

# The Federation of Children's Book Groups Newsletter

40th Anniversary 1980-2020



## IN THE BEGINNING

Many years ago, when prizes for children's books were given by grown-ups to other grown-ups – are they are still doing it? – I thought an organisation like the Federation of Children's Book Groups should be able to do better. We only exist to bring books and children together so any Award would need to involve them. Not just involve them, in fact. Anyone can run a few of the books past the kids. They would have to be at the heart of it.

It was a bad year. Everywhere we heard of cuts in spending on books in libraries and schools and rumours of crises at publishers. It seemed that children's fiction was an easy target.

Well, not while we were around. It was an act of faith, an act of solidarity with all the authors, illustrators and children's publishers. We got our Book Groups organised and set up our nationwide system of getting children to read, judge and vote.

The first winner, in 1980, was Quentin Blake. Can you believe that he had never won an award of this kind before? A librarian explained he was thought to be "rather cartoony." We like to think we jogged the Greenaway panel's elbow.

So there we were. We had no money, so no gold medals were likely. What we did have were all the letters, reports and pictures sent in by children about their favourite books. We stuck everything about Quentin's book, *Mister Magnolia*, into a rather grand album and that was the prize.

These days we have a truly beautiful silver trophy but if our winners do have a wobbly voice moment, it tends to come when they open the portfolio full of children's responses that still accompanies the trophy. After all, they write for children and this is the children themselves saying, "You're the best."

**Pat Thomson**  
Founder of the Children's Book Award  
Author, teacher, librarian and an  
Honorary President of the FCBG

## 40 YEARS LATER

In 1980, the visionary Pat Thomson thought that an organisation like the FCBG should be able to do better than the current prizes for children's books. When she became Vice-Chair she took on a project to push for more publicity for the charity. She's written a lovely piece about how and why she started the Award.

We also have memories from former award coordinators, group testers, teachers – and you'll find a common thread running through them – that it's all about the joy of discovering new books ...

Generations of children have taken part in the voting. When I was doing the research for this issue, I found a lovely piece written by a young voter in the Birmingham Children's Book Group published in *Carousel* (sadly no longer with us) in 2000. This is an extract: "The Children's Book Award is unlike any other children's book competition. It is very different because instead of publishers, booksellers or other interested adults voting for their choice for the prize winning book, it is children. I consider this to be better because it isn't the booksellers or the publishers who are going to read, hopefully buy and relish, some of the books time and time again. I also think it's a great idea as it allows children to express their thoughts and opinions on which books they are more inclined to read. It also indicates to writers what children's current preferences are and what genre they further want to read."

Our 40th anniversary year hasn't turned out as planned, with the winners' ceremony being postponed and school closures posing extra challenges to distributing and voting on books. However, here we are celebrating 40 amazing years of books, and the adventures the children of our book groups have had – discovering some modern classics along the way. As with each year that passes I can't wait to find out what treasures they will find this year.

**Sarah Stuffsins**  
National Coordinator  
2012-14, 2018-present

Photos from top:  
Jacqueline Wilson, Michael Morpurgo, Malorie Blackman and Arree Chung

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# BLITHERING BROOMSTICKS! CONGRATULATIONS!

## SOME CBA FACTS

- At any one time, 12 of the FCBG's local groups are "testing" groups. This means that they receive copies of new books sent out by publishers to put in the hands of children who read them and vote in the first round.
- The results of these votes are added up and the 50 most popular books form the Pick of the Year.
- Of these, the most popular 10 (and just for our anniversary year, 12) become the shortlist.
- Voting on the shortlist is open to any child in the UK. It is organised through all of the FCBG's local groups and also online.
- In the voting year 2018-19 over 100,000 votes were cast.
- Previous sponsors have included Save & Prosper, the Paul Hamlyn Foundation, Red House (The Book People) and BookLife Publishing.
- Venues for the winners ceremony have included The Roof Gardens Kensington, the Hay Literary Festival, Birmingham Botanical Gardens, the Queen Elizabeth Hall and the Copthorne Tara Hotel in Kensington.
- Each shortlisted author or illustrator gets a personalised "portfolio" of drawn and written responses to their work.
- Each category winner receives a prize, currently an engraved glass book.
- The overall winner keeps the silver trophy for a year, and an engraved silver acorn to keep forever.

In 1988 Winnie the Witch won the Children's Book Award for books published in 1987. Winnie was one, I was thirty one and the CBA was eight!

Now, The Children's Book Award is **FORTY**, and it remains a delight and honour to win this unique award, judged by children.

Winnie, Wilbur and I have truly enjoyed forty years of magical moments thanks to the Children's Book Award.

The three of us wish the CBA another FORTY enchanting, magical, spellbinding years and more to come...



kOrky Paul, illustrator with Sarah MacIntyre





# Ceremony Memories from the First 10 Years

We always feel privileged, as do the children, to attend CBA ceremonies.

The first one we attended was as members of York CBG for 'The Saga of Eric the Viking', written by Terry Jones and illustrated by Michael Foreman. In those days, the Award did not have a sponsor. The presentation, of portfolios containing drawings and writings from testers, was linked with National Tell a Story Week, with its theme of 'Stories from Around the World', and the opening of the Jorvik Viking Centre in York in May 1984. The Award was presented outside the Centre and some of the children from York CBG dressed up as Vikings. York CBG members were able to visit the Centre, at a reduced rate, at a later date.

Christine, as a Regional Tester, with two boys from York CBG, attended the presentation of the Award to Janet and Allan Ahlberg for 'The Jolly Postman' in October 1987 in the London Hilton Hotel. It coincided with Children's Book Week. Save and Prosper were now sponsoring the Award. TV presenter Keith Chegwin hosted the celebration and 22 children attended. A special postbox was given to Janet and Allan Ahlberg and their daughter, Jessica.

We attended two Award ceremonies at The Royal York Hotel. The first was in May 1988 when Korky Paul (with Valerie Thomas who could not attend) was the winner for 'Winnie the Witch'. There were six books on the shortlist in those days. Korky was presented with a crystal bowl engraved with scenes from the book. We had the pleasure of sitting with Robert Westall who was a runner up with 'Urn Burial'. Approximately 80 people attended. We were able to take two other adults from the York CBG and four children. 299 titles were reviewed by over 1600 children.

The second visit to The Royal York Hotel was in May 1989. The Award was now the Oak and Silver tree we know so well. The shortlist was still limited to six. Roald Dahl won with 'Matilda', his second winner. As he was unable to attend the ceremony, he received a telephone call from it. Four of the York CBG testers were present and one of them presented Elizabeth Laird with her portfolio for 'Red Sky in the Morning'. 40 children attended, representing the 3,684 who took part in the testing of over 400 titles for the Award. There were 90 guests altogether. Christine took two York testers to a lunch party for Roald Dahl in the following September at The Royal College of Art, in London where he was able to receive the CBA.

Christine took two York testers to the Grand Hotel in Birmingham in May 1990 when Robert Swindells won the award for 'Room 13', his second win. 20 children attended and met the six shortlisted authors. Robert (from York) presented Robert Westall with his portfolio for 'Blitzcat'. 7,500 children tested 534 titles for the award.

**Christine and Chris Spencer,**  
formerly of York CBG now  
Harrogate CBG  
Christine Spencer, former  
coordinator for York CBG 1984-2005  
Former coordinators of the  
CBA Travelling Exhibition

## DEVELOPING THE AWARD THROUGH THE 1980s

The first ever CBA children's party was held at the Hilton in Park Lane to celebrate Alan and Janet Ahlberg winning in 1987 with 'The Jolly Postman'. We didn't have a trophy then and they were presented with a rather large leather post box, which you can see in the photo – the chap who made the post box is kneeling and holding it. The award was presented by Keith Chegwin (Cheggers!).

I was the official Award Coordinator at the time, having taken over from Pat Thomson in 1986, but Sinead and I always worked together.

When Korky Paul won with 'Winnie the Witch' he was presented with a glass bowl engraved with images from the book but the trophy wasn't introduced until 1989 when Roald Dahl won with 'Matilda'.

In those days we only received two copies of each title from the publishers and they had to be circulated by post between 10 testing groups – each group tester initialling the inside of the book before posting it on to the next group. No computers – everything was done by pencil and paper with the scores recorded on filed index cards. Those were the days – how things have changed.

**Martin Kromer**  
Honorary President



Photos: Ahlbergs winning CBA and news cutting of Terry Jones.

## The Travelling Exhibition

From June 2006, the Spencers also coordinated a travelling exhibition of each year's Pick of the Year. Sets of books from each year's list were collected together and FCBG groups could apply to display them for a period of time.

Initially there was one set of The Top Fifty, but we were unable to satisfy all the requests. From 2007 onwards, three sets of Top Fifty were lent to us by various testing groups. We lent them to schools and libraries who requested them. They paid the postage. It was an ideal way of encouraging children both to get involved in the Award and see all the books that had been selected by the testing groups. We also sent out posters for display and Pick of the Year leaflets. The Travelling Exhibition was ended in 2016.





# A WEALTH OF R

## A VIEW FROM IPSWICH

Jayne Gould, former coordinator for Ipswich CBG

Ipswich CBG became a testing group for the Children's Book Award in the mid 1990s and continues to do so. It is a wonderful opportunity to be involved with such a prestigious award and to have watched it grow over the years. As the first local coordinator, I have many cherished memories of award ceremonies at the Roof Gardens in Kensington, a truly magical venue. It was always delightful to watch children's faces as they explored the gardens and realised that there were flamingos in central London! But of course the highlight was always meeting so many of their favourite authors and illustrators, who were all so generous with their time.

As Federation chair at the time, I was honoured to host the 25th CBA anniversary ceremony, but the real work was done by Jo Williams and Marianne Adey, who did so much to make the CBA the success it has become.



Jayne Gould and Jo Williams in Hay

## RUNNING THE BEST OF ALL AWARDS

Marianne Adey and Jo Williams, National Coordinators 1997-2007

What do we remember? We have memories of scrabbling on our hands and knees sorting and cataloguing some 10,000 books a year from 1997 until 2007 - we built up our muscles and our IT skills in equal measure! And the excitement of opening boxes and boxes of new books, twelve piles stacked along the hallway. Once in a while we discovered a new author, like Kes Gray; those were red letter days. Then there was the hard work of packing them up again to send on to the twelve regional testers.... We usually found time to squeeze in a short break to read out loud one or two picture books.

One of our strongest memories involves watching how children benefited through testing as they began their reading journey. For many, it was the first time they were allowed to choose their own books, discovering different genres, different writers and illustrators, and learning to express their own feelings about these books, knowing their opinions counted. It was spellbinding each year to listen to the eloquent critiques given by Year 7 students on picture books.

The team effort and the support from the twelve dedicated regional testers, the publishers, the sponsors, members of FCBG and writers and illustrators culminated in the Award ceremony. Every ceremony was unique but here are a few of our favourite moments:

- Jim Dolan's piano playing at Kensington Roof Gardens marked the start of the event
- The wonder on children's faces as they mingled and chatted with their favourite authors and illustrators

- J K Rowling's delight when Sir Patrick Moore presented the trophy, and her refusal to part with the trophy even to sign books because Roald Dahl had held it
- Presenting Simon James with a pair of overalls as he was the Overall Winner!

And then there were the unexpected adventures when we moved the ceremony to Hay, such as getting stuck in the snow for five hours in November 2005 while returning from a planning meeting, and the sea of mud, which greeted us in May 2006 when we arrived to set up the FCBG stall. So much work took place behind the scenes, especially when we were searching for new sponsorship.

We feel hugely grateful to all who helped us run what continues to be the best of all awards for children's books, because the winners are the children's choice.



## Sharing the Magic of Books

Bella Brown, Reading CBG

I've been involved in the CBA in loads of different ways since our family joined the Federation - including as a young voter, helping to organise the ceremony, and most recently facilitating voting as a Year 1 teacher. Every summer, I read the shortlisted books with my class, and then each child voted for their favourite. We all absolutely loved this! You don't always get a lot of time to dig into a conversation in a busy school day, but enjoying stories together and discussing why a child preferred this book over that was an excellent way to do it.

My fondest memory of facilitating CBA voting was the time surrounding the 2018 ceremony. My class had all voted and created drawings and writing to be included in the beautiful portfolios given to the shortlisted authors and illustrators. They were overjoyed when their favourite story, Reece Wykes's *I Dare You*, scooped the prize, and couldn't believe that he had dedicated our copy of the book just for them! Sharing the magic of books through taking part in CBA voting has been amazing, and I would recommend it to any teacher.





# EMINISCENCES

## ONE OF THOSE rare WIN - WIN INITIATIVES

Libby Allman, coordinator for Plymouth CBG

Publishers who donate the books every year gain a huge audience for their new books, children have the excitement of discovering new titles and parents, teachers and librarians get a look in too. What a privilege to help make this happen.

When I expressed an interest in the Plymouth group taking part as one of the 12 testing groups [a while ago now] little did I realise

1. how much work would be involved [I recruited Alison to help]
2. how it would change my career from secondary teacher to children's bookseller and event organiser
3. how much I would benefit from the children's feedback and be able to share that with others

We've had some very committed coordinators - Jenny and David Blanch, Jo Williams and Marianne Adey and Sinead and Martin Kromer who had to keep the 12 of us in order.

We've had some amazing venues for the Award Ceremonies where I could bring 4 young people from Plymouth every year to witness the winners of the annual shortlist - the Roof Gardens in Kensington High Street where flamingos enjoyed the stream and palm trees adorned the roof, the Birmingham Botanical Gardens and the Hay on Wye Book Festival.

Simon James



### MY OWN SPECIAL HIGHLIGHTS?

**1998** I witnessed JK Rowling winning with the first Harry Potter book. Unknown to me at the time the sponsor for the Award then, Save and Prosper, sitting at our table [as well as Patrick Moore] was so impressed with the 2 boys from Plymouth [one was my 10 year old son, Jack] that she slipped to the bookshop there and bought them each Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets which were first editions in hardback!

**2005** I remember the mounting excitement as Simon James from Plymouth won the Picture Book Category for Baby Brains and I could see he might be able to win the overall prize. And he did! He was overwhelmed!

This Award has been brilliant for Plymouth schools

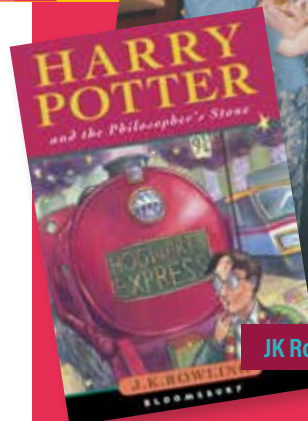
Every year I love the excitement of phoning the families to say their son or daughter has been chosen to represent Plymouth at the annual Award Ceremony. They are so thrilled. I am proud to be part of this grassroots network of volunteers that enables the only Award voted by children to succeed.

The young people have discovered some of these amazing shortlisted books FIRST - Noughts and Crosses, Holes, Harry Potter, Mortal Engines, A Monster Calls, One, Suitcase Kid, Matilda, Eagle in the Snow, Mr Gum, Ottoline, Claude, Winnie the Witch, Oi Dog and Pants.

### THESE ARE WINNERS FOREVER!



JK Rowling with Plymouth CBG



JK Rowling with Patrick Moore

## The Early Impact of Harry Potter

Phyl Gaunt, coordinator for Solihull and Birmingham CBGs

I have been involved with The Children's Book Award since around 1986, testing in my school for The Birmingham Book Group and jointly coordinating testing for Solihull and Birmingham when I retired.

There have been many highlights along the way, but one of the most memorable was in 1997 when my "challenging" Year Five class were testing shorter novels. A boy who had never been engaged in any book I had suggested no matter how enticing I made it sound was late to the CBA box and therefore didn't have many books to choose from. When told that "he had to choose a book!!!" he reluctantly sloped off with one from the bottom of the box, the body language wasn't promising.

Over the next few days during quiet reading time he became more and more animated: "This is a great book...you really have to read this book... could you read this book to the whole class they'd love it...I'm giving this an 'A'. He was reading it under the desk during maths (can't blame him really) and continuing to recommend it to me and the whole class.

What was this book that caused such an amazing transformation from disaffected indifference to avid enthusiasm? The book was Harry Potter and The Philosopher's Stone, pre-awards, pre-films, pre-hype, pre-merchandise. It was simply a cracking good read. On such an enthusiastic recommendation reading became a cool thing to do and lots of the "challenging" class read it; almost all gave it an "A". That year it won the CBA much to the delight of my newly converted readers.

That's the magic of CBA, it doesn't just happen at Hogwarts!!!



# A WOW MOMENT

Julia Miller, CBA National Coordinator 2011-12 and 2017-18

Children are at the heart of the Children's Book Award. My abiding memories are of excited, happy faces, of children sitting absorbed in reading, of children awed and overwhelmed by meeting their heroes, creating a lifetime of memories. Being responsible for the first Children's Book Award at the Imagine Festival at the South Bank was a 'Wow' moment. I will never forget the adrenaline rush of seeing the Federation logo magnified on screen in front of nearly 900 adults and children. Being part of the Children's Book Award, working with the testers, schools and families to share such a passion is one of the most special achievements of my life.



QEH 2012



Julia Miller with Patrick Ness

# A CHILD'S EYE VIEW OF THE WINNERS' CEREMONY

By Maya (17) and Anousha (15), Reading CBG

My most vivid memory of the day at The Red house Children's Book Awards in 2012 was approaching Gill Lewis to see if she would kindly sign my copy of 'Sky Hawk'. My sister and I were eating lunch on one table and Gill Lewis was on another, so I felt really shy to approach her out of the blue but thankfully, with my mum's encouragement, I plucked up the courage to ask. Gill was in fact very friendly; she gave me a bookmark and even drew me an osprey! I re-read the book several times afterwards (I loved the story so much) and seeing the inked drawing on the front page was a lovely reminder of my experience actually getting to meet the creator of it.

Other amazing authors we were so lucky to speak to face-to-face (and gush over!) included Malorie Blackman, Liz Pichon, Mick Inkpen and many more, as well as listening to a speech from Patrick Ness (author of A Monster Calls).

Now we look back we realised how lucky we were to meet these famous authors. It made us book lovers feel part of their world. It was really cool to be able to personally ask the writers questions about our favourite characters, and they were just as excited as us to be there. That's also what made the atmosphere so memorable. We would love to give our own children an opportunity like this!

Maya and Anousha with Patrick Ness



# The Time When... memories of the impact of the CBA in West Wales

Eva John, Tester, West Wales

... a traveller pupil clutched a testing copy of the beautifully illustrated Christy's Dream by Caroline Binch to his chest and said, 'You can't have this back' because he identified so strongly with Christy.

... a Year 8 looked-after child, with huge behavioural problems, took part in Top Ten testing of picture books and identified with the role of a discerning parent selecting the best book for a young child, offering very perceptive comments.

... two rough, tough Year 4 boys selected a very sweet story about bunnies as a good bedtime story, something they didn't have experience of personally, much to the amazement of their somewhat overwhelmed teacher.

... a child with autism, normally highly reliant on TA support, left to his own devices with a group of pupils, enthusiastically led the discussion on 'George and the Dragon' by Chris Wormell, which he took an utter delight in - this was a first with regard to him initiating sustained conversation with his peers.

... a Year 11, who had very difficult home circumstances and whose sole lifeline was reading, went to the CBA at Birmingham to meet the authors and illustrators. Being with fellow enthusiasts proved to be a life-changing experience for someone who had never had the opportunity to travel far from home.

... Year 12 girls showed a childlike delight in the contents of their goody bags, provided by the publishers, delighting in the book proofs, pencils, stickers and cards, and finding the whole Rooftop Gardens experience wondrous.

David Walliams



# PAST CBA WINNERS

- 1981** Mr Magnolia written and illustrated by Quentin Blake
- 1982** Fair's Fair written by Leon Garfield and illustrated by Brian Hoskin
- 1983** The BFG written by Roald Dahl and illustrated by Quentin Blake
- 1984** The Saga of Erik The Viking written by Terry Jones and illustrated by Michael Foreman
- 1985** Brother in the Land written by Robert Swindells
- 1986** Arthur written by Amanda Graham and illustrated by Donna Gynell
- 1987** The Jolly Postman written by Allan and Janet Ahlberg and illustrated by Janet Ahlberg
- 1988** Winnie the Witch written by Valerie Thomas and illustrated by Korky Paul
- 1989** Matilda written by Roald Dahl and illustrated by Quentin Blake
- 1990** Room 13 written by Robert Swindells
- 1991** Threadbear written and illustrated by Mick Inkpen
- 1992** Kiss the Dust written by Elizabeth Laird
- 1993** The Suitcase Kid written by Jacqueline Wilson and illustrated by Nick Sharratt

- 1994** The Boy in the Bubble written by Ian Strachan
- 1995** Harriet's Hare written by Dick King-Smith
- 1996** Double Act written by Jacqueline Wilson and illustrated by Nick Sharratt
- 1997** The Hundred-Mile-An-Hour Dog written by Jeremy Strong and illustrated by Nick Sharratt
- 1998** Harry Potter and The Philosopher's Stone written by J K Rowling
- 1999** Harry Potter and The Chamber of Secrets written by J K Rowling
- 2000** Kensuke's Kingdom written by Michael Morpurgo and illustrated by Michael Foreman
- 2001** Eat your Peas written by Kes Gray and illustrated by Nick Sharratt
- 2002** Noughts and Crosses written by Malorie Blackman
- 2003** Skeleton Key written by Anthony Horowitz
- 2004** Private Peaceful written by Michael Morpurgo and illustrated by Michael Foreman
- 2005** Baby Brains written and illustrated by Simon James
- 2006** The Lightning Thief written by Rick Riordan

- 2007** You're A Bad Man Mr Gum! Written by Andy Stanton and illustrated by David Tazzyman
- 2008** Skulduggery Pleasant written by Derek Landy
- 2009** Blood Ties written by Sophie McKenzie
- 2010** The Hunger Games written by Suzanne Collins
- 2011** Shadow written by Michael Morpurgo and illustrated by Michael Foreman
- 2012** A Monster Calls written by Patrick Ness (from an idea by Siobhan Dowd) and illustrated by Jim Kay
- 2013** Spooky Spooky House written by Andrew Weale and illustrated by Lee Wildish
- 2014** The 5th Wave written by Rick Yancy
- 2015** The Day the Crayons Quit written by Drew Daywalt and illustrated by Oliver Jeffers
- 2016** My Head Teacher is a Vampire Rat written by Pamela Butchart and illustrated by Thomas Flintham
- 2017** Eagle in the Snow written by Michael Morpurgo and illustrated by Michael Foreman
- 2018** The Explorer written by Katherine Rundell
- 2019** Mixed written and illustrated by Arree Chung

Our overall winner is illustrator Michael Foreman, who has won five times, followed closely by Michael Morpurgo and Nick Sharratt, who have each won four times. Our first winner Quentin Blake has won a total of three times, with JK Rowling, Jacqueline Wilson, Roald Dahl and Robert Swindells all winning twice.



Michael Foreman



Sophie MacKenzie



Rick Yancy

## THE 2020 40<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY SHORTLIST



Don't forget that we have extended voting for the 2020 award because of Covid-19. If you are aged 18 or under you can take part and help choose the winning titles from each category and the overall winner. Vote in your local children's book group or online at <http://fcbg2019.wpengine.com/> until 11th September.

As 2020 marks the 40th anniversary of the Children's Book Award we are celebrating by adding an extra category of books for this year. There was a very strong showing for books for teen readers in the initial stage of voting and we are very excited to be engaging with these further through the shortlist. The full shortlist is:

### YOUNGER CHILDREN

**Jazz Dog** written and illustrated by Marie Voigt, published by Oxford University Press

**Matisse's Magical Trail** written by Tim Hopgood and illustrated by Sam Boughton, published by Oxford University Press

**The Runaway Pea** written by Kjartan Poskitt and illustrated by Alex Willmore, published by Simon & Schuster

### YOUNGER READERS

**Mutant Zombies Cursed my School Trip** written by Matt Brown and illustrated by Paco Sordo, published by Usborne

**Owen and the Soldier** written by Lisa Thompson, published by Barrington Stoke

**The Maker of Monsters** written by Lorraine Gregory, published by Oxford University Press

### CONFIDENT READERS

**A Pocketful of Stars** written by Aisha Bushby, published by Egmont

**D-Day Dog** written by Tom Palmer, published by Barrington Stoke

**Wildspark** written by Vashti Hardy, published by Scholastic

### OLDER READERS

**Becoming Dinah** written by Kit de Waal, published by Orion

**On the Come Up** written by Angie Thomas, published by Walker

**Two Can Keep a Secret** written by Karen M McManus, published by Penguin Random House





# DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

## OCTOBER

1st National Poetry Day

## NOVEMBER

All month National Non-Fiction November, organised by FCBG

Winners of the SLA Information Book Award announced

# FCBG ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2021

Woldingham School 9th-11th April

We are looking forward to returning to Woldingham School, Surrey for our 2021 Conference. Woldingham is one of the oldest girls' schools in the country and is set in beautiful countryside.

Our provisional programme includes:

- Anne Fine
- Philip Reeve and Sarah MacIntyre
- Maz Evans, celebrating 21 years of Chicken House
- Muhammad Khan and Savita Kalhan (Panel event)

**FURTHER DETAILS WILL FOLLOW IN OUR AUTUMN NEWSLETTER.**

**Deadline for the next issue:  
Monday 5th October 2020**

**Next Issue:** CBA 40th Anniversary Awards  
And more...

Please send all your group news, high resolution photos and top tips to [groupliaison@fcbg.org.uk](mailto:groupliaison@fcbg.org.uk)

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where you can subscribe to our blog!

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## Executive Committee

The next Executive meeting will be on **Saturday 19th September 2020.**

All meetings are currently being held via Zoom. Please contact [chair@fcbg.org.uk](mailto:chair@fcbg.org.uk) for further information at least two weeks in advance of the meeting if you would like to join as an observer.

## CONTACT LIST

Please note that we have changed our email addresses as follows. We hope this makes it easier for people to contact us, and that it will help continuity when roles change. Please use these addresses from now on.

### Chair

**Diane Gaunt**

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Dudley CBG

### Vice chair,

**National Share-a-Story Month**

**Tricia Adams**

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**Non-executive Member**

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