



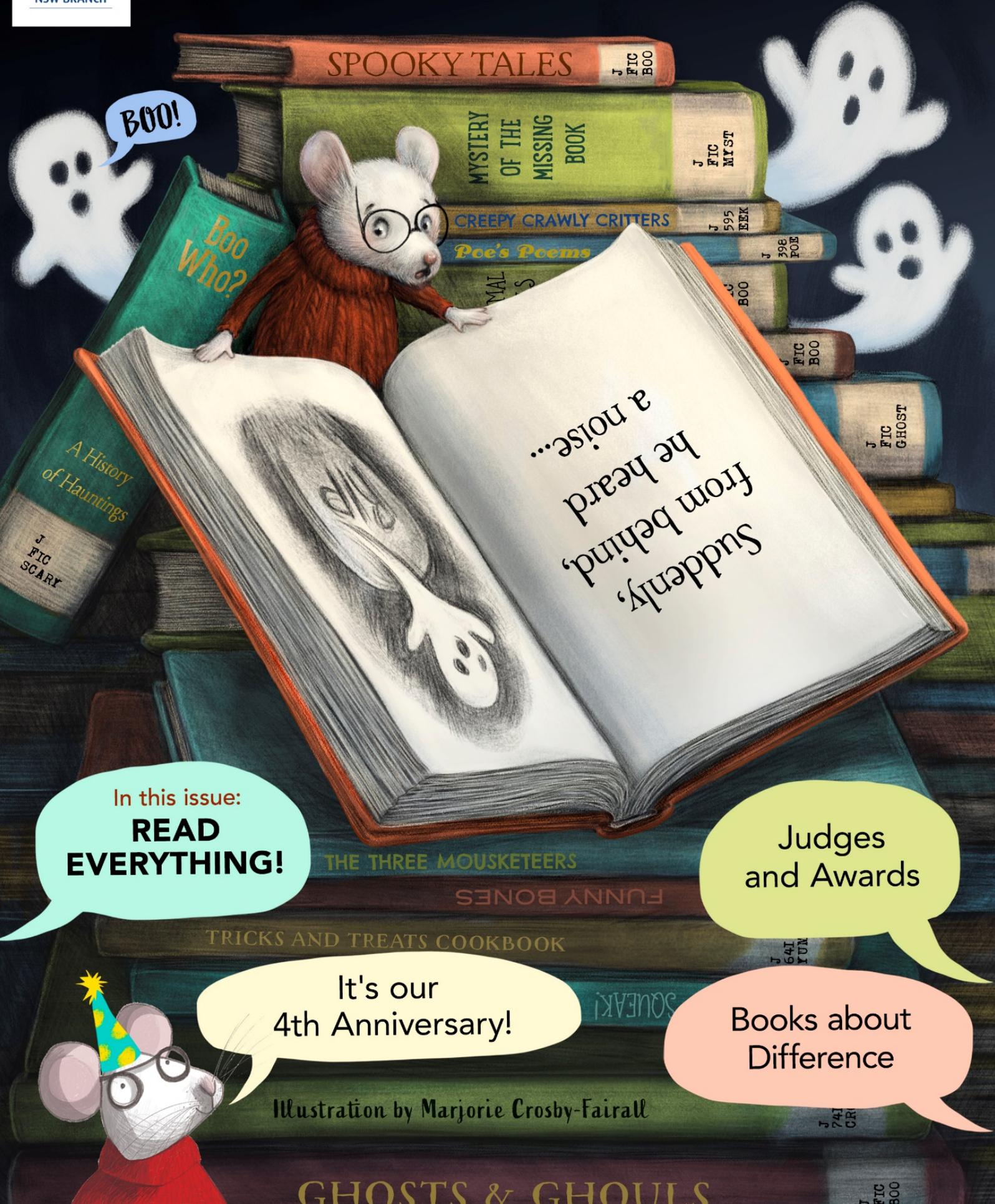
THE CHILDREN'S  
BOOK COUNCIL  
OF AUSTRALIA  
NSW BRANCH

# Kids' Corner

Volume 5 No.9

October 2021

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BOO!

In this issue:  
**READ  
EVERYTHING!**

Judges  
and Awards

It's our  
4th Anniversary!

Books about  
Difference

Illustration by Marjorie Crosby-Fairall



GHOSTS & GHOULS

## WELCOME TO OUR GUEST ILLUSTRATOR -



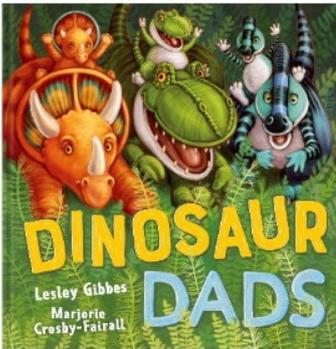
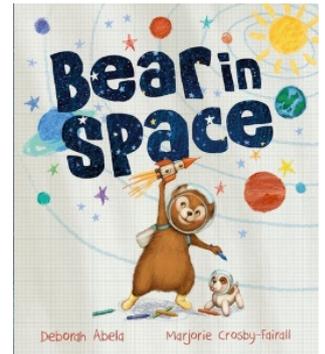
### MARJORIE CROSBY-FAIRALL

[www.crosby-fairall.com](http://www.crosby-fairall.com)

Marjorie is an internationally Published illustrator of over twenty children's books. Her books appear on the Premier's Reading Challenge lists and have been shortlisted and won awards, including the CBCA Eve Pownall Award for her first picture book.



*Bear in Space*, her picture book with Deborah Abela, is a CBCA 2021 Notable Book.



Most recent picture book:  
*Dinosaur Dads* by Lesley Gibbes Scholastic Australia

Free downloadable colouring sheets and activities:

[www.crosby-fairall.com/activities](http://www.crosby-fairall.com/activities)

Marjorie says:

*For the KC cover illustration, I wanted to combine the ideas of Something Spooky with Read Everything. The hero of the illustration is my version of the Kids' Corner mascot Morrie the Mouse. The illustration was created digitally.*

**G<sub>h</sub>O<sub>st</sub> BOO<sub>ks</sub>**

**WITCH BOO<sub>ks</sub>?**

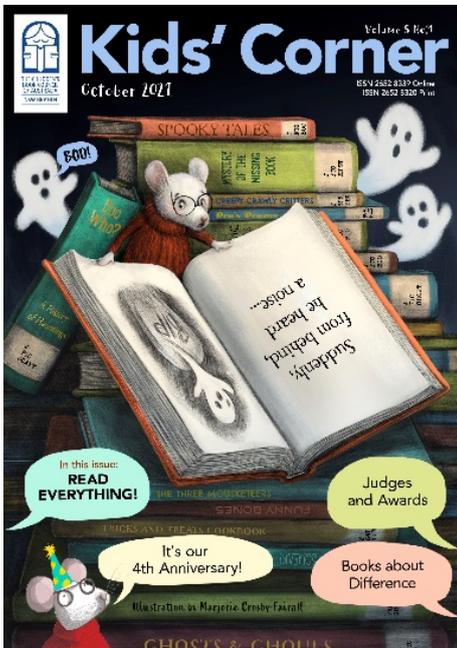
**BURIED in a BOO<sub>k</sub>!**

**GOBLIN up BOO<sub>ks</sub>**

**Double, Double DARE to Think**

**CAT<sub>ch</sub> a story**





## WELCOME TO KC for OCTOBER 2021

THANKS to Marjorie Crosby-Fairall who used her **SUPER + NATURAL** talents to create a fantastic cover that sends us on our way to **READ EVERYTHING and SHARE DIFFERENCES.**

While still under the spell of celebrating **old worlds, new worlds, other worlds** we're just beginning our **dreaming with eyes open...**

OCTOBER **KC** encourages us to:

-  **glide through walls** with Pat Simmons ...
-  join Nat Amooore and **READ ... whatever we want...**
-  **Find time for plays** with Ursula Dubosarsky
-  **understand differences** with Anna Whateley, Libby Hathorn, Isabel Hathorn and Bethany Macdonald, Illus., Zana Fraillon and Phil Lesnie, Illus., and Sofie Laguna and Marc McBride, Illus...
-  **meet a few of** the SUPER READERS who are CBCA 2022 judges ...
-  enjoy even more **award books** about the environment and with the **K.O.A.L.A.s...**

**AND CELEBRATE FOUR YEARS OF KIDS' CORNER!!!**



## READ WHATEVER YOU WANT - NAT AMOORE

<https://www.natamoore.com/>

Adapted from her video commentary at the **CBCA NSW Branch KIDS Book Of the Year Award event** – August 20, 2021

<https://www.cbcanw.org.au/kids-book-of-the-year-event-2021>

*video clip of this section begins at count 26.05*

When I write, I just use my imagination to create another world to drop my character into. You can use your worlds for your characters...

**OLD WORLDS** are your past experiences that you have already lived.

**NEW WORLDS** are where you live right now and what we want to see in the future.

**OTHER WORLDS** are all about imagination, the world you haven't lived or experienced or been to...just make it all up.

As a last little word, remember, to read for the love of it.

Book Week is all about celebrating books and reading.

You are always going to have some books that you have to read for school.

But read for the love of it as well.

That world that you go into when you read a book, no one can take away from you.

It's your space, your choice, your time, your world.

You can just disappear into that amazing world and have some awesome experiences.

READ whatever you want...

READ BOOKS that make you LAUGH or READ BOOKS that make you CRY.

READ BOOKS that TEACH SOMETHING or READ BOOKS that TEACH YOU ABSOLUTELY NOTHING.

READ BOOKS that WIN AWARDS or READ BOOKS that DON'T WIN AWARDS

READ BOOKS about HISTORY or about SCIENCE.

READ BOOKS that are about FARTS and SNOT.

READ BOOKS that make you LOVE READING.

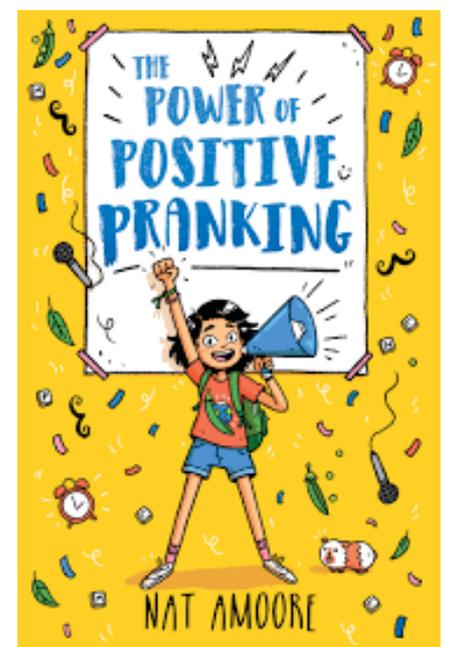
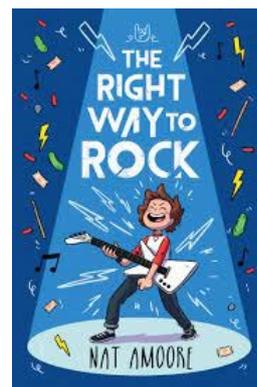
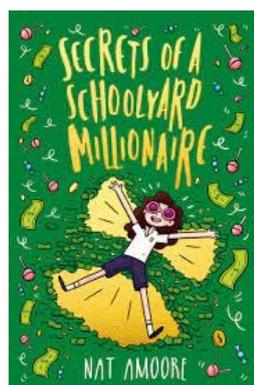
Everyone has a book out there – Just find the one that hits you in the heart.

You'll read DIFFERENT ones for DIFFERENT TIMES or as you GROW OLDER.

I always make sure that I read some books just for ME, not for work.

Just read everything.

Nat's books: *The POWER OF POSITIVE PRANKING* has been shortlisted for the [2021 Readings Children's Book Prize](#), [REAL Children's Choice Book Awards](#) and the [Environment Award for Children's Literature](#)





## THE POWER OF POETRY...



### SPOOKY STUFF

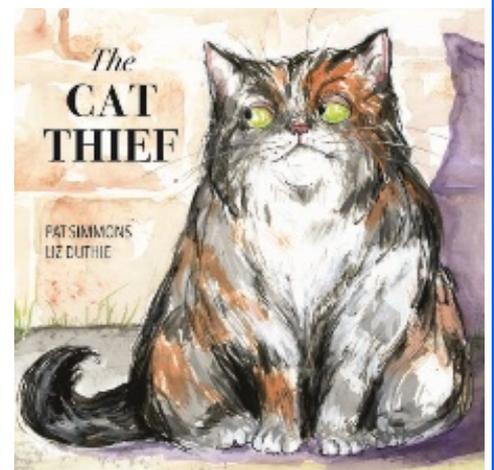
I don't like vampires,  
They're toothy and scary.  
I cannot stand werewolves.  
They're noisy and hairy.  
But ghosts, I just love them.  
They glide across halls.  
Guess what's even cooler?  
They glide right through walls.

**PAT SIMMONS**

[www.patsimmonswriter.com.au](http://www.patsimmonswriter.com.au)



Pat lives at Scarborough on the NSW coast with her cats, dog and stick insect. Pat writes picture books, poetry, short stories and flash fiction. Her latest picture book, **THE CAT THIEF**, illustrated by Liz Duthie, published by *Little Pink Dog Books* was released in July 2021. This book is very special for Pat as it's based on a childhood memory. At a very young age she did, in fact, steal cats. Her Mum always sent them home!



*The Cat Thief* is available in book shops and from online booksellers.

Pat's poem *Spooky Stuff* is from **OLD WORLDS, NEW WORLDS, OTHER WORLDS, an anthology of stories, poems, and plays for children**. Published by CBCA NSW Eastern Suburbs Sub-Branch Available from

<https://www.cbcanews.org.au/merchandise>

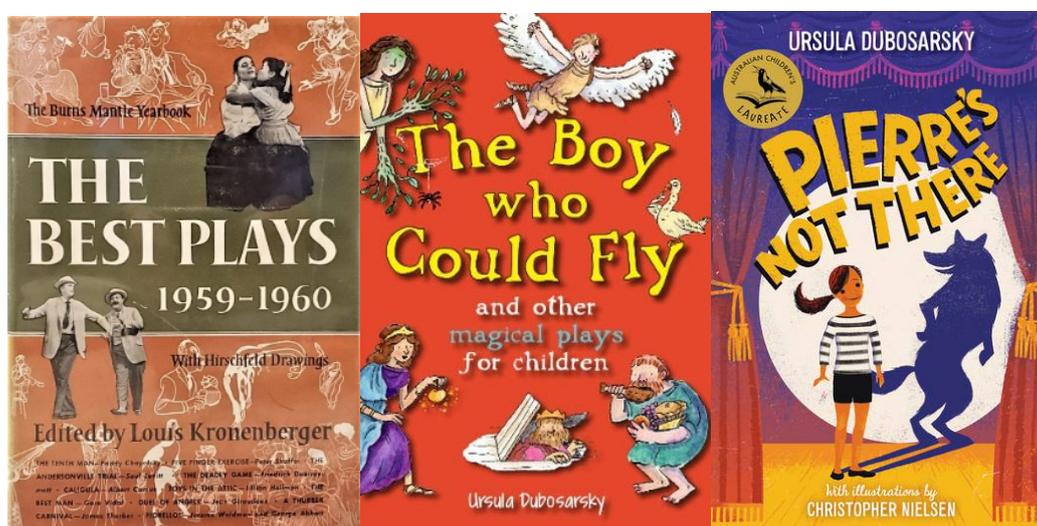
Ursula's recent books about plays include: *The Boy Who Could Fly* Christmas Press and *Pierre's Not There* with Christopher Nielsen, Illustrator. Allen and Unwin

## TIME FOR PLAYS

### FROM URSULA DUBOSARSKY - Australian Children's Laureate

Have you ever thought of reading a play? Yes, I mean reading one, not going to see one! I love watching plays. There's nothing quite like the excitement of the moment when the lights go out and the curtain rises, and the play begins. Plays give us the story in words and dialogue and a performance in a book, on the stage or in our imagination.

But I have also always loved **READING** plays. When I was a child my favourite section of my local library was where the books of plays were kept. I used to borrow great big volumes called **BEST PLAYS** - they were very heavy to carry home on the bus but what hours of wonderful reading I had!



What I love about plays is the way the story is revealed mainly through what people say to each other. In novels there's usually a lot of descriptions, but in plays it's almost all dialogue. You really get to know the characters by the things they say – or they don't say!

Does your school subscribe to the **NSW School Magazine**? If so, you will know that every second month there is a play to read. I have written quite a few plays for the **School Magazine** which are published together in a book, *The Boy Who Could Fly and Other Magical Plays for Children*. Next time you're in the library you could see if you can find it. And while you're there look out for another book of mine, *Pierre's Not There*. Half of it is written as a regular story and half of it is – you've guessed it – a play!

Yours playfully (ha-ha) till next time, Ursula and Magpie

Remember to also catch up with *Ursula's Writing Ideas* for October with **ELLO-HAY! ELCOME-WAY OT-AY E-THAY ONTH-MAY OF-AY OCTOBER-AY!**

<https://www.childrenslaureate.org.au/write-with-ursula>

-  **Why do ghosts and demons get along so well?**
-  DEMONS ARE A GHOUL'S BEST FRIEND.
-  **What advice do ghosts give their children?**
-  ONLY SPOOK WHEN SPOKEN TO.
-  **What is in a ghost's nose?**
-  BOO-GERS.
-  **What's a ghost's favorite dessert?**
-  I SCREAM.
-  **What do you call a truly funny ghost comedian?**
-  DEAD FUNNY!
-  **What do ghosts eat for supper?**
-  SPOOK-ETTI.



## THINKING ABOUT DIFFERENCES

Figuring out how to “fit in” isn’t easy. Most of us wind up with some kind of label that may make us seem to be anything from “unique” to “hard to understand”. No two humans are exactly alike. These differences offer us a broader view of the world

Books can help us share and understand our worlds. Some great new titles deal with various conditions - ADHD/ autism, fitting in, Tourette's Syndrome, and Deafness/ hearing impairment. Each character is “different” and explores the importance of friendship and acceptance. Their stories raise some interesting points for thinking about differences, disabilities, conditions, etc. and wondering about the appropriate vocabulary and behaviour for understanding individual situations.

### WAYS WITH WORDS –



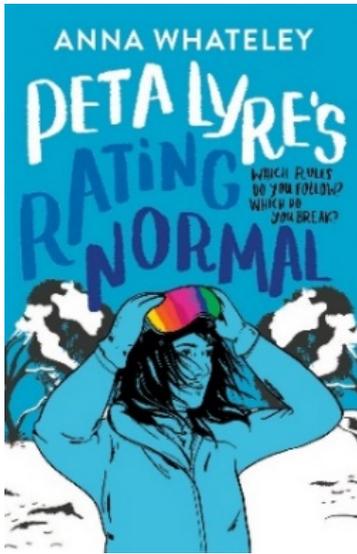
I prefer the word *disability* to *difference*, as disability allows me access to services, adjustments and a community of other *disabled* folk. ...

Labels may change...or even bring prejudice...but they are still the best attempt at understanding...

Our *neurology* [way of thinking] is *diverse* [varied]

We, those who are *autistic*, have *ADHD* or other diagnoses... *diverge* [differ] from the *norm* [normal or expected]

As such, we are *neurodivergent*. – Anna Whateley



Anna's recent book, **Peta Lyre's Rating Normal** Allen & Unwin has been shortlisted for the CBCA Book of the Year for Older Readers.

Peta has ADHD and is autistic. With sensory issues and a gift for words and puzzles, her mind is a busy place. How do you keep track of rules for 'normal' behaviours?

## WRITING DIFFERENCE - ANNA WHATELEY

<https://annawhateley.com/>

I have realised, since writing **Peta Lyre's Rating Normal**, that I write unusual characters. We base difference on norms, and norms are a statistical reality.

Neurodivergent folk are not the norm. Our brains work differently, and it's wonderful and magical and I wanted to show that while there are difficulties, they come from having to live in a neurotypical world and living with the anxiety and depression that can come with being different to what's seen as normal.

I didn't think very hard about Peta before I wrote her story. To be honest - and this is a secret until now - she was called Peta Hart. I am not good at naming characters and tend toward very short names as their voice is most important. They are more of a feeling. For all the labels, names come last. Weird.

Another secret? Discord was the original title of the novel! I didn't know it was also a whole gaming server. I just saw the word. Dis – cor : to undo the heart. It was too cerebral (brainy) and needed to change. Peta came from my heart, but she needed a name that would anchor her in her own world. Lyre was perfect in so many ways.

Writing Peta's story helped me understand myself. I wasn't diagnosed as autistic until after I wrote the novel. After reading my own words, I realised ADHD didn't cover my divergence from the neurotypical landscape. I am glad I sought diagnosis as now I have a wonderful community that I can lean on when things are tough. Thanks to Peta, I can also create that community. We are the makers of our own culture and society. What an immense power.

Writing and reading difference can feel risky.

It is.

But the rewards are so outstanding that I recommend giving it a go.



**The Song of Lewis Carmichael** *Allen and Unwin*  
**Sofie Laguna** <http://sofielaguna.com/>  
**illustrated by Marc McBride**  
<https://www.marcmcbride.com/>

*Everything seems difficult to Matthew - academic learning, friendship, sport ...*

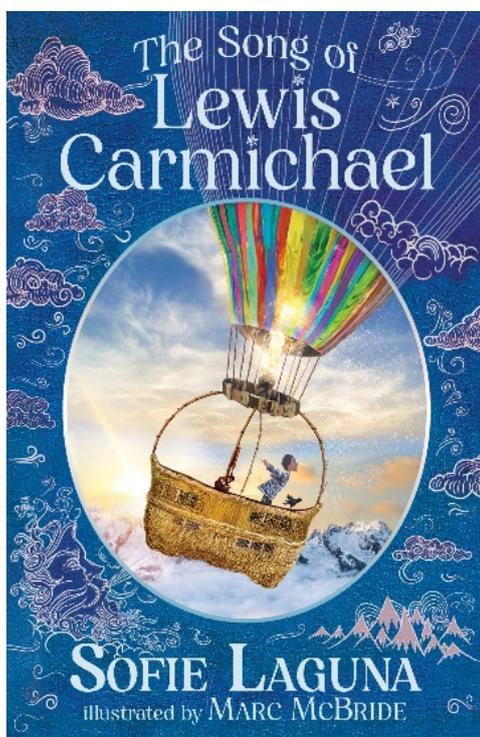
## **THE SONG OF LEWIS CARMICHAEL**

### **SOFIE LAGUNA**

**The Song of Lewis Carmichael** is a fantasy adventure story about Matthew Zajic who travels to the North Pole in a hot air balloon.

Matthew is obsessed with the Arctic, constantly reading about it, from piles of library books hidden under the bed. He falls asleep longing to be like the explorers pictured standing on the helm of a boat. He imagines the Arctic weather changes turning everything into a vast, white frozen emptiness. It is a crossroads, a place of both life and death for Matthew.

Which will he choose - an ending or a beginning?



Matthew finds ordinary things more difficult than the other kids at school – academic learning, friendship, sport. He frequently overhears his parents worrying about him. Sometimes when they argue, he believes that he is the cause. He doesn't understand that the problem isn't him, a problem that says, *"You must be and learn like everybody else."* Matthew's parents don't need to worry so much. They need to trust and encourage him to find a way to do things for himself. The Arctic gives him space, obliterating his deficiencies.

That's where Lewis Carmichael comes in – an Australian black bird who can speak.

Lewis Carmichael appears at Matthew's window and taps on the glass, inviting Matthew on a journey to the Arctic, in a hot air balloon.

See the balloon there, on the roof? Colours glowing in the moonlight?

Matthew has had enough of the way things are - feeling shut out. ...feeling inadequate... feeling stupid in class. Why is it hard for him and easy for others? What comes next? Matthew says yes to the bird and climbs out the window.



1Photo: Brigid Arnott

Worlds are happening beneath the surfaces of ourselves. We are like icebergs floating in the Arctic Ocean. Underneath the water, complex processes are at work.

Matthew is reaching his limit. Either he gives up on the ordinary difficult world forever, and disappears into the barren ice, or he grows and moves forward. Now is the moment.

It's the same for all. At some point, we must find our own way, separating from our parents and their stories, fears, and beliefs. Matthew must push back against his family and climb the mountain without them. He has to show himself that he can find his own feet.

But Matthew doesn't climb alone – he undertakes the journey with a bold and determined bird on his shoulder.

Lewis Carmichael is the perfect companion with whom to travel to the Arctic. Lewis is the voice the boy needs. The bird sings his song so often into Matthew's ear Matthew internalises the words, the hopeful, cheerful tune. And most importantly, perhaps, Lewis Carmichael teaches Matthew about joy. About pleasure and fun.

These things count, for children and for adults – the temporary joy of the moment. This is fun. It's an adventure. The word adventure comes from the Latin 'advenire'. It means, 'a thing about to happen'. Something is about to happen. Change, at last!



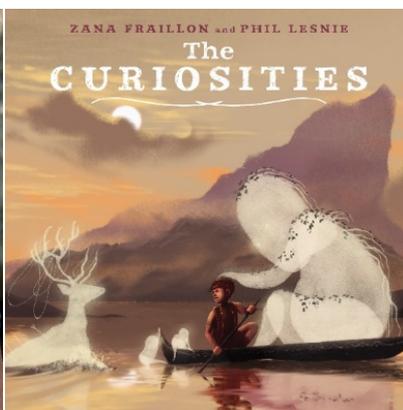
***THE CURIOSITIES*** – Zana Fraillon

Phil Lesnie Illustrator. *Lothian Hachette*

Aus <https://www.zanafraillon.com/books>

<https://www.hachette.com.au/phil-lesnie/>

*When the ghostly Curiosities came to Miro, they brought him into a world that could be mysteriously beautiful or wildly out of control. Sometimes, "people couldn't help but stare... and turn away."*



*When the elder provided the thread to connect him to others who were also affected and gradually could help ..."shed the darkness when it came, ...Miro could see all the oddments...and wonders ...and ...possibilities waiting in the shadows."*

## **THE CURIOSITIES** by ZANA FRAILLON

*When my child was diagnosed with Tourette's syndrome, I searched for books that could help others understand what my child was experiencing. There was very little that I could find.*

*Tourette's is often misrepresented or used as a comedic way of presenting a character who is inappropriate, but the reality is very different.*

*My child has tics which are painful, self-harming, which prevent them from sleeping, from writing, from reading, from walking, from riding a bike and doing the things they love.*

*There are tics that are very loud, and tics so quiet it is only my child that experiences them. There are also tics that make us all smile. My child also sees the world in a wonderfully different and insightful way. Perhaps this is thanks to the connections formed in their brain by their tics, perhaps it is just who they are.*

*My child has a disability. But it is not Tourette's, which is disabling, but the barriers we put up in society.*

*As I began to write the story, I realised how universal the themes really were. It became a story not just about Tourette's, but about diversity and difference in all its forms, and in the celebration of being yourself.*

## **ISABEL HATHORN** on **WHAT ROSIE HEARS**



*“What Rosie hears”* is an intriguing and illuminating story that all deaf children need to hear.

When I was going through my hearing journey, I needed support, information and enthusiasm to guide me through my early years of getting the Cochlear Implant.

If I had received such a creative piece like Libby's insightful presentation, I would have loved to have learned about Rosie's journey and story which is so close to my own.

This music and animation presentation will delight audiences and give empathy to not only kids with hearing loss, but others old and young as well.

## WHAT ROSIE HEARS – THE JOURNEY of a STORY - LIBBY HATHORN

My granddaughter Isabel was the recipient of a cochlear implant when she was only 7 being deaf in one ear. Whilst attending some of the Shepherd Centre fund-raisers (a centre for the hearing impaired), I met a remarkable young woman, Rosie Gallen, who'd been born profoundly deaf.

A story began forming in my head. And I was soon able to set up a meeting to talk about Rosie's 'journey' after receiving two cochlear implants. As a writer I wanted to know exactly what it felt like to make the transition to the loud and busy world!

Thus, the story of *What Rosie Hears* evolved.

Rosie is a little girl who loves life, and loves being in the outside world, but being deaf, though she can sign, is too shy to make friends with Isabel next door. The tale tells of her visit to hospital, the joy and confusion of first hearing and learning to 'speak'.

Rosie had never heard the sound of her own voice, let alone the voices of her family. She had never experienced the plethora of sounds all around us- from the wonderful (piano notes) to the frightening (toilet flushing). In the end of course, she is able to make friends with Isabel feeling more confident altogether.

Alas! My main publishers, though they liked it, thought it a bit too 'specialised' a story. So, undaunted, I decided if it wasn't to be a book, an animation would be a great alternative. I found a stunning team: animator - Hamish Gilbert, artist - Bethany Macdonald and composer-Elena Katz Chernin. And hey, presto! The short and powerful animation was completed after some months. A great covid-time activity!

Even if it becomes a book (and it seems it might in late 2022), the animation is perfect for this story.

-  See and hear the story of *WHAT ROSIE HEARS*
-  <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4eMulFCpWwY>
  
-  Isabel's *YouTube* presentation
-  <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Z-KOQOhbtuY&t=420s>
  
-  Rosie's *YouTube* Presentation at 8:07 on *YouTube* clip
-  <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Z-KOQOhbtuY>
  
-  Official launch presentation of *What Rosie Hears*
-  <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Z-KOQOhbtuY>



-  What special talents or interests do you have?
-  What extra talents or abilities do you wish you had?
-  How can you do to develop your interests?
-  Who can help you learn more?



# AWARDING AND SHARING A BETTER WORLD ENVIRONMENT

With thanks to LILY WEINBERG

Communications Advisor • The Wilderness Society

Every year since 1994, the **Wilderness Society** <https://www.wilderness.org.au/about> has showcased some of the best writers and illustrators whose books help promote a love of nature in kids.

During the second annual Nature Book Week (6–12 September), the Wilderness Society celebrated the shortlisted books and announced the winning book creators in each category for the **2021 Environment Award for Children’s Literature Awards**.

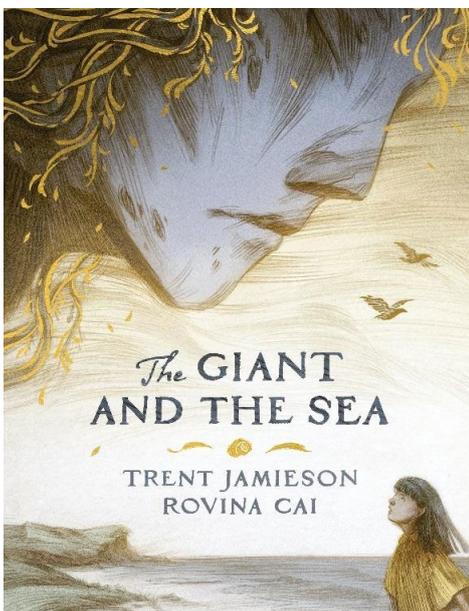


Check out the shortlisted books from previous years: <http://www.eacl.org.au/award/>

**MEET THE AUTHORS OF THE WINNING BOOKS. . .**

And hear how they would like to help change the world and our environment.

<https://www.wilderness.org.au/work/environment-award-for-childrens-literature>

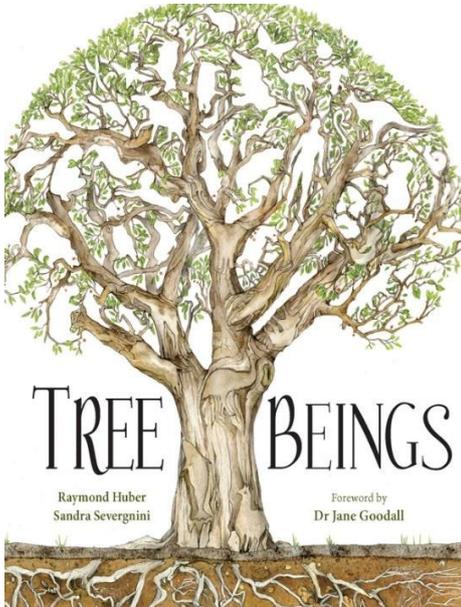


The winner in the **PICTURE FICTION** category is:

**THE GIANT AND THE SEA** by Trent Jamieson, illustrated by Rovina Cai. Hachette Australia

*A giant stands on the shore, watching the sea. She never moves, never speaks, until the day she turns to a little girl and says, 'The sea is rising.'*

*The brave girl takes the message to the town. But when the people refuse to listen, the giant must find another way to save them.*



The winner in the **NON-FICTION** category is:  
**TREE BEINGS** by Raymond Huber, illustrated by Sandra Severgnini. Exisle Publishing (EK Books Imprint).

*We depend on trees for our survival, yet few of us understand just how fascinating these beings really are. With a foreword by the world-renowned anthropologist Jane Goodall, Tree Beings is an adventure through the secret world of trees. Challenging the perception that trees are just 'silent statues'*

*It focuses on four big ideas:*

- *Trees give life to the planet.*
- *Trees can help save us from climate change.*
- *Trees are like beings.*
- *Trees need our help and protection.*

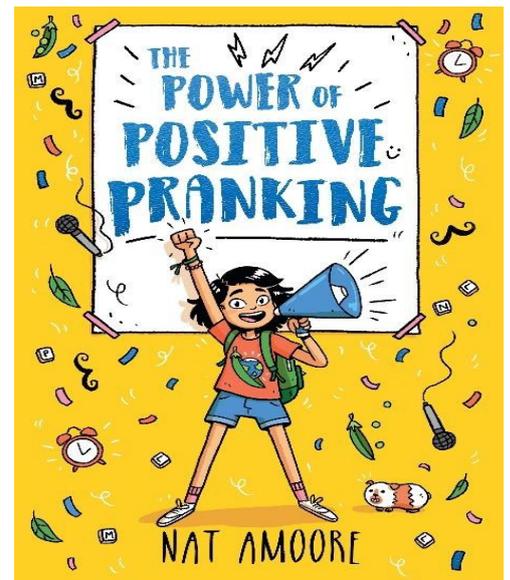
The winner in in the **FICTION** category is:

**THE POWER OF POSITIVE PRANKING** by Nat Amooore.  
Penguin Random House Australia.

*Green Peas is our name and pranking's our game!  
A symphony of alarm clocks at assembly? Yep, that was us.  
A stampede of fluffy guinea pigs? It's next on our agenda.*

*But for me, Cookie and Zeke, it's about more than just fun.  
We're determined to make a difference. And when the adults won't listen, us kids will find a way to be heard – as long as we can stay out of detention!*

*No activist is too small, no prank too big...*



**ASK THE EXPERTS** - Nature Book Week is a full week of nature book related events—for kids and grown-ups alike! This year Nature Book Week Ambassador **Dr Jen Martin** caught up with two ecologists to answer kids burning nature questions like "How do bilbies get more friends?" and "Is a seaweed a plant or animal?" - Find out the answers on Facebook:

**Threatened Species Day: Nature-Experts Answer Kids Questions**

<https://www.facebook.com/wilderness.society/videos/3011960882377971>





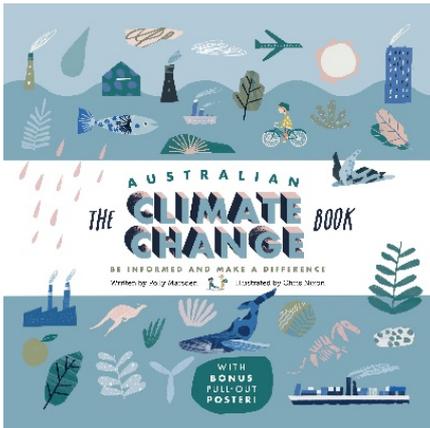
## WAYS WITH WORDS

**BIODIVERSITY** - the variety of plant and animal life in a particular habitat. The greater the variety of life forms, the healthier the environment of the area is deemed to be

**HABITAT** – the environment and conditions including food, water, shelter that a plant, animal, or other organism needs to survive and grow.

**CLIMATE CHANGE** - the long-term changes in the expected temperature and typical weather patterns in a place. This is affected largely by human activity, like burning fossil fuels, like natural gas, oil, and coal. Burning these materials releases what are called greenhouse gases into Earth's atmosphere

## ENVIRONMENTALLY SPEAKING ABOUT MORE NEW BOOKS

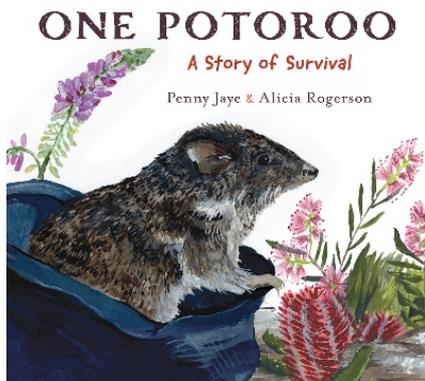


### CLIMATE CHANGE

<https://www.hachette.com.au/polly-marsden-chris-nixon/the-australian-climate-change-book-be-informed-and-make-a-difference>

Polly Marsden and Chris Nixon, Illus. (Lothian/ Hachette Australia)

Climate change and balancing demands on ecosystems is in the news and in the world's conscience. Knowing what the key terms mean and better yet, getting each person to do their bit in protecting the world's air, land, water and living creatures is vitally important. Check out hints to under these headings to help you make a difference: *Switch Off, Walk/Ride/Dance, Eat Local, Repair, Re-use, Recycle*. "Even the smallest things can make a difference" Great companion book to **The Bushfire Book**.



### ONE POTAROO

Penny Jaye <https://www.pennyjaye.com/>

Alicia Rogerson <https://www.aliciarogerson.com/> (CSIRO)

"When a bushfire destroys Potoroo's home, he becomes one of the last surviving Gilbert's Potoroos at Two Peoples Bay in Western Australia. Frightened, hurt and alone, Potoroo needs a new home – somewhere safe from predators and with plenty of his favourite food. Luckily, a team of conservationists know where Potoroo can go to be safe." [CSIRO]



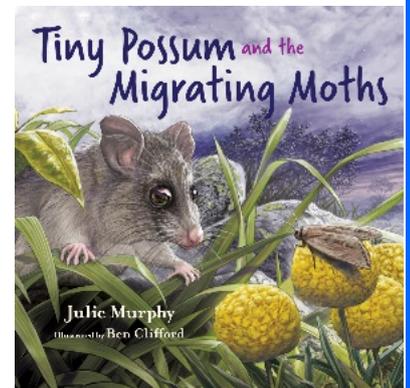
### TINY POSSUM AND THE MIGRATING MOTHS

Julie Murphy <https://juliemurphybooks.com/>

Ben Clifford Illus (CSIRO)

<https://www.publish.csiro.au/book/8009/#details>

"High in the Australian Alps, Possum needs to find enough food and shelter to survive the harsh alpine winter. She will spend months hibernating under a blanket of snow. Will she last through the year to successfully raise a new family?"



Once thought to be extinct, there are now less than 2500 mountain pygmy-possums. ... They need snow and bogong moths to survive, and the support of great conservation work." [CSIRO] published Nov 2021.)



## **CBCA JUDGES AS SUPER READERS**

Books published from January 1, 2021, to December 31, 2021, are eligible to be nominated for the 2022 CBCA Book of the Year Awards. Usually around 500 books are published and nominated for the six categories each year. Margot and Sheryl are two of the new judges and have begun reading books nominated for the 2022 awards

### **MARGOT LINDGREN - CBCA PICTURE BOOK JUDGE 2022- 2023**



**Blog:** <http://www.momotimetoread.blogspot.com.au/>

I adore picture books with the interplay of art and text, especially those that can be enjoyed by the youngest children and can also generate deeper thinking and conversations with older students and adults too.

When an illustrator takes the words of an author, it can feel miraculous. The words of a Picture Book author may have arrived on a single sheet of paper. Then, the illustrator gets to work opening their mind to visuals that depict and, in the best books, go beyond the written words. Making decisions, even of when to turn the page and what to put on the end papers and how to make an appealing cover. A Picture Book is a truly special object.

### **SHERYL COOTES – CBCA EVE POWNALL INFORMATION BOOKS JUDGE 2022-2023**

I was thrilled to be selected to be involved in the promotion and judging of the creations of our talented Australian authors and illustrators. It is an exciting opportunity to view, in advance, new and creative representations of our world, past and present.

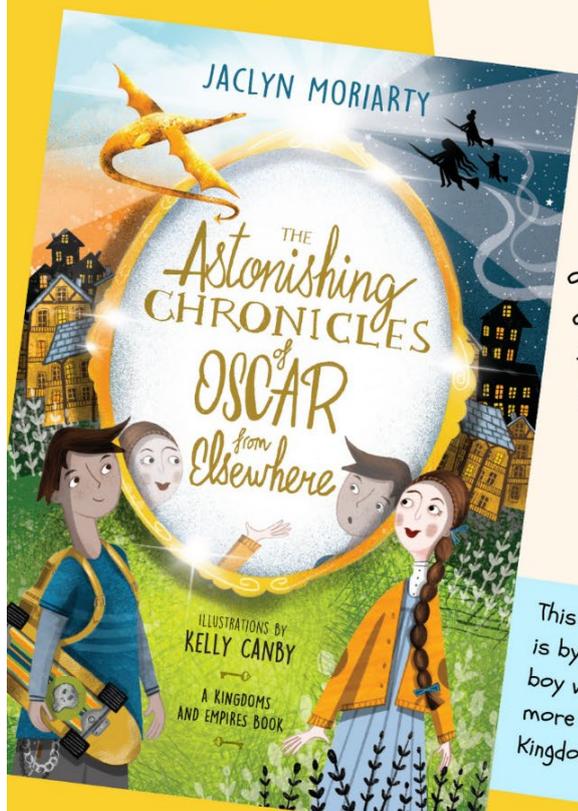
It is exciting, too, to see books by new creators being nominated for consideration, in addition to viewing new releases of established authors and illustrators. I am gaining a greater appreciation of the creativity employed in presenting facts and information in various formats to engage readers of all ages from 0-18 years.





**READ REVIEW SHARE** - Allen and Unwin Publishers offer KIDS' CORNER readers aged 10 plus the opportunity to read/ review and share new books before they are released in the shops. Check with Carolyn (details below) for info about how become a guest reviewer.

# Kids ... Grab your Copy!



Do you like being the first among your friends to read a great book?

Well Kid's Corner and Allen & Unwin Publishers are offering you the opportunity to do just that. Simply be one of the first 10 people between the ages of 10 and 14 years to email [carolynw@allenandunwin.com](mailto:carolynw@allenandunwin.com), put Kid's Corner Review in the Subject Line, supply your name and postal address, and agree to email a short review (approximately 50 words) within four weeks of receiving the book. Your review may be used in promotional material by Allen & Unwin and CBCA NSW Branch.

This month's book is *The Astonishing Chronicles of Oscar from Elsewhere* and is by much-loved author Jaclyn Moriarty. It tells the story of an ordinary boy who finds himself caught up in a surprisingly urgent quest in the even more surprising and magical world of the Kingdoms and Empires.

**GHOSTS AND BATS AND LOLLIES – some HALLOWEEN HISTORY** – adapted from *The Fascinating History of Halloween and How the Holiday Originated*  
<https://www.goodhousekeeping.com/holidays/halloween-ideas/g4607/history-of-halloween/>.

 **BONFIRES** - 2,000 years ago Celtic people in Europe used to celebrate the end of the harvest and the start of a new year with a festival called Samhain (pronounced "sow-win"). They believed they could commune with the dead by lighting big bonfires and sacrificing crops. Villagers also attended the bonfire ceremonies wearing animal heads and skins.

 **BATS** - Bonfires attracted bugs which, in turn, drew bats to have a tasty meal.

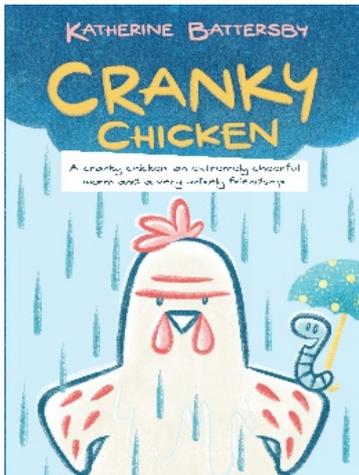
 **HALLOWEEN** - By 1000 AD Christian popes attempted to replace "pagan" holidays like Samhain with All Souls' Day as a time to pray for the souls of the dead. All Saints' Day, or All Hallows, honored the saints on November 1. That made October 31 All Hallows Eve, which later became Halloween.

 **COSTUMES** - In Old England and Ireland gifts of food were set out to feed wandering spirits. Sometimes people would dress in scary costumes in exchange for treats themselves. The practice was called "mumming," and looked similar to today's trick-or-treating.

 **JACK O LANTERNS** - Irish immigrants in the 1800s used to carve jack-o' lanterns - out of turnips, potatoes and beets? While kids didn't trick-or-treat at that time, they did play plenty of pranks.



## PICTURE THIS - READ ON AND ON – WHAT'S NEW?

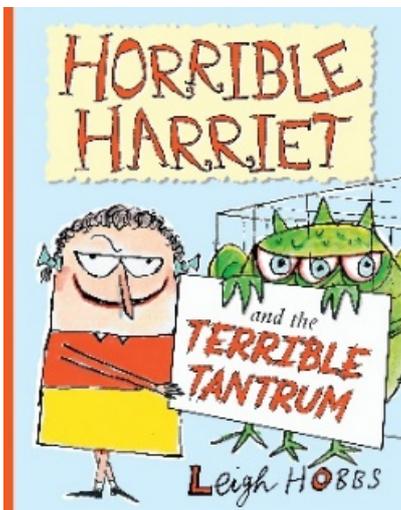
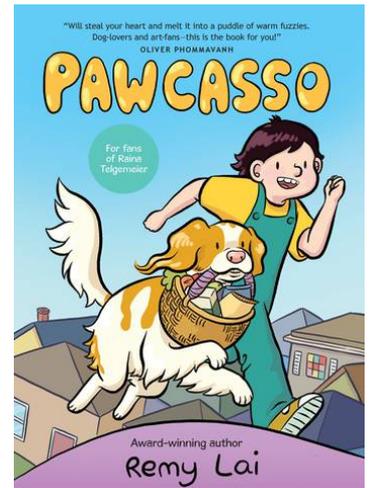


### **CRANKY CHICKEN – Katherine Battersby – Hachette Aus**

Can a speedy little worm make the world uncranky? Imagine EVERYTHING in the world making you cranky – eyebrows, weather, cranky pants, friends who sing? Worm is convinced that Chicken could make a good friend if the world weren't such a cranky place. Can they learn to become friends? Will they survive the Book Worm Library? Will they actually fly? Read and find out! It might may you un-cranky!

### **PAWCASSO – Remy Lai – Allen & Unwin**

Can a dog actually help Jo make friends? Jo faces a summer with no friends...until she sees a dog with a shopping basket, who shops and reads and becomes famous throughout the neighbourhood with the local kids group. Everyone thinks Pawcasso belongs to Jo. But he's not really Jo's dog at all. What will happen if Pawcasso's real family come to claim him? Or will things drop back to being a lonely summer with no friends at all? And what will Pawcasso decide to do? The story unfolds through each frame of this graphic novel.



### **HORRIBLE HARRIET and the TERRIBLE TANTRUM – Leigh Hobbs - A & U**

How long can you continue to be horrible? Harriet was just about bored with being bad. SO, she tried on her best smile and set off to try out some good girl things – UNTIL... The Terrible Tantrum who Harriet kept locked in a cage like a pampered pet escaped and took over the classroom as the most popular student in the class. Can anyone really win such a competition?

 **HA! HA! WHOOOO! WHOOOO!** Most of the ghost jokes were found on



**SCARY MOMMY**



<https://www.scarymommy.com/ghost-jokes-puns/>



**Where do ghosts buy their food?**



**AT THE GHOST-EERIE STORE!**



**What position does a ghost play in soccer?**



**GHOUL-KEEPER.**





**What did the mama ghost say to her baby?**

**FASTEN YOUR SHEET BELT**

**Where do baby ghosts go during the day?**

**DAY"SCARE" CENTRES.**

**What's a little ghost's favorite game?**

**HIDE AND SHRIEK**



It's our  
4th Anniversary!

**OCTOBER** helps celebrate the  
4<sup>th</sup> **ANNIVERSARY** of **KIDS' CORNER**  
as a *news!* – newsletter of sorts.  
KC was first launched **October, 2017**  
to share ideas about **Australian**  
**Children's Literature** and other  
related happenings in our world.

**Topics have included:** the **POWER** of poetry, hints of history, celebrations of cultures, disasters and discoveries, humour and heartstrings, whispers and wonder, hints of holidays, series books and sciences, environmental issues, lots of bits of **BCA Book Week**, **Illustrators** and artworks, backgrounds and books, , authors and awards, new books and old favourites, writing hints, lovely libraries, families and friendships, jottings in journals, portraits and picture books, amazing animals, and non-fiction or non-sense...



Special thanks to all the authors, illustrators and others who have helped create ideas for **KIDS' CORNER**.

**Books and contributors included in KC:**

	<b>2020</b> <b>Jan - Dec</b>	<b>2020</b> <b>Jan - Sept</b>	<b>2021</b> <b>Jan - Sept</b>
<b>BOOKS</b>	<b>333</b>	<b>184</b>	<b>212</b>
<b>CONTRIBUTORS</b>	<b>303</b>	<b>194</b>	<b>205</b>

This issue of **KIDS' CORNER** was compiled by Jackie Hawkes with the help of **LOTS** of people who love reading writing and thinking. If you have ideas to share with **KC**, please contact [jackie.hawkes7@gmail.com](mailto:jackie.hawkes7@gmail.com). Your ideas are always welcome.  
What would **YOU** like to contribute next? Happy reading always.



**Cheers - MORRIE and JACKIE**

