

# Newsletter of the Children's Book Council of Australia

## (Tasmanian Branch) Inc

~ March 2017 ~



The Children's Book Council of Australia  
Tasmanian Branch Inc.  
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We are off and reading! Welcome to the first official CBCA (Tasmania) Newsletter for 2017.

### **From the President ...**

As this is the first newsletter for 2017 I would like to extend greetings to all our members interested in developing the impact and proliferation of quality children's literature in Tasmania. We are busy planning an exciting year of events, culminating in the prestigious National Book of the Year Announcement event to be hosted by Governor Kate Warner at Government House in Hobart on August 18<sup>th</sup>. We would like to give a special thanks to Nella Pickup for writing the outstanding winning application to host this event. Other events in the 'pipeline' include the Reader's Cup in the south of the state; Meg Denman will be organising the primary schools and Cheree Harcourt will be organising the secondary schools. Dr Margaret Bromley will be returning to Tasmania in July to deliver a presentation at the Queen Victoria Museum & Art Gallery in Launceston as part of the NAIDOC Week celebrations.

Last November a new Executive and Committee was elected, and on behalf of the new committee I would like to sincerely thank the previous leadership team for their valuable contribution and commitment to the CBCA Tasmanian Branch. As the new President, I am very pleased to introduce the members of our Executive: Gina Slevac is our Vice President and Newsletter Editor, Felicity Sly is our Treasurer and Merchandise Officer, and Gay McKinnon is our Secretary. The Committee members include Steve Martin, Carol Fuller, David Towns, Meg Denman and Pennii Purton assisted by Amanda O'Shea, Jackie Gangell and Patsy Jones. The new committee brings diverse expertise and experience, and combined with all our branch members we are looking forward to a productive year.

Leanne Rands  
Branch President  
CBCA Tasmanian Branch

### **Dates for your Diary ...**

- |        |  |
|--------|--|
| Mar 28 | BOTYA Short List Announcement                                  |
| Mar 28 | Share Notables and Short List Titles, Kingston LINC, 4pm       |
| Mar 30 | Share Notables and Short List Titles, Don College Library, 4pm |
| Jun 28 | Reader's Cup, Senior Competition                               |

Jun 29 Reader's Cup, Primary Competition  
Jul 2-9 Dr Margaret Bromley NAIDOC Week presentation, QVMAG  
Aug 18 CBCA National Book of the Year Announcement Event, Government House

## **Snapshots of the 2016 AGM and Life Membership for Patsy Jones**



Congratulations Patsy Jones, CBCA Life Member!



Jeannie-Marie Leroi delivered a fascinating presentation,  
'What's science got to do with storytelling?'

## **CBCA Book of the Year Night of the Notables**

Special congratulations to two Tasmanian inclusions, Angelica Banks (aka Danielle Wood and Heather Rose) for the Book of the Year: Younger Readers with *Blueberry Pancakes Forever* and Jennifer Cossins for A-Z of Endangered Animals (Eve Pownall Award for Information Books)

## **Readers Cup, Primary and Secondary 2017**

We are excited to share the details for Readers Cup 2017. Further information and registration is now available on the CBCA Tas website.

\* *Reader's Cup, Senior competition will be held at 10am on Wednesday 28 June at The Friends School*

\* *Reader's Cup, Primary competition will be held at 10 am on Thursday 29 June at Mt Carmel College*

Reader's Cup, Junior	Kicking Goals - Adam Goodes
	Toad Delight - Morris Gleitzman
	Fish in a Tree - Lynda Mulally Hunt
	The Fabulous Friend Machine - Nick Bland
	Gary - Leila Rudge
Reader's Cup, Senior	Desert Lake - Pamela Freeman
	One Small Island - Alison Lester & Coral Tulloch
	Suri's Wall - Lucy Estella & Matt Ottley
	Circle - Jeannie Baker
	When the Lyrebird Calls - Kim Kane
	Paper Planes - Steve Worland
	Lizzie and Margaret Rose - Pamela Rushby

❀❀❀ Have you renewed your CBCA Membership for 2017? ❀❀❀  
<http://www.cbcatas.org/membership/>

## CONGRATULATIONS!

### 2016 Aurealis Awards Finalists Announced.



Another congratulations to Angelica Banks (aka Danielle Wood and Heather Rose), for your Best Children's Fiction nomination for *Blueberry Pancakes Forever*! the third book in the delightful Tuesday McGillycuddy series.

“*Blueberry Pancakes Forever* is an amazing book, loved by so many children. Written by Danielle Wood and Heather Rose (together creating the author Angelica Banks), this book has so many twists and turns, new things you wouldn't expect and, of course, the wonderful characters taken on from *Finding Serendipity* and *A Week Without Tuesday*. As Tuesday McGillycuddy has yet another adventure in the world of Vivienne Small, you fall in love with this wonderful story.

Everything else aside, this book is written in an incredible way, loved by so many and is an amazing book of adventure. It definitely has its own unique story. It is creative, fun,

adventurous and exciting. I personally enjoyed reading this book for the first time and have loved re-reading it (many times!), all making the book more exciting and fun. All in all, this book is truly amazing. As Tuesday embarks on her third adventure in this book, you can't help but love every second of magic.”

Review by Lucie Slevac (12)

## 2016 Aurealis Awards Shortlist Announcement



**The Western Australian Science Fiction Foundation (WASFF), organisers of the 2016 Aurealis Awards, are delighted to announce the finalists for the Awards.**

Winners of the 2016 Aurealis Awards and the Convenors' Award for Excellence will be announced at the Aurealis Awards ceremony, on the evening of Friday 14 April, 2017 in Perth.

### 2016 Aurealis Awards – Finalists

#### **BEST CHILDREN'S FICTION**

*Blueberry Pancakes Forever*, Angelica Banks (Allen & Unwin)

*Magrit*, Lee Battersby (Walker Books Australia)

*Somebody Stop Ivy Pocket*, Caleb Crisp (Bloomsbury)

*The Turners*, Mick Elliott (Hachette Australia)

*When the Lyrebird Calls*, Kim Kane (Allen & Unwin)

*The Hungry Isle*, Emily Rodda (Omnibus Books)

See all the details here: <https://aurealisawards.org/>

## CILIP Carnegie and Kate Greenway Medal 2017

The longlists have been announced. See the lists here:

[http://www.carnegiegreenaway.org.uk/press.php?release=pres\\_2017\\_longlists\\_announced.html](http://www.carnegiegreenaway.org.uk/press.php?release=pres_2017_longlists_announced.html)

## 2018 Hans Christian Andersen Awards for Children's and Youth Literature

Two Australian nominees for this prestigious award are David Metzenthen for Writing and Jeannie Baker for Illustration.

## Picture Book Book Club

THEME: AUSSIE  
PICTURE BOOKS  
THURSDAY  
2ND MARCH  
#PICBOOKBC  
TWITTER CHAT

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS  
TWITTER CHAT TIMES  
  
AEST QLD: 8PM  
AEDT NSW VIC TAS: 9PM  
ACST NT: 7:30PM  
ACDT SA: 8:30PM  
AWST WA: 6PM  
NZDT NZ: 11PM



## So how does the Picture Book Book Club work?

The first Thursday of every month is Picture Book party time! At 8pm (AEST) picture book lovers will gather for a facilitated Twitter chat around a different theme every month that includes a guest author, illustrator or awesome person. The Picture Book Book Club team will lead you through a series of questions designed to explore the theme and discuss the awesomeness of picture books! For those of you who like to be prepared, we will publish the questions on our blog a few days before each chat. We will also feature blog posts from our guests so stay tuned to our blog throughout the month!

## How can you join the Picture Book party?

Join the first Picture Book Book Club Twitter chat on **Thursday 2nd March 8pm AEST**. The theme for the month of March is '**Aussie**' picture books. We are super lucky to have the ultra talented **Damon Young** joining us to discuss picture book awesomeness. His fun new book 'My Brother is a Beast' which is illustrated by the very cool Peter Carnavas will hit shelves in late February.

For more information visit the website: <https://picturebookbc.wordpress.com>

## The Readings Children's Book Prize shortlist 2017

We're delighted to reveal this year's shortlist for the Readings Children's Book Prize. This Prize recognises and celebrates Australian books that children love to read, and raises the profile of debut and on-the-rise Australian children's book authors.

The six shortlisted titles are:

- [\*Escape to Moon Islands\*](#) by Mardi McConnochie
- [\*A Most Magical Girl\*](#) by Karen Foxlee
- [\*Squishy Taylor and the Bonus Sisters\*](#) by Ailsa Wild
- [\*The Secrets We Keep\*](#) by Nova Weetman
- [\*Elizabeth and Zenobia\*](#) by Jessica Miller
- [\*Grover finds a Home\*](#) by Claire Garth

You can read judges' comments for each shortlisted title here:

<https://www.readings.com.au/news/the-readings-children-s-book-prize-shortlist-2017>

The Readings Children's Book Prize manager Angela Crocombe says: 'For the younger readers we have an animal adventure and a mystery story, both the first in a series. We also have a swashbuckling, seafaring adventure; the story of a haunted house; and a magical fight between good and evil. There's something for every child to delight in and be transported by.'

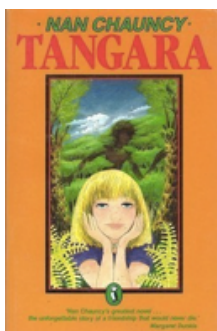
This year's judging panel included children's specialists Athina Clarke (Readings Malvern), Alexa Dretzke (Readings Hawthorn), Dani Solomon (Readings Kids) and Holly Harper (Readings Kids). The panel will be joined by special guest judge, children's book author Elizabeth Honey, to decide the winner.

We're also pleased to be offering the ENTIRE shortlist in [a specially priced bundle](#). This bundle is available online and from Readings Kids.

## Julie Hunt on IBBY and the 2016 Honour List

As a brand new member of IBBY (International Board on Books for Young People) it's been a delight to find out about this organisation. IBBY recently built a library on the Italian island of Lampedusa, a landing point for thousands of people fleeing trouble in Africa and the Middle East. In Canada, IBBY gives a book and a library card to every refugee child who arrives in the country. These are examples of the practical and inspiring work of an organisation which aims to promote international understanding through children's books.

Every two years IBBY invites member countries to select their best books and present them to an international audience through the IBBY Honour List. Nan Chauncy's *Tangara* was an Honour Book in 1962 (apparently nominated by Great Britain).



From 1972 onwards Australia has made regular nominations, selecting outstanding books from three categories: writing, illustrating and translation. And our most recent nominations are as follows: Writer – Felicity Castagna for *The Incredible Here and Now*; Illustrator – Freya Blackwood for *Banjo and Ruby Red* (text by Libby Gleeson); Translator – John Nieuwenhuizen for *Nine Open Arms* (author Benny Lindelauf).



*Banjo and Ruby Red* is a story of friendship and love between an old black and white dog and a recalcitrant chook called Ruby Red. Banjo, 'the best chook dog we ever had', always has trouble getting Ruby Red into the shed at night but when the hen gets sick he brings her to his kennel and looks after her until she recovers. This simple and powerful story is beautifully realised with

pictures that leap and squawk and bark across the page. The sounds the animals make are part of the illustrations and the scratchy-looking words provide a contrast to the loose lines of the drawings. The images are full of character, warmth and vitality and the dramatic use of red against an unusual palette of soft greens and yellows is perfect for a tale about reconciliation of opposites.



*The Incredible Here and Now* is an immediate and vivid portrayal of life in the westerns suburbs of Sydney. It's a story of love, loss, community, family and fast cars as seen through the eyes of fifteen-year-old Michael and it's told in a series of stunning vignettes.

*Nine Open Arms* is the first book that Australia has ever nominated in the translator's category. Set in 1937 near the German border it's a historical mystery about an itinerant family who move into a house 'on the edge of the world', a house which holds as many secrets and stories as Oma Mei's suitcase. Eleven-year-old Fing and her sisters are tired of their grandmother's half truths and at first they think the house is cursed. Fing wants answers and bit by bit all is revealed in this intriguing and highly imaginative tale about lies and truth and the strange connection between the past and the present. The language is fresh and the use of expressions and words in the original Dutch lend much character to this exceptional story. A rich and wonderful read.

These three Australian nominations join those from 56 other countries in the latest Honour List. IBBY encourages the publication and distribution of quality children's books, especially from developing countries and believes every child has the right to read. If you are interested in joining IBBY contact Robin Morrow: [robin.morrow@wordsandphrases.com.au](mailto:robin.morrow@wordsandphrases.com.au)

**Julie Hunt**

## **CBCA Life Members**

Judy Moss

Jenni Connor

Kay Allport

Berenice Eastman

Maureen Mann

Glenn Pullen

Bonnie Tilley

Angela Briant

Helen Thomas

Hugo McCann

Patsy Jones

**Vale ...**

## **Amy Krouse Rosenthal**

Author Amy Krouse Rosenthal, known for her sunny, witty children's books and the optimistic, relatable memoirs and guided journals she created for adults, and writer of a widely read Modern

Love essay recently published in the *New York Times*, died of ovarian cancer on Monday, March 13 at her Chicago home. She was 51.

(Source: <http://www.publishersweekly.com/pw/by-topic/industry-news/Obituary/article/73046-obituary-amy-krouse-rosenthal.html>)

## David Laing

Sympathies on the passing of Tasmanian author David Laing, born in Scotland, author of children's adventure novels *Forest Spirits*, *Forest Shadows* and *Forest Secrets*, stories created from his experiences of teaching indigenous children.



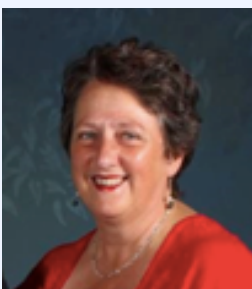
From the CBCA Tasmania Blog ...

<http://cbcatas.blogspot.com.au/>

Flis' Books of Influence

Felicity Sly

*Flis (better known than Felicity) is a Teacher-Librarian (on the Tasmanian critically endangered list) who, for all but one year of her career (starting in 1981), has been employed as a Teacher-Librarian in Education Department schools, initially in primary schools and more recently at Don College (Year 11 & 12) in Devonport.*



I recently came across the following in my Facebook feed: [30 of the Best Books to Teach Children Empathy](#).

Some of the titles were familiar, but others not (possibly because it's heavily American weighted). It prompted me to think about the books that influenced me as a child, or as a former primary school teacher-librarian. I wanted to share these – and would like to read your responses listing your influential books.



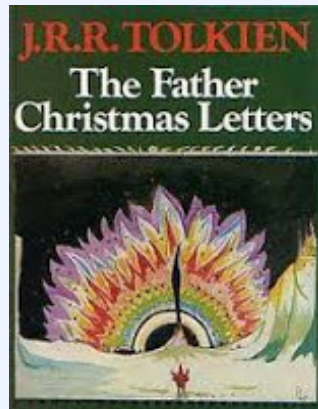
*A Wrinkle in Time* (Madeleine L'Engle) was the first science fiction book I discovered in primary school. I found myself fighting 'IT' in my sleep until the book reached resolution. The power of the story teller to invade my unconscious mind, as I slept, stays with me today. Another in this genre, *Granny* (Nicholas Fisk), also based upon mind control, was entertaining and thought provoking. As a young person, I loved that it was the children who were able to resist domination and save the day.



I love a book that hijacks my emotions, whether it be tears, anger at injustice, or laughter. *Goodnight Mister Tom* (Michelle Magorian) was the first time I had read a novel about child abuse and the injustice that William experienced. Unfortunately I find his story replicated, in some way, in the students I teach. The sassy Galadriel in the *Great Gilly Hopkins* (Katherine Paterson) epitomised a child who protects her emotions by attacking the world that has disappointed her – again a child I see in my teaching career. *Love You Forever* (Robert Munsch) is a picture book I struggle to read as an adult, but is probably just a 'nice' story for a young person. The inhabitants of the nursing home in *Wilfrid Gordon McDonald Partridge* (Mem Fox) tug at the heart strings.



Picture books I love to read aloud include *Whistle up the Chimney* (Nan Hunt) – Nan’s onomatopoeia ensures that the train sounds are articulated. The fun participatory read aloud, *It’s a Perfect Day* (Abigail Pizer), builds a cacophony of farmyard sounds as the story progresses. The minimal text story *No ducks in our Bathtub* (Martha G Alexander) relies on the pictures to tell the story of the battle between a heavily pregnant mother and her pre-school son, who desperately wants a pet. *Stories from our Street* and *More Stories from our Street* (Richard Tulloch) are six vignettes of family life, written in a most engaging manner and beautifully illustrated by Julie Vivas. *Winnie the Pooh* (A.A. Milne) and *Wind in the Willows* (Kenneth Grahame) are stories I love to read, but usually not aloud. Pooh-isms are the vernacular of my childhood, and often caused confusion for visitors. The question: Would you like cream or ice-cream with that? was answered with: Can I do a Pooh? Sounds quite different to how it looks in writing! *Winnie the Pooh* was my deceased mother’s favourite story, and as she lay in a coma, we sat and read our favourite Pooh chapters to her – mine was an Eeyore story. My Grade 6 teacher read *Wind in the Willows* aloud as a class novel, and I have never been able to replicate her wonderful Ratty and Mole voices – but they are there whenever I read this book.



My two Christmas favourites are *The Father Christmas Letters* (J.R.R. Tolkien) and *The Worst Kids in the World* (Barbara Robinson). Tolkien’s letters to his children over twenty years, explaining the evil in the world (the Goblins) and present disasters (North Polar Bear), created the world inhabited 365 days of the year by Father Christmas. I too, wrote letters from Father Christmas to my children, once they started writing Christmas letters to Santa. *The Worst Kids in the World* is probably the best book to ever be included in a class reading library (Scholastic). The Herdmans take over the lead roles in the Nativity play and take the Christmas story to a whole new level.

Please add your favourite reads/read alouds that have influenced you in the comments section. The hardest part is signing in the first time – then it’s quite straight-forward. I’d really like to read your comments, and hopefully discover new titles.

*Felicity Sly*

Teacher librarian & CBCA Tasmania Treasurer