



## Spring Newsletter 2013

Dear Members

Following on from our very enjoyable celebrations for our 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, the Oxford Children's Book Group is continuing to bring books and children together with many successful events.

We again participated in reviewing books for the **Red House Book Award** asking children to read all the shortlisted books in the different categories and voting for their favourite. The winner was **Spooky, Spooky House** by *AWeare and LWildish* and committee member Anne Marie and her two children greatly enjoyed attending the Award Ceremony in London in February.

In February, *Katherine Langrish*, author of **West of the Moon**, the complete Troll series, joined us to talk about her recent books, **Dark Angels** and **Forsaken** and to introduce us to her current work, **GOG**, entertaining us all with a lively reading.

As always, we celebrated **World Book Day**, this year inviting *Sally Nicholls*, author of **We all Fall Down**, to come to Wheatley Park School to speak to students. Sally graphically described the various gruesome deaths suffered during the 15<sup>th</sup> Century plague, much to the enjoyment of all the children present. Unfortunately, none of the children managed to survive the plague in Sally's fun role play.

Looking ahead, *Francis Hardinge*, author of **A Face like Glass**, will be visiting Matthew Arnold School on the 16th May.

Our annual **Bookswap** will again be held in Botley on Saturday, 18<sup>th</sup> May but please note the different time of 11.30am until 3pm. We look forward to seeing many of you there.

A most important date for your diary is 12<sup>th</sup> October for our **Annual Conference**, which is once more being held at Oxford University Press. The title of this year's conference is "**Ways into Reading**" and we are looking forward to welcoming Victor Watson amongst other speakers for what promises to be a stimulating and rewarding day for all.

Finally, work is progressing well on updating our website and we very much hope to be unveiling the new Oxford Children's Book Group site in May/June where you will be able to find details of all our activities and future events.

With best wishes

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