



Greetings folks,

Newsletter time again and already we are 1/4 of the way into the year. There are many things happening so check out the news and information below for SCBWI Australia and New Zealand.

Member news:

Our ever active member Hazel Edwards has been caught in a podcast. This is from hazel ...

You might like to check www.thenakednovelist.com.au for an interview by Brendan Guillifer in podcast format. You can just click on and listen. If you haven't listened to as podcast before, this is an easy way to learn new technology. There is also a direct link from the News section of website www.hazeledwards.com which has just been updated.

The hour interview on a novelist's workstyle mentions 'Outback Ferals', 'Cycling Solo Ireland to Istanbul', 'Antarctic Writer on Ice' and 'Antarctic Dad' as well as the cake eating hippo books.

Congratulations:

to our CBC shortlisted members

Meredith Costain, Doodledum Dancing - shortlist for Book of the Year: Early Childhood

Corinne Fenton (ARA Victoria, also known as Corinne King) Queenie: One Elephant's Story

The awards will be announced Friday 17th August 2007 -- Children's Book Week is 18-24th August with the Theme being READiscover.

Regional News:

Victoria

SCBWI VICTORIA AUTUMN AFTERNOON

27 members plus a few non-members gathered at La Notte Restaurant to hear Dr Virginia Lowe talk about her recently released title 'Stories, Pictures and Reality: Two children tell' on young children's responses to reading and books. This was followed by a short presentation by Svett Strickland a member who has recently returned to Australia having lived in the US for almost 10 years. She shared some of her valuable experiences and knowledge with us and it was interesting to hear some up-to-date information about the American publishing scene.

Following an afternoon tea break which gave ample time for networking, our guest speaker Dr. Susan La Marca, current CBC Victoria Judge, gave us some insight into the criteria for and the way books are judged for the CBC Awards. She brought with her a suitcase full of all the Notable and Shortlisted books, which was a wonderful opportunity to view these special books. A table full of attendees lingered on at outside on the pavement sipping coffee and red wine, until it was time for us all to reluctantly head for home.

Queensland

On Sunday, 15th April, SCBWI Queensland group celebrated our first birthday with a cake and sparklers and, as usual, an excellent feast. Oh yes, and we did some work as well. Our own news and general news was discussed. Everyone agreed that they had made a lot of progress in this last year in their work which they felt was due to the encouragement and support of the group. Members then read out stories they wanted critiqued and some valuable comments were made so watch this space for the next hot books!

Peter Taylor came up with the brilliant suggestion of bringing along a favourite 'How to...' book to the next meeting and having a swap session.

This next meeting will be held on Sunday, 22nd July, at the usual time of 11.00 am at Rowan House. At this meeting we will be discussing what techniques we all use to manage to pull out the best bits of a first draft and put it together to create a readable story in the second draft. It should prove to be a fascinating discussion. Also I would like to add a plug for Meredith Murray. She is a talented young artist from America with some incredibly big and brave ideas. Her dream is to turn a backpackers' hostel in the Daintree Rainforest into an artists' retreat and she has put together a business plan and is now asking for help to achieve her dream where she will continue to run the hostel for backpackers but also offer artists six months residencies. Anyone interested in this idea can check Meredith's website on www.mitriart.com.

Western Australia

June 3rd - 11am followed by informal lunch nearby. As you know from last newsletter, this meeting will be part of the heARTlines Festival at the Mundaring Arts Centre. Well-known children's author, [Hazel Edwards](#) will address a combined SCBWI and ASA gathering. Hazel's talk is titled: 'Co-Writing 'Cycling Solo: Ireland to Istanbul': Collaborative Projects that get Published', inspired by Hazel's collaboration with her son Trevelyan. After lunch, Hazel will give a talk for the public, 'Antarctic Writer on Ice, with visuals from her exciting 2001 trip and lots of anecdotes about writing books. A not to be missed opportunity.

July 18th - Members Meeting with optional dinner afterwards. 5.00-6.30 Further details TBA

August 18th - 12.30-2.30 Bookweek lunch (hopefully with visiting author)

For more info/updates email [Dianne Wolfer](#).

New South Wales

Forthcoming notice - 2007

CHANGE OF MEETING DATE ... our meeting of June 5 has had to be rescheduled to June 12 so please mark that in your diaries now. and we would love to see you at the next meeting.

So, the details of the next SCBWI Meeting at [The Hughenden Hotel](#), 14 Queen Street Woollahra: - Tuesday 12h June 5-7 p.m.

with optional dinner

***** Remember too that if you happen to be travelling interstate around any of these dates in any of the states don't forget to drop in to the SCBWI meetings that are being held if you can. It would be great to see you. ALSO don't forget to check our scbwi website www.scbwiaustralia.org/events.htm for the latest info on your next state meetings. Put them in your diaries now.

New Books by members and Websites:

Books:

Kate Forsyth:

The 'The Herb of Grace; ISBN 9781405037822;

The Cat's Eye Shell; ISBN 9781405037830 in the Chain of Charms series, published by Macmillan.

Mark Greenwood

Fortuyn's Ghost (illustrated by Mark Wilson); ISBN: 9781920694777; published by University of West Australia Press/Cygnat Books.

Lynelle zita Westlake

Molong the Frog, published by Boolarong Press.

Virginia Lowe:

Stories, Pictures and Reality: Two children tell; published by Routledge.

Elizabeth Pulford

'Castlecliff and the Fossil Princess' published by Walker Books, Australia.

'Famous' Kiwi Bite book - Chapter book - published by Penguin NZ 'sea dreamer' - YA novel - published by Random NZ

Websites:

- Sue Murray: www.suemurray.com.au
- Georgia Mansur: www.georgiamansur.com.au
- Tom Skinner: www.tomtombooks.com
- Don Cronk: www.billabongvaley.com

Other Notes:

Literacy and Numeracy Week

The federal government's LITERACY AND NUMERACY WEEK is on again from 3 - 9th September ... details and more information at www.literacyandnumeracy.gov.au and in the next newsletter. This year there will be 5 featured books read across the primary and high school grades.

BOOK MARK: International SCBWI and ASA Conference 2008

Lin Oliver (Executive Director) and Stephen Moosley (President) of SCBWI will be at the Sydney Conference. Julie Romeis commissioning editor from Bloomsbury USA will be speaking at the conferences and undertaking manuscript assessments.

Speakers will include major Australian publishers, arts organisations, best selling USA YA novelist Ellen Hopkins and Australia's hugely successfully picture book team of Jackie French and Bruce Whately.

In SYDNEY at The Hughenden 23-25th February 2008 and in PERTH with the support of WritingWA, WA Arts 16-17th February 2008.

Further details including the program and booking details will be coming soon.

Sydney Writers Festival MAY 28 to June 3, 2007

SCBWI members will be speaking, doing workshops and charring sessions at the SWF including Kate Forsyth and Moya Simons. Susanne Gervay will be charring an interesting session on Mothers & Daughters Friday 1st, 1-2 p.m. at The Wharf which is free.

There are some excellent children and YA sessions on Thursday 31st May - one with Shaun Tan and one with the panel of YA authors Margo Lanagan and Matthew Reilly. While most sessions are at the Wharf, sessions are being held all over Sydney and regional areas.

For details of this festival: www.swf.org.au

Children's and Young Adult Literature Festival at the NSW Writers Centre 30th June 2007 10 am to 5 p.m. at the Centre in the beautiful garden in Rozelle.

There is a nominal entry cost. Speakers include major Australian publishers such as Leonie Tyle (UQP), Sarah Foster (Walker Books), Ana Viva (Scholastic and others. SCBWI members Christopher Cheng, Vashti Farrer, Kate Forsyth, Deborah Abela, Susanne Gervay, Moya Simons as well as other well known authors such as James Valentine and Judy Nunn.

Check details: - www.nswwriterscentre.org.au

BOOKFEST in support of Western Suburbs Sydney Schools 30th August. Authors and Illustrators are hosting schools for a lunch. There will be over 30 schools, with book sales and an opportunity to sit with a school librarian and 8 children from that school to talk about the author/illustrator's books.

For authors and illustrators who wish to participate please email [Susanne Gervay](mailto:Susanne.Gervay).

Susanne Gervay's YA novel, Butterflies has been selected by IBBY (under the umbrella of the United Nations, Books for Youth) for the international travelling exhibition launched at Bologna Book Fair 2007 on Outstanding Youth Literature on Disability. There are books from twenty countries in the exhibition.

Australia Council Literature Grants CLOSE 15th May 2007. Please note that you need a letter of support from your publishers or prospective publisher. Check out their website.

We received this plea from Donna German, editor at Sylvan Dell Publishing in the USA and so of course pass it to our members

HELP! I receive LOTS of submissions from Australian authors, some of which are quite good. However, as a new, small, independent publishing company, we really must rely on authors and illustrators to assist in marketing efforts. This is not as big a concern for some of the larger, more well established companies. We essentially would not be able to properly market a title with an author who lives half way across the world from us. Please help me to spread the word that, for now, we cannot accept submissions from Australia. And, please understand that this is a business decision for us and does not reflect on anything else. I hope that a few years from now, we have a better capacity to handle marketing for foreign authors. When that happens, I'll let you all know. Thanks, Donna.

USA Agent

Scott Treimel NY sells and administers intellectual property rights-- print, electronic, foreign, dramatic, film, composition, broadcast, merchandise, promotion-- for children's book creators. On average, 3,000 unsolicited submissions arrive yearly, necessitating our strict adherence to these policies.

- submissions are to be sent via post.
- text submissions must be in standard manuscript form: double spaced type in a standard size font.
- no multiple submissions or queries are considered. our period of exclusivity is 90 days from receipt.
- submissions received without an s.a.s.e. are recycled upon receipt. note: the post office does NOT accept metered postage.
- complete picture book texts may be submitted, but no more than two. (we accept perhaps one per thousand.)
- picture book dummies and/or thumbnail storyboards may be submitted only if the author is also the illustrator. include the manuscript separately as well.
- complete chapter books of 60 or fewer pages may be submitted.
- queries are required for manuscripts of 60 or more pages: include a story synopsis with attention to character development and two sample chapters.
- no film scripts are considered.
- do not telephone before submitting work.
- no toy projects are considered.

Founded 1995
Associate of Authors Representatives
The Authors Guild
Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators

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434 Lafayette Street
New York, NY 10003-6918

Expression OnLine is the SCBWI international online newsletter. It's available for free to all current SCBWI members, anywhere in the world. It includes news and short feature items about children's books, the industry in general as it is practiced in different parts of the world, and the people involved - writers, illustrators, book designers, publishers, editors, booksellers, librarians, teachers, parents, educators, and more. There's a regular section announcing good news about SCBWI members wherever they are, and a constantly updated listing of SCBWI events worldwide.

There's also a calendar of other children's book-related news and events that might be of interest to SCBWI members - from Tirana, Albania to Wahroonga, NSW Australia. From Brussels, Belgium to Smith's Parish, Bermuda. From Russe, Bulgaria to Phnon Penh, Cambodia. From Belo Horizonte, Brazil to Mississauga, Canada. From Beckenham, UK to Quimperle, France to Cavite City, Philippines to Gipuzkoa, Spain to Los Angeles, California and many, many places where SCBWI members live and work.

By subscribing to Expression OnLine, you get two to four issues a month that will make you feel that you are indeed part of an international SCBWI community. To subscribe, email Beulah at bpteditor@yahoo.com with your complete name and your email address that is on file at the SCBWI head office. Once in, you can unsubscribe anytime. You may also, on your own, change the email address that you would like to use in receiving the newsletter. You may also visit http://groups.yahoo.com/group/expression_online.

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A school librarian shared this story with Prue. Please check out this article about teens and reading.

http://seattlepi.nwsource.com/books/306531_teenlit08.html

Support for ELR

Most of us are aware that this year there is a federal election due so now is the time to write to your local members and the ministers responsible to voice your support for continued and permanent funding of Education Lending Right (ELR) ... it has only been budgeted to 2008!

Ministers:

Senator George Brandis SC,
Minister for the Arts and Sport,
Parliament House
Canberra, ACT 2600

Senator the Hon. Helen Coonan,
Minister for Communications
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600

and

Mr Peter Garrett,
Shadow Minister for the Arts,
Parliament House
Canberra, ACT 2600

OUR Website – www.scbwiaustralia.org

Just a quick note to check out the website - that is where notices are posted about upcoming events and of course if you haven't yet had your own website linked to our site then drop us a note with your website details. And remember that members are welcome at all Australian events at the various chapter meetings so keep checking the website if you are travelling and contact the chapter organiser.

The headquarters of SCBWI Australia is [The Hughenden Boutique Hotel](#), 14 Queen St Woollahra (Sydney) NSW 2025. Please check for details of coming literary events and meetings at The Hughenden.

And a reminder again:

SCBWI Australia in conjunction with the ASA is in the process of organising an International Conference for SCBWI members to be held at The Hughenden Sydney and a one day conference to be held in Perth in February 2008. Set aside these dates for next year.

THE 2007 LA CONFERENCE:

DON'T forget that the 36th annual SUMMER conference - which of course is our winter is on this year from 3-6 august again at Los Angeles ... all members will receive notification about bookings and the program in the mail.

Other conferences:

- 9th Annual Winter Conference February 9 & 10, 2008 New York, NY
- SCBWI @ Bologna Conference March 23 & 24, 2008 Bologna, Italy
- 37th Annual Summer Conference August 1 - 4, 2008 Los Angeles, CA

So, that is all for this newsletter ... Don't forget to send any news, new books, your new website information to info@scbwiaustralia.org for inclusion in the next newsletter.

We hope that you are creative in the chillier months ahead.

Ciao for now,
Chris and Susie.

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