President’s Letter,

Dear IBBY Australia members and supporters,

Late last year, I bought a charming wooden tree decoration inscribed: ‘2020 the year we stayed home’. This year may entail more of the same but, nevertheless, IBBY Australia has begun 2021 cementing its connections to international colleagues, albeit online. We have just released our virtual launch of the Silent Books Collection 2019 Exhibition at State Library of Queensland 15 January – 7 March 2021.

We are delighted to announce our nominees for the 2022 Hans Christian Andersen Award – Margaret Wild (Writing) and Tohby Riddle (Illustration). And we also celebrate our nominated Australian titles included in IBBY’s Outstanding Books for Young People with Disabilities which are covered in this issue.

I recently viewed the fascinating exhibition Miffy & Friends at QUT Art Museum, in Brisbane (21 November 2020 – 14 March 2021) which contained some of Dick Bruna’s original works, and in which seven contemporary Australian artists were also invited to respond to Bruna’s influence on their work. And what a treasure trove it is. (I will report on this in an article in our next newsletter.) I warmly encourage you to visit it if you can.

Arts organisations rely on financial support. In this newsletter we thank Book Links Qld (Inc.) for the donation they have made to our programs, for which we are very grateful. IBBY Australia is required, as are all national sections, to pay substantial annual membership dues to the IBBY Secretariat. Given our lack of fundraising capacity in 2020, we offer our heartfelt thanks for an extremely generous donation gifted anonymously to IBBY Australia, at the end of last year.

Our thoughts are with our overseas colleagues experiencing the public health crisis. Windows by Patrick Guest and Jonathan Bentley (Hardie Grant, 2020) expresses our feelings eloquently: Windows by Patrick Guest | Hardie Grant Publishing

We look forward to sharing with you several online events in 2021.

Yours sincerely,
Robyn Sheahan-Bright
IBBY announces
The Interactive Latin American Children’s and Youth Library, BILIJ of Fundación Palabra, held its opening ceremony in November 2020. The opening ceremony was a beautiful cultural event. A selection of photographs provided by Marco Montenegro, member of IBBY Chile can be seen here.

Congratulations
Australian writer Rebecca Giggs has been shortlisted for the American Library Association’s (ALA) 2021 Andrew Carnegie Medal for nonfiction for Fathoms: The World in the Whale (Scribe).

IBBY ICBD POSTER
Each year a different National Section of IBBY can be the international sponsor of ICBD. IBBY United States is the sponsor for International Children’s Book Day 2021.
Award-winning Cuban American author Margarita Engle wrote the inspirational message for the poster’s theme, ‘The Music of Words.’ Hans Christian Andersen Award recipient Brazilian illustrator Roger Mello designed the magnificent poster.

Current and past posters are available from the secretariat.

2021 IBBY Selection of Outstanding Books for Young People with Disabilities.
IBBY Australia congratulates the following authors and illustrators whose books have been selected.

Phil Cummings and Shane Devries (ill.) for Boy, Scholastic Press
Samantha Wheeler for Everything I’ve Never Said, University of Queensland Press.

IBBY Australia nominated seven titles:
Cheeky Dogs: To Lake Nash & Back, D. Beasley & J. Bell, Allen & Unwin
Mika & Max, L. Bloom, Walker Books
Boy, P. Cummings and S. Devries, Scholastic Press
How It Feels to Float, H. Fox, Pan Macmillan
Lenny’s Book of Everything, K. Foxlee, Allen & Unwin
Everything I’ve Never Said, S. Wheeler, University of Queensland Press
Impossible Music, S. Williams, Allen & Unwin

The 2021 Outstanding List will be presented by IBBY at the Bologna Children’s Book Fair on 14th June 2021. The list of titles will be shared on the Toronto Public Library website and through the IBBY website. The organisers received 194 submissions from 31 countries in 24 languages. From these, 40 titles from 27 countries in 21 languages were selected. IBBY knows just how important books and stories are during a crisis. Titles that were not chosen will remain in the reference collection for research and study at the Toronto Public Library. All submissions will be catalogued in the Toronto Public Library catalogue later in 2021. Researchers worldwide will be able to search titles online or arrange to visit the library. The 2021 submissions provide a snapshot of publishing during 2016–2020 for and about children and teens who are deaf or have a disability.

Recently an exhibition of the 2019 titles was held at the International Children's Library the National Diet Library, Tokyo, Japan, with special provisions for health and safety. Read the report here.
Stop press!
IBBY Australia president Dr Robyn Sheahan-Bright has been appointed a MEMBER (AM) IN THE GENERAL DIVISION OF THE ORDER OF AUSTRALIA for significant service to children’s literature, and to the promotion of reading. Apart from her brilliant work for IBBY Australia Robyn has also been an active member of the Queensland Writers Centre, The Children’s Book Council of Australia, Queensland Branch, Australian Children’s Laureate Foundation and many other relevant professional associations. Robyn has previously been recognised, having received the Nan Chauncy Award and the Dame Annabelle Rankin Award. The Executive of IBBY Australia congratulates Robyn on receiving this well-deserved recognition.

Links to sites celebrating translation:
Translating Children’s Literature - 1st Edition - Gillian Lathey - (routledge.com)
‘Translation some frequently asked questions’ by Avera Udagawa’ SCBWI SCBWI | Translation: Some Frequently Asked Questions

Congratulations to Deb Abela
The Stupendously Spectacular Spelling Bee was translated and published in Malta last year, winning the annual Malta Book Festival award for best book in translation for 8-12-year -old readers. The title was translated by Leanne Ellul and Clare Azzopardi, who are also brilliant children's authors. You can find more information here. Deb’s book Teresa (Based on the Australian novel, Teresa, A New Australian) won the same award in 2017. In 2020 the same company published her latest picture book, Bear in Space.

ALMA collaborates with Historieberättarna
In the Northern hemisphere spring, the Swedish reading promotion organisation Historieberättarna will give storytelling workshops for children and teens. As inspiration, they will read the work of ALMA laureates, such as Jacqueline Woodson, Shaun Tan, Isol and Lygia Bojunga. The meetings will take place in various forms and will observe Covid-19 safety precautions, with writing workshops following on.

Tiny Books to the Rescue- IBBY Lithuania
We would like to see one of our projects turned into the international endeavour, which we would like to share with the entire IBBY community. It is our quarantine period project, Tiny Books to the Rescue, to encourage children’s reading and foster collaboration among authors around the world. Tiny Books to the Rescue book format is a foldable sheet of A4 paper that any child can download for free and print out at home. Our tiny books were created by teams of Lithuanian writers and illustrators randomly paired to collaborate. The project is incredibly successful in Lithuania: our invitation for participants received responses from over 50 writers and artists. The books that they created were presented on June 1 this year, during the International Day for the Protection of Children, and continue to be downloaded by thousands of families. The project was undertaken by the vaikų Žemė (‘Children’s World’) reading promotion programme, the Child Psychology Centre, the Lithuanian IBBY Section and the Lithuanian Culture Institute. Nine tiny books have been translated into English and you are most welcome to share them with your readers and authors.

Gifts of the Wind and Sea – IBBY Finland
In late 2019 Katri Tapola left Finland for a journey to Lampedusa to contribute with other international volunteers to the Lampedusa Children’s Library as part of an IBBY training camp. As a volunteer assisting asylum seekers in Finland, Katri had some experience but embraced the opportunity to learn more. Returning to the island several times during 2020, she continues her invaluable insight. Please find the entire article translated by Merja Lammi Rechsteiner Gifts of the Wind and Sea – IBBY Finland.

For the latest news > Biblioteca IBBY Lampedusa
Ena Noël Award

Jack Heath, winner of the 2020 Ena Noël Award, was presented with his medal in a small but friendly ceremony at Bookface Gungahlin, in early December. With many travel and event restrictions in place, we seized the opportunity when a suitable date became available. This offered me the chance to meet and present this beautiful, inscribed medal to Jack in person. Thank you to the staff who made a special place for us to set up and proudly display Jack’s growing collection of novels. Jack signed multiple shop copies and my copy of *500 Minutes of Danger*. He is currently working on more children’s books, including a new series.

Claire Stuckey, Award Coordinator.

Coming Soon for IBBY Australia Members

Julia Marshall, CEO and publisher at Gecko Press will be IBBY Australia’s next online guest speaker. Gecko Press is a New Zealand based independent publisher of curiously good books from around the world, translated into English. Julia will give us an overview of Gecko Press, including how Gecko Press finds the books and matches the translators, and will also discuss cultural issues to be considered when translating/publishing, etc.

Members will be sent a link to the talk.

Book Links QLD

IBBY Australia wishes to express its sincere appreciation for the recent donation from Book Links QLD (Inc). The Big Lit Quiz is an annual event held by Book Links for all those involved in children’s literature in Brisbane. This year it was even more highly anticipated; it provided the first opportunity for a gathering together in person since the health crisis began. Held on Saturday 28th November, the night raised $650 for IBBY Australia. The complete article Big Lit Quiz 2020 written by Jacqui Halpin is here. See the coming 2021 events here.

The National Executive IBBY Australia
IBBY Silent Books Collection 2019 Exhibition

IBBY Australia welcomes visitors to this exhibition at State Library of Queensland from 15 January to 7 March 2021.

IBBY Italia launched the project ‘Silent Books, from the world to Lampedusa and back’ in 2012, in response to refugees from Africa and the Middle East arriving in the Italian island Lampedusa. The project created the first library on Lampedusa to be used by local and immigrant children, and a collection of silent books that could be understood and enjoyed by children, regardless of language.

There are now four collections of Silent Books, each of which has been displayed at the Bologna Children’s Book Fair and at the IBBY Congresses in New Zealand and Greece. The 2019 Collection includes 67 titles.

Wordless books are an extraordinarily powerful visual form of storytelling. They invite readers to imagine and to extrapolate from the images their own interpretations which can be nuanced and developed in subsequent readings.

We thank State Library of Queensland for their support. ‘IBBY Australia has co-ordinated and provided financial support for the tour of this exhibition to Australia in liaison with the IBBY Secretariat in Basel, Switzerland, and with Nicola Daly, Co-director, Waikato Picturebook Research Unit, University of Waikato, Hamilton, New Zealand.’

We also thank the two esteemed artists who spoke on our virtual launch video: Jeannie Baker about her three wordless books, and Armin Greder about his book The Mediterranean, which is included in the 2019 collection, and who then launched the exhibition. The collection will next be displayed at Lost in Books, Sydney from 17 March – 24 April 2021. We hope that visitors will enjoy this fascinating exhibition.

Robyn Sheahan-Bright, President IBBY Australia

An Insight into Silent Books

A special ZOOM Meeting will be presented by Dr Robin Morrow and Margot Lindgren on Saturday 13th March 11 - 11.30am

At this meeting you will have the opportunity to view several recently published Silent books. Details of the forthcoming IBBY display to be held at Lost in Books, Fairfield (17th March to 24th April will be shared, and you will learn more about the IBBY Silent books project which began in 2012.

Register your interest by email.

Australian Children’s Laureate

#ReadAroundTheWorld 2021

Children’s Laureates from around the world, including Australian Children’s Laureate, Ursula Dubosarsky, have united with a special message about the power of books and reading.

One Loud Voice

Second Australian Children’s Laureate Summit

Join in and make a difference to children’s literacy in Australia!

Tuesday 16 March 2021
Somerset College $55 per person
Register to attend here.
PD Certificate available if required.

Live stream attendance is available for this event, $25 per person.
NEWS: BOLOGNA CHILDREN’S BOOKFAIR

**NEW DATES 2021**
**JUNE 14-17**
**SEE YOU IN BOLOGNA**

**Silent Book Contest – Gianni De Conno Award 2020**
“Bolezn” the picture book by the Russian illustrator Rina Allek, was declared winner of the 2020 Silent Book Contest – Gianni De Conno Award by an International Jury. “Hide and Seek” by British illustrator David Hearn was the winner of the “Silent Book Contest Junior”, the Award’s new category, whose 12 finalists were adjudicated by a children’s jury.

**Beyond Sight / Oltre la vista / Miru o koete**
Beyond Sight – the project to make a selection of the Illustrators Exhibition accessible to the unsighted – is now on tour in Japan alongside the 2020 Illustrators Exhibition. The project was partnered by JBBY, Itabashi Art Museum, Tokyo, and Rome’s Palaeexpo.

**The Golden Pinwheel 2020 Young Illustrators Competition**
The 2020 Golden Pinwheel generated an unprecedented level of enthusiasm, with 2,238 illustrators from 77 countries and regions entering their work for the competition. Ling Luo (China, 1981) and Veronica Neacșu (Romania, 1983) respectively won the Golden Pinwheel Grand Award-China, and the Golden Pinwheel Grand Award –International; while three Special Mentions went to Jam Dong (China, 1990), Francesco Giustozzi (Italy, 1986) and Ida Hong (South Korea, 1990). The People’s Choice Award was awarded to Yiyang Qiu (China, 1999).

**2020 Chen Bochui International Children’s Literature Award**
An international jury awarded prizes in several categories.

**BRAW 2021 - Focus on Poetry**
Poetry is the new special category of the Bologna Ragazzi Award. Next year marks the 700th anniversary of the death of Dante Alighieri and BCBF turns the spotlight on an increasingly popular literary genre also in the world of children’s books. An international roundtable moderated by Denis Beznosov, Deputy Director at the Russian State Children’s Library, shares thoughts and reflections. Watch here.
Source: BNF Online Newsletter December 2020 and website.

**Silent Books Collection in Sydney**
IBBY Australia is pleased to collaborate again with Lost in Books, Fairfield Sydney. The IBBY Silent Books Collection 2019 will be on display from 17th March to 24th April 2021.

**The Children’s Book Council of Australia**
The CBCA has appointed Wendy Rapee as its new chair, and restructured its board, reducing its size from 12 directors to eight. CBCA members are receiving updates via their state branches.

**Diary Dates for 2021**
Notables announcement 23/02/21
Shortlist announcement 30/03/21
Awards announcement 20/08/21

**Children’s Ground**
Children’s Ground is an organisation led by Aboriginal communities working in Central Australia and the top end. The Children’s Ground Approach was developed with Arrernte Elders and leaders in Alice Springs. Learning is delivered on country and at the Central Hub. These sessions focus on both Arrernte and Western educational priorities. The team in Central Australia published 5 books in 2019. These books are an example of what can be achieved when community leads the way. Each book is in English and First Language and is available for purchase.

**Magabala Books** has announced Tristan Michael Savage as the recipient of the inaugural Magabala Fellowship for a mid-career author. Savage, a Brisbane-based, Kalkadoon man, is the author of the young adult sci-fi adventure novel Rift Breaker (Magabala) and has written for the children’s television series Grace Beside Me.
Source: Books and Publishing 12/01/2021
A Memory of Ena Noël
You may be surprised to learn that Ena Noël was a casual teacher librarian late in her career. I was the teacher librarian at Kingsgrove North High School, an enormous multicultural high school during the late 1980s, and Ena was a frequent visitor to our school. A passionate advocate for school libraries, Ena was in her mid-seventies when she came to us. Diminutive in frame, and always elegantly dressed, she found it was only the year 7s who didn’t tower over her. She was not disturbed by this, and she charmed many a gangly Greek year 9 and 10 boy with her quiet manner, ready smile and a recommendation of a good book to read.

Though she called us all ‘honey’ she was careful to learn all the staff names, and she kept a ready reference to refer to hidden away. Of course, we benefitted from her encyclopaedic knowledge of literature, but we also got to share her passion for travel, and she would recount many exotic tales and even suspicious stories of spies, many of which were linked to travel for her beloved IBBY.

Margaret Robson Kett, IBBY Australia Member
Margaret worked for Kid’s Own Publishing 2012 – 2020.

Introducing Kids’ Own Publishing
Melbourne-based Kids’ Own Publishing is a not-for-profit arts organisation which celebrates the creation of books by children for children. Kids’ Own was founded on, and embodies the principles of, the UN Rights of the Child. Since establishment in Australia in 2007, over two hundred books with ISBN have been published and at least 5000 copies distributed within, and outside, the communities who made them.

Artists have led book making and publishing in schools, libraries, kindergartens, playgroups, and other educational and family settings, partnering with local governments and other agencies. Books have been produced in community languages including Nuer and Dinka (South Sudan); Wulgular and Kriol (Northern Territory); Dari and Hazaragi (Afghanistan); and Karen and Hukha Chin (Myanmar).

Kids’ Own’s most famous title Donkeys Can’t Fly on Planes, appeared on the prestigious White Ravens list when first published, and is still a bestseller, with teaching resources to support its use in schools available.

Kids’ Own Publishing Book Cubby is the centrepiece of the Grand Imaginarium, a book publishing event and installation that was the very first family event offered by the Melbourne Art Book Fair at the start of 2020.

Lockdown gave us the opportunity to explore home book making and virtual artist-led workshops with kindergarten children and public library members.

Folding, making and publishing the 8-page-book is the starting point for all the books we publish, Anna Walker calls it ‘the haiku of picture books’. Books can be purchased online or from our retail partners, and sales support our ongoing work in communities. If you are in the Abbotsford neighbourhood call in to our studio.

admin@kidsownpublishing.com

Margaret Robson Kett, IBBY Australia Member
Margaret worked for Kid’s Own Publishing 2012 – 2020.

CBCA NSW Inc has just announced the:

2021 International AAA PD Conference
Poetry: exploring inner worlds
Online from March 30, 2021
Children in Crisis Fund

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

Scarves for IBBY
Ten Hans Christian Andersen Award-winning illustrators – including Robert Ingpen, the highly respected Australian artist and 1986 HCA recipient have created original art for ten beautiful silk scarves. The scarves have been produced in limited editions of fifty copies for each design. Scarves can be bought for US$200.00 each here.

Save our school libraries!
This advocacy campaign, now in the third year, promotes the importance of school libraries and their staff. Link here below.

IBBY Australia Executive Committee
President: Dr Robyn Sheahan-Bright  Vice-President: Joanna Andrew
Secretary: Margot Lindgren  Treasurer: Bernice Cusack
Committee members:
Karen Jameyson  Sara Khamkoed  Dr Robin Morrow
Nella Pickup  Dr Alyson Simpson  Claire Stuckey

Conferences and Events

2021
16th  February IBBY Australia Translation Online Event
18th  January - 7th March IBBY Silent Book Collection 2019 Exhibition State Library of Queensland
13th  March IBBY Australia Silent Book Zoom Presentation
16th  March The Second Australian Children’s Laureate Summit
17th  March -14th April IBBY Silent Book Collection 2019 Exhibition Lost In Books
27th  March IBBY Australia ICBD Event – Words Change the World
30th  March CBCA 2021 International AAA PD Conference
12th – 14th June  The Australian Fairy Tale Society Conference - Online
14th – 17th June  Bologna Bookfair – New Date
20th – 22nd June  Australian Booksellers Association National Conference
29th June –1st July  London Bookfair
19th – 26th August  World Library and Information Congress -Online
10th – 12th September  37th IBBY World Congress, Moscow, Russia
Great Big World Through Children’s Books
16th – 20th October  Frankfurt Book Fair: Guest of Honour: Canada

Please check all events and dates with the relevant organisations.

Story Furnace

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

Or email: info@booksillustrated.com.au
Cost: $150 (unframed) Australia $15 postage  Overseas $35 postage

Please check all events and dates with the relevant organisations.