

Welcome...

...to this autumn-inspired issue of *Hullabaloo!*

With the nights drawing in it's the perfect time to catch up on some reading. Why not try one of the books featured inside? We've got Anthony Browne, the shortlisted titles for two Lincolnshire book awards, Neil Gaiman, *The Gruffalo*, and all the usual recent prizewinners. Or maybe you'll be inspired by our nipper to go out and buy a comic! If all else fails you're *bound* to find something on one of the chronologies mentioned in the article below.

Happy Reading!

Emma & Janice



A Helping Hand

In her role as a children's literature librarian Janice is frequently asked for advice on finding particular types of books, like ones on specific themes, ones published in particular decades, ones for boys or teenagers, or just really good reads. We know it can be a bit of a challenge to know which books to choose so over the past couple of years we've put together several booklists to help you make more informed choices.



For advice on the classics check out our two chronologies: the *Chronology of Classic Picture Books* and the *Chronology of Classic Children's Literature*. Both feature books published over many decades and all of the books can be found in our library.

For books featuring disability or family diversity try the two reading resources we produced in conjunction with Dr Richard Woolley and his BA Primary Education with QTS students: the *Disability Reading Resource* (new this year) and the *Family Diversity Reading Resource* (which was

featured in our January 2008 issue).

We also produced bibliographies about refugees & asylum seekers and bullying.

All of the aforementioned lists are available on the *Hullabaloo!* website at

www.bishopg.ac.uk/hullabaloo. And while you're there why not check out our list of the major prizewinning books of 2008-2009? Great if you're looking for a top book to recommend, snuggle up with as the nights draw in, or buy someone for Christmas!



Awards Roundup

Winner of the **Branford Boase Award** was B.R. Collins for *The Traitor Game* (Bloomsbury, £6.99).

The **Dundee Picture Book Award** went to Helen Stephens for *Fleabag* (Alison Green Books, £5.99).

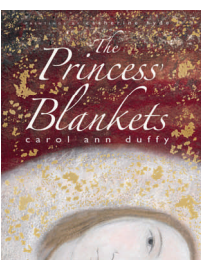
In the **Booktrust Early Years Awards** the Baby Book Award was won by Ed Vere for *Chick* (Puffin, £7.99); the Pre-School Award was won by Mara Bergman and illustrator Nick Maland for *Oliver Who Travelled Far and Wide* (Hodder Children's, £10.99); and the Best Emerging Illustrator Award was won by Katie Cleminson for *Box of Tricks* (Jonathan Cape, 10.99)

This year's winner of the **Carnegie Medal** was Siobhan Dowd's *Bog Child* (David Fickling, £6.99) and of the **Greenaway Medal** was Catherine Rayner for the adorable *Harris Finds His Feet* (Little Tiger Press, 5.99).

John Agard won the **CLPE Poetry Award** for *The Young Inferno* (Francis Lincoln, £12.99).

Mal Peet's *Exposure* (Walker Books, £7.99), a modern retelling of Othello, was awarded the **Guardian Children's Fiction Prize**.

And finally, winners of the **English 4-11 Best Book Awards** included *The Odd*



Egg by Emily Gravett (MacMillan Children's, £5.99); *The Beeman* by Laurie Krebs and Valeria Cis (Barefoot Books, £5.99); and *The Princess' Blankets* by Carol Ann Duffy (Templar, £12.99). *Hullabaloo!* favourite *We Are All Born Free* (Frances Lincoln, £12.99) also received a special award.



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Newsletter of the Children's Collection at Bishop Grosseteste University College Lincoln

Hullabaloo!

Featured Author: Anthony Browne

Born in Sheffield in 1946, Anthony Browne grew up near Halifax. His first book, *Through the Magic Mirror*, was published in 1976 and others followed in quick succession. He won the Kate Greenaway Medal in 1983 for *Gorilla* and again in 1992 for *Zoo*. In 2000 he received the Hans Christian Andersen Award for services to children's literature. More recently he has been illustrator in residence at the Tate. Janice explains why she was delighted by Anthony Browne's recent appointment as Children's Laureate, a position he will keep until 2011...

"The reading scheme in fashion when I was learning to read was *Janet and John*. After those I was encouraged to move on to novels. When I became a librarian in the 1980s I still assumed that books with pictures were for children learning to read. That is, until 1982 when I read *A Walk in the Park*. Eureka!

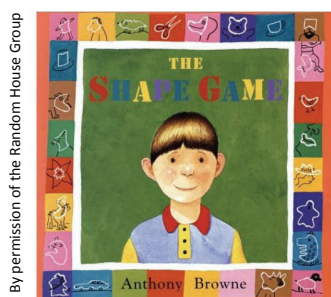


Image © Laurence Cendrowicz 2009

For the first time I concentrated on looking at the pictures in a book. It was the fountain that caught my attention. The shape of the fountain was created using lots of different objects. I started the book again, this time looking closely at the pictures rather than just reading the text. I realised I'd been taking the shapes of things for granted. I now noticed a bench wearing shoes, umbrella-shaped trees, a bush clipped to resemble one of the characters, and hands holding the swings in place. In addition were surreal details: a banana on top of a chimney, an egg cup with an egg in a nest, and a man taking a pig for a walk. Even more astonishing was to see the British class system under scrutiny. Remember, I thought this was a book for babies! I was also amazed at what was achieved with so little text. Words and pictures worked together to create deeper meanings. How could I have missed all this? This is what Anthony Browne does. He makes you look. He makes you laugh. He makes you gasp. He ensures you never look at picture books the same way again.

A Walk in the Park changed my life. I realised the incredible potential picture books offered not just babies and early readers but older children, and even adults! From that point on I began to explore the world of picture books and discovered many other great authors and illustrators like David McKee, John Burningham, the Ahlbergs, Charles Keeping, Tony Ross, Colin MacNaughton, Shaun Tan and Mini Grey. Almost 30 years later I'm still exploring. It's exhilarating to know that I'll never have read all the picture books; there will always be new ones coming on the scene and old ones to rediscover. So, for me Anthony Browne will always be special because he introduced me to a wonderful, magical, thought-provoking world."

Janice has recently put up a display about Anthony's book *The Shape Game* (left) in the Children's Collection. His most recent book, about a gorilla who learns to use sign language, is called *Little Beauty* (Walker Books, £5.99). Since Janice is such a big fan you can be sure that we have copies of lots of Anthony's books in the Library—why not come and see what all the fuss is about?



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Double The Book Award Fun In Lincolnshire

This coming year young people in Lincolnshire have the opportunity to be involved in not one but **TWO** book awards: the Lincolnshire Young People's Book Award (LYPBA) and the READ 'Amazing Adventures' Series Book Award.

The Lincolnshire Young People's Book Award, run by Lincolnshire Libraries and now in its 7th year, invites 9-14 year olds to vote for the best book published in 2009. This year's shortlisted books are:

9 - 11 years

The Killer Cat's Birthday Bash by Anne Fine
Kaspar: Prince of Cats by Michael Morpurgo
Circle of Power by Sheridan Winn
Airman by Eoin Colfer
Puddle Goblins by David Melling

12 - 14 years

It's a 50/50 Thing by Chris Higgins
Dragonfly by Julia Golding
Ostrich Boys by Keith Gray
The Way of the Warrior by Chris Bradford
Magenta Sings the Blues by Echo Freer

Reading and voting will continue until May 14th 2010 and the winner will be announced in June. For more information check out: <http://tiny.cc/9C9JE>



The **Amazing Adventures Series Book Award** is a new award run by READ (Resourcing Education and Development), a group of Lincolnshire secondary school librarians who meet regularly to promote reading and exchange ideas. Participating schools were asked to nominate their most popular adventure series and the following have been shortlisted...

The *Artemis Fowl* Series by Eoin Colfer
 The *H.I.V.E* Series by Mark Walden
 The *Alex Rider* Series by Anthony Horowitz
 The *Jimmy Coates* Series by Joe Craig
 The *Cherub* Series by Robert Muchamore
 The *Chronicles of Ancient Darkness* by Michelle Paver

Bookworms have until 21 May 2010 to cast their votes. Prizes will also be awarded for the best book reviews received. Joe Craig, author of the *Jimmy Coates* series, will announce the winner at the award ceremony at Bourne Grammar School on the 23 June 2010. For more information contact: cathy.day@bourne-grammar.lincs.sch.uk



Rosen's Reading Revolution

"Books are low-tech, portable packages of the widest range of human experience." So says writer, broadcaster and former Children's Laureate Michael Rosen who is heading a campaign to start a 'reading revolution'. He aims to make every school a book-loving school and is calling on all organisations involved with reading to support schools in encouraging children to read.

Rosen's campaign stems from a BBC Four television programme earlier this year, in which he worked with a primary school to turn it into a 'reading school'. His strategy identified 20 key activities including appointing a school librarian, setting up small libraries in every classroom, creating reading buddies, adopting an author / illustrator, visiting local libraries and performing stories.

To find out if yours is a 'reading school', and for more ideas and activities to inspire a love of reading, go to www.readingrevolution.co.uk. There you can read Rosen's 20 point plan in full and watch videos of Rosen putting his ideas into action.

Publisher Heinemann has already responded to this initiative and has worked with Rosen to produce a range of resources called *Literacy Evolve* to support whole-class teaching of whole texts. Check them out at www.literacyevolve.co.uk.

Join Our Club!

"By talking with others through the club I have become enthusiastic about different authors and re-discovered literature." A 2009-2010 PGCE student.

Last year, students from the PGCE Primary programme organised and ran a very successful children's book club (see our May 2009 issue). Now that they have moved on to pastures new we are looking for other students who would like to get together on a regular basis to talk about children's books. If the idea of sharing with others the books you have read, or exploring something completely new appeals to you please write to us to express your interest at hullabaloo@bishopg.ac.uk.

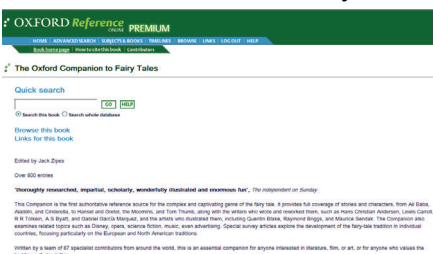
Recommended Websites

We're going to hold our hands up and admit to a little bit of self-promotion with this article, but it's all good stuff we promise!

Delicious is a tool for storing and sharing favourite websites. It's easy (and free!) to use and one of the great things about it is that you get to see everyone else's favourites—not just your own. Here in the Library we have developed our own Delicious 'site' over the past few months. Delicious uses things called 'tags' and 'tag bundles' (tag=subject) to organise favourites. We have created nearly 60 tags and 10 tag bundles on our site and have bookmarked about 580 websites in total. Find out more about Delicious, including a quick guide to the screen, on our website at www.bishopg.ac.uk/?id=10200&page=2, or visit the site directly and see the *children's literature* tag at <http://delicious.com/sibthorp/Children%27sLiterature>.

Oxford Reference Online is just what it sounds like—a collection of reference works published online by Oxford

University Press. You'll find it listed in the aforementioned *children's literature* tag in Delicious. It's a fantastic collection and includes two key works of children's literature: *The Oxford Companion to Fairy Tales* and the *Oxford Encyclopedia of Children's Literature*, both edited by Jack Zipes. This is a subscription resource and so is only available to students and staff of the University College, but if you're neither of those it's worth seeing if you can access it through your local public library, many of which now offer access to online reference resources like this one.



Grave Goings On

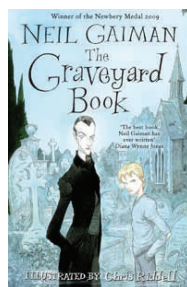
This is, quite frankly, the best book Neil Gaiman has ever written. How he has managed to combine fascinating, friendly, frightening and fearsome in one fantasy I shall never know, but he has pulled it off magnificently - perfect for Halloween and any other time of the year.

Author Diana Wynne Jones

Earlier this year talented British author and graphic novelist Neil Gaiman (right) won the Newbery Medal for the work described above—*The Graveyard Book*. One critic called it a book for "teens of all ages" and to reflect this Bloomsbury have published it in two editions: one

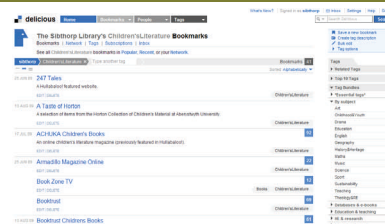


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for children, illustrated by Chris Riddell, and the other, for an older audience, by Dave McKean. Gaiman holds the reader in his thrall from the very beginning as 'the man Jack' enters the home of Nobody (Bod) Owens and murders his entire family. Bod escapes to a local graveyard where he is adopted and protected by ghosts, but when curiosity about his family tempts him back into the outside world he once more faces danger from the man Jack.

Last year Gaiman toured nine US cities, reading a chapter from *The Graveyard Book* in each one. The readings, and the question and answer sessions that followed, can now be viewed online at <http://www.mousecircus.com>.



When I Was A Nipper...

This issue's ex-nipper is Academic Coordinator Karl Aubrey....

"When I was asked to write about my favourite book as a child I had to come clean and admit I never read a book as a child – there, the secret is out (I have read lots since though, honest). But what did inspire me was my weekly dose of the comic 'Victor' which I think came out every Thursday.



In particular it was Alf Tupper (pictured right), otherwise known as "Tough of the Track" one of Britain's best middle-distance and cross-country runners. The Victor was full of adventures and military heroics but it was always Alf Tupper I turned to first. He was an ordinary working fellow who finished his shift as a welder, ate his fish and chip supper on the top deck of the bus, and then put on his spikes and went racing. He seemed to beat all-comers including the 'toffs' who tried their best to undermine him, but he always came through despite all their best efforts to trip him up (and even to kidnap him on



Victor (c) D.C. Thomson & Co., Ltd Dundee Scotland

one occasion).

Alf ran a one-man welding workshop under the railway arches in the industrial town of Greystone. Perhaps it was these points about his background and his endeavours to overcome the odds which made him popular. I have to admit he is still a hero of mine – I have the Victor

annuals to prove it (which I dip into now and again!). I read recently he was also the inspiration of another of my heroes – Ron Hill, the veteran marathon runner and Olympic athlete. Ron claims to have run every day of his adult life and still competes at the age of 70 plus. So it is quite pleasing to share a fictional hero with a real idol of mine. Alf hung up his spikes in 1992 when the Victor decided he had had his day. Which, according to my rough and hopeful reckoning, made him, like Ron, over 70 when he retired, so there's hope for me yet!"

First Words Competition

Last issue's winner was Laura Jokic (Education Studies and English) who received a £10 book token for correctly spotting that our quote came from Roald Dahl's classic **James and the Giant Peach**.

Our new first words are:

'Yes,' said Tom bluntly, on opening the front door. 'What d'you want?'

E-mail the title and author together with your name to us at hullabaloo@bishopg.ac.uk by December 19th and that £10 book token could be yours.

A book is a gift you can open again and again.

Garrison Keillor (1942-)

Campaigning for Libraries

Earlier this year author Alan Gibbons launched an e-petition on the 10 Downing Street website to ask that libraries in schools become a statutory requirement, just as they already are in prisons. So far nearly 5,000 people have signed up, so if you feel strongly about this issue why not join us in adding your name at <http://petitions.number10.gov.uk/literacy?> (You'll have to be quick though—the closing date is Dec 11th.)

The petition was hot on the heels of the launch of Gibbons' *Campaign for the Book* in September 2008 which is supported by numerous authors, associations, and publishers including Anthony Browne, Michael Rosen, Anne Fine, Philip Pullman, Jacqueline Wilson, Malorie Blackman, Bernard Ashley and Helena Pielichaty. The charter for the Campaign for the Book is available to read on Alan Gibbons' blog at http://alangibbons.net/?page_id=206.

Happy 10th Birthday The Gruffalo! (1999-2009)

We're celebrating the birthday of a relative youngster this issue. Award-winning picture book **The Gruffalo**, written by Julia Donaldson and illustrated by Axel Scheffler, was first published 10 years ago and has since become a firm favourite with children all over the world.

The story, written in rhyming couplets, is said to be based on a traditional Chinese folk tale and tells of a mouse who wanders through a wood, one by one frightening off a fox, an owl, and a snake, all of whom want to eat him. He tells them that they are the favourite food of his friend, the (made up but monstrous) Gruffalo, who he says he is on his way to

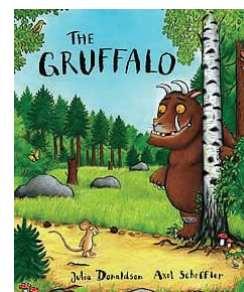
see. Much to his surprise the mouse then encounters a real Gruffalo, who also wants to eat him, but the cunning mouse walks through the wood with the Gruffalo, and as the fox, owl, and snake see him they run away, making the mouse appear pretty tough to the Gruffalo. So much so that when the mouse threatens to eat the Gruffalo the Gruffalo turns tail and runs!

The book won the 1999 Nestlé Smarties Book Prize, and the 2000 Blue Peter Prize for Best Book to Read Aloud. It has sold 4 million copies and has been published in as many as 38 foreign editions. One of the highlights of the BBC's Christmas schedule is to be an animated version of

the story with the voice talents of James Corden, Robbie Coltrane, Rob Brydon, John Hurt, and Tom Wilkinson. Other

events to celebrate the anniversary include the publication of a special limited edition of the book, and a new range of Gruffalo merchandise.

We love Julia Donaldson here at Hullabaloo! (Emma is particularly fond of *Stick Man*) and wish the mouse and all his friends (or should that be enemies?) a very happy birthday.



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