



Federation of
Children's Book Groups

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Immediate past Chair of Federation of Children's Book Groups is named as SLA School Librarian of the Year Award 2012

At a ceremony yesterday in London, Adam Lancaster was named as the SLA School Librarian of the Year 2012.

Adam is the immediate past chair of the Federation of Children's Book Groups, and now has responsibility on the Federation's National Executive for several key projects coordinated by the Federation including National Non-Fiction Day, National Share-a-Story Month and Illustr8or. He is also a key member of the St. Albans' Children's Book Group.

In his day job Adam is Librarian/Associate Head Teacher at Monk's Walk School, Welwyn Garden City . He is perhaps the first school librarian to be appointed associate assistant headteacher, without being a trained teacher.

Adam said of his award *"It's a great honour to be recognised like this and for the work that goes on in our library and our school to be seen in such a positive way. It's not just one person that makes a great library though, it is the accumulation of lots of hard work from lots of people so I have to thank everyone that has helped in whatever way to make our space in the school permeate all the other spaces."*

Adam was presented the award by Kevin Crossley-Holland, President of the School Library Association. Kevi Crossley-Holland congratulated all the shortlisted librarians and said:

"Make no mistake about it! School libraries and school librarians are under real pressure – political apathy, cuts in their budgets, threats of redundancy, status within their schools. But all over the country, individual librarians are doing imaginative and valiant and, frankly, quite crucial work, inspiring a love of reading within their schools and communities. They're not only custodians of the storyhoard, the river of poems and the building blocks of information but brokers of the relationship between books as physical artefacts and the Digital Age. Now, the very best of them have been shortlisted to be the SLA School Librarian of the Year. It's an award that matters, and it should be recognised by each and every one of us."