

Hullabaloo!

Newsletter of the Children's Collection at the Sibthorp Library, Bishop Grosseteste College

Volume 1, Issue 3, October 2005. Compiled by Janice Morris and Emma Sansby (hullabaloo@bgc.ac.uk).

The leaves are turning...

...and the nights are drawing in. What better time to catch up on some reading?

This issue of *Hullabaloo!* includes articles about exciting new visitor attractions (page 2), sources of online information in children's literature (pages 3 & 4) and how stories can help children to learn aspects of science, maths, and design, as well as language & social skills. This last article was sent to us by Jane Johnston and was abridged for the hard-copy edition. However, you're reading the online edition so you get to read the whole article in full on pages 5 & 6. Enjoy!

Janice and Emma

"Outside of a dog
a book is man's
best friend. Inside
of a dog it's too
dark to read."

Groucho Marx



Awards roundup

Winner of the **2004 CILIP Carnegie Medal**, announced in July, was Frank Cottrell Boyce for his first novel *Millions* (Macmillan, £5.99) about two brothers who discover a sack full of cash and need to spend it in a hurry.

The **2004 Kate Greenaway Medal**, also announced in July, went to award-winning illustrator and political cartoonist Chris Riddell for *Jonathan Swift's Gulliver* (Walker Books, £14.99).

Roger McGough won the **CLPE (Centre for Literacy in Primary Education) Poetry Award**, presented in June, for his collection *Sensational! Poems Inspired by the Five Senses* (Macmillan, £4.99).

The **Booktrusted Early Years Awards** were announced on September 29th. The Baby Book Award went to Lara Jones for *Poppy Cat's Farm* (Campbell Books, £4.99), the Pre-School Award went to Jack Tickle for *The Very Dizzy Dinosaur* (Little Tiger Press, £7.99) and Kanako Usui took the Best New Illustrator's Award for *The Fantastic Mr Wani* (Little Tiger Press, £10.99)

Kate Thompson has won the **The Guardian Children's Fiction Prize** for her book *The New Policeman* (Doubleday, £10.99), the story of a teenager who visits a land of eternal youth.

County Book Award winners announced

At a Gala Evening held in Sleaford on 20th July attended by over 200 young people, the winners of the 2005 Lincolnshire Young People's Book Award were announced. They were, for the age category 9-11 **Measle and the Wrathmonk** by Ian Ogilvy (OUP, £5.99), and for the age category 11-13 **Spilled Water** by Sally Grindley (Bloomsbury, £5.99).

The Award was shadowed by 65 schools and reading groups across the county, with over 1000 young people voting for their favourite book.

Now in its third year, the award is organised by the Lincolnshire County Council Library Service and enthuses teachers, parents and young people alike. Typical responses from young people are, "we got to experience new types of books that gave us new thrills" and "it made me try different types of stories and everyone listened to my views".

The Award will continue throughout the year with author visits to libraries and participating schools, and of course young people nominating their favourite books published in 2005 for next year's Award. For more information contact Margaret Peacock, Community Librarian Horncastle, on 01526 354626.



Report on the teaching of reading

During 2003-4, Ofsted inspectors visited 45 primary schools to compile a report on the teaching of reading. **Reading for Purpose and Pleasure: An Evaluation of the Teaching of Reading in Primary Schools** is the resulting report (Ofsted 2004 HMI2393) and is available to download from the Ofsted website at www.ofsted.gov.uk. Also available is the speech made by David Bell (Her Majesty's Chief Inspector of Schools) at the publication's launch.

There are three categories in the **Red House Children's Book Awards**: younger children, younger readers and older readers. The respective winners were *Baby Brains* by Simon James (Walker Books, £10.99), *Best Friends* by Jacqueline Wilson (Corgi, £5.99) and *The Recruit* by Robert Muchamore (Hodder, £5.99).

The **Askew's Torchlight Children's Book Award** went to Cornelia Funke for *Inkheart* (Chicken House, £6.99) where the characters of a book come to life.

There were 5 categories in the **English 4-11 Best Books Award**. The fiction winners were *One More Sheep* by Midge Kelly and Russell Ayto (Hodder, £5.99), *Unwitting Wisdom: an Anthology of Aesop's Animal Fables* by Helen Ward (Hodder, £10) and *Michael Rosen's Sad Book* by Michael Rosen and Quentin Blake (Walker Books £10.99).

And finally Malorie Blackman, author of *Noughts & Crosses*, *Knife Edge* and *Checkmate* and has been awarded the **2005 Eleanor Farjeon Award**, an award which recognises a distinguished contribution to children's literature. Previous winners have included Jacqueline Wilson, Philip Pullman and Michael Rosen.

2004 Bestsellers

The top five bestselling children's books of 2004 (The Bookseller, April 2005) were:

The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time by Mark Haddon

Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix by J K Rowling

The Cat in the Hat by Dr Seuss

Charlie and the Chocolate Factory by Road Dahl

A Gathering Light by Jennifer Donnelly

How many have you read?
All are all available from the
Sibthorp Library.

Featured author: Alison Prince

This month's featured author, Alison Prince, received an honorary degree from BGC in July 2005. Although not from Lincolnshire, Alison's links with the county, and especially its schoolchildren, are well established.

In 1986 Alison collaborated with 21 children aged 7-11 from a small primary school in a village near Sleaford, to co-author *How's Business* (Hodder, £4.99). The book is about a Second World War evacuee who finds it difficult to settle with his uncle's family in Lincolnshire. The children suggested the setting and most of the plot and the characters. Alison, who was herself an evacuee, and the older people of the village added their own wartime memories. *How's Business* was a Smarties Prize runner-up and was also turned into a film by the Children's Film Foundation.

In 2004 Alison returned to the same school for another collaborative venture, *The Summerhouse* (Walker Books, £5.99), about a very grumpy author who is annoyed by a group of children desperate to find out what he is doing behind the closed blinds of his summerhouse. Eventually he relents and tells them about the book he is writing. The children are hooked and insist on making suggestions. Finally they badger him into letting them join him in writing the story.

"After years of working with children I wanted to write a book about it...On the last night they held an event in the village hall reading what they had written, displaying pictures and playing music. Three hundred people turned up and were fascinated." Alison admits she is fascinated by the idea of children working with adults to produce something of professional quality. *The Summerhouse* not only involved children in writing but also describes that very process. The resulting novel, far from being dry and academic, is moving, suspenseful and, above all, an exciting read.

Alison not only writes novels. She wrote the scripts and co-wrote the musical lyrics for TV's *Trumpton*, which together with its sister series *Camberwick Green* and *Chigley* was a huge success and is still much loved by those of us in our 30s and 40s. It was Alison who named Pugh, Pugh, Barney McGrew, Cuthbert, Dibble and Grubb. However it wasn't Alison that arranged the names in that order - that was down to musician Freddie Phillips! Find out more about Alison at www.alisonprince.co.uk



"Where is human nature so weak as in the bookstore?"

Henry Ward Beecher (1813-1887)

Dahl Museum and Seven Stories: two major new visitor attractions open



On June 10th 2005 Cherie Blair opened the new **Roald Dahl Museum and Story Centre**. Located in Great Missenden, Buckinghamshire, the Centre is expecting to welcome around 40,000 visitors each year and aims to tell the story of Dahl's life, as well as to care for his archive and to promote a love of creative writing.

One of the most interesting things about Dahl's books is their enduring popularity: over 1 million copies of UK editions are still sold every year and characters like Danny, Charlie, James and Matilda are well-known throughout the world.

Want to know more? Checkout www.roalddahlmuseum.org and the fantastic Official Roald Dahl website (maintained by Oompa-Loompas, you know) at www.roalddahl.com

Then, on August 19th 2005, Children's Laureate Jacqueline Wilson and her principal illustrator Nick Sharratt opened the eagerly awaited **Seven Stories** centre in Newcastle-upon-Tyne.



The first British centre to celebrate children's books, the Seven Stories building is an impressive seven storey (no surprises there!) renovation of a listed Victorian flour mill and sits close to the banks of the Tyne and the exciting Newcastle Quayside area.

Seven Stories provides the only dedicated exhibition space for the work of children's writers and illustrators and has been widely recognised as the new home of children's literature in the UK. Inside visitors can wander around the *Artist's Attic*, *Storylab*, *Book Den* and *Engine Room* (pictured on the right) as well as galleries, a bookshop and the Cool Cat Café.

Find out more about Seven Stories at www.sevenstories.org.uk



Visited either of these new Centres? Please tell us about it!

Online information about authors and illustrators

Check out these websites for all kinds of information about authors and illustrators of children's books...

UK Childrens Books at www.ukchildrensbooks.co.uk , Meet Authors and Illustrators at http://www.childrenslit.com/f_mai.htm , Yahoooligan's Directory of Children's Authors at http://yahoooligans.yahoo.com/school_bell/language_arts/authors , and Authors and Illustrators on the Web at www.acs.ucalgary.ca/~dkbrown/authors.html

If you're looking for an author, an illustrator or a poet to visit a school or library the National Centre for Language and Literature at the University of Reading has an up-to-date online database of contacts at www.ncll.reading.ac.uk .

Alternatively, if you'd prefer to browse a book, take a look at **The Address Book of Children's Authors and Illustrators** by Gervase Phinn. It contains contact details, publications, extracts and biographical details for over 100 children's authors and illustrators. You'll find a copy in the Library's Classroom Collection.



Did you know?
Dr Seuss's real name was Theodor Geisel. 'Seuss' was his mother's maiden name and his own middle name.

Booktrusted journal is no more

Booktrusted, the children's literature journal published by independent educational charity **Booktrust**, is no more. The last issue (issue 10) was published in autumn 2004. This is a disappointment to us as it was a great read. However all is not lost! The journal's authors are now turning their attentions to more specialised publications (they have just published a set of four *Best Book Guides* each of which focuses on a different age group) as well as the outstanding Booktrusted website.

All ten issues of Booktrusted, published between 2002 and 2004, are available to view in the Library, and don't forget to add the Booktrusted website (www.booktrusted.com) to your Favourites!



New Children's Laureate

Congratulations to Jacqueline Wilson for being named the fourth *Children's Laureate*. Jacqueline Wilson is the most borrowed author in public libraries (Public Lending Right, 2005) and has a fantastic following. Wilson's latest book is **Clean Break**, published in March 2005 (Doubleday, £10.99).

Carousel: 10 years old and still going strong

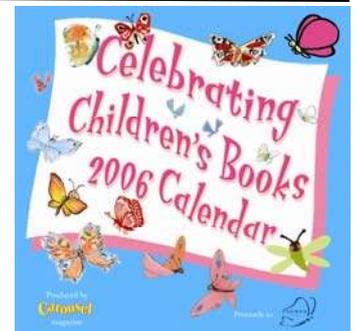
This issue our featured journal is **Carousel**, which one of our previous featured authors, Bernard Ashley, describes as *packed with content and filled with purpose and integrity*.

Carousel is published three times a year in March, June and October. Vibrant and attractive, it is almost impossible to put down. It contains book reviews, author profiles, news and articles. If you often find yourself pushed for time (who doesn't?!) Carousel is the journal to keep you up to date with developments in the Children's literature world.

This year Carousel celebrates its **10th anniversary** and is marking the occasion with the publication of a 2006 calendar celebrating the work of 12 children's illustrators. All of the images feature butterflies, the logo of Lupus UK: the charity which will be receiving all proceeds. Lucky for you **Hullabaloo! has got a copy of the calendar to give away**. Simply e-mail us your name and contact details and we'll send the calendar to the first name out of the hat on November 30th 2005.

Read about the anniversary celebrations in the 31st issue of Carousel which features Aidan Chambers, Lynley Dodd, Jill Murphy, Jan Pienkowski, Meg Rosoff and others, a copy of which is available in the Library.

To get your own copy of the calendar send a cheque for £9.45 (includes p&p) to Carousel Calendar, PO Box 80, Hebden Bridge HX7 7WS.



Explore early children's books online

A number of websites are developing digital collections of children's books and making them freely accessible online. The emphasis in these collections is on early children's books. Most offer access to all parts of the books while some also include critical essays and links to other sites.

The International Children's Digital Library is creating an international collection that reflects the diversity and quality of children's literature. www.icdlbooks.org

The Hockliffe Project comprises 250 books from The Hockliffe Collection of early British children's books (from the 1680s to the 1940s) at De Montfort University. The books have been scanned to preserve the look of the originals. www.cta.dmu.ac.uk/projects/Hockliffe

The Roehampton Digital Library includes books from the *Froebel Archive* of books on early childhood studies, and the *Children's Literature Collection* at Roehampton University. Although the majority of the books are freely available, access to some is restricted. <http://wordsworth.roehampton.ac.uk/digital/>

The Childe Project offers access to images from collections of early children's books in Europe. www.bookchilde.org

Literature for Children provides access to children's literature published in the United States and Great Britain between 1850 and 1923. <http://susdl.fcla.edu/juv>



First words competition

Last issue's competition winner was Chaplaincy Assistant Gwilym Stone, who won a £10 book token for telling us that the book which began "Tff. Tff. ..." was **Not the End of the World** by Geraldine McCaughrean.

This issue we want you to tell us where this first line comes from...

"'Honestly, Mrs Hadley', said Meggie McGregor, wiping her eyes. 'That sense of humour of yours will be the death of me yet!'"

E-mail us at hullabaloo@bgc.ac.uk with your answer and your name by November 30th and you could win yourself a £10 book token.

How stories promote learning

This article was sent to us by Jane Johnston, Reader and Subject Leader for Early Childhood Studies at BGC.

Stories can be wonderful and creative ways to promote learning and development from the Foundation Stage through to secondary education. There are many stories which can be used as starting points for learning in a variety of subject areas and support social, moral, emotional and cognitive development. For example **Mr Bumbleman's Bakery** (Green, 1978) can lead to mathematical understanding of standard measures; **The Tiny Seed** (Carle, 1987) to mathematical concept of size and the scientific concept of growing plants); **Stig of the Dump** (King, 1963) to concepts of history and aspects of emotional and social development and **The Selfish Giant** (Wilde, 1978) to aspects of emotional, moral and social development.

Raymond Briggs's **Jim and the Beanstalk** (1970) is a great illustration of how stories can be rich and creative starting points leading to excellent teaching and motivating learning. **Jim and the Beanstalk** can be used with children from the Foundation to Key Stage 2 and can develop aspects of science, mathematics, language and literacy, design and technology and social development. To find out how, view the full version of this article which appears at the end of this issue of *Hullabaloo!*.

Farewell.....Max Velthuijs 1923-2005

Max Velthuijs (pronounced Velt-house) was one of The Netherlands most famous illustrators of children's books. He was best known for his series of picture books featuring *Frog*. He died on January 25th 2005 in Amsterdam age 81.

Velthuijs was born in the Hague in 1923. He studied graphic design and art in Arnhem and during his early career designed posters,

stamps, book covers, advertisements and prints. He illustrated a number of books in the 1960s before finally illustrating his own picture book, **The Boy and the Fish**, in 1969.

Frog started out as a secondary character in another story but featured in his own book, **Frog in Love**, in 1989. This was followed by 11 other *Frog* books, all of which contain simple stories with important messages. The

International Board on Books for Young People (IBBY) describe the *Frog* stories as "miniature morality plays for our age".

Published in 38 languages, Velthuijs' books won him several awards. One of the last he won before he died was the Hans Christian Anderson Award for Illustration in 2004.



When I was a nipper....

Tell us why you loved a particular book when you were a nipper and you could see yourself in print!

Janice says: If I am honest as a child it was **The Valley of Adventure** by Enid Blyton because of the food, especially the canned pineapple chunks!!

Emma says: I loved the **Milly Molly Mandy** books by Joyce Lankester Brisley because MMM led such a sweet, simple life with such a *nice* family, and I wanted a pink and white striped dress just like hers. When I look at the illustrations now I get very nostalgic and a little bleary-eyed, much as I do when I hear the Black Beauty music!

Tell us about your favourite by e-mailing a couple of sentences to hullabaloo@bgc.ac.uk Don't forget to include your name!

Lizzie Dripping author dies

Not long before we went to press we were sorry to hear of the death of Helen Cresswell at the age of 71. Helen Cresswell was the creator of the **Lizzie Dripping** books, about a girl who has a witch as a friend. The character inspired a popular children's TV series in the 1970s. Cresswell wrote over 100 other stories including **Moondial** and **The Bagthorpe Saga**. She also wrote the screenplay for the TV adaptation of *Five Children and It* and won several awards, including a Bafta Children's Writers' award in 2000.

Stories as Starting Points

by Jane Johnston, Reader in Education and Subject Leader for Early Childhood Studies
at Bishop Grosseteste College

Stories can be wonderful and creative ways to promote learning and development from the Foundation Stage through to secondary education. There are many stories which can be used as starting points for learning in a variety of subject areas and support social, moral, emotional and cognitive development. For example Mr Bumbleman's Bakery (Green, 1978) can lead to mathematical understanding of standard measures; The Tiny Seed (Carle, 1987) to mathematical concept of size and the scientific concept of growing plants); Stig of the Dump (King, 1963) to concepts of history and aspects of emotional and social development and The Selfish Giant (Wilde, 1978) to aspects of emotional, moral and social development.

I am going to look at one particular story Raymond Briggs' (1970) Jim and the Beanstalk to illustrate how stories can be rich and creative starting points leading to excellent teaching and motivating learning (DFES, 2003). Jim and the Beanstalk can be used with children from the Foundation to Key Stage 2 and in this example can develop aspects of science, mathematics, language and literacy, design and technology and social development. In this example the children are from the Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1.

I start with a story sack using the contents (Giant and Jim puppets, climbing Jim, wig, false teeth, sets of glasses, gold coins, letter from the Giant to Jim etc)



Children enacting the story of Jim and the Beanstalk (From Johnston, 2005)

Through the story the following learning outcomes are achieved,

Science (Knowledge and Understanding of the World)

To recognise the similarities and differences between people.

Through the story, we discuss the differences between Jim and the Giant (size, age, eyesight, hair, teeth etc).

English (Communication, Language and Literacy)

To listen to and discuss elements of the story.

To write letters to the giant

Having discussed the differences between Jim and the Giant, as a group, giving children opportunities to speak and listen, retell the story and make links with the story and their own lives, the children can play with the story sack individually, read the book and write letters to the Giant on behalf of Jim.

Mathematics (Shape, Space and Measures)

To measure objects and order according to size (small, big/large, bigger/larger)

Having discussed size during the story, children can follow this up by comparing sizes of glasses/teeth/gold coins; by measuring the glasses and teeth, which would fit the giant better; by ordering the gold coins by size.

Design and Technology (Knowledge and Understanding of the World)

To make a climbing Jim and to solve the problem of how to make it go down the string.

To do this you need a climbing man outline (older children can draw their own), string, sellotape, scissors, plasticine and spare card. I never tell or show the children how to make a climbing Jim (at any age) but get them to make their own. If their 'Jim' does not work, I ask them to look closely at mine to see how it is different. Look at the picture below and try to work out how to make it. Have a go. When you have succeeded, try to make it go down the string rather than up. Asking this question of children will promote thinking skills and some young children will get the answer correct, showing their ability to solve problems in an abstract way at a young age.



Key Stage 1 child having successfully made a climbing man (From Johnston, 2005)

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

To understand that all people have different needs and should be treated with respect.

Throughout the story the emphasis is on respect for individual differences. Children can also discuss how Jim and the Giant must feel at different stages in the story

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