



Newsletter time again. so we hope that this is finding you well and sparkling. Stacks of news and information below so read on.

SCBWI Australia moving ahead

SCBWI members are welcome at all Australian events organised in the Sydney, Perth, Brisbane and Melbourne chapters. Members need to check the SCBWI Australia website to get details: - www.scbwiaustralia.org

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.

Recent events at the Hughenden have included Anthony Browne (UK) literary dinner; author/illustrator cocktail party with Garth Nix, Ursula Dubosarsky, Julie Vivas and many others; James Valentine literary dinner; Patricia Bernard's exotic Indian launch of 'With the Karma Sutra under my Arm'.

HarperCollins Publishers will be launching the delightful new picture book 'Josephine Wants to Dance' by Jackie French and Bruce Whatley on 14th November.

The ASA will be holding their Christmas party at The Hughenden on Friday 3rd November.

Member news is included in SCBWI Australian bi-monthly newsletter available on the website. Members should send their news to [Chris Cheng](#) for inclusion in the next newsletter.

SCBWI Australia in conjunction with the ASA is in the process of organising an International Conference to be held at The Hughenden Sydney and a one day conference to be held in Perth in the second half of February 2007. The conference will include Australian publishers and commissioning editors from USA and UK. Details will be posted as they come to hand.

SCBWI Australia is extending its links with NZ where a chapter is currently being established.

Collegiate relationships with ASA and the Federal Government National Literacy Week are being strengthened to connect children's authors and illustrators throughout Australia.

SCBWI AUSTRALIA XMAS PARTY & MEETING

November 8th at the Hughenden Hotel 6-9pm.

\$20.00 for a glass of wine or non alcoholic beverage and buffet.

Booking essential. Please email [Susanne](#) by 2nd November to confirm.

We are making this our annual Christmas meeting ... we are getting in a little before the RUSH.

ALSO please bring along TWO books (yours or another creator), one to exchange with other members at the meeting and one to give to children. This year the gift books we are giving to one of the children's organisations.

Member news:

From Edel Wignell

I wish to announce the creation of my website: www.edelwignell.com.au

I asked the ASA to suggest a web host, and they recommended [Jason Rhodes](#) (JR Network Solutions - www.jrnetworksolutions.com). He is highly professional, skilful, prompt, courteous and artistic. An Internet specialist who looked at the website commented that it is 'elegant, clear and easy to navigate'. (Members will note that Jason created both the SCBWI website and the SCBWI Australia E-newsletter and many members sites)

Camel Rider by Prue Mason has been contracted by Charlesbridge in the U.S. That was through the SCBWI Conference in Feb 2006. Congrats Prue.

Regional news:

Reports:

Western Australia

On 16th September four WA members and seven not-yet members joined interstate guests, Kirsty Murray and Wendy Orr for an informal breakfast meeting in Albany. Wendy and Kirsty were participating in the SPRUNG Writers Festival. Although time was short (the first SPRUNG sessions began at 9.00) we shared many ideas - particularly in relation to effective websites.

Forthcoming notice - 2007

Our next meeting will be on Monday 8th January 2007 at 3.30pm in central Perth (location to be confirmed). It will be a peer-critique session. Members and interested non-members bring along a work-in-progress to share for constructive feedback. There will be a time limit per person and, depending on size of group and interest, sub groups for YA, illustrators etc ... The peer critique session will be followed by an informal dinner at 6.00pm. Members who cannot attend during the afternoon are welcome to join us for dinner! A small fee will apply to cover room cost. For more info/updates email [Dianne Wolfer](#).

Sunday 3rd June 2007 - Hazel Edwards.

She will address a combined SCBWI and ASA gathering at Mundaring Arts Centre at 11am followed by an informal lunch nearby. More details early next year.
(Details of the heARTlines program and month-long exhibition of original children's book illustrations will be released early next year. It is supported by SCBWI!)

Victoria

On Saturday, September 23rd a group of about 20 SCBWI Victoria members met at La Notte Restaurant, a cosy Italian cafe in Lygon Street Carlton. La Notte offered us a private room with afternoon tea and attentive and faultless service. It was lovely to have the area to ourselves without interruption.

I initially welcomed all present and gave a quick introduction on what I see as my role with Victoria and my aims for the next 12 months. Plans at present are to have 3-4 casual get togethers each year (probably at La Notte because it worked) where we have one or two guest speakers, also allowing plenty of time to network and get to know each other. I shared a hand-out for members to highlight seminar topics which they think might be useful in the future. A second aim is to run a 2-day seminar in a regional area (not too far from Melbourne) also in the next 12 months.

Claire Saxby, SCBWI Member, Author and Poet and wonderful support to me, spoke about the judging of the Doroethea McKellar Poetry Competition for children and her involvement in it over the last two years. Our guest speaker Bruce Hughes, Actor and Public Speaking Coach, gave us a taste of helpful presentation skills tips for us all to use. A longer Presentation Skills session, hands on, will definitely be one of the topics included at the 2-day seminar next year. It was generally agreed that some of our functions could be opened up to non-members at a higher cost. (from Corinne.)

Forthcoming notice - 2007

Saturday February 17 - 2.00pm - 5.00pm.

An afternoon get together in Bendigo at the Bunja Cafe and Colonial Bank Gallery, Pall Mall, Bendigo.

A guest speaker and a local SCBWI member will each give presentations and there will be plenty of time for friendly schmoozing! Bendigo locals may care to stay for dinner afterwards.

Saturday May 12 - 2.00pm - 5.00pm

An afternoon get together in the Club Room again at La Notte Restaurant, 140-146 Lygon Street, Carlton.

Same format as the September meeting - we will hear from a focus speaker and a SCBWI member with ample time in between to catch up with friends and make some new ones.

Contact: Corinne King (03) 9844.2675 or corrine.king@scbwiaustralia.org

Queensland:

Queensland branch of SCBWI quarterly meeting, Sunday 22nd October.

Twenty one people, one baby and a dog were treated to an inspiring talk by one of the major forces in children's literature for many years now, Jill Morris, multi-awarded author and publisher. It was fascinating listening to her stories of the industry thirty years ago as she spoke about her own life journey as well as the process of publishing.

With many in the audience being aspiring picture book writers this was her main focus. With more than 100 books published as well as becoming a highly successful publisher herself with Greater Glider Productions Jill has a huge amount of experience and knowledge. Her main points were that it can take a long time to achieve the dream of becoming a picture book writer but that it's worth shooting for the moon. In the mean time she encouraged everyone by showing that there are a lot of other writing jobs out there that can be done to hone the writing skills, earn a name as a writer and to gradually build up a reputation.

Following the talk was a yummy lunch and general catch up.

Forthcoming notice - 2007

The next meeting is planned for Sunday, 21st January and this will be a general networking meeting with people passing on information and some critiquing of work. After January the next meeting will be Sunday, April 15th 2007 and the one after that will be Sunday, July 15th 2007.

cheers,
Prue

New South Wales

The last meeting of SCBWI was an information meeting. The publishing report from the SCBWI LA Conference with a report of the state of the USA market was given by Susanne Gervay and Chris Cheng.

Australian authors and illustrators are now seriously penetrating the market. The Australian voice is vibrant and different. Marcus Zusak has lead the YA adult field with his latest books - best sellers, *The Book Thief* and *The Messenger*. Jackie French and Bruce Whatley's *Diary of A Wombat* is the second most popular picture book in the USA market this year. Garth Nix and Kate Forsyth are best sellers in the fantasy field. Both have been in the top twenty best seller list.

Andy Griffiths renamed Bum Books, are called BUTT books and are hitting the market in a major way.

NSW SCBWI members' books are doing well in Australia and overseas. Moya Simons' books are being translated from Italy to Taiwan. Jan Latta has gone from South America to Japan. Sue Murray, our brilliant playwright is becoming the major Australian playwright for youth. Bill Condon continues to write outstanding YA literature with two Honour books - *DOGS & NO WORRIES* - and is working on his new YA novel now for UQP. And of course, our fabulous Deb Abela. Her books are crossing the world from South America to the UK to Europe. Max Remy is truly a super spy and a super girl.

Planning for the biannual SCBWI Conference in February 2008 is underway with the driving force being to bring commissioning editors from the USA and UK to Australia, so that Australian authors & illustrators become familiar with overseas markets and overseas publishers become familiar with Australian authors & illustrators.

Australian publishers were discussed - who is growing, retracting, where publishing people have moved, what the new trends in the market.

Forthcoming notice - 2007

In order to cater for intra and inter state SCBWI members our meetings are being coordinated with The Sydney Writers & Illustrators Network at The Hughenden.

The 2007 SCBWI Meetings are at The Hughenden Hotel, 14 Queen Street Woollahra: -

1. Tuesday 6th February 5 -7 p.m with optional dinner
Wednesday 7th, 10 -12.30 am Industry meeting with optional lunch 12.30 to 2 p.m.
2. Tuesday 5th June 5-7 p.m. with optional dinner
Wednesday 6th June 10 -12.30 am Industry meeting with optional lunch 12.30 to 2 p.m.

Special bed and breakfast rates are available at [The Hughenden](#) for the meeting.

***** 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 <http://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:

Edel Wignell (reteller)

[Tying the Knot: Folk Tales of Love and Marriage from Around the World](#) - a collection of twelve entertaining tales for Years 6-9. 1 921085 21 5; also [Tying the Knot: Teacher Resource Book](#), 1 921085 22 3 (both Phoenix Education www.phoenixeduc.com)

Leanne Davidson:

Quizzical published by LJD Books.
ISBN 0 646 45868 X

Elizabeth Pulford

'Shut the Gate' Scholastic New Zealand. ISBN 186943708X

Websites:

Edel Wignell www.edelwignell.com.au
Leanne Davidson www.quizzicalbook.com

Other News:

BAMBOO BITES
BE QUICK FOR THIS ONE

Friday, 1 December 2006
Bamboo Bites Dromkeen Literary Luncheon
Join authors, illustrators, reviewers, art and literature lovers for the annual celebration of Australian Children's Literature.

Network and renew acquaintances within the world of children's book creation and meet the teachers, librarians and lecturers who help these creations reach children. Share in the excitement of the Dromkeen Librarian's Award. Bookings and enquiries ASAP as limited numbers - phone 5428 6799 More details available under Public Programs of website - www.scholastic.com.au/dromkeen.

VIEWPOINT

For those writing YA Australian books, this is the definitive journal where you can get reviews.
check out: website: <http://extranet.edfac.unimelb.edu.au/LLAE/viewpoint>

Pam Macintyre (Editor)
Viewpoint: On Books for Young Adults

PO Box 4286
The University of Melbourne
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Tel. (03) 8344 8616
Fax (03) 8344 0025
e-mail: education-viewpoint@unimelb.edu.au

JACKETFLAP

..... I wanted to remind you to take a look at my company JacketFlap. JacketFlap is a website to help children's authors research and target publishers. It is a searchable database that is unique because it displays publisher

statistics, such as the number of new authors published annually over the past 5 years, the number of annual titles, or the top 2 best-selling titles on a particular subject. You can search by publisher (and find a full list of titles), author name, illustrator name, book title, subject, and reading level. Registration for the site is free. You need to register only if you want to see a publisher's contact information page, including submission guidelines, more statistics, news, and an Imprints button for more details.

The information is kept current by JacketFlap's staff as well as via user feedback. Users whose errata reports can be verified receive points toward Amazon gift certificates.

Please visit www.JacketFlap.com.

from Chris and Susie

... folks, we met Tracy (CEO) in LA at the conference. Things sounded great so let us know your experience with Jacketflap.

Getting Published

As a trade body for book publishers, we're not ideally placed for giving advice on getting published. However, if you are looking for a publisher for your manuscript, you may be interested in our [Members' Directory](#). Not only does it include each publisher's contact details and key personnel, it describes the types of work they publish and whether they accept unsolicited manuscripts.

For the "how-to" of getting published, visit the [Australian Society of Authors website](#) for information on:

- Getting Published
- Lists of Literary Agents
- Recommended Publications
- Copyright for Authors
- ASA Membership

There are also Writers' Centres in each capital city and regional Writers' Centres in most states. These centres are fantastic writer-resources, running regular workshops with well-known guest speakers on getting published, writing for different genres and marketing. Visit the centre in your state for more information.

- [NSW](#)
- [VIC](#)
- [QLD](#)
- [ACT](#)
- [SA](#)
- [WA](#)
- [TAS](#)
- [NT](#)

The NSW Writers' Centre also publishes a range of cheap and informative pamphlets on a variety of subjects including Tax, Editing, Playwriting, Screenwriting, Self Publishing, Manuscript Assessment Services and more.

Many publishers' websites also feature writer-friendly sections. The [Allen & Unwin website](#) features its very own in-house writers centre, with a host of useful tips and information.

And finally, a visit to your library or local bookstore will reveal countless books on writing, getting published and self-publishing - many written specifically for the Australian market.

From the APA website. Seems good advice - Susie

Overseas SCBWI conferences

AND folks, we thought that for just this newsletter we would include a sample of the types of conferences that are offered in the chapters overseas. This one is of course in Arizona ... so make regular checks at http://www.scbwi.org/regions_events2.htm and see what events are being held around the world.

And if you happen to be planning a visit to any of the places maybe you can link it in with attendance at a conference.

THE SOCIETY OF CHILDREN'S BOOK WRITERS AND ILLUSTRATORS IN ARIZONA is pleased to announce its 4th Annual SCBWI AZ "WELCOME TO OUR HOUSE" Fall 2006 Conference.

MAKING CONNECTIONS: WRITING, ILLUSTRATING, AND PUBLISHING FOR YOUNG READERS

Saturday, November 4, 2006 8:30 AM to 5:30 PM

At the Chaparral Suites Resort and Conference Center

5001 North Scottsdale Road
Scottsdale, Arizona 85250

With Guest Faculty:

- KRISTA MARINO, Editor, Delacorte Press
- JOY NEAVES, Editor, Front Street Books
- RANDI RIVERS, Associate Editor, Charlesbridge Publishing
- DEBORA SMITH, Senior Art Designer, Clarion Books
- CARYN WISEMAN, Literary Agent, Andrea Brown Literary Agency

Registration For The Conference Includes:

- Faculty Presentations
- Q and A Breakout Sessions with Faculty
- First Page Panel
- Continental Breakfast
- Boxed Lunch
- Networking
- Door Prizes
- Prepaid Manuscript and Portfolio Reviews

Registration forms must be accompanied by full payment. A minimum number of registrations must be received by Monday, OCTOBER 2, 2006 or the conference will be canceled and registrations will be returned. Please register early. Registration and critique confirmations will be by e-mail. There will be no refunds after October 2, 2006. After that, registration will be accepted until maximum capacity is reached. Advance registration is required. No registrations will be accepted at the door.

FOR CONFERENCE DETAILS AND REGISTRATION FORMS, PLEASE GO TO:

www.scbwi-az.org or contact Michelle Parker-Rock, Regional Advisor, SCBWI AZ rascbwiaz@aol.com Phone 480 342-7045

SCBWI AZ
P O Box 26384
Scottsdale, AZ 85255-0123

THE LA CONFERENCE:

Click here to jump and have a look at reports about the last conference:
<http://www.scbwi.org/events.htm> (and then click on annual summer conference)

Through the members only link (from the front page) there is further information available.

Expressions online: don't forget to join expressions online - from SCBWI members

Expression OnLine, the SCBWI international on-line newsletter, is a free added service for current members of the Society of Children's Book Writers & Illustrators. We appreciate readers encouraging interested parties to join the organization and register for Expression OnLine for ALL the international news. If you aren't already registered then drop a note to Editor, Beulah Pedregosa Taguiwalo bpteditor@yahoo.com

So, that is all for this newsletter Don't forget to send any news, new books, your new website information to info@scbwiaustralia.org. We hope that this finds you wonderfully well and buzzing creatively. Have a great few weeks and a not too hectic and chaotic lead up to the Christmas celebrations.

Ciao for now,
Chris and Susie