

Welcome...

...to another *Hullabaloo!*

We're loving the fact that Spring is on the way, and are looking forward to World Book Day (more next time), and continuing with rhyme, we've devoted, this time, a whole page to Michael Bubl .

Of course we haven't. That would be silly. We've actually devoted a whole page to poetry but ironically there's not much that rhymes with poetry.

Happy reading! *Emma & Janice*



Ready For A Challenge?

On World Book Day (March 4th) we'll be launching the first ever *Sibthorp Library Children's Literature Quiz*. We've come up with 45 questions to tax your brain and hope to raise lots of money for charity in the process. We'll be asking for a donation of £1 (you can give more if you wish) for every completed quiz submitted and all proceeds will go to the *IBBY Children in Crisis Fund*; an international charity which runs storytelling projects to help children whose lives have been affected by war, civil disorder, or natural disaster. The prize is a £25 book token plus copies of the two (v. lovely) books featured overleaf in 'Riveting Reads'. So be on the lookout—the quiz will be available on the *Hullabaloo!* website from March 4th with a closing date of Wednesday April 28th. Further details and terms & conditions will be included on the quiz sheet.

Dates for the 2010 Diary

March 4th	World Book Day
March 21st	World Poetry Day
April 2nd	International Children's Book Day
May	National Share-A-Story month
	New issue of <i>Hullabaloo!</i> out
May 12-16th	Lincoln Book Festival
July-August	Summer Reading Challenge
Sept 8th	International Literacy Day
Sept 13th	Roald Dahl Day
October 8th	National Poetry Day
November	New issue of <i>Hullabaloo!</i> out
Early October	Children's Book Week

New Film Bibliography

We've produced a new bibliography listing all of the (many) films in the library that have been adapted from children's books: things



like *Babe*, *The Spiderwick Chronicles* (pictured left, starring Freddie Highmore), *Kes*, *The Iron Giant*, *The Railway Children*, *Twilight*, and *Coraline*. The bibliography will be updated as we add more

films to stock; copies are available from the library or at

www.bishopg.ac.uk/hullabaloo.

Spiderwick Chronicles Copyright  2007 Paramount Pictures. All Rights Reserved. Available on DVD from Paramount Pictures.

Awards Roundup

The **Costa Children's Book Award** was won by Patrick Ness for *The Ask and The Answer* (Walker Books, £7.99) and is a sequel to *The Knife of Never Letting Go*—winner of the 2008 Booktrust Teenage Prize...

...Speaking of which the **2009 Booktrust Teenage Prize** went to Neil Gaiman for his spooky tale about a boy named Bod, *The Graveyard Book* (Bloomsbury, £6.99).

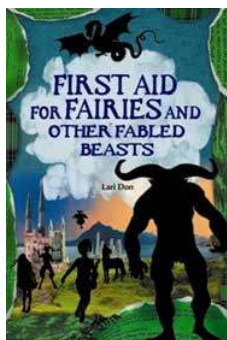
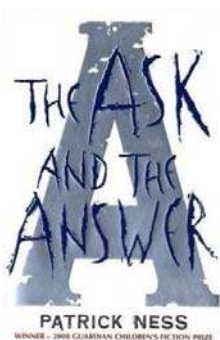
The **2009 Roald Dahl Funny Prize** was awarded in the 6-and-under category to Mr Pusskins Best in Show by Sam Lloyd (Orchard Books, £5.99), and in the 7-14 category to *Grubtown Tales: Stinking Rich and Just Plain Stinky* by Philip Ardagh, illustrated by Jim Paillot (Faber and Faber, £4.99). The Prize was judged by Michael Rosen, comedian Bill Bailey, last year's winner Andy Stanton, and authors Louise Rennison and Mini Grey.

The 2009 **Eleanor Farjeon Award** went to Moira Arthur who retired last year after 31 years in the book business, most recently as Managing Director of *Peters Booksellers* (a library supply company specialising in children's books and of which Janice is very fond).

The **2009 Educational Writers Award** went to Nick Sharratt (illustrator), Steve Alton (writer) and Sally Symes (designer) for their book *The Goey, Chewy, Rumble, Plop Book* (Bodley Head, £12.99).

In the **Royal Mail Awards for Scottish Children's Books** the 0-7 winner was *Manfred the Baddie* by John Fardell (Quercus, £6.99), the 8-11 winner was *First Aid for Fairies and Other Fabled Beasts* by Lari Don (Floris, £5.99), and the 12-16 winner was *Ostrich Boys* by Keith Gray (Definitions, £5.99).

And finally, congratulations to Dick King-Smith for his OBE and Lauren Child for her MBE both of which were announced in the **2010 New Year Honours List**.



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Newsletter of the Children's Collection at Bishop Grosseteste University College Lincoln

Hullabaloo!

Featured Poet: Andrew Fusek Peters

Andrew Fusek Peters describes himself as 'the tallest poet in England'. He also plays the digeridoo, so he should be easy to spot if you have to collect him from the station to perform at your school! A writer and performer for over 20 years, his many publications have included poems, plays, novels, and anthologies.

Mad, Bad and Dangerously Haddock, a selection of Fusek Peters' personal favourites, contains poems about his family, school, pets, and nature. Some are funny, some thought provoking, and some sad.

'Morning' recalls special times he and his brother shared with his grandmother. In 'River of Tears' he remembers his brother's death, and in 'Misadventure' he offers an escape from a world of bullying.

Particularly popular with our students is the shape poem collection *The Upside Down Frown*. All the major children's poets are featured and the poems come in every shape and pattern imaginable. Also of considerable merit are his anthologies dedicated to the elements - *Earth*, *Wind*, *Fire* and *Water* - in which Fusek Peters has skillfully and effectively selected and juxtaposed both contemporary and classic poets. The books



are beautifully designed demonstrating a thoughtful choice of photographs and typeface which complement the poems and aid understanding.

Fusek Peters also collaborates with his wife Polly on plays and novels. They have together written *Roar, Bull, Roar!* and *Falcon's Fury*, about a Czech immigrant family who become embroiled in mysteries in rural Shropshire.

A consummate performer, you may have spotted Andrew Fusek Peters on the BBC1 poetry series *Wham Bam Strawberry Jam*, but if not, you can do the next best thing and listen to him on the Poetry Archive website at www.poetryarchive.org.

Featured Website

The **Perform a Poem** website was inspired by an idea that

**Perform
a Poem**

Michael Rosen had when he was Children's Laureate, and has since been developed by Rosen in conjunction with Booktrust and *The London Grid for Learning*. As the name suggests it's all about getting children excited about and engaged with poetry through performance. Via the website children from London (with a little help from their teachers) can upload footage of themselves performing a poem. Performances can then be browsed and viewed. The website, which is at <http://performapoem.lgfl.org.uk> also contains lots of resources for teachers as well as copyright-free poems to perform.

Bringing children and poetry together can be one of the most exciting experiences in parenting or teaching.

Lee Bennett Hopkins,
Poetry anthologist

The Ongoing Appeal of Poetry in the Classroom

Lecturer **Helen Hendry** (PGCE Primary) shares with us why she enjoys using poetry in the classroom....

"I love using poetry in the classroom with primary children and have often sought out poetry around a topic by reading through collections in the school library - this is a good way to happen across useful poems that you can save for the future, or to get to know poets that you have never heard of before. For me, the most useful poetry books for the primary teacher are anthologies that include a lot of different poems meaning that you can pick or choose those that show a certain style of writing or those that fit into a theme. Poems are also really useful when you only have a little bit of time to spare in the school day; you could start your day with a poem! I have always tried to introduce children to a wide variety of poems so they can all find something they like. Nonsense and funny poems from the likes of Michael Rosen and Spike Milligan can encourage the children to play with words whilst the street style and thought provoking topics of Benjamin Zephaniah can really engage older children.

From the very beginning of Primary School children need to know that poems don't have to rhyme. I have read very simple Haiku, even to children in the Foundation stage, because they usually have a very strong visual image of nature that children can relate to straight away. I think creating the right mood for sharing poetry is important so that when sharing

Hurt no living thing

Hurt no living thing:

Ladybird, nor butterfly,

Nor moth with dusty wing,

Nor cricket chirping cheerily,

Nor grasshopper so light of leap,


Nor dancing gnat, nor beetle fat,

Nor harmless worms that creep.



more beautiful or serious poems the class is calm and is encouraged to close their eyes and imagine the pictures created in the poem. Even though they were written in the 19th century, for work in the Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1 I still really like some of the simple children's poems written by Christina Rossetti. 'What is pink, a rose is pink' and 'Hurt no living thing' [see insert] are good examples; she uses very visual images that describe nature, animals and the weather and a simple structure that children can copy or extend, giving them a model for using comparisons, similes and metaphors in their own compositions. The most important thing is to make poetry accessible and enjoyable by finding something you like and sharing it with the children."

Paying it Forward

Ever wondered what we do with the library books that we don't want anymore? Well, some end up at the Oxfam Bookshop on Lincoln's Sincil Street, some get chopped up and recycled via the University College's 'yo-yo' scheme, and some take a trip up north to *Better World Books* in Dunfermline. *Better World Books* sells our used books via websites like  Amazon Marketplace, and we then get a share of what they make (which we re-invest in the library). But for us the best part is that *Better World Books* always donates a portion of their profits to two UK literacy charities: READ International and the National Literacy Trust. Since the company started in the USA in 2003 it claims to have saved 25 million books from landfill, and in the last 12 months alone the UK arm has raised £20,000 for its charity partners. During that time we've sent lots of books (including lots of children's non-fiction) up to Dunfermline and are pleased to say that several have already been sold.

Two Riveting Reads

We recently purchased two wonderful new books for the library: *1001 Children's Books You Must Read Before You Grow Up*, edited by Julia Eccleshare (Cassell, £20), and *Illustrated Children's Books* edited by Duncan McCorquodale (Black Dog, £24.95). Keeping yourself up-to-date and informed about children's books isn't easy. Quentin Blake reiterates this in *1001 Children's Books* when he likens it to "going through a gate into a rich and varied landscape... so varied that one can be at a loss about which of the many paths to take." As teachers, librarians, and parents, we need to make sense of this landscape, so that we can put the right book in the hands of the right child at the right time. Fortunately both of these beautifully illustrated and designed volumes offer the perfect introduction to the very best authors and illustrators.

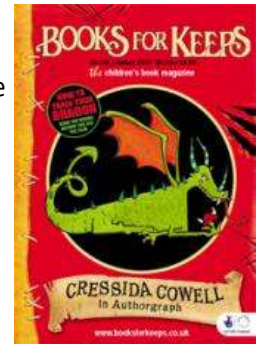
Eccleshare describes her book as "an invaluable guide ...to the conundrum children so often pose – 'What shall I read next?'" The 1001 reviews are accompanied by recommendations from famous authors such as Jacqueline Wilson and Philip Pullman and the book's structure is simple to understand and navigate, being organised into five age groups 0-3, 3+, 5+, 8+, and 12+ and then arranged chronologically by publication date. There has obviously been a determined effort to make the collection as inclusive as possible, as it featuring books from many different cultures. The order also allows the reader to trace how children's publishing has changed in parallel with printing technology, attitudes, and society. Although aimed at adults, this is a wonderful book to share with children. Perhaps its success will only become apparent years hence when those same children browse through the collection to reminisce and remember their own reading journeys and share them with *their* children.

Whilst *1001 Children's Books* ranges from picture books for the very young to teenage fiction, *Illustrated Children's Books* focuses on picture books and the development of children's illustration. The chronological structure comprises two sections: 1659-1945 and 1945 to the present. Within these, significant authors and illustrators are discussed, as well as the illustration, design, and production of the books. It offers a glorious treat both for those who have never experienced the world of children's book illustration and those who wish to be reminded of old favourites and be introduced to new ones.

Featured Journal: Books for Keeps

With over 7,000 new titles each year and over 30,000 already in print, keeping up to date with children's books can be a daunting prospect. But the task has just become easier thanks to *Books for Keeps*, the independent magazine which reports on all aspects of the children's book world (and to which we have subscribed for 23 years).

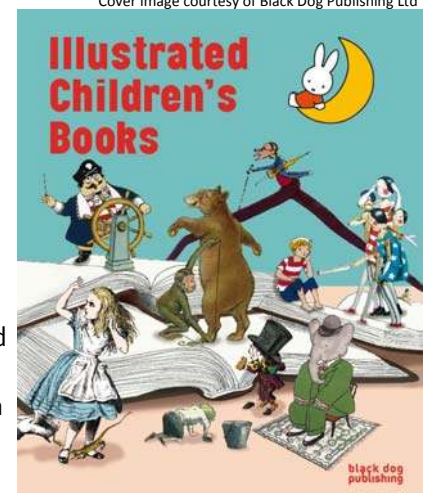
In its lifetime (30 years) *Books For Keeps* has built up a substantial archive of reviews, author, poet and illustrator interviews, articles and news, and this comprehensive collection, including the current issue, is now freely available online. Although the website remains in development there are already some exciting features. The *Author/Illustrator* section gives quick and easy access to a wealth of information and there are plans to enhance it further by inviting individuals and their publishers to contribute biographical and website details. The new *Forums* section provides the opportunity for users to contribute opinions, suggest topics, and give feedback. In addition, the articles, reviews, and news can all be printed out. This website is a must for everyone committed to promoting and encouraging reading at home, at school, at work, and on holiday! Find it at www.booksforkeeps.co.uk.



We'd Love More BookTalk Members!

Our library book club *BookTalk* meets about once a month: we discuss what we've read and share our opinions (which are often very different!). Why not join us at our next meeting on Wednesday 24th March at 4pm in Library Seminar Room 3? We'll be looking at picture books by **Jeanne Willis** and **Tony Ross**, and the novels of **Robert Westall**. Not sure what you'd get out of it? According to one member "what we are reading will be invaluable when in a school environment: I will be able to enter into the dialogue when students are discussing their favourite books."

Cover image courtesy of Black Dog Publishing Ltd

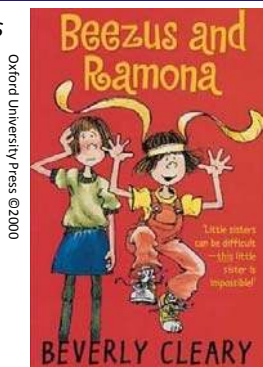


When I Was A Nipper...

This issue our ex-nipper is *Information and Resources Assistant* Rachael Burnett....

"When I was a nipper 'Beezus and Ramona' by Beverly Cleary was my favourite book. It was already dog-eared when I first discovered it tucked amongst the children's books at a school jumble sale. Although grubby and torn, I loved the front cover with its characterful pen-and-wash drawing of the two sisters, Beezus (real name Beatrice) and Ramona Quimby. I also liked that it isn't one story but a collection of many little ones. This made it perfect for bedtime reading as I could finish a story each night.

I remember most fondly a chapter about an art class. Poor Beezus struggles when the teacher asks the children to paint an imaginary animal. Her frustration and her intense need to have her work liked struck a chord with the timid little 8 year old I used to be. Assisted by Ralph, Ramona's own imaginary pet, Beezus gets through her artist's block and paints a dragon with candy floss breath and lollipop spines and that young version of me smiled and thought maybe she could paint a



Oxford University Press ©2000

picture too!

It's the small things within the stories that stay in my mind. Beezus trying to embroider a tea cosy for her Auntie, Ramona wearing her cardboard rabbit ears for a trip to the library, and Beezus' birthday cake being ruined by Ramona's addition of her rubber doll, Bendix, into the mix.

Beverly Cleary perfectly captures the frustrations and delights of being a sister (older and younger) and never shies away from depicting the less cheerful side of family life. I was surprised to find

when writing this article that a film of the book is due out later this year. When you consider it was first published in 1955 it's testament to the excellent writing and the deep understanding that Cleary has for sibling bonds and family life that the stories are as relevant now as they were then. Hopefully the film will ensure that the books go back into print in the UK so that a whole new audience can grow up enjoying the stories of a girl called Beezus and her exasperating but lovable younger sister Ramona."

The First Words Competition

Last issue's winner was Fiona Wilson-MacCormack (PGCE Primary) who received a £10 book token for correctly spotting that our quote came from Michelle Magorian's *Goodnight Mr Tom*. Our new first words are:

Once there was a little girl called Sophie, and she was having tea with her mummy in the kitchen.

E-mail the title and author together with your name to us at hullabaloo@bishopg.ac.uk by May 1st and that £10 book token could be yours.

**Sure it's simple writing for kids.
Just as simple as bringing them up.**

Ursula K. Le Guin (1929-)

Local Attractions

On Wednesday 14th April the *Library Theatre Company* (don't worry—it's not us taking to the stage!) will be putting on a performance of Kenneth

Grahame's **The Wind in the Willows** at our very own Bishop Greaves Theatre here on campus. For more info and a list of all forthcoming theatre events see www.bishopg.ac.uk/theatre. And there's more. Lincoln Drill Hall has three events coming up: **The Night Keeper** is described as having 'striking visuals, puppetry and a lot of mess', and looks to be fun for all the family on Saturday February 27th; there's also a **Book Swap** happening in the Café Bar on Saturday 27 March, and then the **Lincoln Drill Hall Children's Festival** takes place from 6th-9th April incorporating some feline fun with **Paws for Poems** on Friday 9th at 2pm. It's intriguingly described as 'a special event to celebrate the spoken word, young talent, and the mysterious world of the cat'. Find out more about all Drill Hall events at www.lincolndrillhall.com.



Happy 30th Birthday Walker Books! (1980-2010)

We're big fans of Walker Books. They produce books to romp through and books to pour over; every single one beautifully designed and created. Plus of course we love the bear.

The company was named for Sebastian Walker (1942-1991) who together with colleagues Amelia Edwards and Wendy Boase started it in his spare bedroom in 1980. He is remembered fondly as man of great vision who once said "All that counts is that a child says at the end of the book, 'Again!'". (We suspect several million children have cried 'again!' at a Walker book since 1980.) Over the years Walker authors have included stars of

children's literature like Allan Alhberg, Michael Foreman, Anthony Horowitz, Shirley Hughes, Jill Murphy, John Burningham, Michael Rosen, and Helen Oxenbury (who was responsible for the aforementioned bear), plus relative newcomers Patrick Ness, Kate DiCamillo, and Mini Grey. That said, Walker Books' most recognisable faces are probably those of its best-loved characters: Lucy Cousins' *Maisy*, Martin Handford's *Wally*, Anthony Horowitz's *Alex Rider*, and of course the *Nutbrown Hares* from Sam McBratney and Anita Jeram's *Guess How Much I Love You*. In 1992 the company created an American

division, Candlewick Press, and Walker Books Australia came a year later. In 1999 co-founder Wendy Boase died of cancer and is remembered each year, with Walker author Henrietta Branford, via the *Branford Boase Award* (the winner of which we usually report in our autumn issue).

The company now produces about 300 books a year and intends to celebrate its birthday with new books and events throughout 2010.

