

Talented Young Writers Day September 2nd

A busload of keen, talented young writers from Canterbury Reading Association member schools, together with Canterbury authors Bill Nagelkerke, Marlene Bennetts and Helen McKinlay



and assorted helpers, set off on a literary adventure on September 2nd 2009. Departing the Canterbury Public Library, where we had shared the excitement of the 150th anniversary celebrations, we visited Kerr's Reach to learn some of the background to Bill's book *Old Bones*; we followed Elsie Locke's *Runaway Settlers* up hill and down dale; discovered treasure in the form of Margaret Mahy at Governor's Bay School; and took a trip back in time at Ferrymead Heritage Park.

An inspiring day was enjoyed by all.

"One of the places we visited was the Avon River where Bill's book, Old Bones was set. Then we went to Governors Bay School to meet Margaret Mahy. She shared with us a poem of hers off by heart which was pretty cool and funny."

Windsor School Pupils

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Canterbury Reading Association Newsletter October 2009



From the President:

Greetings

This year somehow seems to have slipped away and we are heading rapidly into that busiest time of the year.

Our Writers Day on September 2nd enabled young Canterbury writers to get an insight into the life and writing of some of our leading Canterbury writers. They got to talk to them and even got writing critiqued as they travelled in the bus around some important sites of inspiration.

A remarkable adventure was had by those who travelled to Queenstown to attend the 33rd NZRA Conference. The view out the window as you pulled back the curtain in the morning was awe inspiring and the Keynote speakers and workshops offered a smorgasbord of ideas.

A new book was launched by Sheena Cameron "Teaching Reading Comprehension Strategies - A Practical Classroom Guide". A very useful addition to your bookshelf.

You can find out more by going to <http://sheenacameron.co.nz/index.html>

Best and Worst is coming. This event enables you to hear from people in the know (booksellers, librarians) the books published in 2009 that are the Best books of the year and just for fun we also hear about some of the books that for different reasons are considered the Worst books of the year. There is often debate but it is all good fun. A way of updating your read aloud list for next year!

Maureen Keen

A reflection from 2009 Marie Clay Literacy Recipient from Canterbury

The two major highlights of the conference for me were:

- ❖ The Authors Dinner with Kate De Goldi, where she gave us a really personal insight into the motivations and circumstances in her most recent novel, "The 10PM Question".
 - ❖ The reading activity workshop and the book launch by Sheena Cameron. These sessions provided me with an abundance of inspirational and interesting ideas for students to actually gain some in depth comprehension skills through valid, creative and authentic reading activities.
- Cheryl Bodie - Ashburton Netherby School



Best and Worst 2009

In collaboration with **Christchurch City Library & Canterbury Reading Association**

Upper Riccarton Library

7.30 - 9pm

Wednesday November 18th

Speakers:

Bill Nagelkerke- *Hans Christian Andersen Awards*

Bob Docherty: *Best picks of 2009*

Sheila- *Children's Bookshop-Best Xmas buys*

Christchurch City Library- *Worst books of 2009*

Children's Book Club Wall

Light refreshments (for a gold coin)

Te Tai Tamariki- a raffle.

See you there

Some fantastic Book Web sites

- ❖ <http://www.lollyleopold.com/index.html>
A website about Kate De Goldi's book "Clubs".
- ❖ <http://www.wimpykid.com/>
A very popular series of books for boys written by Jeff Kinney

WORLD LITERACY DAY

How did your school celebrate World Literacy Day on 8 September?

Kirkwood Intermediate School had a blast. There was a class literacy challenge where each class had to complete the following activities throughout the day:

- Teacher read aloud for a minimum of 10 minutes
- Buddy book share
- Class shared writing
- Personal reading for 10 minutes

A number of other activities were also planned for the day with the highlight being a 'class teacher swap' picture book reading session where a Year 7 teacher read to a Year 8 class and vice versa.

Read, Speed and Feed

World Literacy day was celebrated in style at **Windsor School** when Dads, Grandads and Uncles arrived clutching a book to read. Groups of children gathered in classrooms, on the raised seating areas outside and on the playground to hear stories being read and told. Games of 4 square, duck, duck, goose, bean bag tag and others were hotly contested evidenced by the amount of diving at targets, green knees and sweaty bodies returning from the field. We hope there were no lasting ill effects from this activity! It was great that so many of the visitors were able to stay and join the children for lunch in the sun.

June 2009 - June 2010 SUBSCRIPTIONS

\$ \$ \$

Now due

School or personal subscriptions entitle the member to 3 volumes of the New Zealand Reading Association magazine 'Forum' each year, discounted rates at some events, and member's only events.

See website for form and price <http://www.nzra.org.nz>

