

## NEWSLETTER NUMBER TWENTY-SEVEN

I know, I know – the month on this newsletter is April, and it's already May! I'm not going to quibble though, as this is my way of trying to keep track of the year.

Excitement is mounting! Firstly, the CBCA 12th National Conference is THIS MONTH. Such a lot of planning has gone into this important conference. The program is packed with many stars of Australian children's books plus many excellent newcomers. Australian children's books are booming and the future looks absolutely rosy. So, if you haven't booked you're in danger of missing out on an amazing experience that could change your life, definitely it would add to your knowledge and experience of Australian children's books. <http://www.trybooking.com/Booking/BookingEventSummary.aspx?eid=168745>

The CBCA Book of the Year Awards are celebrating their 70th anniversary this year. The announcement of the Seventieth Book of the Year Awards will be celebrated in Sydney on 19 August. In the meantime, the 2016 CBCA Notable Books list was announced on 18 April. It has created a huge amount of excitement. If you haven't seen the list have a look: [cbca.org.au](http://cbca.org.au)

The 2016 Short List will be announced at the conference on 20 May.

Not only all that, but my own level of excitement is mounting. You all must be familiar with my first picture book *B IS FOR BEDTIME*, illustrated magnificently by Anna Pignataro (Little Hare). It was a CBCA 2015 Notable Book. I am ecstatic that my second book *COUNTING THROUGH THE DAY*, again illustrated by Anna Pignataro, will be launched, I'm honoured to say, by Tohby Riddle at the Conference at afternoon tea on 20 May.

ALSO, so that my friends in the Blue Mountains can join in the fun, I've arranged an afternoon tea launch at Pinerolo on Sunday 29 May. I'm really chuffed that Sheryl Cootes, President of the CBCA Blue Mountains Sub Branch will be launching the book.

Here are the two books together. What a perfect pair! I'm so grateful to Anna Pignataro for her wonderful illustrations and to publisher Margrete Lamond at Little Hare. AND I'm happy to say that the original artwork will be here for sale at Pinerolo. Keep an eye on the website.

They'll be in bookshops soon: \$24.95 each.

## PICTURE BOOKS @ PINEROLO ON THE ROAD!

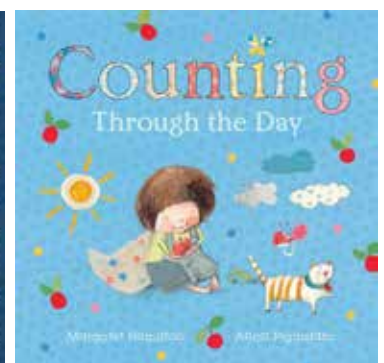
### VISITING GLENDA MILLARD!



**PICTURE BOOKS @ PINEROLO will be travelling to Victoria for a one-day course with Glenda Millard at her beautiful house in the heritage town of Maldon. The date will probably be 2 July. Booking forms will be sent out as soon as we've finalised details.**

**Enquiries welcome or – WATCH THIS SPACE!**

GLENDA MILLARD has written picture books, short stories and novels. She says that she 'has loved reading and being read to from an early age.' As a child, her more robust pursuits included billy-cart racing, tree-climbing and attempting to fly off the roof of her Nana's shed. Glenda left school at 15 and it was nearly 30 years later when she discovered that writing was the closest thing she'd ever felt to flying. The seven books in the heartwarming 'Kingdom of Silk' series have a huge following. Glenda's picture book *THE DUCK AND THE DARKLINGS*, illustrated by Stephen Michael King, was an Honour Book in the CBCA Picture Book of the Year 2015. Another picture book *ONCE A SHEPHERD*, illustrated by Phil Lesnie, was a 2015 CBCA Honour Book. Glenda will also talk about her wonderful new novel, *THE STARS AT OKTOBER BEND*, which you can buy and have signed on the day.



## GROUP VISITS

### Listen, Look and Learn

### Be Inspired!

Where do Picture Books Come From?  
How are they written? Who draws the pictures?  
One hour talk. Books and artwork for sale

**Children and adults are welcome to  
come to Pinerolo for a group visit.**

\$10 per child. \$20 per adult

Bookings: 02 47878492 or [hamiltonbooks@iprimus.com.au](mailto:hamiltonbooks@iprimus.com.au)

## NEW PICTURE BOOKS

Sharing a picture book with a child is a tactile experience. Exploring the double-page spreads, marvelling at the beauty of the illustrations and following the story from beginning to end cannot be replicated on a tablet. Nothing will replace beautifully printed picture books.

**BIRD AND BEAR AND THE SPECIAL DAY** by Ann James (Five Mile). This delightful picture book looks at early learning concepts in a very entertaining way. Much loved illustrator of *I'M A DIRTY DINOSAUR*. Highly recommended.

**CIRCLE** by Jeannie Baker (Walker). A new book by Jeannie Baker is always eagerly awaited. With its conservation theme and spectacular collage illustrations, this one is not to be missed. Highly recommended.

**CRABBING WITH DAD** by Paul Seden (Magabala). A joyful, very colourful debut book celebrating the Australian pastime of fishing and crabbing. Good family fun. Recommended.

**DANCE, BILBY, DANCE** by Tricia October (Ford St). This award-winning illustrator has a list of books to her name. This latest is a romp throughout. Recommended.

**FORWARD MARCH** by Christobel Mattingley and David Kennett (Scholastic). I'm late for Anzac Day but wanted to mention this beautiful book, written by one of our most esteemed authors, with very moving illustrations. Highly recommended.

**FROG FINDS A PLACE** by Sally Morgan, Ezekiel Kwaymullina and Dub Leffler (Scholastic). Ever since he was a tadpole Frog has wanted to reach the moon. A beautiful book about finding your place. I was proud to have Dub Leffler as an Illustrator in Residence at Pinerolo, working on this. Recommended.

**GARY** by Leila Rudge (Walker). A quirky story about a pigeon who can't fly, but he dreams of flying and manages to travel anyway. Follow his adventures in this delightful book. Recommended.

**HAPPILY EVER AFTER, THE UGLY DUCKLING** illustrated by Annie White (New Frontier). This classic Hans Christian Andersen tale is retold for today's readers and illustrated with soft and lively pictures. Recommended.

**I JUST COULDN'T WAIT TO MEET YOU** by Kate Ritchie and Hannah Somerville (Random). Welcome a new baby with this special book – warm, loving and full of joy – with beautiful illustrations. Recommended.

**MAD MAGPIE** by Greg Dreise (Magabala). Striking, vibrant symbolic motifs combine with natural realism to capture the landscape and the story of an angry magpie. Recommended.

**THE MIDNIGHT POSSUM** by Sally Morgan and Jess Racklyeft (Scholastic). Award-winning Sally Morgan's story of a brave possum is beautifully illustrated, with a gorgeous tactile cover. Recommended.

**MILO, A MOVING STORY** by Tohby Riddle (A&U). Described as 'a whimsical adventure' about a city-dwelling dog, this intriguing story is entertaining and amusing. A quality picture book which will delight a wide age range. Recommended.

**MRS DOG** by Janeen Brian & Marjorie Crosby-Fairall (Five Mile). One rescue deserves another! A touching story of a farm dog, a new-born lamb and the courage and determination of both. Illustrated in warm farm colours. Recommended.

**MY MUM'S SPECIAL SECRET** by Sally Morgan and Ambelin Kwaymullina (Scholastic). A loving relationship between a kookaburra mother and her child is vibrantly illustrated with gouache and watercolour. Recommended.

**NANNIE LOVES** by Kylie Dunstan (Working Title). Brightly coloured collage illustrations from this award winner illustrate the simple text about a loving Nannie who loves her life. Highly recommended.

**PIG THE WINNER** by Aaron Blabey (Scholastic). Aaron Blabey's books just keep on coming! This is again, very funny and will have young readers laughing out loud. Recommended.

**THE RICKER RACKER CLUB** by Patrick Guest and Nathaniel Eckstrom (Little Hare). Charming story of a group of children and following their club rules. Mixed media illustrations are very child-friendly. Recommended.

**TAKE TED INSTEAD** by Cassandra Webb & Amanda Francey (New Frontier). Delaying bedtime is a clever tactic until tiredness takes over. Delightful family story for bedtime with appealing illustrations. Recommended.

**THIS GIRL THAT GIRL** by Charlotte Lance (A&U). Opposites attract, they say! A very enjoyable picture book about two girls who live next door to each other but are completely opposite. Recommended.

**THIS IS A CIRCLE** by Chrissie Krebs (Random). This debut picture book is lots of fun, with a quirky sense of the ridiculous. Simple, very colourful illustrations extend the fun. Recommended.

**TWO TALES OF BROTHERS FROM ANCIENT MESOPOTAMIA** by John Heffernan & Kate Durack (Christmas Press). Two stories from ancient Mesopotamia are brought to life for young readers by this popular author. Lavishly illustrated. Recommended.

**THE WHOLE CABOODLE** by Lisa Shanahan & Leila Rudge (Scholastic). It's walk time and a dog and his owner imagine what they'll meet in the park. Rhyming text and a play on words will entertain young readers. Recommended.

Thank you so much for your support and for your feedback on the newsletter or on some special children's picture books you've seen lately. Come and visit this year. Bring some children.



Margaret Hamilton AM