



IPSWICH CHILDREN'S BOOK GROUP



Winter Newsletter 2014

Christmas is not far away, but hopefully you can find a few spare moments to look through our newsletter and the latest Carousel and perhaps find an idea for that last minute present!

PAST EVENTS

Stewart Ross

Thursday 25th September, 2014

Ipswich Institute, Tavern Street, Ipswich

After a busy day spent visiting a couple of Ipswich schools, Stewart Ross treated us to a wonderful evening talking about his latest book *Revenge of the Zeds* and the sequel *The Soterion Mission*. As it was the launch day, we also enjoyed some *Revenge of the Zeds* cake!

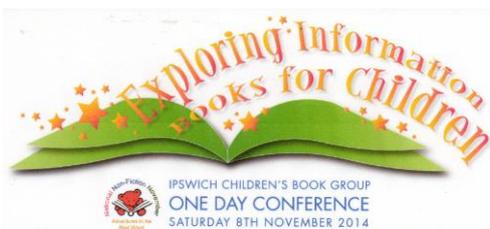


Michael Rosen

Thursday 23rd October, 2014

New Wolsey Theatre, Ipswich

Michael Rosen entertained local children with an exhilarating morning of poetry in performance at this year's Children's Bookshow. Clifford Road Primary were the lucky winners of a workshop with Michael, who inspired the children with his poems, giving them the confidence to write their own. We were pleased to be able to support the two events by organising the bookshop.



**Adventures in the Real World -
Exploring Information Books for Children
Saturday 8th November, 2014
Broke Hall Primary School, Ipswich**



This was an inspiring day celebrating National Non-Fiction November and with the help of some incredible speakers – Clive Gifford, winner of this year's Royal Society Young People's Book Prize, Christopher Lloyd from What on Earth publishing, Lucy Letherland, Chris Brown and Sarah Ridley - we were taken on adventures all around the world, out into space and back 4.6 billion years to the beginning of the Earth. Along the way we visited the animal kingdom, the world of science and maths, as well as making a poignant visit to WW1. In our journey we were supported by the Norfolk Children's Book Centre and the Schools Library Service.

A day that showed just where the wealth of children's information books can take them.

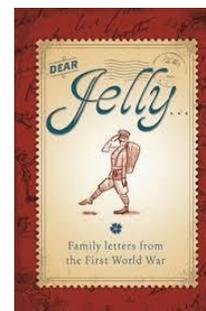
Sarah Ridley School Event
Wednesday, 12th November, 2014

Ipswich Film Theatre, Corn Exchange, King Street, Ipswich

As part of the recent celebration of National Non-Fiction November, the Federation and Hachette Children's Books offered groups the chance to bid for a free visit from Sarah Ridley, the author of many primary level information books. Ipswich CBG was lucky enough to win and Sarah, who lives locally, was invited to give a presentation to schools about her recent book, *Dear Jelly*.



The book is a collection of letters sent by two brothers fighting in France during the First World War, to their younger sisters at home; interspersed with letters is a commentary explaining the context and background to what is being described. These letters are part of Sarah's family archive and help the reader understand the personal effect of the war. One hundred and fifty pupils from four primary schools [Hillside, Clifford Road, St Matthews and Gorseland] gathered at the Film Theatre to hear Sarah give an engaging and moving presentation about the book, where she was joined by her uncle, Bill Wigglesworth, the son of Mabel, one of the sisters who was a recipient of the letters. He read aloud the words his uncles wrote, while Sarah gave the commentary and showed pictures to illustrate it. Children asked lots of questions about the war, the family and writing in general after the talk.



JOIN THE 2014
CHRISTMAS MINI-CHALLENGE!
12 DECEMBER 2014 - 6 JANUARY 2015



2014 Christmas Mini Challenge
12th December 2014 – 6th January 2015

After the success of the Summer Reading Challenge, Cressida Cowell, bestselling author of the *How To Train Your Dragon* books, has launched The Reading Agency's second Christmas Mini Challenge. Children can go to their local library and read any three books they like over the school winter holidays (from 12 December 2014 to 6 January 2015), To take part children simply need to update their profile page on the Summer Reading Challenge website (<http://summerreadingchallenge.org.uk/>) with the three books they have read, to receive a virtual badge and secret video as a reward.

CINEMA



The Hobbit: the Battle of the Five Armies 12A

Peter Jackson's Hobbit trilogy reaches its climax with an epic showdown.

Paddington PG

Paddington Bear makes his big screen debut in a blend of live action and CGI.



The Hunger Games: Mockingjay Part 1 12A

Katniss Everdeen leads a rebellion against the Capitol as the Hunger Games story builds to its climax.

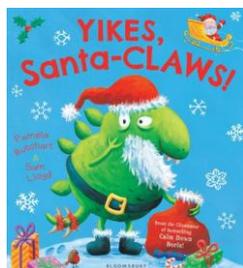
There are also lots of films adapted from books, to enjoy on television over the Christmas period– check your emails for the complete list.

Books for Christmas

Find something for everyone's Christmas stocking in the list below

Over the Hills and Far Away by Elizabeth Hammill (Frances Lincoln)

This is a beautiful and wide ranging collection of nursery rhymes from around the world. Each double-page spread is illustrated by a different artist, featuring 77 of the most well known names working in children's books today. They include Jessica Ahlberg, Lucy Cousins, Michael Foreman and Axel Scheffler.



Yikes, Santa-Claws! by Pamela Butchart illustrated by **Sam Lloyd**

(Bloomsbury)

It was Christmas Eve and the dino-tots are tucked up in bed dreaming of Christmas magic, but instead Santa-Claws comes stomping through the snow, causing chaos! Can anyone stop him?

Dragon Jelly by Claire Freedman illustrated by **Sue Hendra** (Bloomsbury)

Come to Max's monster party and enjoy some whiffy, stinky, goo-licious food to eat! Fun for little monsters who will love the bright pictures and rollicking rhymes.

How the Library [Not the Prince] Saved Rapunzel by Wendy Meddour illustrated by **Rebecca Ashdown Petrie** (Frances Lincoln)

When Rapunzel sits bored and alone on the sixteenth floor of a tower block, no-one can help – not the postman, the baker or even the prince. Then she receives a letter offering her a job at the library! And suddenly her life is busy, sparkling, exciting and stimulating. "For despite her long hair and her ravishing looks, she loved nothing better than reading good books!"

Book by John Agard illustrated by **Neil Packer** (Walker Books)

My name is Book and I'll tell you the story of my life...

In lyrical prose, John Agard traces the evolution of the book from the beginnings of writing to today's technology. Interspersed with quotes about books and reading, beautifully illustrated with Neil Packer's lino cuts, telling its story with warmth and humour, this slim volume is a small masterpiece.

Cakes in Space by Philip Reeve and Sarah McIntyre (Oxford)

Astra and her family are travelling through space to a new home on Nova Mundi, when their space ship is attacked by cake fiends on the loose! Can they stop them before they destroy the ship...people should eat cakes, not the other way round!

The Imaginary by A.F Harrold illustrated by **Emily Gravett** (Bloomsbury)

Rudger is Amanda's imaginary friend. When sinister Mr Bunting arrives at Amanda's door, Rudger has to run for his imaginary life. But can a boy who isn't there survive without a friend to dream him up?



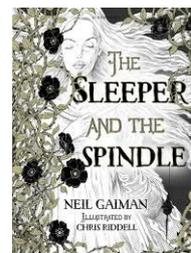
The Parent Agency by David Baddiel (HarperCollins Children's Books)

Barry Bennett hates his name – it is just one item on a long list of things he blames his parents for. And he finds that wishes do come true as he is mysteriously whisked away to the Parent Agency. Here, Barry can try out 5 sets of new parents, but will they live up to his expectations?

The Sleeper and the Spindle by Neil Gaiman illustrated by Chris Riddell
(Bloomsbury)

This fairy tale is spun with a thread of dark magic, which twists and turns and glints and shines. A queen might just prove herself a hero, if a princess needs rescuing...

Neil Gaiman weaves his own magic around the tale of Sleeping Beauty perfectly matched by Chris Riddell's gothic drawings, which are enhanced with touches of gold paint.



Deadly! Pole to Pole Diaries by Steve Backshall (Orion Children's Books)

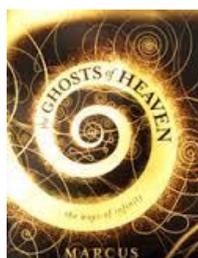
This is Steve Backshall's incredible first-hand account of his 14-month voyage from the Arctic to the Antarctic via Alaska, California, Hawaii, Mexico and Brazil and many more amazing locations besides. Go with him every step of the way as he describes his encounters with white whales, ice bears, sharks, eagles, wolves, sea lions, eagles, crocodiles, snakes and spiders.

Young Bond: Shoot to Kill by Steve Cole (Doubleday Children's Books)

Something terrible is happening in Tinseltown and the teenage James Bond finds himself in the middle of it. With all the glamorous, exciting elements you'd expect, this is a great read from a lifelong Bond fan.

Lockwood and Co; The Whispering Skull by Jonathan Stroud (Doubleday Children's Books)

The investigators at London's smallest psychic detection agency are back, with a new and sinister case to solve. But as usual, everything goes wrong – a terrible phantom is freed and a dangerous object is stolen. Lockwood & Co. must recover the relic before its power is unleashed, but it's a race against time.



The Ghosts of Heaven by Marcus Sedgwick (Indigo)

A cleverly interlinked novel written in four parts, about survival and discovery, and about the effect of the spiral, a symbol that has no end, on all our lives. Engrossing, thought provoking and utterly compelling these tales of four souls linked by time and the spiral will stay with the reader long after the book is closed.

Jayne Gould

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to this newsletter and we will continue to keep members updated with regular emails about our events, together with information about things of general interest.

Shirley Imlach
December 2014

A Very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year To You All



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