



# UpdaTED

July 2017

Dear Book Group Chair,

Please pass this issue of UpdaTED on to all your members.



**FCBG 1968-2018**

## ***Celebrating our 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary***

**Our plans for FCBG's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations are now well under way.**

- We will launch the year with the publication of **a new booklist** entitled:  
***50 Golden Treasures: FCBG's 50 Favourite Books from the last 50 years***
- ***A Golden Treasury: Hidden Gems and Bright Futures*** is the title of our jubilee year conference. It will be hosted by the Hertfordshire Children's Book Group at Queenswood School, Hatfield from Friday 13<sup>th</sup> April to Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> April 2018. Speakers will include **Michael Morpurgo, Jackie Morris and Jacqueline Wilson** so do make sure to put the date in your diary!
- **A special series of blogs** by the groups will run alongside our regular blogs.
- National initiatives will be temporarily renamed: **Golden CBA, Golden NNFN and Golden NSSM.**
- **A celebratory event for children** will take place in Birmingham on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2018 at the Conservatoire.
- We will also be spotlighting **the History of the Federation** with a publication to complement a special set of display boards (which groups can book, see details below) and dedicated pages on the website.
- In October 2017, we will be providing **a pack of resources to support local celebrations and events** organised by the Children's Book Groups.





**As part of the celebrations, we would like to invite *all* our Children's Book Groups to:**

- Submit between **200-400 words about your group plus 3 or 4 photos** to help us complete the documentation of our Federation's history. We need these short accounts ***as soon as possible*** but don't feel daunted - Herts CBG has kindly allowed us to include their account below so you can see what we're looking for. ***We really need your input URGENTLY!*** So please get typing and email your account immediately to Karen Hellewell on [info@fcbg.org.uk](mailto:info@fcbg.org.uk)
- **50 Golden Treasures:** Submit titles of up to **50 favourite books** published during the last 50 years to Louise Stothard [louisestothard@aol.com](mailto:louisestothard@aol.com) by **31<sup>st</sup> August 2017**. These can be nominated by children and adults and presented in order of preference. 10 per titles per decade would be good. Where there are more than one in a series, just give the series title.
- Submit a **proposal for a blog** that you would like to contribute during 2018. This is an opportunity to celebrate the work that you do and could be about the history of your group; an event or events run by the group; your experience of participating in one of the national events; what it's like to be one of the testing groups; how you work with local schools and/or other organisations.; or anything else you would like to write about your group. Contributions from young members would also be welcome.



Please submit your **proposal** to Chris Routh [chrisrouth@leightonpark.com](mailto:chrisrouth@leightonpark.com) by **31<sup>st</sup> October 2017**. This is to help us plan the programme - *you do not need to write the blog at this stage.*

## **NSSM News**



The results of the **NSSM Picture a Story** competitions have been finalised and the winners notified! Details will be in the next **UpdaTED**.

***Well done to the winners!***

and

**Thank you to all who took part!**

Thanks also to

**Walker, Macmillan, Flying Eye and The Phoenix Comic**

for the prizes.



## A Short History of **Herts Children's Book Group**

Our Book Group began about 30 years ago with Joyce DuCane being particularly involved at this point. It was a very active group and organised lots of activities including book jamborees, all day events in schools on a Saturday, Christmas shopping mornings and, of course, the infamous armchair traveller. The latter came about from a number of books that Joyce had collected on her travels. In the summer holidays each child had a passport and chose books from different continents or countries. This collection has been donated to the Seven Stories in Newcastle-upon-Tyne and they use it extensively. It is also seen as an early forerunner of the Summer Reading Challenge.

In these early days members tended to be interested individuals rather than the many school members the group has now. Whilst at times it has looked as though the group may cease to exist it has come bouncing back, usually with Maureen Irving's refusal to give in!

Nowadays the group holds fewer events as membership is largely school librarians who are working full time. Our flagship annual event is the James Mayhew day of concerts where talented author/illustrator James who created the Katie books draws live on stage whilst the local de Havilland Philharmonic Orchestra at the University of Hertfordshire plays. This last November saw a Shakespearean theme with James' book 'Ella Bella Ballerina and A Midsummer Night's Dream' and each year is different. The 400 seat auditorium is filled twice on the day and local and not so local families come along for the event, buy James' books and have them signed personally. The beautiful illustrations are raffled off, this year raising over a thousand pounds for a refugee charity. This has all come about through a chance meeting between Jayne Truran and Maureen Irving that was relayed to James! Live drawing/painting events have now mushroomed and take place all over the country.

Sunday stories, book swaps and The Big Draw now feature and with our lively, friendly regular meetings members inspire each other with their love of all things bookish! The team is looking forward to hosting the special 50th anniversary Conference at Queenswood in April 2018.



*The Storytelling Tent*



*Paintings raffled for charity*



*James Mayhew in costume*



## CBA News

**Did your group attend the Children's Book Award Ceremony 2017 or did you take part in the voting?**

Click on the link below to watch the video of the ceremony

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZL3q-VG4cA4>

Check out the interviews with Co-Winners **Michael Morpurgo** and **Michael Foreman** with *An Eagle in The Snow*. Also hear from Past Winner, **Korky Paul**, some of the fantastic tester children, Libby Allman from Plymouth CBG and our Chair, Jane Etheridge.

Please share the YouTube link, tweet it and post it on your **Facebook** page so we can spread the word that nearly 130,000 children are involved every year casting 150,000 votes, making our award truly the Children's Choice.

The **Top 50 Pick of the Year** leaflet is now available to download from the FCBG website. If you would like hard copies please email our CBA Coordinator Julia Miller on [juliamiller@talktalk.net](mailto:juliamiller@talktalk.net) and include quantities required and delivery address.



Follow us **@CBACoordinator** to take part in the CBA for 2018.

## FCBG History: Travelling Display

As part of the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations, Karen Hellewell is putting together 5 x A1 display boards (594mm x 841mm /23.4 inches x 33.1 inches) covering the achievements of the FCBG. There will be "A Histree" showing the growth of the Federation (portrait) and 4 others (landscape) to cover NSSM, NNFN, CBA, Conferences, Anthologies, Newsletters and other significant episodes in the FCBG history.

This display will be securely packed in very sturdy packaging for transport around the country to any group wishing to display them at their group celebrations during 2018. Karen has organised a timetable for groups to book the display and some slots are already filled.

To book your slot, please contact Karen on [info@fcbg.org.uk](mailto:info@fcbg.org.uk) by 31<sup>st</sup> October 2017. Karen will email out images of the display boards as soon as they come back from the designer.





**SPECIAL  
OFFERS**



### FCBG Banner

Order your **FCBG pull-up Banner** at the special discounted price of:

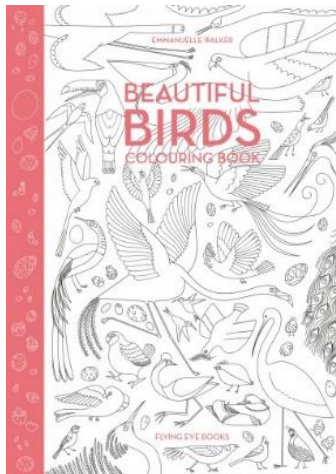
£80.00 plus VAT for 1 banner or

£150.00 plus VAT for 2 banners.

Prices include delivery.

Why not take advantage of this brilliant offer and make your group more visible at your events.

Please order your banner(s) **before the end of September 2017** by contacting Karen Hellewell on [info@fcbg.org.uk](mailto:info@fcbg.org.uk)

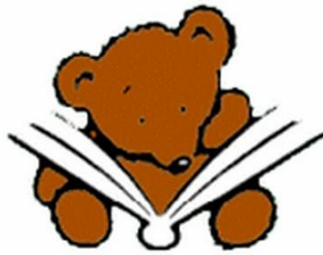


### Beautiful Birds Colouring Book Offer

As part of our lead into National Non-Fiction November, we are pleased to be able to offer Children's Book Groups the opportunity to request multiple copies of the **Beautiful Birds Colouring Book** published by Flying Eye.

These could be used as the basis of a colouring competition or for prizes during NNFN or simply to hand out to group members.

If you are interested in receiving free copies, please contact: [chrisrouth@leightonpark.com](mailto:chrisrouth@leightonpark.com) giving the number of copies required and the name and address they should be sent to. We anticipate lots of interest in this offer, so please order your copies as soon as possible, and by 31<sup>st</sup> August at the latest, to avoid disappointment.



Federation of  
Children's Book Groups

**A Very Big**

thank  
you!

**to Karen Hellewell**

for all her hard work in editing **UpdaTED** over the years.

As Karen is busy finalising the History of the Federation, putting together the travelling display as well as being Secretary to the FCBG, I have taken over as Editor of **UpdaTED**.

Please continue to send items to the usual email address [info@fcbg.org.uk](mailto:info@fcbg.org.uk)

and keep us **UpdaTED** with your news.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Denise Lawrence