



CBCA ACT NEWS

Issue 4 / November 2009

PO BOX 5548 HUGHES ACT 2605

Hello and Happy New Year to all! I hope everyone had a safe and relaxing holiday break. Now we are all back at work and into the swing of things, it's time to look ahead and see what's coming this year! There are a number of exciting things to look forward to in 2010 with the Children's Book Council ACT Branch.

It's getting closer to the time that the ACT will be hosting the National Executive of the CBCA. We will be the National Executive over two years – 2013 and 2014. Coincidentally, 2013 is also the centenary of Canberra, so please let me know any ideas you may have about tying this in with CBCA events! Please see page 3 for more information.

We will be running all our annual events again this year – Clayton's Night, the Short List dinner, the Judge's Talk and of course the Awards Announcement, Book Week and Author Visits. Please see further on in this newsletter for more information about upcoming events.

We will also continue raising money for our Christmas Book Appeal project, buying books as Christmas presents for disadvantaged kids in the ACT. Please see page 4 for a report from our outgoing Christmas Book Appeal coordinator, Mollie Bialkowski.

Finally, it is that time of year again – membership renewals! You can find a membership form with this newsletter. We now have direct deposit available for the payment of fees, so please see the form for more information. I look forward to seeing you all again at our events this year. Thank you for supporting your Branch!

Rebecca Kemble
President

NEW WEB MANAGER FOR THE ACT BRANCH

We are very pleased to announce that Kathleen Cobcroft has volunteered to be our new web manager! Kath works at the University of Canberra Library, and is our resident expert on cataloguing and classifying children's literature. Kath has been a member of the Branch for several years now and we are very happy to have her on the Committee.

We'd also like to thank Dot Hepburn for all her work on the website up to this point – including handling the transfer from the old website to the new one. This involved recreating the website from just a template. Thanks Dot!

IN THIS ISSUE

EDITORIAL p1

COMMITTEE LIST p1

NEW WEB MANAGER FOR THE ACT BRANCH 1

DONOR LIST p2

THE 2009 CBCA NATIONAL AGM. p2

IMAGINE THIS CONFERENCE GRANTS AVAILABLE. p2

ACT BRANCH EVENT DATES 2010. p2

JUDGES REPORT JANUARY 2010 p3

NAN CHAUNCY JUDGE NEEDED . . p3

NATIONAL EXECUTIVE IN THE ACT 2013/2014. p3

WHAT'S UP AT THE LU REES

ARCHIVES p4

CHRISTMAS BOOK APPEAL p4

CHILDREN'S BOOK COUNCIL OF AUSTRALIA (ACT BRANCH) Executive Committee

President: Rebecca Kemble

Vice President: Belle Alderman

Treasurer: Amanda de Jongh

Secretary: Margaret Carmody

Membership Officer: Julie Long

Author Visits: Rachael Hind

Website: Kathleen Cobcroft

Newsletter: Kimberley Gaal

Archives: Pat Smith

Merchandise: Kathleen Kinsella

Children's Book Week Seminar: Julie Long

Christmas Book Appeal: Mollie Bialkowski (handing over to Jill Howard and Elena Battye)

2008/2009 ACT Judge: Michael Janssen-Gibson

2010/2011 ACT Judge: Rosemary Thomas

THE 2009 CBCA NATIONAL AGM

The 2009 CBCA National AGM was held on the weekend of the 20-22 of November, in Brisbane. It began on the Friday evening with the Branch Reports and the choosing of a slogan for 2011.

Some highlights include:

- A motion was passed to correspond with the Federal Minister for Education to investigate combining Children's Book Week with National Literacy and Numeracy Week, National Reading Day and separating this from National Science Week
- New sections were added into the constitution of the CBCA to make it compliant with Deductible Gift Recipient status, which the NE hopes to get in 2010
- Motions to rename the CBCA Book of the Year Awards after prominent authors were defeated
- Sample artwork by Kylie Dunstan for the 2010 merchandise was circulated - looks good
- 2010 and 2011 important dates were given.

2010: Shortlist Announcement Tuesday 30th March 2010
Winners Announcement Friday 20th August 2010
Book Week: Saturday 21st - Friday 27th August 2010
Slogan: 'across the story bridge'

2011: Winners Announcement Friday 19th August 2011
Book Week: Saturday 20th - Friday 26th August 2011
Slogan: 'One World, Many Stories'

IMAGINE THIS CONFERENCE - GRANTS AVAILABLE

In lieu of a CBCA National Conference this year - which unfortunately had to be cancelled due to the uncertain economic climate - the NSW Branch is hosting a smaller conference in Sydney on the 18th-19th of June. You can find out more about this conference and its program here: <http://imaginethisimaginethat.wordpress.com/>

The ACT Branch is offering 3 \$100 grants for 3 of our members towards the registration fees of this conference. The early bird registration fee (ends 26th February) for current members is \$150, so the grant will cover most of the cost of registration.

If you would like to apply for one of these grants, please do so by email to act@cbca.org.au - stating your reasons for wanting to attend the conference and how it will benefit your professional development, in no more than 200 words. Please have your application in by Friday the 12th of February.

ACT BRANCH EVENT DATES 2010

The next CBCA (ACT) meeting will be 15th March at 4pm at Bookplate at the National Library. Other important dates are:

- 9th March - Clayton's Night, 6pm, Centre for Teaching and Learning
- 30th March - Short List Dinner - time and location TBA
- May - Judge's Talk - time and location TBA
- 20th August - Awards Announcement, 11:30am, location TBA
- October - ACT Branch AGM - time and location TBA
- November - ACT Branch Christmas Shopping Night, Dymocks Belconnen, date and time TBA

The Children's Book Council of Australia Awards Foundation

Proudly Funding Prizes for the Children's Book of the Year Awards

Benefactors:

Scholastic Australia
Allen & Unwin
Laurie Copping OAM (in memoriam)
Thyne Reid Trust No. 1.

Major Donors:

Australia Post
Era Publications
Five Mile Press
Libby Gleeson AM
Hachette Children's Books Australia
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HarperCollins Publishers Australia
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Kinross-Wolaroi School
Koala Books
The Library Board of Queensland
Beryl Moncrieff Matthews (in memoriam)
Angela Namoi
The Northern Territory Government
Parents and Boys of Sydney
Grammar Edgecliff Prep School
Penguin Books Australia
Random House Australia
Emily Rodda (Jennifer Rowe)
Gillian Rubinstein
Maurice Saxby AM
SA Dept of the Arts & Cultural Development
Julie Vivas
Walker Books Australia
Cassandra Weddell, Qld (in memoriam)
Maisie Williams, Garah, NSW (in memoriam)
Sue Williams

Donations to the CBCA Awards Foundation are tax deductible and can be sent to:

PO Box 172, Blackheath NSW 2785

Ph: 02 4787 8492 or 9630 2424

Fax: 02 9630 2594

Or donate on line:

<http://cbca.org.au/foundation.htm>

JUDGE'S REPORT JANUARY 2010

ROSEMARY THOMAS, ACT JUDGE 2010-2011

Sitting down to write this report I find myself inundated with books. In the weeks leading up to Christmas I was literally receiving a book of books a week, such a daunting task! It didn't end there as lots of publishers had submitted late entries and I received another box of 59 books in early January. All of these have a deadline of February 1 to be read and February 8 for all reports in, this includes the annotation reports of submitted 'likely' notables (might be quite a push to meet this deadline). I feel it is my duty as judge to read EVERY entry as you never know by a title when an outstanding work will crop up. The tally to date is 395 entries which is slightly down on last year. After this I have to deliberate on the 10 best from each section that I would consider winners. I would like to thank all those children, librarians and family friends who have read and given me feedback on books I was unsure of, your input has been much appreciated and 'food for thought'. If you would like to give me feedback on new releases or have me come for a talk feel free to contact me directly through my email address below.

Reflecting on my first year as judge as it comes to a close, I can say I have been on a large learning curve and have been on some wonderful journeys through my reading. Australia has such a myriad of children's literature out there that all adult readers, librarians and teachers should very excited and active in exposing themselves and students to the high quality literature that abounds. Throw away these electronic games and TV and replace them with the joy and excitement of a book!

Rosemary Thomas can be contacted at Rojo2@bigpond.com

NAN CHAUNCY JUDGE NEEDED

In 2010 Queensland, ACT and Tasmania are to provide the judges for the Nan Chauncy Award.

Judges are appointed by their respective Branches. They must be CBCA members, should have a good knowledge of the Australian children's literature 'scene', and must not be nominated for, nor nominate someone else for, the Award.

Should a judge find it necessary to step down, a replacement judge is appointed by the National Executive.

As there will be no national conference in 2010, the judging will take place via teleconference - two will be required, probably in May. These will be the main time commitment needed. Judges rely on the nominations received, they do not undertake any research.

At the first teleconference all the nominations will be discussed, and a short list drawn up; the winner will be decided at the second. There is also a citation to be written.

The Award will be presented at the Book of the Year Awards in August; the National Executive will determine whether the winner will be announced prior to this event.

There is more information about the Nan Chauncy award - including the list of recipients - on the CBCA website <http://cbca.org.au/default.aspx?contentID=125>.

If this sounds like something you would be interested in please let us know, as we do need to provide a judge. Please state why you are applying and what you can bring to the role of Nan Chauncy Judge.

NATIONAL EXECUTIVE IN THE ACT 2013/2014

The National Executive will move from Queensland to South Australia in 2011, and two years later it will be coming to the ACT. I think it is a good idea to start planning for it now, particularly as 2013 is also the Centenary of Canberra. I'm looking for some ideas for the functions we will be hosting - the Short List Announcement, the Awards Announcement, and the National Conference among others. It's all brainstorming at this stage, so if you have a suggestion, please let us know!

We will also need to put together a National Executive - that is, National President, National Vice President, National Treasurer, National Secretary, National Merchandise Coordinator, Awards Coordinators, etc. At the same time we will also need to have all the positions on the Branch Committee filled to keep the Branch and Branch events running. For this reason we will probably need to "recruit" from outside the Branch - from ASLA, ALIA, etc so if you know someone you think would make a good member of the National Executive, please pass this email on to them!

We will need to have a National Executive at the latest by October 2012, and planning for the conference will need to begin even earlier. So while there is no great urgency at this moment to have everything organised for 2013 already, it will no doubt come around very quickly, so it is worth keeping in the back of our minds.

WHAT'S UP AT THE LU REES ARCHIVES?

BY BELLE ALDERMAN, COLLECTIONS DEVELOPMENT MANAGER, LU REES ARCHIVES

Rippa Reading!

At last! We have completed our year and a half search for the 52 issues of *Rippa Reading!* We were able to get a copy of issue number 17 from the State Library of Victoria since we had tried for over a year to find a copy, without success. All 52 issues from 1986-1995 now form the only complete collection in Australia. Thank you everyone who tried to help with this project.

CIT Artwork Project

In February we will start working with the CIT conservation students to describe, record and place in mylar protective sleeves our artwork. It's a pretty intensive project, but all our work experience students who have done this work have loved it, and are coming back for more. There's always room for volunteers (some of you?) to help us. Are you one of those who would love handling original artwork from such luminaries as Bob Graham?

CIT Adult Migrant English Program

In November-December, we hosted a work experience student who was building her workplace communication skills. She was able to do so many things like work on Hesba Brinsmead's book collection, identify photographs for a digitization project, describe and enclose our artwork, and plan a small exhibition. She's beginning her librarianship course at CIT this year. We thoroughly enjoyed having her.

Possible Grant

We have put in a grant application to the ACT Health Department to use the Lu Rees resources for reminiscences about children's stories with those living in the Kangara Waters and Calvary retirement villages. We won't know till July whether we were successful, but this is an outreach project we're keen to pursue. If we are successful, we will need 'presenters' and a project manager.

Foreign Language Editions

We have around 2400 foreign language editions in 52 languages in the Archives. Cataloguing these is complex and time consuming, and our usual diligent UC Library staff need help. We are seeking funds to pay CAVAL, a professional cataloguing organization, to do these for us. Emily Rodda has over 250 alone!

We are keen to hear from anyone who'd like to do any of the fascinating work in the Archives. Much of our work is fascinating and it has the benefit of achieving great things for posterity.

CHRISTMAS BOOK APPEAL CONTRIBUTED BY MOLLIE BIALKOWSKI

Three years ago I involved Galilee - a foster children's program - in the CBCA ACT Branch's 'Christmas Books for the Disadvantaged' program. Anne Frank said 'no one ever becomes poor by giving.' They are very grateful and thank us in their sponsors, supporters and friends list in their annual report. Theirs has become a more of a personal contact for me although the refuges (to whom we also send books at Christmas time) often send us thank you cards.

This year I also managed to get a much more personal contact with one of the other major organizations we donate to - Family Services at DOCS - by inviting their liaison officers to a morning tea for the handover to our new Christmas Book Appeal coordinators, Eleanor Battey and Jill Howard. This was to enable them to liaise more efficiently with these deserving charities.

The accompanying photo shows (L-R) Sharon Shooks (team Leader of Galilee Outreach), Jill Howard and Mollie B at the handover of the Christmas Books 2009. Galilee is based at the old Pearce Primary school. Previously to this, the organization gave us the list of boys and girls and we match the books to age level and hopefully their approximate reading level. For the first time in over 10 years I was able to see children aged from toddlers to teenage open their presents as I attended their annual Christmas party. With the help of my husband Tom we weaved a bit of a spell in storytelling, songs and games for their celebrations. It was quite moving.





The Children's Book Council of Australia

ACT Branch Inc.
PO Box 5548 HUGHES 2605

MEMBERSHIP

Are you passionate about encouraging children to read? Do you care about quality children's literature? Do you want to see Australia's best books for children and teenagers recognised and their creators rewarded? Then why not join The Children's Book Council of Australia!

For \$44 (inc GST) you will receive the following benefits:

- Free copies of the annual *Notable Australian Children's Books* (which lists and describes the best children's books published in Australia) and issues of the journal of the Lu Rees Archives
- Discounted rates on the purchase of Book Week merchandise such as bookmarks, badges, book bags, posters and Short List information
- Special members' rates for CBCA activities such as author and illustrator visits, the biennial national CBCA conference and local CBCA events. (Attendance at CBCA events can be attributed towards professional development obligations.)
- The opportunity to meet and network with other people committed to the same objectives, including some of Australia's leading authors and illustrators
- Substantial discounts on purchases at our annual Christmas shopping night
- A regular newsletter and email updates

Student membership of \$11 pa is also available. This includes everything above except the *Notables* list and the Lu Rees Archives journal. Please provide a current student ID number and name of institution.

To join or renew, please complete the form below and mail it with a cheque or money order made payable to The Children's Book Council of Australia - ACT Branch or you may join/renew in person at any CBCA event.

CBCA ACT Branch
PO Box 5548 HUGHES 2605
ABN 20 024 451 638

Tax Invoice

Please tick: **\$44.00 Full membership** (inc.GST \$4.00) or **\$11.00 student** (inc.GST \$1.00)

Name: _____ School Personal

Address: _____

State: _____ Postcode: _____

Phone: (H) _____ (w) _____ (M) _____

Fax: _____ Email: _____

Student ID number: _____ Institution: _____

Online Banking: BSB 062 905, Account No. 10101547. Receipt No. _____

If making an online payment, please note online that it is for membership and your surname.

Complete this form (incl. receipt number) and send to amanda_dejongh@stpandp.act.edu.au or post.

Please tick if you do not want your membership details included in the CBCA national members database