

Hullabaloo!

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

Welcome Back!

We had some great feedback about the first issue of Hullabaloo! Thanks to everyone who contacted us. As well as distributing copies in College we also e-mailed Hullabaloo! to local schools. In the future we hope to be able to feature some book reviews written by local school children—watch this space! We hope you enjoy this issue as much as you seemed to enjoy the last. There's a lot happening in Lincolnshire in the coming months—see page 3 for more info.

Don't forget to e-mail us with ideas for future issues. Our address is library-enquiries@bgc.ac.uk

Janice and Emma



Awards Roundup

Winner of the **Whitbread Children's Books Award**, announced in January, was *Not the End of the World* by Geraldine McCaughrean (OxUP, £10.99). The Sunday Times describes this as 'an extraordinary novel [which] imagines the 'reality' of Noah's Ark'.

The **Marsh Award for Children's Literature in Translation** went to Daniel Pennac for French novel *Eye of the Wolf*, translated by Sarah Adams (Walker Books, £4.99).

The winner of the **South Lanarkshire Book Award** is chosen by a panel of school pupils. This year they chose a work of teenage fiction, *How it Works* by Graham Marks (Bloomsbury, £5.99).

Kate diCamillo won the **Newbery Medal** for her fairy tale *The Tale of Despereaux*, curiously subtitled 'The story of a mouse, a princess, some soup, and a spool of thread' (Walker, £6.99).

The **Caldecott Medal** was won by Kevin Henkes for his book *Kitten's First Full Moon* (Greenwillow Books, £8.15); a picture book about Kitten who sees her first full moon and thinks it's a bowl of milk in the sky. Both the Newbery and Caldecott Medals are awarded by the Association of Library Services to Children, a division of the American Library Association.

In addition to awards for particular books, Jacqueline Wilson has won the 2004 **Eleanor Farjeon Award** for services to children's books. Wilson's book sales stand at 20 million in the UK alone and in 2002 she was awarded an OBE for services to literacy in schools.

And finally, a new children's book award, the **Ottakar's Children's Book Prize** was awarded in January. The winner was *The Cry of the Icemark* (Chicken House, £12.99) by Stuart Hill.

Matilda Pipped by Gruffalo Shocker!

The results of our search for Bishop Grosseteste College's favourite children's book are in!:

- 1st *The Gruffalo* by Julia Donaldson
- 2nd *Matilda* by Roald Dahl
- 3rd The *Northern Lights* trilogy by Philip Pullman
- 4th A tie between *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe* by C S Lewis and *Winnie the Pooh* by A A Milne.
- 5th A tie between *James and the Giant Peach* by Roald Dahl and *Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban* by J K Rowling.

We received exactly 100 votes for BGC's favourite children's book. 50% of them were from students, 39% from staff members and 11% weren't sure what they were. It didn't surprise us that 66 different books were voted for. In fact, the winner only got 7% of the vote. Just goes to show how individual our tastes are!

Most popular author was Roald Dahl with 14% of the vote. The Staff favourite was the *Northern Lights* trilogy, with *Winnie the Pooh* and *Matilda* in joint second. The student favourite was *The Gruffalo* followed in second place by *Matilda* and in third place by *The Lion, The Witch and the Wardrobe*.

We will be displaying your favourite books in the Library in early May. Have a look for yourself at the full list of all the books voted for on our website - we bet you'll spot an old favourite that you'd completely forgotten about!

Thanks for voting!

Books for Keeps

Books for Keeps (BfK) is a popular bi-monthly children's book magazine. Those of you familiar with the magazine (we subscribe to it here at the Sibthorp Library) will be aware that in the past it has been difficult to find information in back copies. However, BfK has launched a fully-searchable full text archive. You can already search back to 2000 but over the next few months this facility will be extended to include issues as far back as September 1996. It is intended to expand this archive availability back to **BfK** issue 1 as time allows. Find the BfK website at www.booksforkeeps.co.uk

Volume 1, Issue 2, May 2005. Compiled by Janice Morris and Emma Sansby.
Please direct all comments to library-enquiries@bgc.ac.uk.

R.E.A.D on...

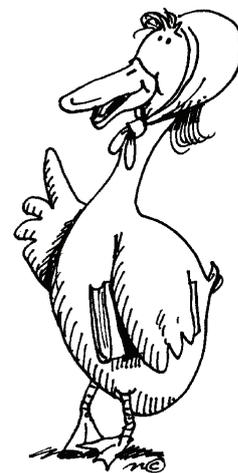
R.E.A.D. stands for **Resourcing Education and Development** and is a voluntary group which meets three times a year. Their mission is to counter isolation, which can sometimes occur in schools, and to promote development within education libraries.

Each R.E.A.D meeting has a specific theme to advance group aims. Collectively they hope to build on good practice. Meetings take place at various locations throughout the academic year.

The next meeting of R.E.A.D will take place on Tuesday October 11th 2005 at Kesteven and

Sleaford High School. There will be two guest speakers: Liz Neal, talking about how the school library can work in unison with English departments to bring about the school's literacy objectives, and a representative from the Social Inclusion and Access Unit at Grantham Museum who will be talking about new 'loan boxes' on crime and war.

Anyone interested in joining READ should contact Mrs D. L. Lee @ the Priory LSST tele 01522 889977 or e.mail dll@priorylsst.co.uk



All is Revealed...

If you ever have difficulty finding resources for print impaired users check out **Revealweb**.

<http://www.revealweb.org.uk>

Revealweb is an online catalogue containing 100,000 resources in a variety of formats including large print, audio, Braille and Moon. Revealweb will help you find what you want, where you can get hold of resources and whether they are for loan or sale. One simple search will give you access not only to classic titles such as *The Midnight Fox* by Betsy Byers but also to books by contemporary authors, such as Michael Morpurgo's *Private Peaceful*.



Hans Christian Anderson at the BL

Planning a visit to London over the summer? Just a hop, skip and a jump from King's Cross is the British Library. An impressive (if controversial) building in its own right, from May 20th to October 2nd the BL will be hosting a Hans Christian Anderson exhibition. The exhibition marks the 200 years since Anderson's birth and there will be interactive exhibits, items from the British Library collections, items on loan from Denmark, and original manuscripts. The exhibition is free and is said to explore the dark side of Anderson as well as the innocence, so be prepared!

Did You Know?...

...that on August 7 1974 a young French aerialist spent almost an hour walking, dancing and performing tricks on a tight rope stretched between the Twin Towers of the World Trade Centre. The story is told in a magnificent picture book written and illustrated by Mordicai Gerstein. Double page spreads capture the drama and daring of the feat. The book manages to combine this story with our more recent memories of the collapsing twin towers without trivialising the experience. The book, winner of the Caldecott Medal 2004, is *The Man who Walked Between the Towers* by Mordicai Gerstein, a copy of which is available in the Library.

Win Yourself a Book!

The identity of the new **Children's Laureate** will be announced on May 26th 2005.

The post of Children's Laureate is awarded every two years to celebrate the outstanding achievement of an eminent writer or illustrator of children's books. The first Children's Laureate was Quentin Blake, appointed in 1999, followed by Anne Fine (2001-03) and Michael Morpurgo (2003-05). A £10,000 is awarded to the recipient.

Nominations are judged by a mixed panel including academics, librarians, publishers, authors and critics. The award's main sponsors are Waterstones and the Department for Culture, Media and Sport, although a number of publishers and charities also lend support.

Email us (library-enquiries@bqc.ac.uk) with your prediction of who will be the next Children's Laureate and we'll give a **free book by the winning Laureate** to the first correct answer drawn on May 27th 2005. Please include your name and, if you're still at school, your age.

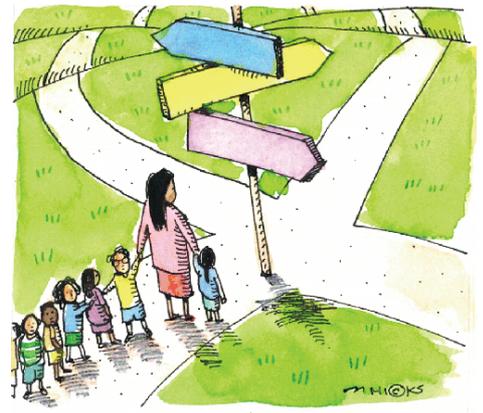


Expert Advice

Need advice on using children's books in the classroom?

Lindy Nahmad-Williams, who teaches on the Education and Subject Studies (Early Childhood Studies) programme at BGC, has been kind enough to share some of her experience with us....

- 📖 when selecting books to include in your classroom for younger children (particularly when choosing from the library van) don't be swayed by the illustrations; do scan the content and vocabulary because there are more and more 'picture books' written for an older audience;
- 📖 don't dismiss popular culture - a lot of children enjoy reading about characters they have come to know in films or on TV. Do ensure there is a balance, however, with other books;
- 📖 have a magazine rack in the reading corner with comics, local newspapers, etc.;
- 📖 a lot of books for younger children have animals as the main characters. If you are looking for books with people as main characters, you can't go far wrong with books by Shirley Hughes;
- 📖 when reading to children, use different voices for different characters, even different accents (as long as you maintain the clarity). Have a grumpy Scottish badger or a West Country farmer's wife (no stereotyping intended!) They really appreciate it;
- 📖 children will know if you are not enjoying the book you are reading, so selecting books you like is worthwhile. It is important to remember that your choice may not be the children's choice, however, so bear that in mind;
- 📖 if you feel uncomfortable reading poetry, start with humorous poems - the children love them and it will give you confidence;
- 📖 make the reading area comfortable and inviting - display books attractively and show you value the area;
- 📖 do not think that the Literacy Hour is storytime - it isn't! Ensure you build a proper storytime into the timetable when children can sit back and just enjoy being read to without having to analyse the text.



Did you know?

In France Enid Blyton's Noddy, known there as 'Oui Oui', is more popular with 2-6 year olds than Babar or Asterix.

LYPB Award Shortlists Announced

Lincolnshire Libraries have just announced the shortlists for the third Lincolnshire Young People's Book Award.

For ages 9-11 the shortlist is: **Best Friends** by last year's winning author, Jacqueline Wilson, **The Slippery Slope** by Lemony Snicket, **Whispering to Witches** by a new author, Anna Dale, and an original story by Ian Ogilvy, **Measle and the Wrathmonk** (although the young people on the panel were scathing in their criticism of the book cover!). For 11-13s the shortlist is more heavily into fantasy, with **The Golem's Eye** by Jonathan Stroud being the most challenging read. **The Spook's Apprentice** by Joseph Delaney is another fantasy newcomer enthusiastically received by the panel. Anthony Horowitz's teenage hero, Alex Rider, appears again in **Scorpius**. **Wolf Brother**, by Michelle Paver, the first in a promising-looking series, is an unusual mix of historical adventure and fantasy. Finally, Sally Grindley's **Spilled Water** is a moving and thought-provoking contemporary story about child slavery in China.

The LYPB Award is all about encouraging young people to read for pleasure, with the emphasis on enjoyment rather than literary merit. Young people nominate titles, take part in the shortlist panel and vote for their favourite books. The winning book will be announced in July followed by a Gala Evening and author visits throughout the year. For more information about the Award telephone Margaret Peacock on 01526 354626 or check out the website at www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/LYPBA

Impressive Line-up for Local Festival

This year's Lincoln Book Festival will be held between May 13th and May 22nd at venues around the city and it looks to be a corker!

Distinguished guests will include **John Hegley**, **Andrew Motion**, **Germaine Greer**, **John Sargeant**, **Terry Yorath**, and **John Shuttleworth**. The festival's writer in residence is **Phil Cosker**.

Highlights for children include a chance to meet **G.P. Taylor**, author of *Shadowmancer*, special readings of the stories of **Hans Christian Anderson**, plus appearances by **Helena Pielichaty**, author of *The After-School Club* series, **Jamila Gavin**, author of *Coram Boy* which won the 2000 Whitbread Book of the Year Award, and **Katharine Holabird**, author of the *Angelina Ballerina* books (your kids are invited to get dressed up for this one!).

In addition **Louise Dale**, author of the *Time Triggers* series, **Keith Gray** (Hullabaloo's featured author this month) and children's illustrator **Jonathan Emmett** will be appearing at closed festival events. Add to this a **cartoon workshop**, a performance of **Big Book Tall Tales** by the Booster Cushion Theatre Co. (we love that name!), showings of the **Harry Potter** films at the Lincoln Odeon, and several chances to actually meet **Maisy Mouse** and **Spot the Dog**, and you're really spoilt for choice!

This is a true celebration of reading, writing, poetry and comedy and it's all happening in Lincoln! The festival is being advertised around the city now—for more info contact the Drill Hall on 01522 873894.



OSA Supports the Children's Collection

For many years our Children's Collection has received an annual donation from BGC's Old Students Association (OSA). This year's generous donation has enabled us to purchase a wide selection of pop-up and novelty books. Novelty books, not only for babies and young children but increasingly being designed for older readers too, are great fun and much more besides. As the Children's Literature Team at Booktrust explain:

'Novelty Books play an important role in literacy development from an early age. Always visually stimulating, and usually designed to be physically explored, they instantly invite reader participation. Ideal for reading aloud, novelty books involve a great deal of interaction, both with the reader and the text, helping to establish good communication links between parent and child. Novelty books present the concept of reading as a pleasurable activity, and encourage a positive attitude towards books.' (*Pop-ups! A Guide to Novelty Books*, p.2).

We have selected books to cater for all ages. Titles include Anthony Browne's *Animal Fair*, Jan Pienkowski's *Haunted House* and Robert Crowther's *Most Amazing Hide and Seek Alphabet Book*. These will be a wonderful, stimulating and exciting addition to our collection and we are very grateful to the OSA for their support.

Featured Author: Keith Gray

"You can't help thinking if there were more authors like Keith Gray, more teenagers would read" – *Glasgow Herald*

Acclaimed young adult fiction author Keith Gray hails from Lincolnshire. He attended Humberston County Junior School near Cleethorpes and Lindsey Comprehensive School before moving on to Humberside Polytechnic (now the University of Lincoln). During this time Gray was always writing stories, which, he says, explains why he achieved zero in an accounting exam.

Determined to become a writer, Gray achieved his first real recognition with *Creepers* (1996), short-listed for the Guardian Fiction Award. *Malarkey* (2003) an engrossing, fast-paced thriller with a lovely twist, made the Booktrust Teenage Award shortlist and won the South Lanarkshire Book Award. Boys especially enjoy Gray's fictional world. His depiction of teenagers' lives and their concerns are dealt with sympathetically and realistically, as in *Happy* (1998), about an aspiring rock band. His latest book, *The Fearful* (2005) on one level is about whether there is a monster in a lake but also explores the nature of belief. The complexity and depth of these concerns are linked to a narrative that grips right to the end:

'He...moved over to the south-facing window. The wind chopped and stirred the surface of the water, making waves. He certainly had the best view in town of Lake Mou; there was no denying that. And he'd watched the water every day of his life for as long as he could remember. So if anyone was going to see the creature that supposedly lived there, it'd be him right? Yet so far....'

Find out more about Keith Gray on his website at www.keith-gray.com

Farewell.....Andre Norton (1912-2005)

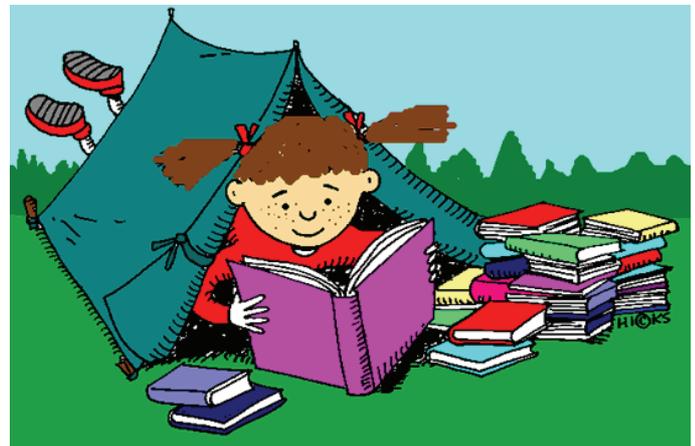
Andre Norton died on March 17th at her home in Tennessee. She was 93 years old.

Known as the 'Grand Dame of Fantasy' Andre Norton was one of the most popular female writers of teenage science fiction and fantasy. She leaves a legacy of over 200 books and short stories, 35 of which belong to the *Witchworld* series, notable for attracting female readers to the sci-fi genre.

Andre Norton was born Alice Mary Norton in 1912. She started writing when she was a teenager and published her first book, *The Prince Commands* in 1934, the same year she changed her name to Andre Norton (the male name was supposed to help her marketability). For many years a librarian, Andre Norton eventually devoted all of her time to writing and wrote not only novels,

but also short stories and poems.

Norton's last book *Three Hands for Scorpio* is due to be published this month (April 2005). Her publishers, Tor Books, produced a special copy for her to hold in the days before she died. Find out more about Andre Norton at: <http://www.andre-norton.org>



Go Surf...

This issue's featured website offers advice, information and 'sign-posting' on the subject of reading difficulties, learning disabilities and books which are relevant to different impairments and/or disability issues.

<http://www.booksfordisability.org.uk>

Win a Book Token!

The quote below is the first line of a book. If you can identify the title and the author's name you could win a £10 book token.

'Tff. Tff. Single drops of rain raised little divots of dust, as though invisible feet were running over the dirt.'

Need a clue? Read our 'Awards Roundup' article! The winner will be the first drawn on Friday June 3rd 2005 and will receive a £10 book token.

E-mail us at library-enquiries@bgc.ac.uk with your answer and include your name. If you're still at school, we'd also like you to tell us how old you are.

The Looking Glass

The Looking Glass: New Perspectives on Children's Books is an online journal published three times a year and it's free! issues are published online with access to all articles in full-text. The Looking Glass has an international focus and includes a scholarly forum which encourages students to prepare articles for journal publication.

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