

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

I am honoured and delighted to be the Chair of the School Library Association for 2018–2020. I am looking forward to continuing to work with Alison Tarrant, and Sue Bastone the new Vice Chair, and I am very glad to have had the guidance of Annike Dase, our retiring Chair.

I have been a school librarian for almost all my career, although my first professional post was in a Further Education college and I also briefly worked in public libraries. I was librarian at an independent day and boarding school in Suffolk for many years, but last year I made the move to an international school in Germany to set up their first proper library, as the school moved to new and larger premises. While the school is quite small currently— just under 450 pupils – it is growing rapidly. I work with teachers and children throughout the school from Nursery to Sixth Form, meaning I can be reading a picture book at one moment and delivering a session on Harvard Referencing the next, which keeps me on my toes!

This is an exciting time to be Chair of SLA with a new Chief Executive, a new Member Development Librarian, the Scottish School Libraries Strategy and the launch of the Great School Libraries campaign. Our wonderful SLYA 2018 Honour List librarians showed how powerful a great school library can be in any school, with a wide range of initiatives that have had amazing impact on pupils. This is a time for us to refocus our energies and continue to shout about the wonderful, magical, inspirational thing that is a school library.

Lesley Martin

P.S. Do check out our two newest titles for your professional library at www.sla.org.uk/publications.php — *Priority Paperwork: Policy Making and Development Planning for Primary and Secondary School Libraries* by Rachel Sargeant and *Historical Fiction for the School Library: Riveting Reads* by Dawn Finch.



Great School Libraries

The campaign for Great School Libraries is well under way. Since the launch we are delighted to have secured funding for the duration of the campaign from Peters Books and Furniture. We are also delighted to have secured funding from The Foyle Foundation to recruit a researcher to undertake independent research into school libraries – this will result in a clear understanding of how many primary and secondary school libraries there are in the UK at the moment. The survey won't include Scotland as they have just finished their own survey but we are working with the organisers of the campaign in Scotland to ensure that the final report covers the whole of the UK.

Sign ups for the campaign continue, and another newsletter will be out shortly with more resources. A really important part of this campaign is the collection of case studies, so do contribute one. We want to show the diversity of what school library staff do, so it's important we receive them from as wide a range of people as possible. If you're unsure, please contact Barbara Band who is the Chair of the SLDG (the group focusing on the collection of data): info@barbaraband.com. More information is available at:

<https://www.cilip.org.uk/page/GreatSchoolLibraries>

Show your support for school libraries by signing up to **#GreatSchoolLibraries**

Great
School
Libraries

Cover Artwork

by Chris Riddell

We are extremely grateful again to our President for providing our wonderful cover for *The School Librarian*.

If you want to win, all you have to do is email info@sla.org.uk with the subject line: 'School Librarian Covers'. Please note these emails go directly into a folder, so if you want to contact me regarding anything else please use a separate email.

The winner of draw for the Autumn 2018 Chris Riddell artwork was: The Junior & Senior School, Cyprus, whose librarian is Janet Assadourian – Congratulations!



Training Update

Look out for these Spring 2019 Regional Training Events

- Bringing it Alive! Storytelling to boost Literacy and RfP – Cheltenham (12.02.19)
- Copy and Paste Generation – Warwick (28.02.19)
- Help I'm in Charge of the Secondary School Library – Manchester (28.02.19)
- Opening Doors: the School Library in a Culturally Diverse Society – Birmingham (28.03.19)
- Picture and Comic Books for All – Witham (12.03.19)
- Preparing the School Library for Inspection – Ilford (13.02.19)
- Promoting Reading in the Digital Age – Cardiff (14.03.19), Burnley (21.03.19)
- Mental Health and Wellbeing in a School Library Setting – Newcastle-under-Lyme (28.02.19), Epsom (14.03.19), Blandford (19.03.19)



Full information at www.sla.org.uk/training-calendar.php

Digital Developments

Between now and the end of the year we will be launching a new website, which will be clearer and have improved functionality, allowing you to buy things online; change your log in details; renew online and lots of other developments.

We are trying to time this to minimise disruption, but do bear with us over this period. When the website launches we will send you an email with top tips and a bit of guidance to help you find your way around. As always, if you have any questions don't hesitate to get in touch with the office.

www.sla.org.uk

Book Events

Zuntold (www.zuntold.com) have an exciting new children's publication, *Gangster School*. The debut title is a fun adventure for children, a classic tale of good triumphing over evil, with a hilarious spin and loveable heroes.



Would your school like to be involved some fun activities around the book? Book an event for next term – either an interactive workshop or assembly. It would be suitable for children aged 6 to 12 years old and the timing can be tailored to your availability.

We can offer various activities, including interactive workshops, a reading by the author/publisher, book signings, giveaways and/or prizes, selfie boards, and colouring activities. We can tailor the event/activities to the length of time you have available. All we would ask that you cover travel costs for our author – Kate lives in Saffron Walden (Essex).

If you'd like to find out more, or book in a visit for your school, do let Elaine know at elaine@zuntold.com.

Book Groups Offer

Free Proofs for YA Book Groups

Outside, the incredible debut novel by Sarah Ann Juckes, publishes in January 2019 and is already garnering acclaim for its powerful storytelling, unique writing style and unforgettable characters. Sarah is a young writer and one to watch – she's former librarian who works closely with schools as part of her work with the NSPCC's 'Speak Out and Stay Safe' programme, and also mentors under-represented writers with Creative Future. Her website is <https://sarahannjuckes.com/>.



Penguin Random House are offering free proof copies of *Outside* to YA Book Groups across the UK, to be shared, debated and reviewed within the library or classroom. There are 5 copies available per group, along with notes to guide the group discussion. In addition to the group discussion, Sarah will be available to answer Q+As or do Skype sessions with the pupils who have read *Outside*, answering questions about the book as well as giving writing tips and advice.



If you run a YA book group and would like to request proof copies of *Outside* please contact Catherine Alport, Sarah's publicist at Penguin Random House. Her email is calport@penguinrandomhouse.co.uk. She will organise delivery of the books to your library or school, and any further activity groups might want with Sarah between now and the end of January 2019.

Library Display

Competition Winner

The winner of this quarter's library display competition was Kathryn Houghton from Bancroft's School in Essex. The competition was fierce, but the winners were chosen by Nikki Curtis (Softlink) and the SLA. A £50 gift voucher is on its way to Kathryn, and commendations go to Emma Suffield who was the runner up. The winning and runner-up entries can be seen here: www.sla.org.uk/library-display-competition.php



The competition is now open for the second time (it will run every quarter) and will close on 31 December 2018. With Armistice commemoration, Halloween and festivities, there's lots to be inspired by – so do a display and send a picture to info@sla.org.uk for your chance to win a £50 gift voucher.

Thank you to Softlink who sponsor this competition!

Member Benefits

Additions and updates to the benefits listed in the previous issue. A wide range of benefits to enhance your membership are available from our Partners. Further details at www.sla.org.uk/member-benefit-offers.php



Peters are delighted to offer SLA members, a fantastic 30% off* books. Order online at schools.peters.co.uk, where you will find all Peters' reviews plus much more. Place your books into your basket and enter 'SLA30' in the voucher code box prior to checkout to get 30% off.

Offer also available on visits to Peters Birmingham showroom and on bespoke selections, quoting 'SLA30'.

See full details of offer and *exclusions at www.sla.org.uk/member-benefit-offers.php



Raintree – SLA members receive 20% discount off titles throughout the year. Simply enter discount code RAIN2 upon checkout at www.raintree.co.uk

Discount code cannot be combined with any other offer and is valid until 31/12/2018. Excludes No Nonsense Literacy. See full details at www.sla.org.uk/member-benefit-offers.php



Softlink – Softlink are pleased to offer SLA members 5% off the initial purchase price of Oliver or Scout; just quote your SLA membership number when placing an order.



Wheelers ePlatform – Sign up to a Wheelers ePlatform eBook and/or audiobook package and enjoy an extra 3 months for free in addition to your 12 month subscription, worth a minimum of £185 in savings! It has never been more cost efficient to add digital stock to compliment your print library with our ePlatform One option giving all of your students and staff access to 1,250+ eBook and 630+ audiobook titles for a simple annual membership, worth over £50,000 in content!

From our UK offices, we support schools in the UK, Europe and South Africa – so please make contact and ask for our free trial to see what ePlatform has to offer your school too.

Full details are on the SLA website at www.sla.org.uk/member-benefit-offers.php

Watch out for news about more upcoming member benefits from our Partners.

Information Books

Award Winners

The winners of the 2018 SLA **Information Book Award** were announced at a ceremony in Central London on Wednesday 7 November – kicking off Non-Fiction November in style!

The winners for each age category in the Children's Choice Award are:

7 and under: *Look I'm a Scientist* by Various Authors ISBN 9780241231074 (Dorling Kindersley)

7–12: *100 Things to Know About Food* by Various Authors and illustrated by Parko Polo and Mariani Federico ISBN 9781409598619 (Usborne)

12–16: *Escape From Syria* by Samya Kullab, Jackie Roche and Mike Freiheit ISBN 9781770859821 (Firefly Books)

And the overall Children's Choice winner is: ***100 Things to Know About Food***.



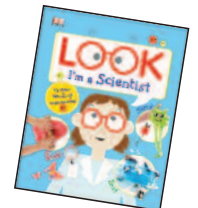
The winners of the Judges' Choice Award are:

7 and under: *Look I'm a Scientist* by Various Authors ISBN 9780241231074 (Dorling Kindersley)

7–12: *Dinosaur Atlas* by Anne Rooney and James Gilleard ISBN 9781786577184 (Lonely Planet)

12–16: *From Prejudice to Pride: A History of the LGBTQ+ Movement* by Amy Lamé ISBN 9781526301901 (Wayland)

And the overall Judges' Choice winner is: ***Look I'm a Scientist***.



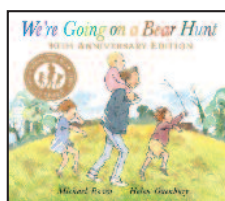
Also announced at the ceremony was the winner of the Hachette Children's Group **Award for Outstanding Contribution to Information Books**, and this was won by: Nicola Morgan. Nicola is a truly deserving winner not only for her pure breadth of writing, but her understanding of the teenage brain. She has made a significant contribution to publishing and has a range of materials from YA fiction to her world renowned books on the adolescent brain. Her books not only help parents and teachers but they have also become core works for young people.



Free Poster Offer

Celebrating 30 years of We're Going on Bear Hunt

*We're going on a bear hunt.
We're going to catch a big one.
Will you come too?*



For thirty years, readers have been swishy-swashying and splash-splashing through this award-winning favourite by Michael Rosen and Helen Oxenbury. Follow and join in the family's excitement as they wade through the grass, splash through the river, squelch through the mud and brave their way through the swirling, whirling snowstorm in search of a bear. What a surprise awaits them in the cave on the other side of the dark forest!

For your free *We're Going on a Bear Hunt* poster with adorable photocopyable activity sheets on the reverse – perfect for brave hunters and bear lovers everywhere – simply email: jo.humphreys-davies@walker.co.uk.

Free Training Place

A free place for an SLA member on the regional training course of your choosing is offered for the 2018–19 training calendar.

This place has kindly been sponsored by PSP Asset Protection (<https://psp-assetprotection.co.uk/>).

To enter simply email info@sla.org.uk with “PSP Asset Protection Training place” in the subject line by Friday 11 January 2019. Please include: Name; School; Membership number; Chosen course (including date and location); Why you want to attend the course.

The writer of the best reason why will secure a free place, and if it's too tight to decide a name will be picked from a hat. The successful applicant will be required to write a blog post for the SLA about the course (500 or so words). Should the chosen course be cancelled for any reason the winner will be able to attend their next choice. If you have any questions email: info@sla.org.uk.

Library Staff Days

If you are interested in hosting one of our Library Staff Days at your school or premises, do let us know at SLA HQ – watch out for more information about our upcoming events at www.sla.org.uk/members-day.php.

SLA People

SLA BOARD VACANCIES

Have you thought of contributing to the future of the SLA? We are looking for members with enthusiasm and commitment to stand for election to the SLA Board for the three-year term beginning at the next AGM in June 2019.

The Board is responsible for the strategic planning and decision-making which take the Association forward. Being elected by your peers to serve on the Board carries lots of benefits and most headteachers recognise the enhancement of your professional status that this brings.

Two places on the SLA Board will become available next year. If you, or someone you know, would like to stand for election you can find further information and a nomination form at www.sla.org.uk/board-details.php or contact the SLA office. All nominations must be received at the SLA office by **1 February 2019**.

We are particularly looking for someone who may be interested in becoming Treasurer in time, and for those who are under represented. Being on the Board means you will have legal responsibilities. For more information, see: www.sla.org.uk/nominate-a-board-member.php

Farewell to Sally Duncan

Sally Duncan left the SLA earlier this year to take a well-deserved early retirement. She joined the SLA in 2007 as Advisory Librarian and later added the role of Assistant Director to her long list of responsibilities.



A graduate of York University, she joined the SLA after a varied career running a small business, teaching, and then working in a further education library and school library service. She will be well known to many SLA Members for her knowledgeable responses to all sorts of enquiries and problems about librarianship, literacy and employment matters.

Sally will be keenly missed in the SLA office, not just because of her expertise and calm nature. We will also miss the regular anecdotes of family trips to athletic events and grandparent duties, as well as her horticultural prowess (the plants have been in decline since she left us)! We thank her for all her hard work over the years and wish her well for her retirement.

Dawn Woods joins SLA

We are delighted to welcome Dawn Woods to the full-time SLA staff, who joins us from Worcestershire Schools' Library Service to become our Member Development Librarian.



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