



# CBCA Tasmania Newsletter

## April 2024

The Children's Book Council of Australia (Tasmania Branch) Inc.,  
PO Box 113, Moonah, TAS 7009 ([tas@cbca.org.au](mailto:tas@cbca.org.au))

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**From the Desk:**

**Steve Martin, President Tasmanian Branch**

### **Read Aloud to Your Child Every Day**

Support for our national campaign is steadily progressing right across our state, interstate and now internationally. Twenty of 29 local Tasmanian Mayors have come on board, along with organisations such as CBCA National; IBBY, Book Links; WA Branch CBCA; International Read To Me Day; The Child Writes Fund; The Lighthouse (Toowoomba); Newtown and Darling Heights State School Community Hubs QLD – who have also gained the support of Community Hubs nationally - <https://www.communityhubs.org.au/hubs/>, with the intention to support through their Community Hubs and schools in NSW, SA, QLD & VIC.





Her Excellency the Honourable Barbara Baker AC, Governor of Tasmania, with Tasmania Branch CBCA's Vice-president Roxanne Steenbergen at Government House.



Kate Beer (centre) with staff members, Devonport Community House.

Senator Catryna Bilyk, a previous early childhood educator, passionate about reading, is also championing our national campaign, writing to the Federal Minister for Education, the Hon. Jason Clare seeking his support and looking to organise a meeting with the Minister on his next visit to Tasmania.



We are currently exploring creating 20,000 bookmarks for distribution statewide - and possibly nationally (hopefully sponsored) - that will feature our message. There may well be other opportunities to promote our message as we progress.

To further our effort, should you be aware of an organisation or school that you think would come on board, please email [tas@cbca.org.au](mailto:tas@cbca.org.au) with their contact details and we will follow them up. Ideally, every organisation should be encouraged to support this effort – reaching and involving more in our communities. Please spread the word.

We are happy to swap in an organisation's logo in place of ours. For best results the logo should be transparent and able to fit in the space to the left of the message in the signature panel (where our logo is placed). If not, then organisations will be asked to complete a request for a blank signature panel.

Thank you to everyone that is supporting this effort along with special thanks to Felicity & Elizabeth Sly for their efforts in not only designing the signature panel, but also in editing this for supporting organisations. A lot of work continually goes into this effort, so THANK YOU!

## **Recent Events**

### **Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> March CBCA Book of the Year Short List announced**

Congratulations to all CBCA Book of the Year Award Shortlist authors, illustrators and publishers for 2024. You can view the shortlist at - <https://cbca.org.au/shortlist-2024>

### **Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> March International Read To Me Day**

“International Read to Me Day, celebrated every March 19 across the world, is a day that focuses on the importance of reading books to children. Whether it's for 10

minutes a day, or an hour, reading to children really helps in developing their imagination, their knowledge, and their ability to read even before they join the school. This activity is essential since several countries across the world have a low literacy rate. Children in these nations are also taught to read at a later stage in life, hence, their interest in education is affected. If you want to live in an educated world, spread the message and start reading to your children every day.”

NB International Read to Me Day is supporting our Read Aloud to Your Child Every Day national campaign and promoting it internationally.

### **CBCA Shadow Judging is now open**

The CBCA Book of the Year Awards connect young people to great literature. During CBCA Children’s Book Week® we celebrate reading for pleasure and applaud our awarded books.

The Sun Project: Shadow Judging is an exciting addition to our annual calendar. We invite young voices from groups across Australia to join the conversation about our annual Book of the Year Shortlist and choose their own winners.

Creating a group of ‘shadowers’ is a powerful way to connect young readers with the shortlisted books in a safe space where their opinions and responses can be heard.

Interested adults, classroom teachers, teacher librarians and public librarians are invited to take on the role of group facilitators to support these young voices in this exciting program.

Check out this link <https://shadowjudging.cbca.org.au/> for more information.

### **Vale Jessie Mahjouri**

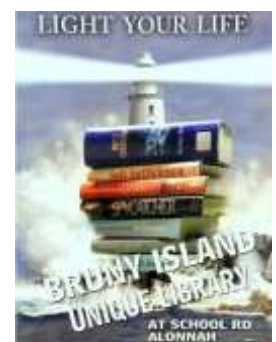
Unfortunately, I did not get the opportunity to meet Jessie, but certainly heard from Jessie through our national campaign READ ALOUD TO YOUR CHILD EVERY DAY. As Bruny Island Community Library Secretary Jessie was the first to contact our branch looking to partner with our campaign, and in adopting our electronic banner, with the library’s logo.

*Jessie Mahjouri - Bruny Island Unique Library – 30<sup>th</sup> October 2023*

*Greetings Tas CBCA Committee*

*Congratulations on your fabulous new banner, the perfect way to deliver a very significant message. As the Secretary of the Bruny Island Community Library, I am very interested in this new initiative. The Bruny Community Library is entirely staffed by volunteers, and was originally set up to cater for adult readers only. However this year we have been busy establishing a children’s collection, supported by the Tas Community Fund and the wider Bruny Island community.*

*We would love to make use of your banner to publicise our collection and spread CBCA Tasmania’s important message. And it would be even better if we could personalise it with our library logo, as you have generously offered.*



*I hope the attached logo is of high enough resolution. If not please let us know. At the moment I'm travelling in Malaysia and only have access to files on my iPad, but I can source a higher resolution image from another Committee member, if required.*

*Cheers and congratulations again on your continuing excellent efforts to support children's literature and literacy.*

Jessie was actively involved with the Tasmanian Teacher Librarian's Association, a branch of the Australian School Library Association and an active member of the Tasmanian Branch of the Children's Book Council of Australia including committee responsibilities.

Our thoughts and prayers to Jessie's family, friends and community.

### **In closing**

Our secretary of the TAS CBCA Branch and CBCA National Board member Loretta Brazendale has moved on, commencing a new role as a School Business Manager. Loretta was a breath of fresh air, full of enthusiasm and will be a big loss to both our Branch and the National Board. We wish Loretta happiness and every success in her new role.



Steve Martin

President, Tasmanian Branch, Children's Book Council of Tasmania

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## **Bookshop Support for "Read Aloud to Your Child Every Day"**



(L-R) Dymocks Hobart (Kerry Clarke), Fullers Bookshop (Adam Ouston), The Hobart Bookshop (Bronwyn Clarke)

## Mayoral Support for “Read Aloud to Your Child Every Day”



(L-R) Hobart (Anna Reynolds), Glenorchy (Bec Thomas), Break O’Day (Mick Tucker), Waratah-Wynard (Mary Duniam)



(L-R) Latrobe (Peter Freshney), Kingborough (Paula Wriedt), Burnie (Teeny Brumby), King Island (Marcus Blackie)



(L-R) Central Coast (Cheryl Fuller), Derwent Valley (Michelle Dracoulis), Tasman (Rod MacDonal)

# Read Together

## CHOOSE YOUR NEXT BOOK TO READ

HOME | PARENTS' CORNER | FAQs | BOOK LIST | MY BOOKS | MY ACCOUNT | BOOK SEARCH

REGISTER | LOG IN



## MY BOOKS

### How to make the most of Readtogether

1. Start by creating your family's Readtogether account.
2. Search for books on the Recommended Reading List bookshelf; make sure you check the sample page to see if the book suits your child's reading ability!
3. Add the books you can't wait to read to your Wishlist.
4. Once your child has read the book, mark it as "read" in your account to keep track of your child's progress.

<https://readtogether.com.au>

Read Together is a free, volunteer-built platform that enables programs where children are paired with volunteers to improve their literacy skills and socialize through fun and engaging reading sessions.

## Shadow Judging is back and even better in 2024!

**illuminating**  
AUSTRALIAN CHILDREN'S LITERATURE

**CBCA Sun Project: Shadow Judging:**  
Fostering young readers' opinions and engagement through the illumination of children's literature

**shadow judging**  
BOOK OF THE YEAR AWARDS

**CBCA Sun Project: Shadow Judging**  
Fostering young readers' opinions and engagement through the illumination of children's literature

**So what is Shadow Judging?**  
The CBCA Sun Project Shadow Judging is a national program where young people are invited to put themselves in the shoes of our Book of the Year Awards judges. Participating groups read the shortlist of their elected Awards category, discuss the books against the official criteria, respond creatively and vote for their choice of winner.  
The Shadow Judging program is the perfect way to engage young readers to think critically and share their thinking as a community of readers.

**Benefits of the program**  
Readers...  
• grow appreciation for literature  
• develop critical thinking and creativity  
• learn to speak up, listen to others and work in a team  
• develop empathy and awareness of diverse opinions  
• increase their reading repertoire  
• experience a sense of belonging and agency

**2024 Program dates**  
• Registration opens mid February  
• Program launches 27 March  
• Voting starts July  
• Winners announced 16 August

**How to enrol**  
• Renew your CBCA search membership.  
• Register via the Shadow Judging website, from Term 1, 2024

**Getting started**  
• Plan and organize your reading group - pick your category!  
• Plan to order your books and start as soon as you can after the Shortlist is announced. (SR and YR groups require plenty of time to read the 6 Shortlisted books).

**Testimonials from past Shadow Judges**  
Shadow judging gave us a chance to read a variety of books...tasting real life books etc. It was really interesting to compare them even though they were all different.  
(Suzie, 14 Cannegioli High School, NSW)  
I loved being able to talk to my friends about the book I have read and hear what they had to say about them. Sometimes I get a really different perspective and have to think again about the books and the characters in a different way. I like that.  
(Gavin, The Goobang College, VIC)

We are here to help, so visit [shadowjudging.cba.org.au](http://shadowjudging.cba.org.au) for further information.

**sun project**  
shadow judging  
WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT

With an upgrade to the Shadow Judging website, a simplified registration process and even more resources to support discussion and engagement, this year is set to be the best yet for Shadow Judges.

Registrations opened on Tuesday 13 February and were promoted with the Notable Announcement video on Tuesday 27 February. (See page 14 for the link to the video).

Early registration will offer facilitators time to browse the updated website, plan groups, set timelines and select a category to judge.

After the Shortlist announcement on Tuesday 19 March, books can be purchased and shadow judges can begin to read and discuss the books. For those selecting the Older Reader or Younger Reader category, this early preparation allows time for young people to read and discuss all six books.

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## eStore Merchandise

Use this link to find the catalogue

<https://store.cbca.org.au/> You can purchase items like



Don't forget to download your free 2024 Digital Planner at <https://store.cbca.org.au/products/2024-digital-yearly-planner>

The 2024 CBCA Digital Yearly Planner with a specially customised version for teachers and/or librarians. Available to print or use as a digital planner. All your Australian Children's Literature annual information in one handy place.



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## Reading Australia

Reading Australia is a Copyright Agency initiative to support the teaching and reading of Australian literature in schools. Now 10 years old, the website features almost 300 freely available resources written for teachers and teacher librarians by experienced educators, on books aligned to the Australian Curriculum.

<https://readingaustralia.com.au/>





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## Vale Jessie Mahjouri

### Passionate about all things to do with children's literature

Since her sudden passing on 15 February 2024, tributes have flowed in for our dear friend and colleague, Jessie Mahjouri.

She had been a staunch supporter of CBCA Tasmania for decades and promoted literature and literacy throughout her life.

In 1990 when the Tasmanian Branch hosted the Awards ceremony in Launceston, Jessie and her willing team organised the most imaginative, fun and relevant lunch. Maurice Sendak's picture book, *Where the Wild Things Are*, provided the theme and the walls showcased children's gleeful interpretations of Max and his scary friends. Tables were decorated with picnic fare and several people wore swimming costumes for part of the lunch – reflecting Jessie's unrivalled creative flair.

Jessie continued to support CBCA in Tasmania over subsequent years, co-nominating our cherished mentor, Hugo McCann, for Life Membership of the organisation. With beautiful words and heartfelt sincerity, she acknowledged the tremendous impact that Hugo's teaching on literature for children and young people has had on so many of us bibliophiles.

In 2015, Jessie led the Children's Literature Festival on Bruny Island, *Book an Adventure*, luring writers, illustrators and drama teachers to work with an exuberant group of children and adult booklovers on a tiny island, near a small island, off the big island of Australia; only Jessie could have pulled it off.

In 2016, when CBCA Tas. took two bold initiatives, Jessie was immediately there with energy, enthusiasm and sheer hard work. Together with Patsy Jones & Nella and Richard Pickup, Jessie and Rod supported four events for The Year of Nan Chauncy and two major sessions for Hidden Stories, which showcased Indigenous ways of storytelling and drew large audiences.

It is hard to believe that Jessie, who personified vitality and loving energy, is no longer with us. The Children's Book Council of Australia joins Rod and Jessie's family in grieving for their loss and celebrating the rich life of Jessie Mahjouri.

*Jenni Connor*

Jessie was a quiet achiever in so many ways – plying her skills, passion and effusive charm to ensure that children's literature and a love of reading were celebrated in diverse and engaging ways. I am sure that many members will identify not only with the list above, but many other special moments where they have engaged with Jessie over the years to share stories, expand minds and love reading.

Jessie Mahjouri's influence has been profound – for me and for so many others. Thank you, Jessie, your legacy will continue to flourish as we remember and cherish your zest for life and passionate support for CBCA Tasmania and all involved in celebrating children's literature.

*Jennie Bales*

*CBCA Tasmania Committee Member on behalf of CBCA Tas*

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## Membership

CBCA Tasmania membership is now due. Renew your [Personal or Institutional Membership](#). These subscriptions are vital for our local branch to function efficiently and develop our events and programs that have such an impact in schools and communities around Tasmania. Membership forms are available on the website (link above).



These subscriptions not only support CBCA Tasmania Branch, but also help to keep you informed about what is happening in CBCA Tasmania and in Australia.

<https://cbcatas.org.au/membership/>

### **Join now to be part of the lucky draw to win one of three prizes.**

CBCA Tas will draw the winners in the first week of Term 2.

The first winner will choose from the three prizes:

- Creator Workshop draw (1 x 90 or 2 x 60 min Creator Workshops)
- Shadow Judging draw (Registration Fee and \$200 Book Voucher to buy judging category)
- Merchandise Draw: your choice of Book Week in a Tube (\$71.50); Library Pack (\$99.99) or Classroom Pack (\$48.54)

The next winner will choose from the remaining two prizes and the last winner receives the final prize.

## Launch of *Fledgewitch*

Lian Tanner will be celebrating the launch of her latest middle-grade novel 'Fledgewitch' (Dragons of Hallow #2) in Hobart, George Town and Launceston during the April school holidays.

**Hobart: 10.30 AM, Saturday April 13 at the State Library of Tasmania, 91 Murray St. To be launched by Mary-Louise Jones.**



*These are the Three Laws of Quill, carved in stone outside every town hall and learnt by every schoolchild:  
There shall be No Witches.  
There shall be No Dragons.  
There shall be NO SECRETS.*

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You are invited to join us for the launch by Marylouise Jones of Lian Tanner's *Fledgewitch*, the bewitching sequel to *Spellhound*.

**10.30 am Saturday April 13th, 2024**  
**State Library of Tasmania, 91 Murray St.**  
Free event, all welcome. For readers 7-11 y.o.

**George Town: 10.30 AM, Friday April 26 at the George Town Library, 12 Elizabeth St. To be launched by Lyndon Riggall.**



*These are the Three Laws of Quill, carved in stone outside every town hall and learnt by every schoolchild:  
There shall be No Witches.  
There shall be No Dragons.  
There shall be NO SECRETS.*

\*\*\*

You are invited to join us for the launch by Lyndon Riggall of Lian Tanner's *Fledgewitch*, the bewitching sequel to *Spellhound*.

**10.30 am Friday April 26th, 2024**  
**George Town Library, 12 Elizabeth St**  
Free event, all welcome. For readers 7-11 y.o.

**Launceston: 10.30 AM, Saturday April 27 at the Launceston Library, Civic Square. To be launched by Lyndon Riggall.**



*These are the Three Laws of Quill, carved in stone outside every town hall and learnt by every schoolchild:  
There shall be No Witches.  
There shall be No Dragons.  
There shall be NO SECRETS.*

\*\*\*

You are invited to join us for the launch by Lyndon Riggall of Lian Tanner's *Fledgewitch*, the bewitching sequel to *Spellhound*.

**10.30 am Saturday April 27th, 2024**  
**Launceston Library, 71 Civic Square**  
Free event, all welcome. For readers 7-11 y.o.

The George Town launch will be followed at 12.30 PM by a one-hour writing workshop for 8–12-year-olds. For booking enquiries, please contact George Town Library.

Free events, all welcome!

## Book Review: *The Diemen Alexander* by Dr Marie Heitz

*The Diemen Alexander*, written by Dr Marie Heitz, a multitalented Tasmanian author, scientist and musician, provides an original and engaging story to challenge older teens and adults. When Luke, a keen photographer, and somewhat geeky teenager, visits the burnt and charred forests on kunanyi (Mt Wellington) he rescues a strange lizard-like creature that refuses to be left behind on the mountain. Back home in North Hobart, Luke is faced with the challenge of keeping Alexander secret from his scientist mother and her cunning and devious ‘brother’ (by circumstance rather than blood). As Alexander’s appetite expands in proportion to his size, this becomes more challenging. Predominantly this is Luke, sister Gatta, and Alexander's story but, circumstances require an increasing number of people to assist – starting with student palaeontologist Shona and expanding to include members from her local women’s football team. This adds an array of diverse characters into the mix that add depth and breadth to the story line and provide a foil for Alexander to explore his unusual mental skills.

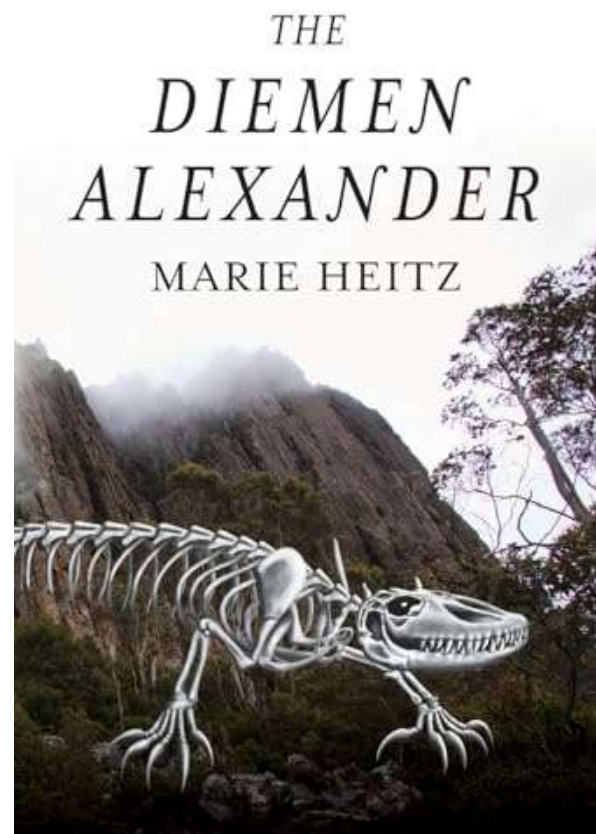
As an adult reader I was intrigued from the start, fascinated by the unfolding issues in regard to the rights and responsibilities of caring for a previously unknown creature. The incorporation of a reef of scientific support for the possible existence of

Alexander adds credibility to a science fiction tale that reads as a realistic fiction thriller. Embedded within are a series of moral and ethical dilemmas, the dangers of venture capitalism, and social issues - dysfunctional families, self-image, anorexia, sexual abuse, women in sport, controlling adults, greed and so much else.

Firmly situated in Tasmania, there are many recognisable places in and around Hobart and the south that Tasmanians will enjoy navigating as the team adopt increasingly bizarre ways to feed, transport and keep Alexander hidden from a materialistic world. *The Diemen Alexander* will keep readers engaged right to the end wondering just how Heitz can bring all the threads to a satisfactory conclusion. Something she does admirably for a satisfying and fulfilling read.

Reviewed by Jennie Bales

CBCA Tasmania Committee Member





INTERNATIONAL BOARD ON BOOKS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE



## The IBBY Australia Encouragement Award for a young emerging writer or illustrator.

The judges enjoyed reviewing such a diverse range of titles in a variety of genres submitted by publishers of Australia's emerging writers and illustrators for children and young adults. The panel of judges is pleased to announce the shortlists for author and illustrator awards.



### Author Shortlist:

- Reece Carter, *A Girl Called Corpse* (Allen & Unwin)
- Meg Gatland-Veness, *When Only One* (Pantera Press)
- Jess McGeachin, *Kind* (Allen & Unwin)
- Kirli Saunders, *Our Dreaming* (Scholastic)
- Holden Sheppard, *The Brink* (Text Publishing)
- Rhiannon Williams, *Dusty in the Outwilds* (Hardie Grant)

### Illustrator Shortlist:

- Gabriel Evans, *A Friend for George* (Puffin Books)
- Sally Soweol Han, *Tiny Wonders* (UQP)
- Sher Rill Ng, *Be Careful, Xiao Xin!* (Working Title Press, Harper Collins)
- Michelle Pereira, *The Boy Who Tried to Shrink His Name* (Hardie Grant)
- Jeremy Worrall, *Etta and the Shadow Taboo* (Hardie Grant)

The 2024 Ena Noël Award winners will be announced on International Book Day April 2nd, 2024.

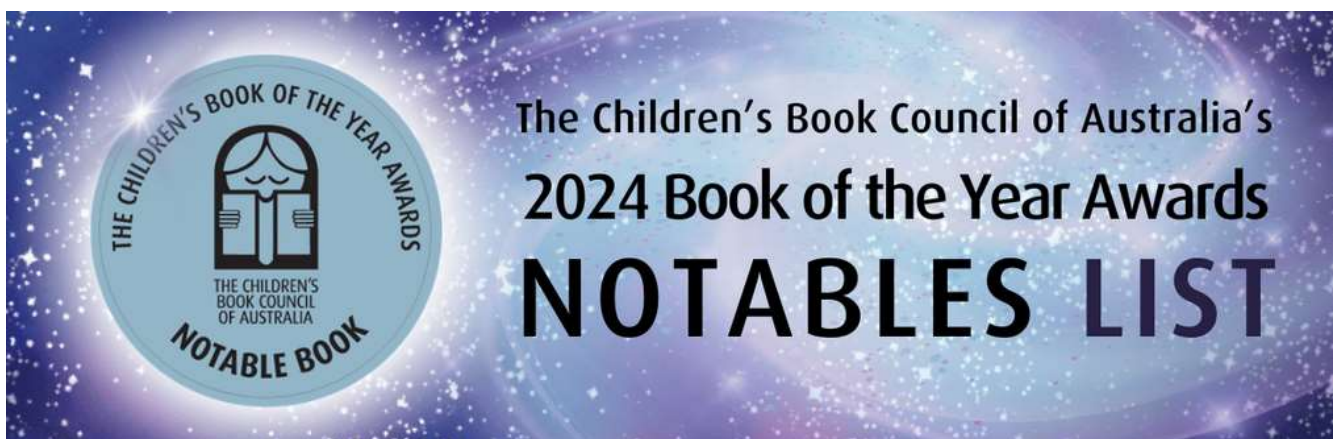
Since its inception in 1994, The Ena Noël Award has played a significant role in identifying talented emerging writers and illustrators. Thank you to all the publishers who entered books for this award.

Contact: Claire Stuckey, Coordinator 2024 Ena Noël Award enquiries.

Email: [ibby.australia@gmail.com](mailto:ibby.australia@gmail.com)

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

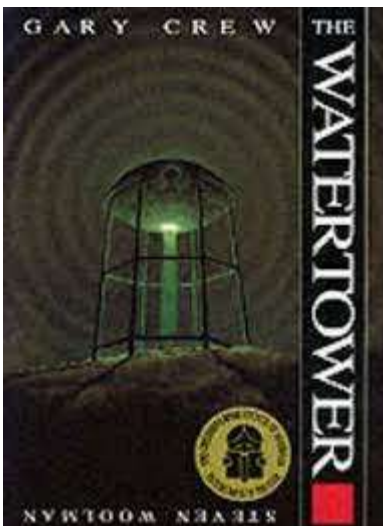
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The 2024 notables have been announced. You can [watch](#) the announcement, or [read](#) the list and [critiques](#).

## 2024 Hans Christian Andersen Jury Recommends 20 Titles

The Hans Christian Andersen Jury, aiming to help build bridges of understanding, has created a list of twenty outstanding books from the 2024 nominees that they felt were important to merit translation everywhere so that children around the world could read them, thus expanding their access to some of the very best books.



The Watertower by Gary Crew and illustrated by Steven Woolman is on this prestigious list.



The Australian Library and Information Association (ALIA) is delighted to announce that the National Simultaneous Storytime (NSS) book for 2024 is *Bowerbird Blues* by Aura Parker.

The NSS is held annually. In 2024 it will be on Wednesday 22 May at the new time of 12pm (AEST). Every year a picture book, written and illustrated by an Australian author and illustrator, is read simultaneously in libraries, schools, pre-schools, family day cares, childcare centres, family homes, bookshops and many other places around the country. Now in its 24th successful year, it is a colourful, vibrant, fun event that aims to promote the value of reading and literacy, using an Australian children's book that explores age-appropriate themes, and addresses key learning areas of the National Curriculum for Foundation to Year 6.

NSS aims to:

- promote the value of reading and literacy,
- promote the value and fun of books,
- promote an Australian writer and publisher,
- celebrate and promote Storytime activities in public libraries, school libraries, classrooms and communities around the country,
- and provide opportunities to involve parents, caregivers, the media, and others to participate in and enjoy the occasion.





Sally Rippin is Australia's highest-selling female author and has written over 100 books for children and young adults, many of them award-winning, including the popular Billie B Brown and Hey Jack! series, and the Polly and Buster trilogy. More recently, Sally has collaborated with Chris Kennett to create the School of Monsters series for beginning readers and with Eliza Hull to co-write Come Over to My House, illustrated by Daniel Gray-Barnett, exploring the lives of families who live with disabilities.

In 2022, Sally published a book for parents and educators, titled Wild Things: How We Learn to Read and What Can Happen If We Don't with the aim of creating awareness around neurodivergency and learning difficulties and how they may be best supported at home and in the classroom.

Currently, Sally is working on several books for children as well as adapting her work for the screen. Sally loves to write stories with heart and characters that resonate with children, parents and teachers alike. Her widely popular books are beloved across the globe and have sold more than ten million copies in eighteen countries.

Sally knows not every child finds it easy to read. During her two years, she will travel Australia talking about the many ways we can share stories, and support kids who might struggle to learn to read.

***"My hope as Laureate is to ensure that all children can be supported to access reading in the way that suits them most."***



[Click here for your March audiobook](#)

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## From CBCA VIC – A list of Diverse Stories

This list of diverse stories was recently curated by CBCA Victoria Branch committee member Ruth Woolven to share at professional learning. It contains recently released novels for upper primary and secondary students which explore culturally diverse, contemporary and historical stories from all around the world including Australia.

*My life as a chameleon* by Diana Anyakwo – 1980s Nigeria and Manchester

*Borderland* by Graham Akhurst – contemporary Australia

*Thirst* by Varsha Bajaj – contemporary India

*Everlasting Nora* by Marie Miranda Cruz – contemporary Philippines

*As long as the lemon trees grow* by Zoulfa Katouh – Syria, 2011

*When clouds touch us* by Thanh Hà Lại – United States, 1970s

*I am the Mau & other stories* by Chemutai Glasheen – Kenya

*Unlimited futures* edited by Rafeif Ismail Ellen van Neervan – speculative First Nations & Black writers

*Two sparrowhawks in a lonely sky* by Rebecca Lim – historical China

*Robert runs* by Mariah Sweetman – historical Australian

*One more mountain* by Deborah Ellis – Afghanistan 2021

*If you could see the sun* by Ann Liang – contemporary China

*We didn't think it through* by Gary Lonesborough – contemporary Australia

*Ash Mistry and the City of Death* by Sarwat Chadda – fantasy British/India

*The Spider and her Demons* by Sydney Khoo – fantasy Australia

*The F Team* by Rawah Arja – contemporary Australia

*What the river knows* by Isabel Ibanez – historical, Buenos Aires & Egypt

*You don't know what war is* by Yeva Skalietska – contemporary Ukraine

*The Lion above the door* by Onjali Q Rauf – contemporary Black and Asian heroes of WWII

*Only this beautiful moment* by Abdi Nazamian – historical & contemporary Los Angeles and Tehran

*Spice Road* by Maiya Ibrahim – historical fantasy

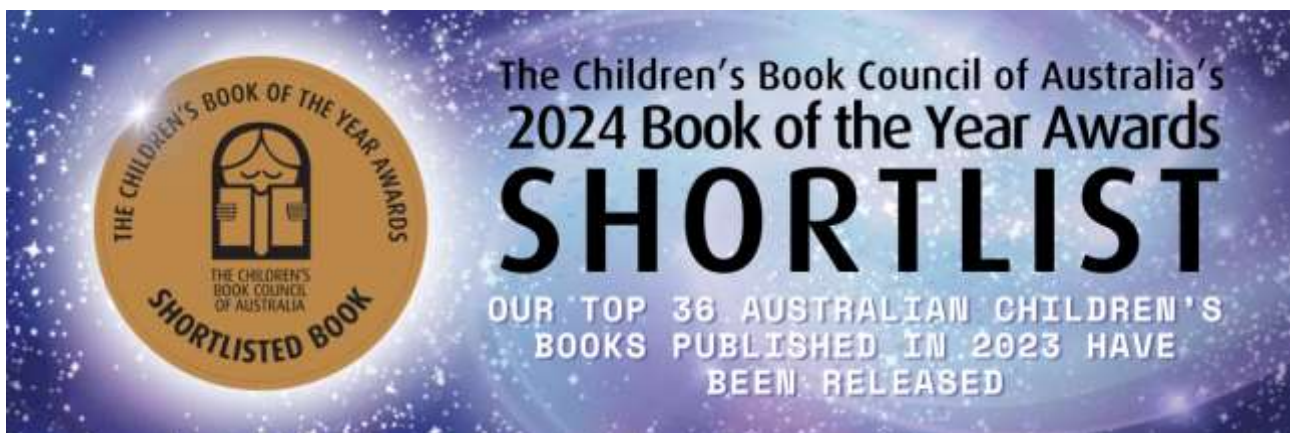
*Safiyyah's war* by Hiba Noor Khan – Paris WWI

## Calendar of Events

2 April	International Children's Book Day (ICBD) IBBY announces the Ena Noel Award
13 April	<b>Book Launch by Lian Tanner</b> <i>Fledgewitch</i> to be launched at State Library Hobart, George Town Library and Launceston Library. See article in this newsletter for more details.
22 May 2024 Noon	<b>National Simultaneous Storytime 2024</b> ALIA is delighted to announce that the National Simultaneous Storytime (NSS) book for 2024 is <i>Bowerbird Blues</i> by Aura Parker (Scholastic, 2023). <i>Bowerbird Blues</i> stars a beautiful bowerbird on the search for (you guessed it) BLUE! It's a moving story of longing and connection that unfolds as the bowerbird's search sends him soaring across the sea, sky and city. <a href="https://www.alia.org.au/EventDetail?EventKey=NSS2024">https://www.alia.org.au/EventDetail?EventKey=NSS2024</a>
16 August 2024	<b>2024 CBCA Children's Book Week Winners and Honours Announcement</b>
17 August 2024 – 23 August 2024	<b>CBCA Children's Book Week 2024</b> Reading is Magic!

If you have any dates suitable for inclusion, please send them to [tas@cbca.org.au](mailto:tas@cbca.org.au)

Ensure that you include the supporting url (if there is one).



<https://youtu.be/uX4m-feVTUE>

## Perform Education touring in 2024

**MAYBE A MIRACLE!**  
by Craig Christie

**MAYBE A MIRACLE!** is an exciting, interactive, in-school educational musical featuring a selection of **The CBCA 2024 Shortlisted Books** celebrating the Children's Book Week® 2024 theme: "Reading is Magic"

For dates, details, and bookings, contact us at:

[www.PerformEducation.com](http://www.PerformEducation.com)  
T: 1300 652 470  
E: [book@PerformEducation.com](mailto:book@PerformEducation.com)

In partnership with **The Children's Book Council of Australia**, visiting schools nation-wide, **LIVE** and **LIVESTREAM** for **Children's Book Week® 2024!**

Reading  
is  
Magic

TOURING in Schools for  
**Children's Book Week®  
2024**

 **perform!**  
EDUCATION

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## The CBCA Tasmania Blog

Are you ready to write?

Jennie is always looking for new contributors and expanding ideas and experiences around children's literature. If you have:

- a story to tell about your engagement with kids' books
- a writing or illustrating process to share
- reviews of some great books shared with the kids or
- the magic of access to a room of books

why not share it on the blog?

Check out examples on the blog itself — <http://cbcatas.blogspot.com/> — and be inspired.

Contact Jennie via [tas@cbca.org.au](mailto:tas@cbca.org.au) with “EOI: CBCA Blog Post” in the subject line.

All expressions of interest will be forwarded to Jennie and she will get back with some guidelines (200 to 300 words is a good baseline) and discuss a date.



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## The National Centre for Australian Children's Literature

The Centre holds one of the world's largest and most comprehensive collections of translations of Australian children's books. We hold over 5,500 translations in 68 different languages. This collection continues to grow through the generosity of Australian publishers, authors, illustrators, and private donors. For example, we hold *Fox* (Allen & Unwin, 2000), by Margaret Wild and Ron Brooks in 15 different editions, including eight different languages.

<https://www.ncacl.org.au/make-a-donation/>



We welcome visitors and researchers to the Centre. Please contact Emeritus Professor Belle Alderman, Director, if you wish to visit. <https://www.ncacl.org.au/>

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