



AUSTRALIA

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 committed to bringing books and children together

NEWSLETTER No 12
February, 2012

President's Letter

Dear IBBY members and supporters

Welcome to our first newsletter for 2012. We are proud that IBBY Australia Inc is now firmly established as an independent section. Last year we increased our membership, funded our commitments and made nominations for the major international awards. We also reached out the hand of friendship by supporting a Children in Crisis program in Japan. This year we are confident that IBBY Australia will flourish and grow, to benefit many children and adults. Please spread the word about IBBY, renew your membership when it is due, and consider a gift membership for friends who share your enthusiasm for reading.

We'll celebrate International Children's Book Day on 31st March (see next pages for events in WA and NSW). It is wonderful that both Christobel Mattingley and Bob Graham, the Australian nominees for the 2012 Hans Christian Andersen awards, have agreed to travel to Sydney to speak at the NSW event.

It is good to read of scientific research that vindicates our enthusiasm for the importance of reading. Gail Rebeck wrote in *The Guardian* recently about the remarkable findings from brain scan studies of what happens inside the heads of readers when they read stories. New neural pathways result. This evidence backs up what so many of us have known instinctively: that a transformation takes place when we read. Books are important for their emotional role as 'the starting point for individual voyages of personal development and pleasure'. At this time of many changes in the world of books and publishing, we must continue to stress the vital role of books, in whatever form. 'The research shows that if we stop reading, we will be different people: less intricate, less empathetic, less interesting.' [www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/2011/dec/30/humans-hardwired-read-books]

Members of IBBY Australia are, I claim, certainly interesting and empathetic. Intricate? Well, we could debate that.... I do recommend you read Bettina Nissen's piece (p 4) explaining why she bought a Bob Graham print, in which she concludes: 'Story begets story begets story, across time and the generations'. Inspiration indeed.

Robin Morrow



Celebrate International Children's Book Day

Come and hear IBBY Australia's nominees for the 2012 Hans Christian Andersen Award discuss their work

An afternoon with
Bob Graham and
Christobel Mattingley

2pm, Saturday
March 31

Santa Maria del Monte School
59 The Boulevard (cnr Carrington St),
Strathfield NSW



Christobel
Mattingley

Books include:
Windmill at Magpie Creek
The Miracle Tree
No Gun for Asmir
The Angel with a Mouth-Organ
Maralinga:
the Anangu Story
My Father's Islands: Abel
Tasman's Heroic Voyages



Bob Graham

Books include:
Greetings from
Sandy Beach
Crusher is Coming
Rose Meets
Mr Wintergarten
Jethro Byrde
Fairy Child
How to Heal
a Broken Wing
A Bus Called
Heaven

Books for sale and signing AND afternoon tea
\$30 IBBY member/concession \$35 non-member

Purchase tickets from Eventbrite:
www.eventbrite.com/event/2858109683

Teachers are advised to apply to their school for professional development funding for this course.



INTERNATIONAL CHILDREN'S BOOK DAY - WA

Celebrate **International Children's Book Day**
in honour of Hans Christian Andersen's birthday.

**Join local IBBY Australia members and
WA authors and illustrators**

on Saturday 31 March at 7.00 pm
Villa Roma 9-13 High St, Fremantle



- Share your Favourite Childhood Picture Book (bring it along)
- Launch of new edition of *Shy the Platypus* by Leslie Rees, published by the National Library of Australia. Copies available for purchase.
- Raffle – framed artwork donated by Matt Ottley and Lesley Reece
- Announcement of the winner of the Ena Noel Award

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

RSVP: Jenni Woodroffe on 9367 4759 or

Email: jennij@iinet.net.au by Monday 26 March.

This fundraiser contributes 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.

FIRST AUSTRALIAN CHILDREN'S LAUREATE

On the 10th of December last year, the identity of the first Australian Children's Laureate - for the period 2012-2013 - was announced at a well-attended ceremony at the Carclew Arts Centre in Adelaide. In fact, there are TWO Laureates, Indigenous author Boori Monty Pryor and illustrator Alison Lester, as both were deemed to be equally worthy of the role. Actor Noni Hazlehurst gave an excellent opening speech, and the Hon Grace Portolesi, the SA Minister of Education and Child Development, announced the recipients. The Laureates then spoke, acknowledging the honour, and looking forward to the opportunities that it would offer them. A performance by Indigenous schoolchildren, storytelling by the Laureates and a celebratory morning tea completed proceedings. The Australian Children's Laureate is a project of the Australian Children's Literature Alliance, (ACLA).



Boori Monty Pryor and Alison Lester.

Photograph courtesy of ACLA.

John Foster

WHY BUY A BOB GRAHAM LIMITED EDITION PRINT?

OK. I admit to being a bit of a Christmas tragic. I spend a lot of time selecting gifts for the people I love most in all the world. In the last twelve months since my mother died, my sisters and I have continued to inhabit that magical world of the bereaved, where family traditions gain a great significance. We have spent the last month of the school holidays clearing out our parents' home and preparing it for sale. All five of us have been together on this intimate and intense task. We find it hard to imagine a time when the house will not be ours, sitting up on the hill, a storehouse of family memorabilia.

In this spirit I decided to give my sister Jackie one of the Bob Graham Limited edition prints for Christmas. Jackie is an early childhood teacher and she has been inspiring small children since 1974. I love visiting Jackie's classrooms – the children are always full of cheer, great listeners and participators in the story space. They are well storied and familiar with all the classic children's books.

But mostly I love to visit Jackie's classroom because she knows that the heart of early literacy lies with the family, the sharing of stories and experiences at home, surrounded by all the familiar debris of day-to-day life. A confidence with language began for us with telling stories and rhymes to each other, playing hopscotch and skipping games in the back yard, creating long imaginary soap operas, which we acted out for the neighbourhood on the septic tank stage.

Sometimes these days Jackie becomes exasperated and worn out by the changes in early childhood education. The pressures of National test scores have led to a shift away from a play-based curriculum and it seems that teachers and children are asked to achieve more and more. In all the years that my sister has inspired me I have never seen her passion for 'the early years' diminish. Sure, we are all getting older. We feel that nudge to move aside for the next generation. I purchased the Bob Graham print to remind Jackie, and myself, that what we do each day is worthwhile. There are many adults out there whom we have influenced and who are now telling to their children. Story begets story begets story, across time and the generations.

Bettina Nissen

To share the magic with friends and family there are 20 more prints available for purchase and for further details please contact Tina Price, IBBY Australia Merchandise Convenor at ibbysales@gmail.com. Prints are available at \$175 each, plus \$15 postage

COME FLY WITH US TO LONDON

FOR THE

33RD IBBY International Congress

Crossing Boundaries: Translations and Migrations

Imperial College London 23rd-26th August, 2012

www.ibbycongress2012.org



Plenary speakers include Shirin Adl (UK), Patsy Aldana (Canada), Anthony Browne (UK), Aidan Chambers (UK), Julia Donaldson MBE (UK Children's Laureate), Jamila Gavin (UK), Elizabeth Laird (UK), Bart Moeyart (Belgium), Michael Morpurgo OBE (UK), Beverley Naidoo (UK), Emer O'Sullivan (Germany) Michael Rosen (UK) and Shaun Tan (Australia). The following Australians have been selected for the Concurrent programmes: Susanne Gervay *Ships in the field: giving voice to migration*, Mark Greenwood *Creating Books in Remote Indigenous Communities*, Frane Lessac *One World, Many Stories*, Robin Morrow *The Environment Bleeds into the Stories: the Effects of Migration on the Picture Books of Bob Graham* and Jenni Woodroffe *From Page to Stage: Shaun Tan's 'The Red Tree' as interpreted by a West Australian theatre company*.

Do check out the website at www.ibbycongress2012.org to register – payment may be made in three instalments and an extension has been granted for the 2nd and 3rd instalments. Also student accommodation has been reserved for Congress delegates on the nights of **22-26th August only**. Accommodation will be available from 2.00 pm and the departure time is 10.00 am. A tip – After clicking on to the student accommodation link make sure you enter the code **IBBY2012** in the promotion box before making your selection. Details of interesting tours will soon be on the website so you can decide what else to see while in London; however, further accommodation will need to be sourced.

18th IBBY/NCRCL MA Poetry Conference, UK

Late last year (Nov. 12th) Australian IBBY member and children's author Mark Carthew presented at 'It Doesn't Have to Rhyme: Children and Poetry', the 18th IBBY/ NCRCL MA poetry conference, - held at Froebel College, University of Roehampton; home to the UK's National Centre for Research in Children's Literature <http://www.roehampton.ac.uk/Research-Centres/National-Centre-for-Research-in-Childrens-Literature/>.

Mark's workshop, 'Slam Dunk: Performance as a way of bringing poetry to life', involved the audience joining in with play script and skits adaptations of Michael Rosen's poetry as well as various poetry, rhymes and songs involving call and response, movement and audience participation - and fun!

The focus of the 2011 conference was to explore aspects of poetry that impinge on young people, with a focus on the question 'Why does poetry matter?', which begs the more fundamental question 'What is poetry?' Plenary speakers included Morag Styles, Michael Rosen, Jacqueline Wilson, Susan Bassnett and a panel involved with the publication of poetry.

The conference was opened by well- known children's literature expert Morag Styles and previous UK Children's Laureate Michael Rosen, who passionately advocated for the value of SHARING poetry, verse and the oral tradition with young children. In a perceived period of rationalist approaches to arts funding and education in the UK, Morag's and Michael's spirited advocacy for the creative arts and benefits of children's poetry resounded with the audience.



Michael Rosen, in his usual highly entertaining style, delighted the audience when he pointed out the absurdity of the way that UK schools and national curriculum now do poetry in 'Units' like packages with assumed literacy outcomes. The question of 'What constitutes a unit of poetry?' was therefore perfect for the conference theme and had all participants reflecting on how we best approach the appreciation and writing of poetry by children. Listening to inspiring speakers and poets like Michael Rosen is certainly one of them!

While in London, Mark also caught up with UK based children's illustrator Mike Spoor with whom he is collaborating on *Witches Britches, Itches and Twitches!* (IPKidz) 2012.

Left: Michael Rosen delivering opening keynote speech. Photo: Mark Carthew

9th IBBY Regional Conference, Fresno, USA

On 21 October 2011, I had the pleasure of attending the ninth regional IBBY conference held in Fresno, California, at the California State University. The majority of attendees came from within the United States, although Executive Director Liz Page and President Ahmad Redza Ahmad Khairuddin were also in attendance.



The theme for the conference was *Peace the World Together with Children's Books*. The festivities began with a buffet and wine reception and the opportunity to chat to other attendees, followed by the more formal part of the evening, which included an introduction by Ellis Vance, several readings and an item by the Fresno Bach Children's Choir. Especially moving was a reading of *A Plum for Peace*, by author Pam Munoz Ryan.

The Saturday sessions started at 8:30am, and after several announcements, we were treated to some more readings before book signing. After lunch we moved into groups based on preselected topics. I attended 'The story of the story of Ferdinand' a lively presentation by Sharon McQueen who shared some fascinating facts about the popular book, and later in the afternoon, 'Two books, two forms, two storylines,' with presenter Uma Krishnaswami.

Between sessions, we were welcome to have a look around The Arne Nixon library which housed, amongst other things, a special exhibition for the conference – a collection of literary, visual and sculptural translations of *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*. It was a real treasure-trove of old and new pieces, and a fascinating look at this classic work. Dinner that night was interspersed with the handing out of prizes to some very deserving recipients and concluding comments and announcements by Ellis Vance. We were also treated to another musical interlude from a local University Jazz band.

Overall, the conference was a real success. It ran smoothly; it was well planned; and a lot of collaborative work had obviously gone into the proceedings. It was a positive experience for me, and a great privilege to be able to represent the Western Australian chapter of IBBY.

One last note – I can report that Shaun Tan is very popular in the United States!

Megan Green



**National
Year of
Reading
2012**

IBBY Australia Inc, one of the seventy-four national members of the International Board on Books for Young People (IBBY), strives to support and encourage international understanding through books, and is proud to partner with the National Year of Reading 2012 in furthering these aims.

Members of IBBY Australia Inc who have agreed to be National Ambassadors of Reading include: Hazel Edwards, Libby Gleeson, Libby Hathorn and Anita Heiss, while Susanne Gervay is an Ambassador for NSW and Frane Lessac an Ambassador for WA, and Mark Carthew and Paul Collins of Victoria are Friends. Each of these authors has a link to his or her own website, so check them out at <http://www.love2read.org.au> under National Ambassador, Ambassador and Friend.

Australian Children's Literature Conferences and Events

28th March-1st April Children's Literature in the Centre Festival, Alice Springs, NT. See <http://nt.cbca.org.au>

17-19th May Multistoried: National CBCA Conference. Adelaide Convention Centre SA See <http://www.plevin.com.au/cbca2012>

22-25th July Curtis Coast Literary Carnivale. Gladstone, Qld See <http://www.gladstonerc.qld.gov.au/carnivale>

18th September AGM of IBBY Australia Inc. at Fremantle Children's Literature Centre, WA.

26-27th October Celebrate READING: Insights into quality Australian literature. Fremantle Children's Literature Centre, WA See www.fclc.com.au

RESPONSE FROM JBBY

Dear Robin

Thank you so much for your cooperation!

Today we received your donation safely. [JPY 278,980.00. or \$AUD3,700.00]

We could open a wooden library for children in Rikuzentakata-city, one of the most damaged area.

All of librarians had died there.

I attach some photos of the library and our book mobile.

I'll let you know our progress.

Thank you.

Naoko Torizuka

JBBY

18TH November, 2011.



平成23年9月29日 於:福島県

上3枚: 福島市立松川小学校



下3枚: 川俣市立川俣幼稚園

Christmas & New Year Greetings

We received Christmas and New Year Greetings from the following:

IBBY president, Ahmad Redza Ahmad Kharuddin, and the treasurer, executive director and administrative assistant in Basel, and IBBY Sections in:

China, Czech Republic, Ecuador, Estonia, Ghana, India, Indonesia, Iran, Israel, Italy, Korea, Mexico, Pakistan, Palestine, Peru, Slovakia, Slovenia, Turkey, UK (hoping to see you at the World Congress in London in August), Zimbabwe.

2nd IBBY Asian Newsletter

The second Middle East and Asian newsletter has been released, and information about our neighbouring sections may be found at http://www.ibby.org/fileadmin/user_upload/asian-newsletter-december-2011-high-quality.pdf

It is planned to produce two more issues for 2012.

2011 Etisalat Award

The Etisalat Award for Arabic Children's Literature is based on a simple idea "Nurture their imagination, encourage their dreams". This initiative was designed to provide children in the Arab world with the ethical, academic and emotional support they deserve throughout every stage of their development. The 2011 Award went to Egyptian publisher Nahdet Misr for *Fly Away Kite*, written by Amani Al Ashmaul, illustrated by Hanadi Sleet. UAEBBY now sponsors this award and more details can be found at www.etisalataward.ae

Welcome to Tunisia

We congratulate IBBY Tunisia on becoming the 75th section to join the worldwide family of IBBY.

Valete

We note the passing of:

Russell Hoban known to us for his many children's books including *Bedtime for Frances* and *The Mouse and His Child*; and highly acclaimed for his adult novel *Riddley Walker*.

Bartolomeu Campos de Queirós, the 2012 HC Andersen Award Brazilian nominee for writing. He was highly regarded in Brazil and worldwide and was nominated for the HCA Award in 1998, 2008, 2010 and was a finalist in 2008 and 2010. His nomination for 2012 still stands.

Ib Spang Olsen of Denmark and winner of the 1972 HC Andersen Award for illustration. His Copenhagen childhood greatly influenced his later work, including books he both wrote and illustrated.

Astrid Lindgren Memorial Award

2012 celebrates the 10th anniversary of this Swedish Award to promote interest in literature for children and young people all over the world, and reinforces the rights of children on a global level. It is the world's largest prize for literature for children and young people with SEK 5 million awarded annually in memory of Astrid Lindgren, who passed away in 2002. During the past decade 550 candidates from 90 countries have been nominated. The 2012 award will be announced on the 20th March.

Previous recipients of the ALMA award include Shaun Tan (Australia, 2011), Kitty Crowther (Belgium, 2010), The Tamer Institute (Palestinian territories, 2009), Sonya Hartnett (Australia, 2008), Banco del Libro (Venezuela, 2007), Katherine Paterson (USA, 2006), Ryoji Arai (Japan, 2005), Philip Pullman (United Kingdom, 2005), Lygia Bojunga (Brazil, 2004), Christine Nostlinger (Austria, 2003) and Maurice Sendak (USA, 2003). See www.alma.se/en for more details.

OSHIMA MUSEUM of PICTURE BOOKS

Oshima has a multitude of folk tales and legends, it even gets a mention in the classic Japanese storybook, the "Kojiki" (Recorded of Ancient Matters), whose 'Legend of Tottori' comes from Oshima's Tottori area. The Oshima Museum of Picture Books opened in 1996 and the Museum Library holds more than ten thousand picture books collected from within Japan as well as foreign picture books. A gallery has exhibitions of artwork from picture books, and there is a workshop area where students can create their own hand-made picture books, as well as a café. There is also a competition for hand-made picture books should teachers wish to encourage their students to enter. Should anyone be visiting Japan this would be an excellent museum to visit and more information and photographs can be found at <http://www.ehonkan.or.jp/english/index.html>

WANTED – 130 New Members for IBBY AUSTRALIA INC

Please join us and help us continue as an independent 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

Name _____

Address _____

Tel: (w) _____ (h) _____ Mob: _____

Email: _____

Cost: Individual \$25.00 Institution \$100.00

Payment

Please make cheques payable to IBBY Australia Inc

Electronic transfer

Westpac Bank

Account Name IBBY Australia Inc

BSB 032087 Account Number 283440

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

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