Welcome to our 2018 End of Year Wrap Up

CBCA Tasmanian Branch has enjoyed another successful year of excellent and engaging book related events. The range has included: Judges Talks, Readers’ Cup (South & North West), a Book Week Dinner and presentations from a variety of local authors and illustrators. Thank you to all our members who contributed their time, energy and expertise, to support the events around our state particularly during Book Week, your commitment and hard work throughout the year is appreciated. Through all these events our branch members influence local communities and promote quality literature for children and teenagers, as well as encourage and support authors and illustrators in Tasmania.

On Saturday 27th October the AGM was held at Hadley’s Orient Hotel in Hobart. Congratulations to the following members on their appointments:

Executive
President – Leanne Rands
Vice President – Renee Chettle
Treasurer – Felicity Sly
Secretary – Pennii Purton

Committee
Jennie Bales, Patsy Jones, Kay Allport, Christine Donnelly

Board Member – Cam Jones

Other Appointments
Merchandise & Public Officer – Felicity Sly
Social Media – Jennie Bales & Christine Donnelly
Newsletter – Pennii Purton

Nan Chauncy Award Coordinator
After 33 years of dedication and hard work as the CBCA Nan Chauncy Award Coordinator Jenni Connor is stepping out this role. On behalf of the Tasmanian Branch I would like to acknowledge her achievement over many years and thank her for her leadership and commitment to maintaining the integrity of this award. The Nan Chauncy Award is a biennial award instituted by CBCA in 1983 which honours a person who has made an outstanding contribution to the field of Australian Children’s Literature over a period of years.
To all our members, best wishes for the upcoming festive season, may it be an enjoyable time relaxing and sharing with family and friends.

As the CBCA Tasmanian Branch we can be very proud of all we have accomplished in 2018 and I look forward to another exciting year in 2019.

Cheers,
Leanne Rands
President

Mem Fox honoured again!

Last year at our Book of Year Dinner in Hobart we had the privilege of honouring Mem Fox with the prestigious Children’s Book Council of Australia Nan Chauncy Award for outstanding contribution to Australian children’s literature. Felicity Sly, our Branch Treasurer, who wrote the nomination said; ‘I doubt that we could ever quantify the impact of Mem on educators, parents and children. I do know that every time she shares a book, she leaves the audience, regardless of age or experience, wanting just one more story’.

This year Mem has been honoured again by the CBCA South Australian Branch with the inaugural Membership of The Children’s Book Council (South Australian Branch).

Nola Uzzell wrote:

*Mem continues to produce wonderful books for young children creating stories that inspire, uplift, and teach important messages about love, friendship, acceptance, and joy as evidenced by her latest shortlisted book ‘I’m an Australian too’. She continues to inspire adults with her passionate advocacy for reading aloud and literacy through her books, projects and voice in the media. She gives voice to the power of the picture book read aloud. As she says in Reading Magic her book for adults “The fire of literacy is created by the emotional sparks between a child, a book, and the person reading”.

*It is for her long term achievements as a ‘living treasure’ in creating wonderful stories that are not only award winning but engage young children and their parents and educators, and her passion for the power of the read -aloud story in developing children as readers, that we honoured Mem at the dinner by presenting her with the inaugural Honorary Membership of The Children’s Book Council (South Australian Branch).*

(Extract from the CBCSA News Term 4 2018)
On Tuesday 31st October eh 2018 YABBA Award Winners were announced. Read about the winners online: http://yabba.org.au/2018-winners-announced/

Fiction for Years 7-9

The Fall

Written by Tristan Bancks
Published 2017 by Penguin Random House

Fiction for Older Readers

The 91-Storey Treehouse

Written by Andy Griffiths
Illustrated by Terry Denton
Published 2017 by Pan Macmillan

Fiction for Younger Readers

Bad Guys: Intergalactic Gas

Written and Illustrated by Aaron Blabey
Published 2017 by Scholastic Australia
The 2018 Book of the Year Judges’ Report

The 2018 Judges’ Report is now available on the CBCA website at this link:


CBCA Book Week 2019

Theme: Reading is My Secret Power
Dates: 17 – 23 August 2019

Announcement Dates for 2019 Awards

Notables: 26th February

Short List: 26th March

Awards Announcement: Friday 16th August

Congratulations!

CBCA 2018 Book of the Year Award Winners

Picture Story Books

Do Not Open This Book

Written by Andy Lee
Illustrated by Heath McKenzie
Published 2017 by Lake Press
Dear Colleagues

There are a number of acknowledgements and updates I’d like to share with you.

**BOYA 2019 Entries**

Boxes of books continue to arrive at the National Office for the 2019 CBCA Book of the Year Awards and the entry numbers are pleasingly strong. Publishers and creators are working well with the new online entry app. Entries close on 30 November 2018.

**CBCA Book Week 2019**

We have received a very positive response to the CBCA Book Week 2019 theme *Reading is My Secret Power.* Design of the 2019 merchandise is well-advanced and the Merchandise Sub-Committee is currently on track for an earlier launch than in previous years. Branches will receive as much advance notice as possible of the launch schedule as we understand how important this is.

**Branch Activities**

The Board is very much enjoying reading in the branch newsletters about all the activities and events your branches are undertaking. The work you do within your states and local communities to connect members, schools and disadvantaged families with authors, illustrators and wonderful Australian children’s literature is incredibly important and I thank you for your ongoing efforts and dedication.

**2019 National Conference – And Now They’re Laughing**

The planning committee has been working hard to finalise the conference program which features a fantastic line-up and will explore and highlight the contribution made by authors of humour to Australian children’s literature. The conference will be held in Canberra from 31st May to 2nd June. If you know of anyone interested in supporting the CBCA 13th National Conference, a trade and sponsorship prospectus can be found on the National website.

**2019 Short List and Book of the Year Awards**

Thank you for your expressions of interest to host the 2019 Short List and Book of the Year events. We are pleased to announce that the CBCA Victorian Branch will be responsible for staging these two high-profile and prestigious events. The Board is very grateful to the branch for the generosity of its proposal to host these events.
National Board Changes

Tina Cavanough, who served on the National Board as Queensland Branch Director for the past six years, has moved to Melbourne for a new work role. During her time as Director she also spent countless hours editing the very successful Reading Time website. We would like to thank Tina for her time, dedication and contribution to the CBCA and wish her all the very best with her new role and life in Melbourne.

We welcome the Queensland Branch's new Director nominee, Robyn Emerson, who will join the Board in Brisbane on November 10 for our second face-to-face meeting of the year.

Donation

We would like to acknowledge a $1000 donation from Sydney Grammar Preparatory School Parents’ Association. Their generosity and gesture of support for the CBCA is greatly appreciated and the funds will help us to continue our work of promoting literacy and Australian children’s literature.

2018 CBCA Book of the Year Feedback

While the 2018 Awards are well and truly behind us, I’d like to share an excerpt from an email sent to Jenny Stubbs of CBCA Queensland from Affirm Press regarding the CBCA Book of the Year Awards event in Brisbane:

*It was such a lovely day on Friday and a wonderful event. Seeing Gwyn beaming with happiness was such a treat. I just wish I’d been able to stay for the evening – Gwyn had a fabulous time with everyone. It means so much to any creator and publisher to be shortlisted, but for a small publisher that has just begun their children’s list it means the world. My sincerest thanks. Claire Hume.*

2018 CBCA Book Week Feedback

It’s never too late to share a good news story about CBCA Book Week. Albany Public Library sent us a copy of their newsletter in late September. Following is an excerpt:

*Book Week is one of the libraries biggest literacy promotion programs delivered to schools in Albany and the Region. We would like to thank the Children’s Book Council of Australia WA Branch for their ongoing support of the library [which, along with our other sponsors] make it possible for us to deliver such a vibrant program.*

With best wishes to you all,

Margot.
The CBCA is now accepting applications for Judges for the 2020 & 2021 Book of the Year Awards.

**Nominations close 30 November 2018** and judging panel appointments will be announced by 31 January 2019.

For the application form and further information on eligibility and selection criteria, judges' requirements and the application process please see the website.


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**Nan Chauncy Award – 2019**

We are looking for members to consider the following positions:

1. Nan Chauncy Award Coordinator
2. Selection Panel Member

**Nan Chauncy Award Coordinator information**

Expressions of interest are called by the CBCA National Board for the coordinator role.

The Nan Chauncy Award honours those who have made an outstanding contribution in the field of Australian children’s literature. In addition to the coordinator, a three-
person judging panel for the Award is allocated on a CBCA Branch roster basis. In 2019, the judging panel will be represented by nominees from the Tasmanian, New South Wales and ACT Branches. (Note that the judging panel meets only by teleconference; face to face meetings are not required.)

The coordinator’s duties are:

Manage the judging panel’s communication and decision-making processes by:

- Timetabling and setting up teleconference meetings
- Exchanging biographical information about each panel member
- Recording the findings and considerations of meeting
- Advising the CBCA National Board Chair of the decision of the panel
- Overseeing the development and writing – by the panel – of a citation and accompanying news article about the recipient
- Liaising with the CBCA National office where required.

**Expressions of interest should be sent to the National Office by Monday November 26**

Please use this address: admin@cbca.org.au

If you have any questions, please let me know and I’ll seek answers.

Kate Flamsteed
National Executive Officer
The Children’s Book Council of Australia

kate.flamsteed@cbca.org.au

**Selection Panel Member information**

If anyone is interested in this position please email CBCA Tasmanian Branch Executive on: tas@cbca.org.au
Gift ideas for Christmas

Picture Book Reviews by Margaret Hamilton

Christmas Picture Books

- *Excuse Me Santa!* by Dave Hughes & Holly Ife, illustrated by Philip Bunting. Glitter everywhere in this very funny story, a Christmas sequel to ‘Excuse Me!’

- *Hopping around the Christmas tree* by John Marks & Benjamin Johnston. This enjoyable book includes a CD, with new lyrics to the popular song. It will be a winner on Christmas morning.

- *Macca’s Christmas Crackers* by Matt Cosgrove. Alpacas have taken the world by storm, with this the third in this hugely successful series! Alpacas apparently love Christmas as well, so this book adds to the spirit in a delightful way.

- *There’s a hippopotamus on our roof eating Christmas cake* by Hazel Edwards & Deborah Niland (Puffin). I’m very proud to have published the very first hippo book and it’s still in print over thirty years later, being enjoyed by a whole new generation. Now there’s a new title, especially for Christmas, even with glitter on the cover. Any fans of Hippo will love this new book and will want to share it at Christmas.

Other New Picture Books

- *Australia Illustrated* by Tania McCartney (EK). Wow, there’s so much in this book, in text and illustrations. It’s a tribute to Australia, its people, its animals, plants and lifestyle. An impressive achievement that will fascinate readers, young and not so young.

- *Beware the dark forest* by Sue Whiting & Annie White (Walker). Rosie is feisty and brave, especially when her little dog is lost in the forest. Rosie confronts many dangers to save him. Very effective watercolour illustrations thrillingly depict the forest and the dangers.

- *Bonnie and Ben Rhyme* by Mem Fox & Judy Horacek (Scholastic). Another thoroughly enjoyable book of rhyming fun from these two. It’s a companion to
'Good Night, Sleep Tight!' and will be a welcome fun book to share with children at bedtime.

- *Clever crow* by Nina Lawrence & Bronwyn Bancroft (Magabala). This fascinating book is an Aboriginal story told in English and Djambarrpuynu, a language of Indigenous people of North West Arnhem Land. It deserves a wide readership, not only for the story but the striking artwork by this award-winning illustrator.

- *Digby & Claude* by Emma Allen & Hanna Sommerville (NLA). A place to live and a feeling of belonging is innate in us all but change is all around us. These two boys find a way to preserve their own place, surrounded by their changing neighbourhood.

- *Invisible Jerry* by Adam Wallace & Giusseppe Poli (EK). I relate to this as I’ve reached the age where I’m invisible! It’s a delightful, heartwarming story about being found by a special friend. The illustrations are touching and very appealing.

- *Leaf stone beetle* by Ursula Dubosarsky & Gaye Chapman (Dirt Lane Press). This gorgeous, beautifully designed little book is just right for quiet and gentle contemplation about the mysteries of nature, the cycle of life and new beginnings.

- *Midnight at the library* by Ursula Dubosarsky & Ron Brooks (NLA). Two multi-award winners have created a magnificent book. Dubosarsky’s text, combined with Brooks’ illustrations, refers to the fascinating story of books, their creation, preservation and the culture surrounding them, highlighted by the story of one particular very special book which was found and preserved. The writing is evocative, descriptive and very engaging and the superb illustrations extend the text with pictorial references to many pivotal moments in the history of books and printing. A masterpiece.

- *Ten Pound Pom* by Carole Wilkinson & Liz Anelli (Black Dog). It’s very personal anyway as it is the author’s story. I found it fascinating, well-written and involving, supported by the mixed media illustrations which extend the story.
- **Under the Southern Cross** by Frané Lessac (Walker). This fascinating book is a tour of Australia after dark. It highlights major events in all the capital cities and many other significant places, with added information on every page. Trademark Lessac brightly coloured gouache illustrations complete this striking book.

- **A walk in the bush** by Gwyn Perkins (Affirm). The unexpected pleasures of going places together and enjoying a walk in the bush are highlighted in this CBCA Picture Book of the Year. This book is followed by *A day at the show* which follows the same pattern, of spending a day out together. These enjoyable books might encourage children to leave their devices at home and get out!


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*When selecting Christmas gifts be sure to also check out the wonderful books from our local Tasmanian Authors and Illustrators*
Looking for the latest reviews on children’s books, go to Reading Time online. These reviews are categorised by age or interest and includes interviews and reading lists


The 1st National Conference in 1992 was titled ‘At Least They’re Reading’. The rich and varied program of ‘And Now They’re Laughing!’ will highlight the outstanding contribution made by writers of humour to Australian children’s literature and to children’s literacy — and much more.

Regular features include: Book Launches, Trade Display, Bookshop, Book Signings, networking. For trade and sponsorship enquiries contact: Greg Vickers greg@con-sol.com

SAVE THE DATE!

31 May — 2 June 2019
QT, 1 London Circuit
Canberra
The inaugural Australian Children’s Laureate Summit

SAVE THE DATE

Thursday 28th February 2019

Reading Changes Lives!
The inaugural Australian Children’s Laureate Summit

Don’t miss our five Australian Children’s Laureates
Boori Monty Pryor, Alison Lester, Jackie French, Leigh Hobbs, Morris Gleitzman
discussing their projects and experiences as Laureates for the first time.

Contributes to a moderated discussion with the Laureates and Australian children’s creative
groups/ professionals / enthusiasts to develop key recommendations on how to elevate the
importance of imagination and literacy to make Australia a great reading nation.

Be part of the discussion. Be part of the outcome.

Program details to follow.
Register your interest – lbatchelor@childrenslaureate.org.au – for further updates.
Awards Foundation Benefactors

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In Memoriam Donations

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