



INTERNATIONAL BOARD ON BOOKS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

iBBY
AUSTRALIA

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 31

November, 2016

President's Letter

Dear members and supporters of IBBY Australia

Welcome to the new IBBY year, which includes (in early 2017) the announcement of Australia's HCA nominees, celebrations for International Children's Book Day, participation in the Bangkok Regional Congress, and later, the selection of new Honour Books.

All this will be led by those elected at the AGM at The Children's Bookshop, Beecroft NSW, a happy occasion (see p 2). I was hoping to retire from the presidency, but there were no other nominations so I shall continue for this year, with the support of vice-president Dr Robyn Sheahan-Bright and an enthusiastic committee including newly-elected Margot Lindgren. Jenni Woodroffe has retired from her roles as vice-president and secretary; we are grateful that she will continue as Newsletter Editor and will keep the membership records. Jenni travelled from WA to the AGM, and her invaluable contribution to IBBY Australia was marked with Honorary Life Membership, one of only three ever to be presented.

Members who do not hold committee positions contribute in important ways, as in organising ICBD and other events, with selection panels and in communication. Nicola Robinson will continue to manage the Facebook page. All such help is much appreciated.

Newsletter 30A featured the 35th International IBBY Congress in Auckland (attended by 44 Australians), and IBBY's Call-to-Action issued there, which includes these words:

We are currently experiencing a global crisis and IBBY is unwavering in its support for those working for peace and understanding. We believe that every child has the right to read and we fully support the principles of the International Convention on the Rights of the Child. IBBY is committed to helping children in crisis [refugees wherever they are]. IBBY looks for solutions. There are many IBBY projects, including the wordless Silent Books, book packs and introducing the library networks, which all work to alleviate the trauma that these young people are faced with. We also need to show children from different communities around the world how to welcome their new neighbours and how to live together in harmony. We firmly believe that stories and libraries can inspire this necessary accord.

Let us resolve to work in ways, small or large, to put this Call-to-Action into practice. Isobelle Carmody has led the way with her Online Mask Auction which raised \$3,500 for the Children in Crisis Fund (p 4). And, in contrast with the Australian government's harsh policy towards refugee children in Nauru, read of IBBY Italia's library and outreach on Lampedusa (p 9), so we can dream and plan to keep the spirit of Jella Lepman alive.

Robin Morrow, AM

2016 AGM and Presentation by James Roy



Official opening by Robin Morrow. Photo by Lindy Batchelor

The meeting was conducted by President Robin Morrow, who welcomed Margot Lindgren to the committee and thanked a number of people who have given IBBY Australia invaluable assistance, including new Vice-President Robyn Sheahan-Bright. Jenni Woodroffe was thanked particularly, not least for her warm, personal contact with members. She was awarded with honorary life membership.

James Roy spoke eloquently and with his customary clarity and honesty about his new novel with Noël Zihabamwe, *One Thousand Hills*, which has just won the



James Roy reading *One Thousand Hills*. Photo By Lindy Batchelor

atmosphere of collegial friendship.

Joy Lawn Reviewer and IBBY NSW member

A most enjoyable evening was held at the Children's Bookshop, Beecroft, NSW in a room filled with artwork by children's book illustrators, to celebrate IBBY Australia and, in particular, retiring Vice-President and Secretary, Jenni Woodroffe, who travelled from Western Australia for the event.

A number of people who attended the recent IBBY International Congress in Auckland, as well as those who presented papers, were present. Prominent authors, including Nadia Wheatley and Ursula Dubosarsky (apologies to others I may have missed), also attended the AGM.



Jenni Woodroffe receives Life Membership Certificate from Robin Morrow Photo by Lindy Batchelor

NSW Premier's Young People's History Prize. James and Noël worked in close collaboration to fictionalise some of the experiences of a boy growing up in Rwanda during the 1994 genocide by the Hutus against the Tutsi people, where almost one million people were killed. James read from his cautionary tale and shared the chilling analogy of how Tutsis were regarded as cockroaches.

(I interviewed James recently for Boomerang Books Blog [here](#).)

Jenny and Shirley Stubbs flew from South-East Queensland to attend the meeting and Jenny was invited to draw the raffle.

Some of the group later adjourned to Robin's home for cake to continue the celebration of Jenni's sterling contribution to IBBY Australia.

Thanks to Paul Macdonald and IBBY member Kathy Belling who kept the store open for book purchases after the meeting. There was a great



Jenny Stubbs from Qld. Photo by Joy Lawn



Kasey Garrison and Claire Stuckey; Paul Macdonald and Kathy Belling behind the counter; Cathy Tasker and Wendy Rapee. Photos by Joy Lawn

Welcome to the Executive Committee of IBBY Australia Inc



Dr Robin Morrow, AM
President
NSW



Dr Robyn Sheahan-Bright
Vice-President
Qld



Joanna Andrew
Ordinary Member – WA



Karen Jameyson
Ordinary Member – NSW



Margot Lindgren
Ordinary Member – NSW



Claire Stuckey
Ordinary Member – NSW



Jenni Woodroffe
Newsletter Editor - WA

Congratulations

To our talented and creative Isobelle Carmody who raised \$3,500.00 for IBBY's Children in Crisis Fund through her Online Mask Auction, conducted from the 6th May – 30th June, 2016.



Masks on display in Geelong Regional Public Library.
Photo courtesy of Isobelle Carmody



Isobelle and library staff member packing up the masks.

At the recent IBBY International Congress in Auckland, Dr Julinda Abu Nasr of Lebanon was made an Honorary Member of IBBY in honour of her work with Syrian refugees which Isobelle's auction supported. In response to a congratulatory email from our President, this is what she wrote:

Dear Dr. Robin Morrow

Thank you for your kind letter and for your congratulations on the Honor I received from IBBY. Through IBBY I made many friends across the world. What a privilege it was for me to belong to this organization and meet people like you and other friends from Australia.

My sincere thanks for your interest in our work with Syrian refugee children. The experience for me and for all those who worked with me was very enriching indeed. It was so rewarding to see the positive effect on these traumatized children who were exposed to so much horror at their tender age. I admire friends like you who care enough to help us light a candle in this area that is going through so much agony and pain.

Please give my greetings and heartiest thanks to all the Australian IBBY members who share your care and love.

All my love,

Julinda Abu Nasr (PhD)

LBBY

ARE YOU OUR MYSTERY MEMBER?

On the 12th October \$60 was paid into our Bank Account with 006412 the only identity

Please contact Jenni Woodroffe on

jennij@iinet.net so your membership details can be recorded and noted.

Congratulations

To Robert Ingpen, AM and a Life Member of IBBY Australia.



Robert received the CBCA Lifetime Achievement Award at the Book of the Year presentation in Sydney on the 19th August, 2016, from the Governor-General, His Excellency General the Honourable Sir Peter Cosgrove, AK MC (Retd). This special award recognises a long-standing contribution by an Australian citizen to Australian children's books and a lifetime commitment to Australian readers. His citation includes: Robert Ingpen's widely acclaimed books and diverse artistic endeavours and achievements have created a lasting legacy for Australian readers. These include receiving IBBY's 1986 Hans Christian Andersen Award for Illustration and he is now the only living Australian to have received this outstanding international award. For further details see :

http://nsw.cbca.org.au/data/files/2016/LIFETIME_ACHIEVEMENT_AWARD.pdf



In *Wonderlands: the Illustration Art of Robert Ingpen*, published by the National Library of Australia in October 2016, Robert has woven together the many places, people and stories that have inspired him to create over 100 titles. He regards himself as the servant of the story, and aims to make illustrations that leave a space for the reader to imagine.

Celebrating his 80th birthday on the 13th October 2016, Robert is looking forward to the release in November of another NLA title *Radio Rescue* with text by Jane Jolly. He has enjoyed working with Susan Hall of NLA Publishing to make their national treasures more widely known. An exhibition of his work, *Robert Ingpen's Storybook Art*, featuring some of his best known characters, was on display until the 29th October 2016 at the Metropolis Gallery, Geelong.

Congratulations

To a generous supporter of IBBY Australia, Paul Macdonald of The Children's Bookshop and who will be receiving the 2016 Lady Cutler Award at the special Dinner on Tuesday, 15th November at the Castlereagh Boutique Hotel, Sydney.

Paul Macdonald's passionate commitment to the promotion of children's literature has been a feature of his entire adult life. In Paul's professional career he has been a teacher, lecturer and also proprietor of the renowned Children's Bookshop at Beecroft since January 2005.

Paul's passion for children and their reading and his dedication children's books is contagious. His enthusiasm for authors and illustrators, both emerging and well known, and his relationship with publishers is excellent. His imagination in devising new ways of promoting books for children is an inspiration, particularly in the current difficult retail environment. For further details see: <http://nsw.cbca.org.au/pages/the-2016-lady-cutler-award.html>



to

WE FAREWELL NARELLE

IBBY Australia farewells the exquisite linocut artist, and gifted writer of picture books, **Narelle Oliver (1960–2016)**, who was beloved of her family and a wide circle of friends, and also a very dear colleague and friend to those many people passionately involved in Australian children's literature.



Narelle was an inspirational teacher and lecturer and a dedicated environmentalist, who had a fierce intelligence. Her books — including *Leaf Tail* (1989), *High Above the Sea* (1991), *The Best Beak in Boonaroo Bay* (1993), *The Hunt* (1995), *Sand Swimmers* (1999), *Mermaids Most Amazing* (2001), *The Very Blue Thingamajig* (2003), *Dancing the Boom Cha Cha Boogie* (2005), *Fox and Fine Feathers* (2009), *Baby Bilby, where do you sleep?* (2011), *Twilight Hunt* (2007) and *Don't Let a Spoonbill in the Kitchen!* (2103) — were each remarkably crafted works which showed the progression in her craft.

We farewell Narelle, knowing that she will continue to occupy a major place in the world of books. We mourn the loss of an extraordinary friend, and feel privileged to have joined her on her artistic journey. The brilliant light she cast will continue to burn brightly in her stunningly beautiful and innovative body of work which is a testimony to her many talents; and in the minds and hearts of the thousands of children and adults she has inspired with her exceptional teaching skills, over the last thirty-five years. Vale Narelle: we will think of the tawny frogmouth, the spoonbill, the osprey, the peregrine falcon, and all manner of birds, as they soar over us in the skies lit by your incandescent light.

The full text of the address (from which this is excerpted) given by Robyn Sheahan-Bright at Narelle Oliver's Memorial Service at State Library of Queensland, on 11 October 2016, is available at:

Reading Time <http://readingtime.com.au/category/news/>

JOIN OUR
**BIG LIT
QUIZ**

END OF YEAR PARTY FOR
THE KIDS LIT COMMUNITY!
PROCEEDS TO IBBY

Padua College, cnr Jardine St and
Turner Road, Kedron
Sunday, 27 Nov. 2016 | 12:00 - 2:30PM

\$15 per team member
RSVP Trybooking
<https://www.trybooking.com/NNHF>

All welcome

Book Links invites CBCA Qld, SCBWI, QSLA, May Gibbs Trust, teachers, librarians, teacher-librarians, library technicians and any lovers of KidsLit to join us for lunch followed by five rounds of quiz questions based on children's literature.

Food supplied, BYO drinks
Win prize and raffles

The aim is to have some end of year fun with friends, help raise funds for IBBY and find out how the Kids Lit Quiz works. The Kids Lit Quiz is an international competition for children held in March. There will be three heats in Qld next year, Ipswich, Gold Coast and Brisbane.

The Big Lit Quiz is an adult event but older children could come.

Bookings: <https://www.trybooking.com/Booking/BookingEventSummary.aspx?eid=237463>

GUM-NUT BABIES EXHIBITION:

May the Stories begin...

Celebrating 100 years of Gum-Nut Babies by May Gibbs.



At the launch are l-r Susan Pantall, Julie Gibbs, Bronte Bentley-Gibbs, Genevieve Gibbs (all great nieces of May Gibbs). Photo: City of South Perth

Every lover of May Gibbs's beautiful and iconic Australian children's tales about *Snugglypot and Cuddlepip* (first published in 1918) should visit the latest delightful exhibition mounted by the City of South Perth Historical Society at Heritage House, Mill Point Road, South Perth, which will run from 15th October 2016 to 31st January 2017. Featuring May Gibbs's first Australian books *Gum-Nut Babies* and *Gum-Blossom Babies*, the exhibition displays original artwork, early prints, magazine covers and assorted memorabilia. Drawing her inspiration from the West Australian bush, very soon after her arrival in Sydney in 1913, the *Bush Babies*

appeared on the cover of the Christmas edition of *The Sydney Mail*. Further developing her ideas from her well-known gumleaf bookmarks (which feature front and back views of gumnut babies peeping from behind the West Australian Marri leaf) May went on to publish her first two books, *Gum-Nut Babies* and *Gum-Blossom Babies*, in 1916. Other works in this exhibition include many cheeky post cards designed in 1914 for families to send to their soldiers overseas, painted and photographic portraits of May's family, and three boldly designed magazine covers for *The Lone Hand* and *The Sydney Mail*. May Gibbs's versatility, humour and celebration of the Australian flora are well displayed in this small but perfectly engaging and historic exhibition.

Chloe Mauger, WA IBBY member

From a WA seed bank in WA I have acquired 65 grams of Marri Red Gum seeds (*Corymbia callophylla*), and Christobel [Mattingley] and I and other friends are going to sow them in soil and tubes from Trees for Life on Saturday December 3. The first of those two historic books was first published on 5 December 1916, so we're fairly near this 100th anniversary.

A number of friends expressed interest in coming, including one with a grandson who has Downs Syndrome. He's doing the Duke of Edinburgh's Award and this will be toward his service component of the award. I feel this is in keeping with May's leaving her priceless copyright to help children with disabilities.

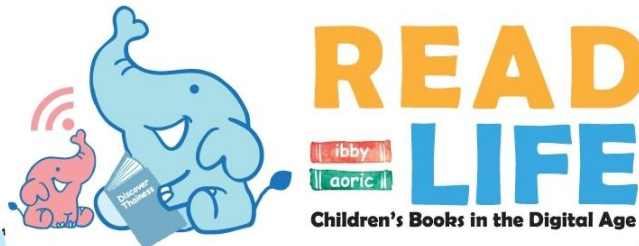
When we've germinated the seeds it will be interesting to see where they are planted. I had the idea when hearing a talk by Richard Heathcote, Director of Carrick Hill. He talked about the children's storybook walk but I was sad to notice that May Gibbs was not included. I thought a copse of Marri trees was the way to go and Richard Heathcote is very enthusiastic. My dream is that future generations will lie in the grass and look up into these trees and marvel at the blossoms and gumnuts which inspired May to create her world of Gumnut life.

Jane Brummitt, Co-author of *May Gibbs: More Than a Fairy Tale* and SA IBBY member

NSW IBBY members are reminded that in the Exhibition *Planting Dreams* currently on display at the State Library of NSW 3rd Sept – 15th January, 2017 there is a cartoon of *Bib and Bub* in the main exhibition, and as a special treat, in the AMAZE section are precious early copies of *Gum-Nut Babies* and *Gum-Blossom Babies* to celebrate the centenary of their publication.

Jenni Woodroffe Newsletter Editor and WA IBBY member

**The 3rd Asia Oceania Regional
IBBY Congress (AORIC)**



**May 9-12, 2017
Bangkok, THAILAND**

Theme: *Read = Life: Children's Books in the Digital Age*
<http://ibbyaoric2017.tkpar.or.th>

The Best of the 3rd Asia Oceania Regional IBBY Congress includes:

- **Children's Education
and Reading Promotion**
- **Children's Books**
- **Digital Media & Children**

Call for Papers

The 3rd Asia Oceania Regional IBBY Congress is dedicated to the essence of reading in the digital age. The thematic focus of this call for papers is "Read=Life: Children's Books in the Digital Age". We aim to provide a unique forum where children's literature enthusiasts can share and exchange their ideas and experiences.

Within this context, this call invites children's literature researchers, librarians, practitioners, storytellers and other stakeholders to submit abstracts on the above theme and related aspects that include (but not limited to):

- Children's Education and Reading Promotion
- Children's Books
- Digital Media & Children

Important dates

Abstract (up to 500 words & in English) due to ibbyaoric2017@tkpark.or.th by December 15, 2016
Notification of Acceptance: January 20, 2017
Full Paper Submission: February 28, 2017
To discuss any matter relating to this Call for Papers, please email ibbyaoric2017@tkpark.or.th

NB Early Bird Registration of \$US200 for Australia is 31st December, 2016

Ten Days in Lampedusa, Italy

For two weeks, from April 27 to May 10, 2016, I visited Lampedusa, Italy, with librarian and IBBY Canada member Tara Stadius. The library on Lampedusa, an initiative of IBBY Italia, has increasingly become connected to IBBY's work in Canada, with the library's touring Silent Books Exhibit across Canada last fall and winter and ongoing fundraising initiatives

Our timetables were filled with activities, meetings, and projects. Our deep involvement with the local children and interaction with some of the migrants gave us long-lasting impressions and profound and heartfelt memories. We found many of the local children truly inspiring — their presence in the library a kind of unbridled social “activism” as they kept the place open twice a week during the year, under the gentle guidance of local IBBY Italia volunteers Anna Sardone and Paola La Rosa. During our stay, we kept the library open every day to the delight of the children, leading reading and craft activities while also reorganizing books and the manual loan card system, and training new volunteers. One rainy afternoon we arrived late and were pleasantly surprised to find more than 15 children and youth waiting outside the library.



Two young patrons reading at the Lampedusa library.
Photo courtesy Mariella Bertelli



Mariella Bertelli outside the Centro Studi. Photo courtesy of Mariella Bertelli

Another important aspect of our work on the island was the promotion of the Centro Studi (Study Centre), another IBBY Italia reading and study space. We traipsed around the island with signs attached to our bikes, stopping to talk to recently arrived migrants along the way. At the Centro Studi, we left reading material in English we had brought from Canada; met with visiting university students working on their Lampedusa thesis; and, most importantly, talked to recently arrived teenage migrants, who told us the story of their difficult journey.

During our 10-day stay, there were four arrivals, on average 200 each time, from Eritrea, Somalia, Nigeria, Burkina Faso, Ivory Coast, Libya, Mali, French Guinea, and Egypt. Late one night, Tara was able to be at the arrival dock with other volunteers, handing out a welcoming kit (a water bottle and snack) to the 200 newly arrived refugees, among them a large group of young Nigerian women. On our last Friday in Lampedusa, a sizable group of young migrants went on a hunger strike, standing in the piazza in front of the church protesting the finger printing and arrival procedures. The migrants are limited to staying in the country of arrival as per European Union established rules.

We also interacted with students at the local schools. Tara did a full-immersion English presentation to the junior high school students about the Toronto Public Library system. I worked on a special project with a Grade 5 class, guiding the children to collect and document oral stories, proverbs, and recipes from their families. On the last day of the project, the children shared their findings with a Grade 8 class. It was a great success. I hope to publish the findings in time for the next IBBY Italia camp in November 2016. An unexpected and spontaneous outcome of the project happened in the library where the Grade 5 students had gathered to work on the project. They began reciting at first the proverbs and then counting and clapping rhymes, involving the other children present to their great amusement. Tara recorded these special moments, and we hope one day to be able to share them publicly.

Other highlights include meeting many other interesting local people and visitors (we squeezed a few aperitifs and gelati!), movie directors and writers, researchers, and journalists. We briefly attended a congress organized by the mayor with architecture students from France; met again with leaders from other organizations like Silvia from Terra (planting community gardens); Elena from Legambiente; and Alberto, Marta, and Adsi from Mediterraneo. I tried to meet the mayor and met with the officer in charge of island culture to discuss the library and its renovation. The latest news from Deborah Soria of IBBY Italia is that the library is being renovated! Two weeks ago, she went to Lampedusa to pack and move the books to the Centro Studi, where the library activities will continue throughout the summer thanks to other visiting IBBY Italia volunteers. She was told the library should be ready by October. We all hope so! One other fantastic outcome was that eight students and a teacher, Anna Sardone (the lead volunteer at the library), were invited to speak at the International Book Fair in Turin, in northern Italy. I was there on May 15, 2016, to witness the students' articulate responses to questions — it was a great event!

Mariella Bertelli, member of IBBY Canada and IBBY Italia.

Reproduced from IBBY Canada 2016 Summer newsletter with permission.

2017 International Children's Book Day

The Russian Section of IBBY (RBBY) is hosting the message and poster for the 2017 ICBD and we look forward to receiving this information on the IBBY website at www.ibby.org. Australian IBBY members are encouraged to devise different ways to acknowledge this celebration which is held on or around the 2nd April, the birthday of Hans Christian Andersen. Events are in the pipeline for Sydney and Perth and we would like to encourage IBBY members to arrange smaller gatherings which could range from: get-togethers with a pot-luck supper or takeaway and the sharing of favourite children's books; a Readers Theatre assembly item or a decorated cake competition of an HC Andersen story; displays in schools and public libraries of overseas stories featuring the work of Carlo Collodi, Erich Kastner, Roberto Innocenti and Astrid Lindgren, for example; sharing folktales from the countries of origin of all the children in your class or library sessions; seniors could invite a few friends and neighbours around for coffee or afternoon tea to share anecdotes of favourite childhood books and stories.

See <http://ibbyaustralia.wordpress.com> for more ideas in the coming months..



THE WHITE RAVENS 2016 LIST

The following Australian titles were included in this year's list recently announced at the Frankfurt Book Fair.

A Small Madness by Dianne Touchell. Allen & Unwin

Flight by Nadia Wheatley [text] and Armin Greder [illus].

Windy Hollow Books

Freedom Ride by Sue Lawson. Black Dog Books

Steve Goes to Carnival by Joshua Button [text/illus] and Robin Wells [text/illus]. MagabalaBooks

The flywheel by Erin Gough. Hardie Grant Egmont

The greatest Gatsby: a visual book of Grammar by Tohby Riddle. Viking. See <http://whiteravens.ijb.de/list> and type in 2016 for the whole list.

226 candidates from 60 countries nominated for the 2017 Astrid Lindgren Memorial Award, of which 63 are nominated for the first time, jury chairman Professor Boel Westin announced at the Frankfurt Book Fair on the 20th October. The following 9 Australians were listed nominees:

Abdel-Fattah, Randa *Author*; Dubosarsky, Ursula *Author*;
Gleeson, Libby *Author*; Gleitzman, Morris *Author*; Gordon, Gus
Author/Illustrator; Hobbs, Leigh *Author/Illustrator*; Lester, Alison
Author; Murray, Kirsty *Author*; Wild, Margaret *Author*.

Other familiar names to Australian members include Zwerger, Lisbeth *Illustrator* (Austria); Ellis, Deborah *Author* (Canada); Ungerer, Tomi *Author/Illustrator* (France); Murti Bunanta, *Reading Promoter* (Indonesia); Colfer, Eoin *Author* and Lynch, P J *Illustrator* (Ireland); Törnqvist, Marit *Illustrator* (The Netherlands); Daly, Niki *Author/Illustrator* and Naidoo, Beverley *Author* (South Africa); Lindström, Eva *Author/Illustrator* (Sweden); and 23 United Kingdom and 16 United States nominees whose work is also well known in Australia. See www.alma.se/en for more details.



© Illustration: Björn Berg, Ingrid/Young Remon, San Wildard

ROOM TO READ:

'the most influential children's publisher you've never heard of'

On Thursday 8th September, UNESCO celebrated the 50th anniversary of the very first International Literacy Day, marking five decades of international efforts to promote literacy. But this was also an occasion to question and lament the fact that there are still over 750 million illiterate people in the world, and two-thirds of them are girls and women. These people will never be educated, will find it hard to make a living, will be unable to contribute meaningfully to their communities. How can this be possible in 2016?

Every one of us reading this knows the value of books in our lives. They are 'the quietest and most constant of friends', refuges 'from almost all the miseries of life'. And yet books are an unattainable luxury for millions. One in seven adults across the globe is functionally illiterate, unable to read instructions, signs or maps, let alone newspapers or books. It is estimated that the annual cost of illiteracy is well over \$US1 trillion. BBC journalist Sean Coughlan wrote a brilliant piece about the lack of global funding for education and illiteracy: 'If this were a disease, blighting the lives of so many people, there would be calls for urgent action. But the slow, insidious corrosion of illiteracy, ignorance and exclusion persists decade after decade.'



3 girls reading together in Bangladesh. Photo courtesy Room to

Since 2000 Room to Read, an innovative and dynamic global non-profit, has been focusing on literacy and gender equality through education, building schools, establishing libraries, distributing books, developing and delivering holistic literacy and girls' education programs. Room to Read works in ten low-income countries in Asia and Africa. By the end of 2015, it had

impacted more than 10 million children, children who will perpetuate the benefits by educating their own sons **and** daughters.

Room to Read has been described as 'the most influential children's publisher you've never heard of'. With more than 1200 children's titles published in over 25 languages, such as Tamil, Khmer and Swahili, Room to Read's award-winning publishing program has brought beautiful local language books to millions of children, opening new worlds of possibility.

And now, in addition to books and libraries, Room to Read is delivering literacy programs, recognizing that literacy is the foundation of all learning and that if



Library sign in South Africa. Photo courtesy Room to

you're young, they will simply never catch up. As Kate Forsyth has written, 'Books can be a circuit-breaker for the cycle of poverty, famine, violence and crime Books make us think better and feel more. They open our eyes, our minds and our hearts.' Kate is one of a number of Australian writer ambassadors and IBBY members who support Room to Read, including James Foley, Susanne Gervay, Sophie Masson and Dianne Wolfer.

UNESCO's slogan for this year's International Literacy Day is 'Reading the Past, Writing the Future'. It's time for all book-lovers everywhere to commit to banishing illiteracy, to empowering children to learn to read and to reach their full potential.

For more information about Room to Read: www.roomtoread.org and to donate to Room to Read, <https://www.roomtoread.org/donate>

Jennie Orchard NSW and Hong Kong IBBY member

EXCITING NEWS FROM DENMARK

On the 31st October, Anker Boye, the Mayor of Odense, Denmark revealed exciting plans to build a new fairytale museum so that children and adults can experience the magic of the stories of their most famous son, Hans Christian Andersen. The new, very different, museum (see photo) will complement the existing museum in Odense which charts Andersen's personal life and travels. Anker Boye explained the need to look to the world when making a new home for HC Andersen, and the Japanese firm of Kengo Kuma and Associates was chosen. The museum is expected to open in 2020, and the new 305 million kroner project will be financed in large part from the 225 million kroner provided by the A.P. Møller Foundation and 60 million kroner donated by the City of Odense.



Images: Kengo Kuma & Associates, Cornelius+Vöge, MASU planning



See <http://www.thelocal.dk/20161101/denmark-to-get-new-hans-christian-andersen-museum>

NEWS FROM THE UK



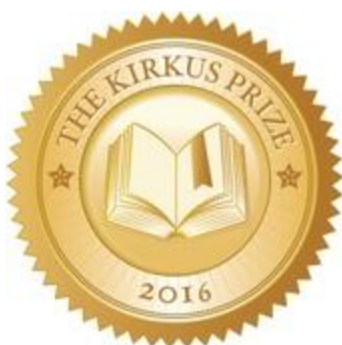
Children's reading charity **BookTrust** has announced a new children's books in translation initiative, called *In Other Words*, aimed at encouraging UK publishers to publish more works from around the world.

BookTrust is inviting foreign publishers, agents and scouts to submit outstanding works of fiction for 6-12 year olds to a panel of expert judges who will select 10 titles for translation. Up to four of the selected books will be declared **BookTrust In Other Words Honour Titles**. A special event will be held at the Bologna Children's Book Fair on 4th April 2017 showcasing the Honour Titles, with information about all 10 extracts included in a rights guide.

Any UK publisher acquiring rights to publish one of the texts will be given a £1500 grant per book from **BookTrust** to promote the author and translator with UK marketing, publicity and touring in the UK. The project is funded by **Arts Council England**. Diana Gerald, CEO of **BookTrust** said: 'We are delighted to be launching our new initiative to encourage more UK publishers to acquire foreign fiction for children. We know children benefit enormously from reading widely and from stories set in other cultures, and now more than ever we are looking to diversify the books we offer children.' See

<http://booksforkeeps.co.uk/childrens-books/news/booktrust-launches-new-children%E2%80%99s-books-in-translation-project>

NEWS FROM THE US



The Kirkus Prize is one of the richest literary awards in the world, with a prize of \$50,000 bestowed annually to authors of fiction, nonfiction and young readers' literature. It was created to celebrate the 81 years of discerning, thoughtful criticism *Kirkus Reviews* has contributed to both the publishing industry and readers at large. Books that earned the Kirkus Star with publication dates between November 1, 2015, and October 31, 2016 (see FAQ for exceptions), are automatically nominated for the 2016 Kirkus Prize, and the winners will be selected on November 3, 2016, by an esteemed panel composed of nationally respected writers and highly regarded booksellers, librarians and

Kirkus critics. See <https://www.kirkusreviews.com/prize/nominees/young-readers/?page=6&sort=published&availability=available&stars=na>

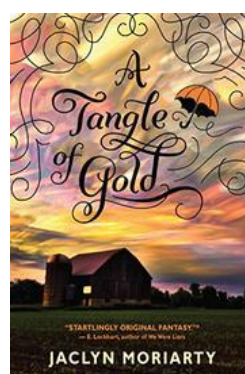
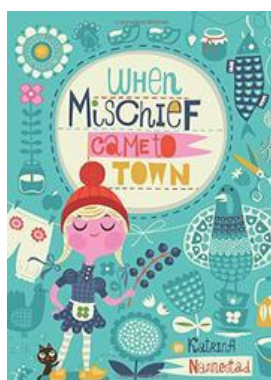
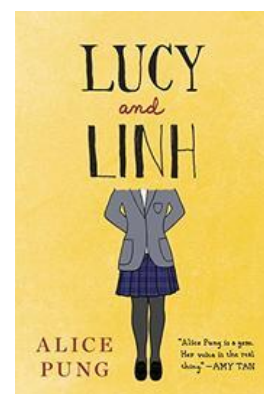
The following Australian titles were nominated:

Lucinda published as *Lucy and Linh* by Alice Pung

The Pros and Cons of Being a Frog by Sue De Genaro

A Most Magical Girl by Karen Foxlee

A Tangle of Gold by Jaclyn Moriarty
The Girl who brought Mischief published as
When Mischief Came to Town by Katrina Nannestad



2016 Forthcoming Conferences and Events

Sunday, 27th November Big Lit Quiz End of Year Party. Padua College, cnr of Jardine St and Turner Rd, Kedron, Qld. 12.00-2.30 pm. Bookings at <https://www.trybooking.com/Booking/BookingEventSummary.aspx?eid=237463>

2017

3rd Nami Island Concours See <http://www.namiconcours.com/>

15th October-Jan, 2017 May Gibbs Gum-Nut Babies Exhibition: May the stories begin...Heritage House, 111 Mends St, South Perth, WA. 15 Oct-30 Nov. Tues-Sun 1-4.00pm Fri 10.00am-4.00 pm. 1st Dec-31st Jan, 2017 Fri 10.00 am-4.00 p-m. Sat/Sun 1-4 pm. See www.southperthhistoricalsociety.org

2nd Oct, 2016 – 25th March, 2017. *Fine Focus: Rachel Tonkin- a life in art and illustration.* Exhibition to be held at the Dromkeen Homestead, 1012 Kilmore Road, Riddles Creek 3431. Gallery Opening hours are 10.00am-4.00pm Thursday - Saturday each week. Open by appointment for school and group bookings on other days during the week. Contact Bernadette Joiner at 0354286799. Email bernadette@dromkeen.com.au

2nd April International Children's Book Day Celebrations.

3rd – 6th April Bologna Book Fair. See www.bookfair.bolognafiere.it/

9-12th May 3rd Asia Oceania Regional IBBY Congress, Bangkok, Thailand see <http://ibbyaoric2017.tkpark.or.th>

2-3rd June Reading Matters Conference, ANZ Pavilion, Arts Centre Melbourne, 100 St Kilda Rd. See <http://www.slv.vic.gov.au/live-learn/courses-librarians-and-teachers/reading-matters>

29th July – 2nd August 23rd Biennial Congress of the International Research Society for Children's Literature (IRSCl) being hosted by York University, Toronto, Canada. Theme: *'Possible & Impossible Children: Intersections of Children's Literature & Childhood Studies'* See <http://www.yorku.ca/irsc17/>

2018

18 – 21st August 36th IBBY World Congress, Istanbul, Turkey. Theme: *East Meets West Around Children's Books & Fairy Tales*

2019

4th Asia Oceania Regional IBBY Congress, China.

2020

5th – 7th September 37th IBBY World Congress, Moscow, Russia with the theme *The Great Big World through Children's Books: National and Foreign.*

This is our Current Executive Committee – All Volunteers

President: Dr Robin Morrow, AM, PO Box 329, Beecroft NSW 2119

Email: Robin.Morrow@wordsandphrases.com.au

Vice-President: Dr Robyn Sheahan-Bright. PO Box 648 Gladstone Qld 4680

Email: rsheahan5@bigpond.com

Newsletter Editor: Jenni Woodroffe. Email: jennij@inet.net.au

Committee members:

Joanna Andrew. Email: jojomorrie@gmail.com

Karen Jameyson. Email: kjameyson@netaus.net.au

Margot Lindgren. Email: margot.lindgren@det.nsw.edu.au

Claire Stuckey. Email: Claire.Stuckey@centralcoast.nsw.gov.au

Website: <http://ibbyaustralia.wordpress.com>

DID YOU FORGET TO JOIN OR RENEW?

We cherish and value the loyal and continued support of the 105 members who have renewed their membership for the current financial year and our 27 members who renewed for 2 years, and especially our 40 members who renewed for 2 years last year. This support has provided us with a solid foundation to help boost the world-class talent of our creators and we look to our membership to continue to promote and celebrate their creativity in the international arena.



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

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