

PRESS RELEASE – EMBARGOED UNTIL 7pm Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2017

## WINNERS ANNOUNCED FOR SCHOOL LIBRARY ASSOCIATION INFORMATION BOOK AWARDS 2017

**London, UK: 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2017:** In partnership with their sponsors, **Hachette Children's Group**, the **School Library Association** have announced the winners of the **School Library Association Information Book Award 2017** and the very first **Hachette Children's Group Award for Outstanding Contribution to Information Books** at an award ceremony at Carmelite House in London on 22<sup>nd</sup> November.

The *Information Book Awards* are designed to support school libraries, reinforce the importance of non-fiction and highlight the high standard of resources available, whilst the new *Award for Outstanding Contribution to Information Books* looks at a whole body of work with a criteria which is intended to highlight authors and illustrators who offer consistent quality and a significant contribution to information books, working across a range of topics.

For the **Information Book Award 2017**, the overall winner chosen by the judges was **Survivors of the Holocaust** by **Kath Shackleton** (Franklin Watts); whilst the Children's Choice winner was **Mind Your Head** by **Juno Dawson** with advice from **Dr Olivia Hewitt**, Illustrated by **Gemma Correll** (Hot Key Books).

The winner of the **Hachette Children's Group Award for Outstanding Contribution to Information Books 2017** was **Nicola Davies**.

**Tricia Adams, Director, School Library Association** comments: *'The SLA was delighted to see the wonderful range and quality of books being submitted for the awards this year. The winners represent the outstanding quality and high standard of information publishing on offer in a range of subjects – and we are delighted that so many publishers and authors and illustrators take part.'*

**Hilary Murray Hill, CEO, Hachette Children's Group** comments: *'I am proud that Hachette Children's Group continue to sponsor the SLA Information Book Awards and now the Award for Outstanding Contribution to Information Books. We are committed to publishing the very best information books – be that the engaging books from Franklin Watts and Wayland that support the curriculum; or the brave, diverse and authentic voices on Wren & Rook – and it is vital, now more than ever, that we support this important community of authors, illustrators and school librarians to raise their profile and provide young people with the best information books we can. I am thrilled for all who have been shortlisted for this year's awards and would like to congratulate the winning authors and illustrators on their thoroughly deserved achievements.'*

The winner in each category selected by the judges is as follows:

### Under 7 Winner

- **My First Book of Animals** by Nicola Davies, illustrated by Petr Horacek ISBN 9781406359633 (Walker Books)

### 7-12 Winner

- **The Great Fire of London** by Emma Adams, Illustrated by James Weston Lewis ISBN 9780750298209 (Wren & Rook)

### Over-12 Winner

- **Survivors of the Holocaust** by Kath Shackleton ISBN 9781445150444 (Franklin Watts)

#### Overall Winner

- **Survivors of the Holocaust** by Kath Shackleton ISBN 9781445150444 (Franklin Watts)

#### Children's Choice Awards

Between May and early November, schools were able to cast their vote for their favourite Information Book from the shortlisted titles. The SLA and their sponsors were keen that schools, libraries, book groups and reading groups should have a say in the final decision. Each group could vote online for their favourite book in each category (Under 7, 7-12 and 12-16) and for their overall favourite. The complete shortlist for 2017 is available here [www.sla.org.uk/information-book-award.php](http://www.sla.org.uk/information-book-award.php)

The Children's Choice winners are:

#### Under 7 Winner

- **Our Very Own Dog** by Amanda McCardie, Illustrated by Salavatore Rubbino ISBN 9781406356205 (Walker Books)

#### 7-12 Winner

- **The Great Fire of London** by Emma Adams, Illustrated by James Weston Lewis ISBN 9780750298209 (Wren & Rook)

#### 12-16 Winner

- **Mind Your Head** by Juno Dawson with advice from Dr Olivia Hewitt, illustrated by Gemma Correll ISBN 9781471405310 (Hot Key Books)

#### Overall Children's Choice Winner

- **Mind Your Head** by Juno Dawson with advice from Dr Olivia Hewitt, illustrated by Gemma Correll ISBN 9781471405310 (Hot Key Books)

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#### Notes for Editors

The **Information Book Award** is an annual event, in its seventh year, and is a major development for information books, being designed to support school libraries and to reinforce the importance of non-fiction while highlighting the high standard of resources available.

**Hachette Children's Group** is one of the largest children's publishers in the UK, with an excellent track record in creating bestselling and award-winning books for children of all ages and interests.

The Group comprises the imprints Hodder Children's Books, Orchard Children's Books, Orion Children's Books, Little, Brown Books for Young Readers, Quercus Children's Books, Pat-a-Cake, Wren & Rook, Franklin Watts and Wayland Books. The Group is also the publisher of author Enid Blyton and the owner of Enid Blyton Entertainment.

Across its imprints, Hachette Children's Group publishes a diverse range of books to cater for every child, including picture books, fiction, non-fiction and series and licensed publishing. Their authors, illustrators, series and licenses include: David Almond, Lauren Child, Cressida Cowell, Kes Gray, Jim Field, Nadiya Hussain, Patrice Lawrence, Michael Rosen, Francesca Simon, Alex T. Smith, Lauren St. John, Piers Torday, Rainbow Magic, My Little Pony and Pokémon.

[hachettechildrens.co.uk](http://hachettechildrens.co.uk)

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**The School Library Association** is an independent charity that believes that every pupil is entitled to effective school library provision. The SLA is committed to supporting everyone involved with school libraries, promoting high quality reading and learning opportunities for all. Website: [www.sla.org.uk](http://www.sla.org.uk) Twitter [@uksla](https://twitter.com/uksla)