

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETIING OF THE CHILDRENS' BOOK COUNCIL OF AUSTRALIA, TASMANIAN BRANCH 2024

When: Saturday 19th October 2024 9:30 for 10:00 start

Where: Libraries Tasmania Hobart, 91 Murray Street, Level 3

Meeting Open: 10:09am

Agenda for the Annual General Meeting 2024

1. Open meeting: Acknowledgement of Country & Welcome

 Present Felicity Sly, Roxanne Steenbergen, Steve Martin, Mark Macleod, Kay Allport

Apologies

Life Members: Maureen Mann, Angela Briant, Jenni Connor, Nella Pickup, Helen Thomas.

Members: Jennie Bales, Dawn Clarke, Carol Fuller, Jo-Ann Wolf, Anna Jones

2. Minutes of the Annual General Meeting in 2023

<u>Motion:</u> That the Minute of the Annual General Meeting held October 28th be accepted as a true and accurate record – with one amendment – Spelling of Roxanne's name.

Proposed: Roxanne Steenbergen Seconded: Kay Allport

Carried: Unanimously

- 3. Business arising from the Minutes
- 4. Committee Reports
 - President's Report

Steve spoke to the tabled report – Appendix 1

Motion: That the President's Report be accepted

Proposed: Steve Martin Seconded: Kay Allport

Carried: Unanimously

Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer's report was circulated prior to the AGM and was available during the meeting. The report was tabled and clarification invited by Felicity Sly.

Motion: That the Audited Treasurer's Report be accepted.

Proposed: Felicity Sly

Seconded: Roxanne Steenbergen

Carried: Unanimously

Social Media Report

The submitted Social Media Report was corrupt and will be resubmitted and distributed once Jennie Bales returns from overseas.

5. Election of Committee members

Chair of the meeting was handed to Mark Macleod. No further nominations were submitted. As there was only one nomination for each position, the following positions were declared

President Steve Martin

(Proposed: Felicity Sly Seconded: Mark Macleod)

Vice President Roxanne Steenbergen

(Proposed: Felicity Sly Seconded: Mark Macleod)

Secretary Jo-Ann Wolf

(Proposed: Felicity Sly Seconded: Kay Allport)

Treasurer Felicity Sly

(Proposed: Mark Macleod Seconded: Roxanne Steenbergen)

Up to 5 Committee members:

Kay Allport

(Proposed: Mark Macleod Seconded: Helen Thomas)

Mark Macleod

(Proposed: Kay Allport Seconded: Helen Thomas)

Jennie Bales

(Proposed: Felicity Sly Seconded: Kay Allport)

Dawn Clarke

(Proposed: Felicity Sly Seconded: Kay Allport)

1 committee position remains vacant, and can be filled via proposal at future committee meetings

Mark handed the Chair to Steve Martin

Steve proposed thanks to Christine Donnelly (in absentia) for her active role in the CBCA and will send a letter of thanks.

6. Expression of Interest

Newsletter Editor: Vacant

Social Media Coordinator: Jennie Bales

7. Other Business

Appointment of Auditor

Motion: That Willing & Associates be appointed as auditor 2024-2025

Proposed: Felicity Sly Seconded: Steve Martin

Carried: Unanimously

Felicity Sly will write a letter of thanks to Donald Ramritu for his many years of service in auditing CBCA Tasmania's financials.

Appointment of Public Officer

Motion: That Felicity Sly be reappointed as Public Officer

Proposed: Roxanne Steenbergen Seconded: Steve Martin

Carried: Unanimously

Membership Fees

<u>Motion:</u> That Membership Fees remain as at 2024 (\$80/\$40/\$20) Proposed: Steve Martin Seconded: Roxanne Steenbergen

Carried: Unanimously

Vote of thanks

Mark Macleod and Felicity Sly acknowledged the Advocacy work that Steve Martin has undertaken in the last year. The launch of Read Aloud to Your Child Every Day on Oct 29 2024 has spread nationwide and culminated in the Parliamentary Friends of Children's Literacy being established and launched in October 2024 Mark also highlighted that Hobart has been named the City of Literature and that we need to partner with the management group. Anna Reynolds (lord.mayor@hobartcity.com.au) and Patrick Gregory of Libraries Tasmania (patrick.gregory@libraries.tas.gov.au) be added to our Newsletter mailing list.

Meeting Closed: 10:58am



PRESIDENT'S REPORT 2023 - 2024

Childrens Book Council of Australia, Tasmanian Branch Inc. (CBCAT)

CBCA Tasmania is a volunteer-run, not-for-profit organisation, passionate about children's and young adult literature.

OUR PURPOSE:

To enrich young lives through Australian stories.

OUR VISION:

A thriving creative world embracing the transformational power of stories across generations.

OUR MISSION:

To connect, communicate, celebrate and advocate for the value of stories.

OUR VALUES:

Equity - open to all through equal voice and opportunity.

Quality - Maintain a high degree of excellence in all that we do.

Integrity - Act in a socially responsible manner with honest, fair and transparent processes.

Diversity - Seek, welcome and appreciate a diverse range of voices. **Respect** - Recognise and acknowledge the contributions of all.

THANK YOU and CONGRATULATIONS to everyone involved with the efforts of our Tasmanian Branch, Children's Book Council of Australia, your tireless work in promoting our creators and their stories to our children is very much appreciated.

A special call-out to our Patrons, Her Excellency, Governor of Tasmania, the Honourable Barbara Baker and Emeritus Professor Don Chalmers, AO - Joint Vice Regal Patrons. Many thanks for your support!

Thank you all for your passion and commitment to enriching young lives through Australian stories.

Good reading

Steve Martin President



2023-2024 Executive & Committee

Our Executive:

- President Steve Martin
- Vice President Roxanne Steenbergen
- > Treasurer & Public Officer Felicity Sly
- > Secretary Vacant

Our committee:

- Kay Allport
- > Jenny Bales
- > Michelle Chapman
- Dawn Clarke

Branch Roles:

- > Tasmanian National Board Director Steve Martin
- Newsletter Editor Anna-Maree Scott McGuiness/Felicity Sly
- Social Media Jennie Bales

Auditor

Donald Ramritu

Life Members:

Kay Allport Angela Briant Jenni Connor Berenice Eastman (Dec.)
Patsy Jones Hugo McCann (Dec.) Maureen Mann Judy Moss

Nella Pickup Glenn Pullen (Dec.) Helen Thomas Bonnie Tilley

Patrons:

Her Excellency, Governor of Tasmania, the Honourable Barbara Baker and Emeritus Professor Don Chalmers, AO - Joint Vice Regal Patrons.

Membership

It is hoped the next 12 months will produce an upturn in membership especially now with the Southern Readers' Cup is back; Shadow Judging seen as a positive team building and reading opportunity; Her Excellency the Honourable Barbara Baker AC, Governor of Tasmania, and Emeritus Professor Don Chalmers AO, marking 2024 CBCA Book Week at Government House 16th August; the launching of the Parliamentary Friends of Children's Literacy, Parliament House, Canberra 9th October 2024; and the READ ALOUD TO YOUR CHILD EVERY DAY national campaign.



Our branch has worked solidly over the past few years to build on the advantages of being a member of our organisation and in enjoying the benefits we have on offer. Please be encouraged to not only join, but to also spread the word, as whilst we promote our creators and the work they do, it's about supporting our children and preparing them for the educational and life's journey.

Category	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Personal & Concessional	34	33	31	23	24
Institutional	74	82	70	53	45
Life Members	12	12	12	12	12
Honorary	20	21	22	18	21
Total	140	148	135	106	102

Sun Project: Shadow Judging

"We loved judging books, it's hard sometimes but also fun. We learned heaps about judging criteria and the messages that the authors were trying to teach us. When we are older, we would like to be judges like you for the Childrens Book Awards. We are very grateful to be shadow judges! Hope we can do it next year again!"

Misha & Isabelle – Exeter Primary School

"I think the Shadow Judging was an amazing experience and I'm so happy I did it. I got to read good books and meet an author." Eamon G – St. John's Catholic School. Richmond

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UuvTvPYTLsw

Our Sun Project: Shadow Judging is an exciting addition to our annual calendar. We invited young voices from groups across Tasmania to join the conversation about the annual 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. Participants will use the same criteria as the CBCA Judges to reflect on literary values and to champion their own choices. Each group will focus on one of the five categories: Picture Book, Early Childhood, Young Readers, Older Readers or the Eve Pownall Information Book.

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

The 2024 CBCA Sun Project: SHADOWERS' CHOICE AWARDS

- CBCA Picture Book of the Year
 - o Every Night at Midnight by Peter Cheong; Affirm Press
- CBCA Early Childhood Book of the Year



- o The Concrete Garden by Bob Graham; Walker Books Australia
- CBCA Young Readers Book of the Year
 - o Scar Town by Tristan Bancks; Puffin Au
- CBCA Older Readers Book of the Year
- "Ink Flower" by Suzy Zail; Walker Books Australia
- CBCA Eve Pownall Award
 - o Australia; Country of Colour by Jess Racklyeft; Affirm Press

Read Aloud To Your Child Every Day

As you would be hopefully aware, our Branch are partnering Toast For Kids Charity Inc. Now 12 month's on, we have been successful in gaining support from our local councils with mayors and councillors along with several schools providing their support visually – photographed with our READ ALOUD TO YOUR CHILD EVERY DAY banners. Additionally, it was also great to gain bipartisan support of our message from Tasmania's Liberal & Labor parties, evidenced with photos holding our banner sign.

In July this year, whilst being in Canberra, it was a privilege to meet up with Dr. Belle Alderman Emeritus Professor of Children's Literature; Director, National Centre for Australian Children's Literature Inc at the University of Canberra.

The National Centre for Australian Children's Literature is a comprehensive collection of resources about Australian authors, illustrators, publishers and their creative works. The collection has books, artwork, ephemera, authors' papers and manuscripts, author and illustrator research files.

The collection includes over 57,546 books. Some 5,577 of these books are in overseas translations in 79 languages. It holds a unique part of Australia's cultural and literary heritage.





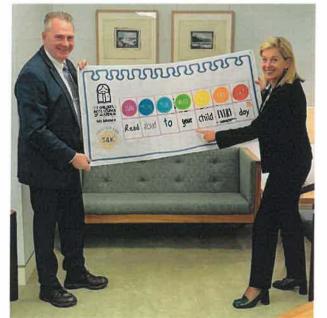
Met with Minister for Education The Hon. Jason Clare. Discussion was centred around disadvantage, poverty and how literacy can play an important part.

- Minister Clare was certainly in agreeance with how literacy can tackle social and economic issues faced today, and moreso into the future
- Please refer to attached speech, delivered at the Oct 9th Canberra launch of the Parliamentary Friends of Children's Literacy for more background.



Additionally met with Shadow Minister for Early Childhood Education & Youth, Angie Bell MP

- o Discussion was centred around disadvantage, poverty and how literacy can play an important part.
- Shadow Minister Bell was in agreeance with how literacy can tackle social and economic issues faced today, and moreso into the future
- o Promoted an opportunity to support children's literacy and creators who took up the hint to instigate with Senator Catryna Bilyk a Parliamentary Friends of Children's Literacy.





Also met up with Ex TAS Senator Anthony Chisholm, Assistant Minister for Education, who

also showed his support for the national campaign.



Those meetings helped instigate the Parliamentary Friends Of Children's Literacy. The Parliamentary Friends of Children's Literacy was established to:

1. Support the promotion of public messages encouraging parents and caregivers throughout Australia to read to their children every day; and





The Friends consist of 22 Members & Senators, with the launch attracting: - Shadow Minister Angie Bell, Steve Martin, Senator Catryna Bilyk, Minister Anne Aly holding the banner; plus Wendy Rapee (CBCA NSW), Rob Mitchel MP, Dan Repacholi MP, Senator Helen Polley, Trish Hepworth (Australian Library Information Association Deputy CEO), Emma Mactaggart (The Lighthouse Toowoomba), Julie Long OAM (President CBCA ACT), Senator Carol Brown, Dr. Belle Alderman (University of Canberra), Linda Harrison (Play Pathways Australia), Senator Sarah Henderson, Senator Andrew Bragg, Senator Marielle Smith, Kate Halcrow



(Foundation for Learning & Literacy), Emily MacManus (The Lighthouse Toowoomba), Senator Tammy Tyrrell, Graham Perrett MP, Senator Paul Scarr, Sonali Marathe (Next Sense), Anna Burkey (Head Australia Reads), Steve Georganas MP, Susan Templeton MP, Lindy Batchelor (Aust. Children's Laureate Foundation, Melissa Price MP & Tas Besliev (Children's Publishing Committee), plus representatives from Dr. Helen Haines MP, Senator Tammy Tyrrell offices.

Tasmanian Senator Catryna Bilyk co-chairs the Friends group: -

"Today with Angie Bell, I facilitated the launch of the Parliamentary Friends of Children's Literacy at Parliament House in Canberra.

The friendship group was initiated by Steve Martin, President of both the Toast for Kids Charity Inc. and The Children's Book Council of Australia - Tasmanian Branch.

I thank my co-Chair Angie Bell MP, as well as guest speakers Emma McTaggart (The Lighthouse Toowoomba), Wendy Rapee (former The Children's Book Council of Australia president) and Steve Martin for their valuable insights on the importance of children's literacy and the long-term benefits of reading to your children every day." Catryna Bilyk

Shadow Minister Angle Bell: -

"Dear Mr Martin, Thank you for your support and for travelling to Canberra last week to help Senator Bilyk and I launch the Parliamentary Friends of Children's Literacy. This group could not have happened without you and the incredible work you and others around the table are doing to improve children's literacy.

Last week's event was a great success, and the presentations were engaging and insightful. But we still have more work to do to improve literacy rates, and I will continue to raise this issue with the Shadow Minister for Education, Senator Henderson.

I look forward to seeing the new graphics and continuing this discussion with yourself and others at future Parliamentary Friends of Children's Literacy events. Yours sincerely Angie Bell MP Shadow Minister for Early Childhood Education Shadow Minister for Youth."





Emily MacManus - The Lighthouse Toowoomba

"Thank you again for starting the ball rolling on this one. We are right there behind you cheerleading with enthusiasm, but a Parliamentary Friends group would never have occurred without you to start it. We are very grateful to be able to be part of the team.

I love that the message is simple and clear, it makes the goal simple and clear too. It's non-threatening, achievable and important."



Emma MacManus (left) with Minister for Early Childhood Education Anne Aly (3rd along)

Taking every opportunity, bumped into Aussie icon Bryan Brown at our hotel. Taking advantage of the timing, we all advised Bryan why we were there with Bryan coming on board to support our national campaign.



L-R Wendy Rapee, Steve Martin, Sonali Marathe, Emma Mactaggart with Bryan Brown



Our committee through the work of Felicity Sly & Elizabeth Sly have provided our message banner: -

Personalised Email signatures: 32 created

Personalised Banners for high resolution printing: 4 created

Lifting Literacy Outcomes Monitoring Group

The Tasmanian Government is committed to improving literacy rates in Tasmania to achieve the aspirational goal of 100 per cent literacy - that all Tasmanians can reach their full literacy potential with the right support.

The Tasmanian Government is now implementing 23 recommendations through the Lifting Literacy Implementation Plan 2024-2026.

The Lifting Literacy project began in September 2021 when the Premier appointed the Literacy Advisory Panel to create a community wide framework to achieve a literate Tasmania. After extensive community consultation, the Literacy Advisory Panel delivered its Final Report to Government: Lifting Literacy, setting out a community-wide framework, and Priority Recommendations for immediate implementation over the next three years.

On 6 June 2023 Premier Jeremy Rockliff announced the Government's intention to accept the Literacy Advisory Panel's 23 Priority Recommendations.

https://www.dpac.tas.gov.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0014/330044/Lifting-Literacy-3-year-Implementation-Plan.pdf

Readers' Cup

The aim of Readers' Cup is to encourage all children - not just 'good readers' - to read, and to enjoy what they read. It is also a way to reward enthusiastic readers in the context of a team activity - quiz and a creative challenge.

CBCAT is once again supporting Cups in northern, north west and southern Tasmania.

The 2024 Devonport Readers Cup will be conducted on Friday 8th November and is still going strong with 10 primary schools from the Devonport, Latrobe and Kentish municipalities participating. Judges include Janene Wilczynski Devonport Councillor, Vonette Mead Latrobe Deputy Mayor, Kate Haberle Mayor Kentish Council, Janet Edmunds Vice President Toast for Kids and Tenna Snare Radio 7AD.

Other areas/schools that might want to conduct a Readers' Cup, please feel free to contact us for any support we are able to provide. Our hope is to eventually create a State



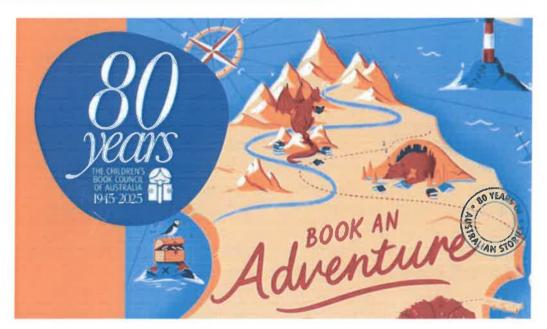
Readers Cup, with top 4 of each current Readers Cup going through to the state championships.

Book Week Theme 2025 - Saturday, 15 August to Friday, 23 August 2025

This year's theme Book an Adventure ties the exploratory aspirations of the artist and our invitation to join us in celebrating 80 years of Children's Book Week®.

"BOOK AN ADVENTURE"

Feature Artist: Jess McGeachin (https://www.jessmcgeachin.com/)
https://www.jessmcgeachin.com/)



The CBCA is a not-for-profit organisation supporting itself financially through the sale of a range of merchandise including CBCA Book Week merchandise and our iconic Book of the Year Award stickers. Head to our eStore in early 2025 to see our stunning new CBCA Book Week range. The range includes posters, bookmarks, bunting, badges and more. Don't miss out!

CBCA Book of the Year Awards 2024

This year's winners, shortlist and honours recipients can be found at https://cbca.org.au/winners-2024/
The Shadow Judges Winners can be found at

https://shadowjudaina.cbca.ora.au/winners/

Entry into the 2025 CBCA Book of the Year Awards is still open. The closing date for ALL books published in 2024 is Saturday, 30 November. https://awards.cbca.org.au

To enter your book in one or multiple categories head across to the awards entry portal: https://awards.cbca.org.au/



It is recommended you check the eligibility requirements of the awards before completing your entry.

CBCA

Tasmanian representation has again changed with Loretta Brazendale retiring from the CBCA TAS to take up a position as a School Business Manager. Our committee has filled the vacancy electing myself to take up the Directorship Monday October 21st.

Merchandise

Merchandise was handled nationally in 2024

Social Media

Jennie is overseas and the submitted Social Media Report was corrupt. This will be included with the Term 4 Newsletter.

Auditors Report

See attached Audit Report

<u>Premier's Literary Awards</u>

The Tasmanian Literary Awards celebrate excellence in the Tasmanian literary sector, raise the profile of Tasmanian authors and foster literary talent in our State. The Tasmanian Literary Awards are open to writers living in Tasmania.

The Tasmanian Literary Awards are administered by Arts Tasmania on behalf of the Tasmanian Government. Entries are now closed.

The partnered book "Tassie Rhymes for little tigers" by Narelda Joy companion braille/low vision font has been entered into the Premier's Prize for Fiction, pushing the point that the original book is 100% Tasmanian and that the companion version is about inclusion. Sonali Marathe advised "What was different about Tassie Rhymes was that the braille/low vision companion book was created and published to be alongside the original edition - a truly "born accessible" concept and a first in Australia."

Conclusion

The Tasmanian Branch, Childrens Book Council of Australia is a wonderful organisation, one that works hard to not only promote Tasmanian creators, but to also connect, communicate, celebrate and advocate for the value of stories.

As President, I continue to enjoy the privilege to work alongside some extraordinary, dedicated and supportive committee members - THANK YOU, again!



To all our Patrons, Members, Life Members, supporters and readers, thank you for all your continued support.

Best Wishes

Steve Martin



Tasmanian Branch,
Australian School Library Association,

Dear members,

Thank you for the opportunity to speak at your ASLA Mini Conference about the Children's Book Council of Australia, Tasmanian Branch (CBCAT), our partnership with Toast for Kids Charity Inc. projects and the journey thus far with the national campaign READ ALOUD TO YOUR CHILD EVERY DAY, it was much appreciated and hopefully contributed to you Keeping Inspired!

As you would be aware the CBCAT is a not for profit organisation, manned by volunteers, with the aim to enrich young lives through Australian stories. The CBCAT looks to achieve such though activities such as: -

- Book of the Year Awards promoting quality literature for young Australians by Australians; supporting and encouraging a wide range of Australian writers and illustrators of books for young people aged 0 through 18 and; celebrating contributions to Australian children's literature.
- Children's Book Week® each year, schools and libraries across Australia spend a week celebrating books, and Australian authors and illustrators.
 - Children's Book Week merchandise resources
 - The theme for 2025 is "Book an Adventure" ties to the exploratory aspirations of the artist
 and our invitation to join us in celebrating 80 years of Children's Book Week®. Come on an
 adventure with us in 2025 as we travel across lands, time, and memories.
- **Shadow Judging** invitation for young voices from groups across Australia to join the conversation about our annual Book of the Year Shortlist and choose their own winners.
- Membership Jan 1st Dec 31st 2024 Individual Membership \$40; Concession Membership \$20 for student, pensioner or unemployed; Institutional Membership \$80; provides: -
 - Discounted entry at ticketed events for Personal / Concession members. Institutional membership covers all staff at the institution for the discounted member rate determined for each event.
 - o Access to quality merchandise available via the estore.
 - Eligibility for schools and home-school teams to participate in the annual Southern
 Tasmanian Readers' Cup competition Devonport Readers Cup (refer Steve).
 - o Professional Development events such as the Book of the Year Award Judge's Talks.
 - Information about author and illustrator tours, speakers and other events.
 - o Advance access to our regular newsletter.
 - Providing financial support to the CBCA Tasmania, which is a volunteer organisation, to meet its ongoing costs and fund activities to benefit its members.
 - We also have our fingers crossed on securing funding for creator school visits, which will be free or heavily discounted to our members – WATCH THIS SPACE

Please be encouraged to join your school up and enjoy the benefits on offer – you could also volunteer to be a CBCAT member or coordinator . https://cbcatas.org.au/



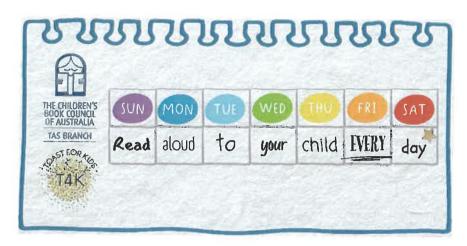
As mentioned CBCAT have partnered with Toast for Kids Charity Inc. (T4K) and it is here that an interest is declared as also being President of T4K.

T4K aim is to "Break the cycle of poverty, poor health, social exclusion, and helplessness, through and by supporting emergency food relief, food security and education." The committee conduct: -

- https://www.facebook.com/toastforkids/
- Annual Charity Gala funds raised supports 16 local school breakfast clubs
- Help Babies Learn publishing the 100% Tasmanian children's book "Tassie Tales for little tigers" illustrated and authored by Narelda Joy
 - o rhymes about Tasmanian fauna
 - o includes palawa kani names of animals (with phonics)
 - o has a counting game
 - o promotes reading aloud to your child every day
 - o Printed in Devonport
 - Voiced by local Tasmanians on our Facebook page
 - a companion version in braille/low vision print was also published with Narelda reformatting verses and creating bolder/clearer illustrations
 - o CBCAT partnered with T4K to help fund; select author/illustrator; and edit/proof read
 - Just between us, the Country Women's Association, Tasmania Branch will shortly announce supporting the book as a statewide project and in supporting the message within the book
- READ ALOUD TO YOUR CHILD EVERY DAY national campaign. Following on from T4K's book and
 despite millions & millions of dollars spent, policy changes made; over decades Tasmania's illiteracy
 rate remains stubbornly around 50%. Throw in NAPLAN results 2023 & 2024, identifying 1 in 3
 school students throughout Australia are not meeting minimum numeracy and literacy
 expectations, and one in ten are so far behind they need additional support.
 - The question asked was "what's missing" READ ALOUD TO YOUR CHILD EVERY DAY?
 - o Again, CBCAT has partnered with T4K, jointly launching in Hobart October 2023
 - Talented Elizabeth Sly created the READ ALOUD TO YOUR CHILD EVERY DAY logo, one word for every day of the week
 - The banner is available for use by any organisation that wishes to support the campaign, and their own logo can be inserted, providing a piece of ownership. Please reach out if you would like a version of the banner for salutations, newsletter etc.
 - Set to be launched Wednesday 9th October is the Parliamentary Friends of Children's Literacy
 - It is intended that this Group will support the promotion of public messages encouraging parents and caregivers throughout Australia to read to their children every day; and inform Members and Senators of the importance of and benefits of children's literacy.
 - We are reaching out to people and organisations such as yourselves, Councils, institutes; governments; schools; parent groups; agencies; not for profits; speech pathologists; writers' groups; book and reading advocates; presenting the opportunity to partner with the effort, adopting and continually promoting the one message: "Read aloud to your child every day", in the hope to create a national culture.



 We also hope to build a campaign to exceed the Life Be In It; Slip Slop Slap; and Do The Five campaigns. Our current efforts are just the start.



Again, thank you for the opportunity, for your support and we look forward to hearing from all of you as we take this campaign further.

Oh, and if not already a member, please consider joining up 😂 .

Yours sincerely

Steve Martin

President

8th September 2024

