



School Library Association  
South West Wales Branch

# SOUTH WEST WALES Branch Newsletter

<http://www.sla.southwestwales.co.uk/>

Summer 2009

## What's On?

### MAY 2009

#### BRANCH MEETING

##### Reading Groups

Tuesday 12 May 2009, 4 p.m.

Queen Elizabeth High School, Johnstown,  
Carmarthen, SA31 3NL

Join us in the new library! The topic in the spotlight will be **Reading Groups** - setting them up and keeping them going. Share your top tips and tried and tested activities.



Flickr: Jickel  **creativecommons**

Email or contact Linda to let her know whether you can make it ([lwebber@qehs.carms.sch.uk](mailto:lwebber@qehs.carms.sch.uk)) (Tel. 01267-245300).

### JUNE 2009

We were hoping to have our branch course this month or next but our chosen trainer, Geoff Dubber, SLA Chair, couldn't make it.

Don't worry though - we're booking him for next Spring for a course entitled 'More than Google - Developing Information Literacy Skills in a library/curriculum & ICT context' - date and venue tbc - watch this space!).

We also discovered that SLG Wales have moved their course to June instead of



The South West Wales Branch of the SLA exists to provide support, training and events on a local basis for its members across the area of Carmarthenshire, Ceredigion and Pembrokeshire, Powys and the western areas of Swansea. Committed to working towards effective school library provision for all schools, we aim to raise the profile of school libraries and their staff, sharing information, ideas and good practice through meetings, courses and events.

We'd love to receive your contributions to your termly newsletter. Please email or send any news, top tips, success stories, hot reads/hot surfs to Liz by the last day of each term ([liz@lizsmith.info](mailto:liz@lizsmith.info)).

October. To avoid clashes, we therefore offered to delay our course and to let you know about the SLG Wales course.

#### **Hear it, Read it. How Stories, Live Poetry and Book Talking turn**

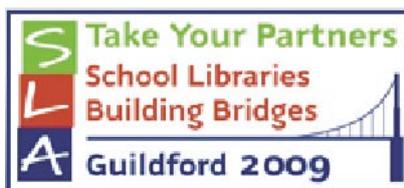
#### **Literacy into Lifelong Learning with Alec Williams**

Wednesday 3 June 2009,

9.30 for 10 a.m. - 4.30 p.m

Builth Wells High School, Builth Wells.

Contact Esther Sargeant at Builth Wells High School for more details. Cost: £50.



#### **SLA WEEKEND COURSE**

Friday 19 - Sunday 21 June 2009

University of Surrey, Guildford

#### **Take Your Partners. School Libraries Building Bridges**

A fantastic opportunity to attend a range of keynote talks, seminars and workshops, hear and meet authors, make contacts across the library and book-related world. Lots of free goodies, proof copies and posters to pick up at the exhibition, as well as a chance to discuss products and services with the companies. Plus a tempting array of titles for purchase from the excellent Norfolk

Children's Book Centre.

It's not too late - contact the SLA Office asap if you'd like to book your place.

#### **'CAMPAIGN FOR THE BOOK' CONFERENCE**

Saturday 27 June 2009, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

King Edward's School, Edgbaston Park Road, Birmingham, B15 2UA.

Participants include authors Celia Rees, Alan Gibbons, Steve Skidmore, Gillian Cross, as well as MPs Lyn Brown, Ed Vaizey, Richard Younger Ross, Director of the Reading Agency Miranda McKearney, school librarians Clare Broadbelt and Jacqueline Crockford, amongst others.

Cost: £40 including lunch. To book a place and to sign up to the campaign, e-mail [aagibbons@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:aagibbons@blueyonder.co.uk) as soon as possible.

I (Liz) am travelling up on the Friday night and staying in a nearby Travelodge. There's space for 3 people in my car - if anyone's interested in going, please let me know and we can share transport!

For more info and latest updates on library closures and the campaign, visit Alan Gibbons' blog ([www.alan-gibbons.net](http://www.alan-gibbons.net))



## JULY 2009



### SLA MEMBERS' DAY

Tuesday 7 July 2009,  
10 a.m. - 3.30 p.m.  
Peters Bookselling Services, Bromsgrove  
Street, Birmingham, B5 6BR

An opportunity to network with other members, listen to talks by Verna Wilkins of Tamarind Books and by Wendy Cooling, as well as meet the new SLA Director, Tricia Adams. There is also the chance to browse and buy from Peters' wonderful showroom. Lunch is provided free of charge, courtesy of Peters. Contact the SLA Office if you'd like to attend.

If there's sufficient interest within the branch, we could look at sharing cars - again, I'm happy to drive.

### GUEST SPEAKER, BRANCH AGM & SUMMER SOCIAL

July - Exact date, time and venue to be confirmed.

This year, we're hoping to combine our AGM (we'll see if we can beat our record speed!) with a visiting author/speaker and social evening - more details to follow soon!

In the meantime, your committee needs YOU!

Some of our current committee are shortly having to stand down. It's time for new blood, and we'd really like you to

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E-Mail or send your news, top tips, success stories, achievements, hot reads, hot surfs... for the following term's newsletter to Liz by the last day of each term.

put yourselves forward. Enthusiasm and ideas more important than experience on committees! To find out what's involved, speak to any of the current committee. Short job descriptions are available on the branch website.

If you're interested or you know someone who might be, please let Liz know by Friday 5 June 2009.

As we look towards the Summer, on behalf of the branch, I'd like to take the opportunity to wish Jackie at Amman Valley Comprehensive all the very best on her retirement this July. Here's to a great rest and lots of reading!

## SEPTEMBER 2009

### COURSE IN CONJUNCTION WITH PEMBROKESHIRE LIBRARIES



### Graphic Novels workshop with Mel Gibson, comics scholar and consultant.

Tuesday 15 September 2009,  
9.30 a.m. - 12.30 p.m.  
Haverfordwest Library, Dew Street,  
Haverfordwest, SA61 1SU

Too good an opportunity to miss! Pembrokeshire Libraries has invited Mel down to run this morning training session for public library staff (before she then launches the series of writing squads taking place in the county over the Autumn.) The SWWales SLA branch have agreed to share costs and the course is therefore open to us too. We hope as many of you as possible will take up this offer to explore graphic novels and discuss issues related to them alongside

colleagues in the public libraries.

Cost: £40 for SLA members, £60 for non-members (course at members' rate if you join SLA on the day).

Please contact Liz by Monday 6 July 2009 if you'd like to attend.

## OCTOBER 2009

### BRANCH MEETING & SOCIAL

#### Guest speaker: Gaynor Fry from Barrington Stoke

Monday 19 October 2009, 4 p.m.

Venue to be confirmed

Free copy of a Barrington Stoke book for every participant!



### Hot tip...

Remember that if you **log in to the SLA website - [www.sla.org.uk](http://www.sla.org.uk)** - you get 'members only' access to even more advice, downloads and publications!

### Hot news...

You can now follow the SLA on Twitter (username **@uksla**)

### Hot read...

'Black Rabbit Summer' by Kevin Brooks - Brooding, atmospheric, richly descriptive thriller.

### Hot surf...

To tie in with Sky1's film production of 'Skellig' by David Almond, you might be interested to discover that there is a dedicated website, with teachers' notes, activities, extracts, film and biographical info at <http://is.gd/yYzy>-

