

iBbY IRELAND

No. 15

September 2009

Welcome to iBbY iNfO

iBbY iNfO is the electronic newsletter of iBbY Ireland, the Ireland section of the International Board on Books for Young People (IBBY). We hope you enjoy this bi-monthly newsletter about upcoming events of interest to children's literature. Many of our members join iBbY Ireland through their organizations, while it is more practical for others to become individual members. The iBbY Ireland membership form for 2009 and 2010 can be downloaded from our website www.ibbyireland.ie. All suggestions of events and information relevant to the world of children's literature are welcome for inclusion in future issues of the newsletter. The next issue of the newsletter will be in early December.

iBbY Ireland and IBBY news:

Valerie Coghlan, President of iBbY Ireland and Patricia Kennon, Vice-President of iBbY Ireland, were members of a panel on diversity and contemporary Irish children's literature at the International Research Society for Children's Literature (IRSCl) congress in Frankfurt from 8-12th August. The topical and valuable theme of the congress was 'Children's Literature and Cultural Diversity'. The panel consisted of: Jane O'Hanlon from Poetry Ireland speaking on arts education and Irish children's literature; Siobhan Parkinson presenting on children's publishing in Ireland, Valerie Coghlan discussing Irish picture books and Patricia Kennon discussing 21st century retellings of Irish mythology for children. Mags Walsh from Children's Books Ireland was unfortunately unable to attend the conference and her presentation, on 21st constructions of Irish childhood, was given by proxy by Jane O'Hanlon. We're delighted that the panel was received so well and we looking forward to promoting an awareness and celebration of diversity and intercultural issues in Irish children's literature at similar future international events.



Jane, Siobhan and Valerie at a conference reception.

IBBY Zimbabwe, a partner branch with which iBbY Ireland has twinned, held its first workshop on storytelling in Bulawayo in June. 19 teachers and representatives from educational institutions participated in the workshop, which went very successfully. You can see more photos from the workshop at www.ibbyireland.ie



The full list of candidates for the 2010 Hans Christian Andersen Awards is now available at: <http://www.ibby.org/index.php?id=962> The international Jury has begun its work and the winners will be announced at the IBBY Press Conference on the opening day of the Bologna Children's Book Fair on Tuesday 23rd March 2010.

The publishers of Arabic-language children's books have established a new book prize: the Etisalat Award for Arab Children's Literature, which promises one million dirham (\$270,000) to the best Arab children's book of the year. "The prize will hopefully bring about some healthy competition between the current publishing houses," said Sheikha Bodour Al Qasimi, founder of the prize. Sheikha Bodour is the daughter of the ruler of the emirate of Sharjah in the United Arab Emirates, where the award will be presented for the first time during the annual Sharjah World Book Fair this November.

Calls for papers and upcoming academic conferences in children's literature:

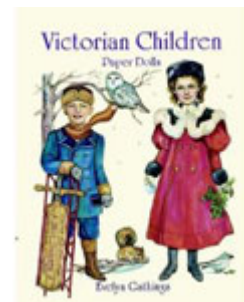
There will be a one-day symposium at Newcastle University, jointly held by the Children's Literature Unit and Seven Stories, the Centre for Children's Books on 'Past Continuous: Historical Fiction for Children' on Saturday 10th October 2009. Following the successful acquisition of the Geoffrey Trease and Leon Garfield archives by Seven Stories, and to mark the centenary of Trease's birth, a one-day conference has been planned to examine all aspects of historical fiction for children. The conference will be of interest to those who write, study or read children's historical fiction, as well as those who teach history or children's literature. For further information contact: Dr. Nolan Dalrymple, School of English Literature, Language and Linguistics, Newcastle University, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE1 7RU, U.K: nolan.dalrymple@newcastle.ac.uk



A 1-day conference on Children's Literature and Film will be held at De Montfort University, Leicester on 1st March 2010. Hosted by the Centre for Adaptations, papers are invited on screen adaptations of children's literature, children's film, writing for children and the child in film and literature. Proposals should be sent to: djc@dmu.ac.uk by 11th December, 2009.

Jacqueline Rose's *The Case of Peter Pan, or The Impossibility of Children's Fiction* first appeared in 1984, at a time when the study of children's literature was just beginning to take off in academic departments. To mark this occasion, a special issue of *Children's Literature Association Quarterly* will be devoted to a reconsideration of Rose's "case." Papers are invited on any aspect of her thesis, such as: the work's overall validity (is children's fiction utterly impossible, partially possible, or neither of the above?); its current relevance (has it been superseded by later theoretical developments, or are her ideas as pertinent as ever?); does her thesis apply to children's fiction only, or to other areas of children's literature and culture (e.g. poetry, drama, non-fiction, film, toys, computer games)? Send papers between 5000-7000 words in length to both guest editors, David Rudd (d.rudd@bolton.ac.uk) and Anthony Pavlik (cb2007@boun.edu.tr), by 1st November 2009.

Leeds Centre for Victorian Studies will hold a 1-day colloquium on 'Victorian Childhoods' on 20th March 2010. Papers are invited on the following themes, or indeed any other aspects of Victorian childhood: the spaces of childhood: nursery, schoolroom, playground, the street, and the countryside; children as angels, demons, invalids, observers, fairies, historical figures; the cultural and material worlds of childhood: stories, songs, toys, games, clothes; theories and constructions of childhood in both text and image. Send an abstract of 250-300 words to Rosemary Mitchell at r.mitchell@leedstrinity.ac.uk by 18th September 2009.



Submissions are invited for an upcoming edited book covering the superhero genre. There is a great need to re-interpret such issues as morality, power, patriotism, and heroism in this new millennium, especially as events such as 9-11, terrorism, torture, corporate profiteering, economic decline, and technological advances impact the U.S. and the world. Articles on superhero television shows, movies, and online sites are welcome. However, the article must address the topic since the year 2000. Possible Topics Include Superheroes and: terrorism; religion; foreign policy; history; advertising; environmental issues; criminal justice; gender; violence; capitalism. Send 500-word abstracts or full papers with a CV by 31st October to Kevin Williams at kwilliams@comm.msstate.edu

The '75 Years of Penguin Books: An International Multidisciplinary Conference' seeks to cover the diversity of Penguin's publication history. In 2010, Penguin Books will be 75 years old and Puffin Books will be 70 years old. Organised by the AHRC Penguin Archive Project, the International Penguin Conference is occasioned by these two anniversaries of what is arguably the most distinctive and the most significant publishing house in the twentieth century and beyond. The conference will take place at the University of Bristol on three days: Tuesday 29th June - Thursday 1st July 2010. Send proposals (150-200 words) for papers of 20 minutes duration to penguin-project@bristol.ac.uk by 1st February 2010. More information on the conference may be found on the the Penguin Archive Project website: <http://www.bristol.ac.uk/penguinarchiveproject/>



Applications for The Fellowship Programme of the International Youth Library Blutenburg Castle, Munich, Germany, are now open. The International Youth Library's fellowship programme has two primary goals: to

support research in the field of international children's and youth literature and illustration, and to promote academic exchange and international cooperation. The International Youth Library offers academic fellowships for up to 12 scholars each year. The length of the stay can range from six weeks to four months. Scholars work on research projects that they have already started in their home countries. In the application, scholars must explain the academic relevancy of the project, and demonstrate that access to the collection of the International Youth Library is necessary for completion of the research project because of insufficient access to needed primary and secondary literature in their home countries. Applications from junior scholars are especially welcome. The deadline for applications is 30th September for a fellowship stay in the following year. For more information, visit the International Youth Library's website: www.ijb.de E-mail: direktion@ijb.de.



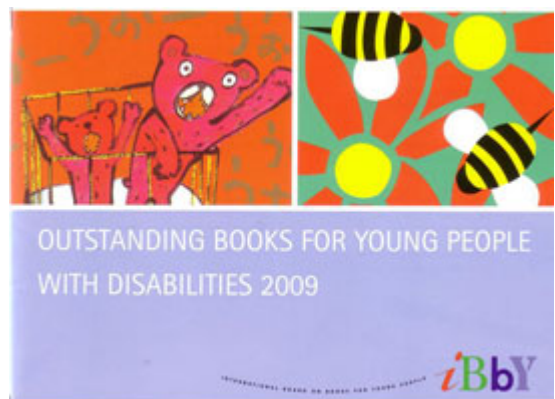
In honour of the 100th anniversary of Frances Hodgson Burnett's *The Secret Garden*, Jackie C. Horne and Joe Sutliff Sanders are soliciting essays for a proposed volume in the Children's Literature Association's Centennial Studies Series. The series seeks to re-examine children's classics from a contemporary perspective. Possible topics include, but are not limited to the following: The novel in the context of Burnett's writing for adults; "Queerness" and other sexualities; Construction of the narrator/narratee; Re-envisioning the garden metaphor in later children's texts; Precursor texts: return from India narratives; Constructions of nationality: British, Indian, American; Burnett and mysticism/religion; Film and theatre adaptations. Send abstracts of 250-500 words by email by 1st January 2010, with "SECRET GARDEN" in the submission line, to the following editor: Joe Sutliff Sanders, California State University – San Bernadino, joess@csusb.edu

Recent award-winning children's books:

The shortlist for the Reading Association of Ireland awards have been announced: *The Poison Throne* by Celine Kiernan; *Move* by Conor Kostick; *The Story of Ireland* – by Brendan O'Brien; *Hal's Sleepover* by Maddie Stewert; *Wild Dublin* by Éanna ní Lamhna; *Adolf sna hArda* by Marvin Halleraker. The Book of the Year and the Special Merit Award will be announced at the annual conference of the RAI on 24th September in St Patrick's College, Drumcondra. At 8:00pm. The opening address to the conference will be delivered by acclaimed children's author, Siobhán Parkinson. Further information is available from Finian O Shea foshea@cice.ie or www.reading.ie.

Bridges is an exciting new series by The O'Brien Press of beautifully-illustrated full-colour hardback books for children, which celebrates Ireland's ethnic and cultural diversity. Bridges present pupils with lively and engaging stories about the many different experiences of living in Ireland today and can help deepen their understanding of their own and other cultures. With story levels that are accessible to a very wide age range and a unique illustrative approach, the Bridges series meets the reality of mixed language proficiency and differing reading abilities in the classroom and meets the teacher's need to address learning differences among pupils. Contact O'Brien Press for more information.

The book, *2009 Outstanding Books for Young People with Disabilities*, has been published by IBBY. IBBY publishes this series in order to give young people with disabilities, like other children, the opportunity to enjoy books and also open the way for their inclusion in society. The aim is to obtain a general overview of suitable quality books for young people with disabilities, to inform about such books internationally, and to make them more readily available. Another important aim is to encourage the production, promotion and dissemination of suitable books: including books especially made for young people with disabilities as well as regular books serving special needs. More information about this book is available at <http://www.ibby.org/index.php?id=271>



The shortlist for the Guardian Children's Book award has been announced. You can see the shortlist at <http://www.guardian.co.uk/books/guardianchildrensfictionprize>. The winner of the £1,500 prize – the only children's award in which authors are judged by their peers – will be announced on 8th October 2009. Authors Celia Rees, Andy Stanton and Patrick Ness – winner of last year's prize for his novel *The Knife of Never Letting*

Go – join Julia Eccleshare on the judging panel. Past winners of the prize, which has been running since 1968, include Philip Pullman, Ted Hughes, Anne Fine and Jacqueline Wilson.

The shortlist for the German Youth Literature Award 2009 has been announced. Shortlisted titles include Shaun Tan's *Tales from Outer Suburbia* and Brian Selznick's *The Invention of Hugo Cabret*. The winners of each category will be announced at the award winning ceremony on Friday 16th October 2009, at the Frankfurt Book Fair. See [http:// www.jugendliteratur.org](http://www.jugendliteratur.org) for more information.

Upcoming activities and events in children's literature:

Paths to Publication: a publication information seminar for aspiring and established children's books authors, will occur on Saturday, 19th September in Pearse Street library, Dublin 2. Do you have an idea for a children's story that you would really love to share with the world? Not sure exactly how to go about doing so? Children's Books Ireland and The Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators are here to help. At this seminar you will be able to meet published writers and illustrators as well as editors and some members of your target audience - young readers. You will learn, from the writers and illustrators themselves, how they have managed their career and hear from young people about their current reading choices and preferences. You will also learn how to entice publishers while pitching your story and how to promote your finished book (and yourself) after publication. Booking Info: full-day seminar, including coffee and lunch: €55 for CBI or SCWBI members / €65 for non-members. To avail of special rate for members please call 01 8727475 to book.



The Children's Book Festival will run for the full month of October offering young audiences across the island of Ireland a host of opportunities to engage in a wide range of books-focused activities - from readings and poetry performances, to creative writing and Manga workshops. Top Irish authors lined-up to appear include Darren Shan, Celine Kiernan, Sarah Webb, Oisín McGann, Maeve Friel, Tom Kelly. These longstanding favourites will be joined by a bumper crop of new talents, such as teen-novelist Sarah Rees Brennan (*The Demon's Lexicon*) and Mercier Press debutants Kieran Mark Crowley (*Colm and the Lazarus Key*) and S. E. Connolly (*Damself*). The festival website, part of the main Children's Books Ireland's website www.childrensbooksireland.ie, will offer a searchable Event Guide listing all events nationwide, programme updates, details of exciting new competitions and much more besides! The 64-page *BookFest Recommended Reading Guide* will again be available for free from mid-September, featuring up-to-the-minute reviews of the very best books for babies through to older teens published in 2009. Schools, libraries and bookshops can order Festival

Promotion Packs, bursting with copies of BookFest, posters, bookmarks and other quality promotional materials. Order enquiries to Jenny Murray Tel. + 353 1 8727475, E-mail: jenny@childrensbooksireland.ie. For further information, please contact Tom Donegan: Tel. +353 1 872 74 75

As part of the Children's Book Festival, October 2009, Jane Mitchell will be speaking publicly in the following libraries about her book, *Chalkline*, (published by Walker and endorsed by Amnesty International), about child soldiers and about writing etc. as follows: Monday 12th October Enniscorthy Library and Wexford Library; Tuesday 13th October Waterford Library; Wednesday 14th October Kilkenny Library.

On the 19th and 20th September Books 2009 will present a full programme of children's events in the National Gallery, Dublin, including talks by Roddy Doyle, Derek Landy and Don Conroy and a Writing Magic workshop for age 9+, hosted by Sarah Webb. For all details and bookings, see www.bookevents.ie

The first Irish literary lunch for children - The Bubblegum Book Bash - will be held on Saturday 3rd October at 12 to 4 in the Kingston Hotel, Dun Laoghaire. Delicious food, goody bags, fun readings, an author to meet at each and every table, plus special guest, bestselling author, Derek Landy. Ticket numbers are limited - booking is available at bubblegumclubbookbash@gmail.com.

The Children's Book Festival has joined forces with Dublin's 24 Hour Comic Day to produce a brilliant range of events for budding artists including a comic jam, workshops with comic-book experts and the creator of "Morris the Mankiest Monster", together with an international manga expert all the way from Japan. The 24 hours will run from 11am Saturday 17th October until 11am Sunday 18th October, and is the Dublin branch of an international initiative that sees artists and cartoonists each working away to produce their own full 24-page comic in just 24 hours. Everyone is welcome to get involved, whatever their background, artistic experience or age. The event is free, and is open to all ages and skill levels. Participants are asked to supply their own drawing materials (and are asked to avoid slow drying mediums [such as oil paints] or ones that smell or need ventilation.) To sign up please e-mail: cliodhna@ztoical.com.



Children's Books Ireland would like to announce the launch of a new section of the CBI website for anyone interested in children's books. cb info is a comprehensive and accessible information hub loaded with expertise and links covering all aspects of the children's books industry. cb info has four key sections: the Directory is a comprehensive listing of children's books publishers, festivals, awards, online resources and organisations in Ireland and beyond; Guides are a specially selected collection of contributions from experts and organisations within the children's book industry and community; Viewpoint will feature a different contributor each month; FAQ provides answers to the most commonly asked questions for teachers, writers and illustrators as well as a handy section of FAQ's about CBI. If you would like to subscribe to a specific cb info news bulletin please email admin@childrensbooksireland.ie with subscribe in the subject line.

Dun Laoghaire Rathdown County Council will be holding the 'Mountains to Sea' book festival, taking place in the county from September 10th to 13th of this year. The line-up for the festival includes international luminaries such as Paul Auster, Sebastian Faulks, Patrick Gale, Douglas Kennedy and Sadie Jones, while local writers includes Anne Enright, Declan Hughes, Julie Parsons, Paul Howard and Maeve Binchy. Books in the Park, a series of readings and activities for children, will be staged over two days in the Peoples Park, and will include book and food stalls, and entertainers. Further information is available on the website www.mountaintosea.ie

As part of Dublin's annual Culture Night, free events will run at The Ark, from 5pm – 10pm on Friday 25 September. The Ark will present free visual arts workshops with artist Gina Faustino; a small exhibition of group art works made by participating children and young people from Earth Explorers, Summer Visual Arts Programme 2009; and in the theatre, award-winning company junk ensemble will perform excerpts from The Rain Party. You can also join Eina McHugh, The Ark's Director, in conversation where she will answer your questions and welcome your ideas about The Ark. Please see www.ark.ie for times and full programme details for Culture Night at The Ark.

The Ark and Ulster Bank Dublin Theatre Festival have teamed up once again to present The Family Season from 3 - 11 October. Hans Christian, You Must Be An Angel (Gruppe 38 / 3 – 5 October) is an innovative mix of theatre, puppetry, film and special effects for children aged 7+. Goodbye Mr. Muffin (Teater Refleksion and De Røde Heste / 6 – 7 October) invites you to join a guinea pig as he reflects on his life in his last days. Songs from Above (Teater Refleksion and Teater My / 10 – 11 October) is a magical adventure for audiences aged 2 – 4. For booking and more information on all Family Season productions please call 01.6707788, see www.ark.ie or visit The Ark, 11a Eustace Street, Temple Bar, Dublin 2.



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