

iBbY IRELAND

No. 9
September 2008

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. All suggestions of events and information relevant to the world of children's literature are welcome for inclusion in future issues of the newsletter.

To unsubscribe from the e-newsletter,

please reply to patricia.kennon@froebel.ie with UNSUBSCRIBE in the heading. The next issue of the newsletter will be in early July.

iBbY Ireland news:

iBbY Ireland will be holding a one-day conference exploring Canadian children's literature and culture on Saturday 18th October. We hope that you will enjoy this interdisciplinary event which will celebrate Canadian texts for young people and intercultural connections across the children's books world.

More information about the conference, including speaker information and registration details, may be found on our website: www.ibbyireland.ie

Upcoming conferences and call for papers relating to children's literature:

The 32nd Reading Association of Ireland conference will take place from 25th to 27th September in the Church of Ireland College of Education, Rathmines, Dublin. The theme of the conference is 'Changing Landscapes of Literacy: Building Best Practice'. Keynote speakers will include Maureen McLaughlin (Board Member International Reading Association, Jackie March from Sheffield University UK and Brian Murphy, University College Cork. For more information about the programme and for registration details, see www.reading.ie. Please note that teachers may take leave to attend the conference provided they are granted permission by their Boards of Management.

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Papers on the theme of 'Poetry and Childhood' are invited for inclusion in the British Library Collection exhibition, 'Twinkle Twinkle little Bat!

250 Years of Poetry for Children', which will take place 20th-21st April 2009 in London. Paper topics may include the history of poetry for children; changing representations of childhood in poetry for children, illustrating poetry for children; the oral tradition; moral and religious poetry, children's poetry and the 'auditory imagination' etc. Send 500 word abstract for a 30-minute long paper to Morag Styles at ms104@cam.ac.uk by 30th October 2008.

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'The Fairy Tale after Angela Carter' conference at the University of East Anglia, UK, 22nd-25th April 2009.

2009 marks the thirtieth anniversary of the publication of Angela Carter's *The Bloody Chamber*. 'The Fairy Tale after Angela Carter' will take the anniversary as the starting point for an assessment of the state of the fairy tale and of fairy-tale studies in the wake of *The Bloody Chamber*.

The primary focus will be the critical and creative legacy of Carter's work as writer, critic, editor and translator of fairy tales. Selected conference papers will be published in a special issue of *Marvels & Tales* (2010). Suggested topics are: New cultural, political and social

histories of the fairy tale; the fairy tale after postmodernism; the fairy tale and contemporary visual art; the fairy tale and contemporary children's literature, including illustrated books; the fairy tale and contemporary theatre, cinema, dance and performance; orality, textuality and virtual spaces; the fairy tale and translation.

Please send abstracts (200 words, inc. title, plus brief biographical details) and ideas for panels to fairytales@uea.ac.uk. The deadline for submission of proposals is 3 November 2008. We also welcome suggestions for readings and related events. Further questions should be directed by email to Stephen Benson (s.benson@uea.ac.uk)

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The Journal of Children's Literature, published biannually by the Children's Literature Association of India, seeks insightful and well-researched articles on children's literature in Canada for its January 2009 issue. "Literature," of course, includes not just novels, short stories, or magazines, but also comics, movies, theater, TV shows, computer games, cartoons, radio programs, music, advertisements, etc. All submissions must conform to the basic MLA Handbook (sixth edition) style. Article length should be between 4000 to 8000 words. Please send articles as word file attachments to guest editor Michelle Superle: michelle.superle@ucfv.ca by the deadline of 15th October 2008.

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The 'Popular Narrative Media/Association for Research in Popular Fictions Conference' will take place on Friday 10th and Saturday 11th July 2009 at Liverpool John Moore's University, UK. Covering the period from the 1880s to early 1980s, this interdisciplinary conference will look at the histories, methodologies, archives, readers and cultural practices surrounding a range of visual texts and texts containing illustrations. There is a particular interest in papers on material for children and young adult readers, as well as papers on texts for adult readers. Papers could address: analyses of cultural practices surrounding these texts including swapping and collections, or how these texts and images might be appropriated or wilfully mis-read/decoded; individual texts or characters; how such texts adapted to changes in the political and social climate or affected national policy or civic character or indicated concerns about the present or future or about the use and perception of history. Proposals may also consider methodology particularly in relation to interdisciplinary study, archiving and digitisation and the relationship between this subject area and research in teaching. Please send 250-word abstracts for proposals for 20 minute presentations by 15th December 2008 to mel@dr-mel-comics.co.uk.

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The ISSCL (Irish Society for the Study of Children's Literature) runs an annual conference on children's literature. In 2009 it will be in St Patrick's College, Drumcondra, on Friday 6th and Saturday 7th February 2009. The theme of the conference is 'Nations, migrations, translations'. More information about the call for papers and registration details will be available on the society's website www.isscl.com from October.

Recent award-winning children's books:

Michael Rosen, the Children's Laureate, is to chair the judging panel for a worldwide poetry competition for 7-11 year olds. The Competition is organised by the Children's Poetry Bookshelf, a poetry book club for young people run by the Poetry Book Society. To link with National Poetry Day on Thursday 9 October, children will be asked to write a poem in English no longer than 25 lines on the theme of 'Work'. Now in its third year, the competition has been renamed the Old Possum's Children's Poetry Competition after T S Eliot's much-loved children's poetry collection about cats. The winners will be announced at a gala celebration in London in December. In partnership with the British Council a new 'International Learners' category, with the same age groups, has been added specifically for children based outside the UK who are learning English as a foreign or second language. National Year of Reading has chosen to support the Competition and through its campaign and website it will encourage individual children and schools to take part. The Old Possum's Children's Poetry Competition will encourage children to play with poetry, by

providing an outlet for their creativity with language and encouraging teachers to bring poetry alive in the classroom.

A teacher's guide to accompany the competition will be available to download from the Children's Poetry Bookshelf website (www.childrenspoetrybookshelf.co.uk) from early September. More information about the competition is also available on this website.

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A new award, launched on Friday 4th July, has been set up, in memory of publisher Frances Lincoln (1945-2001), to: take positive steps to increase the representation of people writing from or about different cultural perspectives, whose work is published in Britain today; promote new writing for children, especially by or about people whose culture and voice are currently under-represented and to recognise that as children's books shape our earliest perceptions of the world and its cultures, promoting writing that represents diversity will contribute to social and cultural tolerance. The Frances Lincoln Diverse Voices Children's Book Award is supported by Frances Lincoln Limited and Arts & Business. Full details about the Frances Lincoln Diverse Voices Children's Books Award, including rules and application forms are available to download from www.sevenstories.org.uk/diversevoicesaward.

Upcoming events relating to children's literature:

'Books in the Park: A Family Fun Day' will take place in Marlay Park, Dublin on Saturday 13th September from 1-5pm. Along with face painting, stiltwalkers and children's entertainment throughout the day, there will be a host of popular children's authors speaking and signing books such as: Niamh Sharkey from 1.20-1.40pm; Judi Curtin from 2.10-2.30pm; Marita Conlon-McKenna from 2.30-3pm; Andy Stanton at 3.30-4pm and Derek Landy from 4-4.30pm. Everyone is welcome!

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As part of Culture Night on 19th September, The Ark, A Cultural Centre for Children, is holding the 'Paper Planery' event with popular children's author Oliver Jeffers, based on his new book *The Great Paper Caper!* This series of 15-minute plane making and flying sessions will run between 5.30pm and 7pm while Oliver may be doing a drawing or two in between the folding, hanging and flying! Oliver has won many awards including the Nestlé Children's Book Prize Gold Award, the Blue Peter Book of the Year Award and the Irish Children's Book of the Year. Don't miss this exciting opportunity to meet Oliver, in his only public appearance in Dublin, and make planes with him! For more information, please visit www.ark.ie, call 01.6707788 or call into The Ark, A Cultural Centre for Children, 11a Eustace Street, Temple Bar, Dublin 2.

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The second Bath Festival of Children's Literature will take place over 19th-28th September 2008, in Bath, England. Michael Rosen, Michael Morpurgo, Meg Cabot, Shirley Hughes, Axel Scheffler, Charlie Higson, Cornelia Funke, Harry Hill, Allan Ahlberg, Martin Brown, Diana Wynne Jones, Robert Muchamore, Michelle Paver, Meg Rosoff and Annette & Nick Butterworth are just some of the confirmed guests lined-up for the 10-day festival of children's literature in September. See their website <http://www.bathkidslitfest.com/> for more information.

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CBI and Poetry Ireland Education are delighted to welcome award-winning writer and poet **Kevin Crossley Holland** to Dublin to coincide with the launch of the Children's Books Festival 2008 on 1st October at 6.30pm in the Irish Writers' Centre, 19 Parnell Square, Dublin 1. CBI members are invited to come and here Kevin speak about his books, his understanding of story and his writing life. Entry to this event is free but numbers are limited. To book please email: info@childrensbooksireland.ie, including your name, telephone number and the number of places you require for this event.

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Cathy Hopkins and Jenny Valentine will be talking about writing for teenagers at 6.30pm on Monday 20th October in Pearse St. Library, Dublin 2. CBI, Piccadilly Press, Harper Collins and Dublin City Libraries are very excited to announce this unique author event as part of the

2008 Children's Book Festival. Cathy Hopkins (whose best selling series include *Mates*, *Dates* and *Truth, Dare*) and Jenny Valentine (author of *Finding Violet Park*, winner of the Guardian Children's Fiction Prize, and *Broken Soup*) will debate their very different approaches to writing for teenagers with Dr Patricia Kennon, co-editor of *Inis* magazine. This event promises to be one of the highlights of the CBF programme and is open to both interested adults and young fans alike. Entry to this event is free but numbers are limited. To book please email: info@childrensbooksireland.ie, including your name, telephone number and the number of places you require for this event.

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Author Joe Craig will be speaking about 'Do Boys Read Books?' at 7.30pm in Cork City Library, Grand Parade, Cork, on Thursday 23rd October. The writer of the popular Jimmy Coates series will advise parents and teachers on ways to encourage boys to read books. Admission is free!

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CBI invites you to a special Christmas celebration in honour of Ireland's foremost picture-book artist, PJ Lynch at 6.30pm on Monday 8th December in the National Library of Ireland, Kildare St, Dublin 2. PJ will be joined by Dr Pat Donlon to discuss his life and work to date, including *The Christmas Miracle of Jonathon Toomey*, *A Christmas Carol* and *The Gift of The Magi*, published later this year. Those attending will also have the opportunity to enjoy an exhibition of selected pieces from the National Library's PJ Lynch collection, which will be on public display for the first time to mark the occasion.

A mulled wine reception will round off the evening in fittingly festive fashion! Entry to this event is free but numbers are limited. To book please email: info@childrensbooksireland.ie, including your name, telephone number and the number of places you require for this event.

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