHAUN TAN



The perfect gift to celebrate a special occasion and support IBBY in the work it does in promoting Australian authors and illustrators to the world!

Birthday, Anniversary, Retirement, Thank You, Farewell or Treat for yourself!

Shaun Tan's *Story Furnace* is a fine art print in a limited edition run of 200, signed and numbered by the artist. The print is 210mm (w) x 270 mm (h) and the original medium was Gouache on paper. Cost is \$150 (unframed) \$20 postage in Australia/overseas on request. Splitting Image printers in Melbourne offer high quality and accurate Giclee prints using light fast inks on archival papers.

Contact volunteer Merchandise Convenor Tina Price on ibbysales@gmail.com to purchase and for enquiries using PayPal.

Australian payment can be made by EFT to Westpac Bank, Account Name IBBY Australia Inc, BSB 032087, Account No 283440

By cheque to IBBY Australia Inc, posted to PO Box 329, Beecroft, NSW 2119; Australian or international payment can be made via PayPal using email address: ibbysales@gmail.com

HOW TO RENEW OR JOIN

For the financial year 2013-2014 Individual Membership will remain at \$25.00 and Institutional Membership at \$100.00.

Please join us and help us continue as an independent body to assist in introducing Australian authors and illustrators for young people to the world stage.

RSVP to Dr Robin Morrow AM, PO Box 329, Beecroft, NSW 2119 or Email Robin.Morrow@wordsandphrases.com.au

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Tel: (w)	(h)	Mob:	
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Please ensure your name is visible in the description box on your payment.

Are You Our Mystery Renewing Member?

On 23rd September, 2013 \$25 by EFT was deposited by an unknown member in our Bank Account from the Commonwealth Bank of Australia.

Please notify the Secretary at jennij@iinet.net.au
So we can adjust our records.

IBBY Volunteer Executive

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