



UpdaTED

October 2018



Dear Book Group Chair,

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

A Message from The Chair



Dear Members,

There are only a few days to go before the Three Laureates event in Birmingham. Tickets have now sold out for Julia Donaldson, but there are still tickets available for Jacqueline Wilson, Anna Conomos and Chris Riddell, who will now be accompanied by a string quartet as he draws from *Goth Girl* and the *Sinister Symphony* (Macmillan).

We hope that you will be celebrating and promoting reading non-fiction during National Non-Fiction November and sending news about any events you organise or attend during the month to our Group Liaison Officer Hilarie Medler. Don't forget the cake design competition which makes a great activity for groups and see below for details about BookLife's fantastic offer for Children's Book Group members during November.

Finally, congratulations to Yeo Valley CBG who recently celebrated their tenth birthday and welcome to our two new Children's Book Groups - Mendip and Northampton. More details to follow in our Spring Newsletter.

Chris Routh, FCBG Chair

Children's Festival of Literature: The Three Laureates *Final Notice!*



We do hope that many from your book group (though we do understand it is a bit too far for some of you to travel!) will join us to celebrate our 50th Anniversary at the Royal Birmingham Conservatoire on Saturday 3rd November.

The day will include performances by three past Children's Laureates: a *Treasury of songs* with **Julia Donaldson**, with a guest appearance from the *Gruffalo* **Sold Out!**, the celebrated **Jacqueline Wilson** and the author and illustrator **Chris Riddell**. Each event costs £5 per person.



In addition we are delighted to offer a **FREE** event to include in your day. Renowned award-winning storyteller **Anna Conomos** will perform the Russian tale **The Doll Who Ate Stories** with local school children from Dudley and Solihull, encouraging audience participation too.

This is a culmination of the FCBG's Jean Russell project school story telling workshops. The event is free to all but requires tickets.

Julia Donaldson will be accompanied by Malcolm Donaldson and, ably assisted by the Gruffalo, will entertain us all. **Sold Out!**



Dame Jacqueline Wilson, Children's Laureate, award winning creator of Tracy Beaker and author of over 100 children's books, will treat the audience to the stories behind her ever popular and celebrated books.

Chris Riddell, Children's Laureate, author and illustrator is well known for the Edge Chronicles. Chris will be celebrating his new book *Goth Girl and the Sinister Symphony* with musicians from the conservatoire setting the scene of this hilarious adventure for Ada and her friends at a very unusual music festival her stately home, Ghastly Gorm Hall.

We have arranged for a bookshop to be provided by H & H Spalding Books with a wide selection of children's books for sale where the Three Laureates will be signing their books.

The Royal Birmingham Conservatoire is a new, purpose built, light filled and family friendly venue, which is perfect for our day of celebrating stories. The Millenium Point car-park is near-by and refreshments will be available to purchase throughout the day.

10:30am-11:30am – Julia Donaldson and the Gruffalo **Sold Out!**

12:00pm-12:45pm –The Doll Who Ate Stories, FREE Storytelling Performance

13:30pm- 14:15pm – Jacqueline Wilson

15:00pm-15:45pm – Chris Riddell

To book tickets for the Three Laureates (£5 per person, per event)

<https://www.bcu.ac.uk/conservatoire/events-calendar/the-three-laureates>

To book your **FREE** tickets for The Doll Who Ate Stories please go to:

<https://www.bcu.ac.uk/conservatoire/events-calendar/the-doll-who-ate-stories>

For more information please contact: Louise Stothard louisestothard@aol.com

Golden National Non-Fiction November



Follow our programme of blogs featuring non-fiction authors, illustrators and publishers. There will also be a series of book reviews by guest bloggers and giveaways to look out for on Twitter.

Have a look at the Golden National Non-Fiction November area on our website for ideas, recommended books and resources; plus details about this year's fantastic competition to design a cake fit for FCBG's

50th birthday celebrations sponsored by Hachette Children's Books.

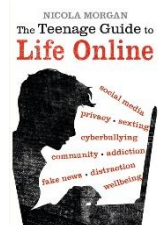
<http://www.fcbg.org.uk/golden-national-non-fiction-november-competition-2018/>

Special offers!

- During the month we will be sending each group a copy of Nicola Morgan's book *The Teenage Guide to Life Online* with accompanying teachers' notes, kindly supplied by **Walker Books**. This could be used as the focus of a discussion or as a prize or giveaway for one of your member schools.
- Our Children's Book Award headline sponsor, BookLife, has also offered a 25% discount on their own publications to all our CBGs and their members during the month of November. Please quote FCBGNNFN18 when placing an order:

BookLife

<https://www.booklife.co.uk/collections/booklife-publishing>



FCBG Conference 12th – 14th April 2019

I am pleased to inform you that our next conference, Opening Doors, hosted by Lewes and Oxted CBGs, will take place at Woldingham School, Caterham from 12th -14th April 2019.

Speakers and sessions include:

- Nick Sharratt
- Jeremy Strong
- Guy Parker Rees
- Francesca Simon

- Empathy panel with Miranda McKearney, Ross Montgomery, Sita Brahmachari
- Representation Matters panel with Knights Of and Cynthia So
- Middle Grade Fiction panel with Candy Gourlay, Marcia Williams and Serena Patel



Federation of Children's Book Groups
Annual Conference
12-14 April 2019

Logo created by Corina Fletcher

- Is this a Golden Age of Non-Fiction? Panel with Nikki Gamble, Sam Hutchinson and Yuval Zommer
- An evening of poetry and music with Ed Boxall, Liz Brownlee, Brian Moses, Laura Mucha, Roger Stevens, Neal Zetter
- Cocktails to celebrate 30 years of Elmer
- Tea to celebrate 20 years of Giraffes Can't Dance

Bookings are now open and there is a booking form attached.

Jane Etheridge

Golden Children's Book Award

BookLife



Key dates for the Children's Book Award 2019

The 12 testing groups are hard at work voting on all the books the publishers are sending them for consideration for the 2019 award. The final votes will be counted in January and they will meet to finalise the Top 10 and Pick of the Year in early February. The list will be announced on Monday 25th February so keep an eye on the FCBG blog!

We're looking to extend participation in voting as widely as possible and we'll be in touch with you all nearer the date with a special deal to purchase sets of the Top 10 books at discounted rates from our main 2019 sponsor BookLife Publishing.

Voting will run until mid-May 2019 and the winners will be announced at the CBA Ceremony on **8th June 2019**. Thanks to the sponsorship deal with BookLife Publishing, we have been able to secure a larger, grander venue - the **Copthorne Tara Hotel** in Kensington, so we're also working on including representatives of all groups and others who participate in the voting - more news on that in the new year but make a note of the date now!



FCBG Instagram

The Chair of Mendip Children's Book Group Helen Heaton has offered to set up and manage an Instagram account for FCBG. This is a great opportunity to reveal #FedTed's adventures, promote your group's activities and give a visual shout for your favourite bookish places and events.

Please send your pictures to: h_heaton@hotmail.co.uk Many thanks Helen!

Invitation to join the National Executive Committee (NEC)

A number of opportunities to support the work of FCBG at national level will be arising over the next few months as a result of several members retiring or changing their role. We would therefore like to invite anyone interested in joining the NEC to get in touch to express their interest. The roles we are particularly keen to fill are:

Secretary: as one of the four officers and the first point of contact for the Federation, this role is of key importance and we therefore suggest that the incoming secretary should shadow the current post holder initially, followed by a gradual handover. The post would best suit someone who is not in full-time employment. The roles includes managing info@fcbg.org.uk, editing and distributing UpdaTED and overseeing membership.

Newsletter Editor: this involves commissioning, collecting and editing the content for the Newsletter which is sent to members twice a year, submitting it to our printers, proof reading and organising printing and distribution.

Website Coordinator: this involves organising and posting blogs and updating the website content as required. The post holder would not be expected to write all the content for the blog programme, but could contribute occasionally if they wanted to. Some blogs will be submitted by other Exec members and others will be invited from contributors (authors, illustrators, publishers and book experts). It is essential that the post holder is familiar with Wordpress. Technical trouble-shooting is done by another agency.

All members of NEC should be FCBG members and in the case of the officers, members of a Children's Book Group. The NEC meets 4 times a year on Saturday in London, for which travel expenses will be reimbursed. If you would like to find out more about the above roles or joining Exec in general, please email chrisrouth2@gmail.com

World Book Day 2019

WBD has just revealed twelve fantastic £1 books for 2019 <https://www.worldbookday.com/books/>



Registration is now open for the £1 book tokens. Everyone must register, even if they have registered in previous years. Primary schools will automatically receive tokens, but still need to register to ensure they receive the correct number. Secondary schools, nurseries and playgroups will not receive tokens unless they register.

The registration period closes on 30th November - so don't delay - this is a great way to ensure that all young readers can own a book! Tokens can be used in participating book shops from Thursday 28th February to Sunday 31st March 2019.

South Ken Kids Festival 19 – 25 November at the Institut français



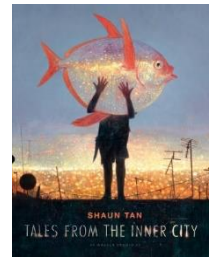
The South Ken Kids Festival returns for its 21st edition! From 19 to 25 November, meet glorious authors and illustrators, including **Quentin Blake** (the festival's patron), **Axel Scheffler**, **Magali Le Huche**, **Bridget Marzo** and many more brought to you by the Institut français in London!

Expect a programme packed with live drawing, storytelling, workshops, talks, films, music and digital sessions.

www.southkenkidsfestival.co.uk

Shaun Tan Hide and Seek

To coincide with the launch of Shaun Tan's *Tales from the Inner City*, Walker Studio are encouraging people to take part in a nationwide pebble hunt. Shaun has hand painted 5 unique pebbles which have been hidden across the country for treasure hunters to find, share on social media and then re-hide.



Everyone is encouraged to become part of this project by designing and creating their own pebbles painted with themes inspired by the natural world then hiding their stones for others to find and share. Walker Studio will be keeping a keen eye on new editions to the treasure hunt and will be awarding some of the most visually arresting pebbles with limited edition signed Shaun Tan prints.

Want to get involved? Here's how...

1. Find a smooth pebble or stone – It can be any size
2. Paint it with a design inspired by nature and mark it on the reverse with #shauntanpebble (we recommend using acrylic paints)
3. Varnish it with weather proof varnish – leave it to dry
4. Find a special place to hide your stone or pebble in an urban setting (NB: Must be in a public space/land - Must be in a town or city - Must in a safely accessible location - No damage should be caused to access the pebble - Should be away from busy roads - Discreet but visible - Do not bury the pebble)
5. When hidden...Take a photo of the pebble, art side up, in its location.
6. Share a photo online with the hashtag #shauntanpebble leaving some clues as to its location and tagging @walkerstudio and @shauncytan

Look out for clues on Instagram via @walkerstudio



The Adventures of Fed Ted



Don't forget to send your group's photos of **Fed Ted** on holiday to info@fcbg.org.uk and tell us about his adventures during this special 50th Anniversary year!

Please send items for the November 2018 issue of **UpdaTED** to: info@fcbg.org.uk and keep us **UpdaTED** with your news. *Denise Lawrence* **UpdaTED** editor



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