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spring 2016

the newsletter of the School Library Association



MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR



I am thoroughly enjoying (and I hope Branches are too) the opportunities I have had to visit Branches all over the country recently, and I look forward to visiting even more over the next few months! It is great to be able to talk to those of you 'at the chalk face' and get a clearer idea of some of the pressures and pleasures of the current situation. New Branches in East Midlands and Kent are a very positive indicator of the value of local organisation attached to and promoting the larger national association.

Enclosed with this issue is the programme and booking form for the exciting SLA **Weekend Course** at Tortworth Court in June. This year we are following the two day format – and frankly, it is a packed programme. Do have a look, and I hope you can get permission to attend, as I think it will be as inspiring and motivational as in previous years – if not more so!

Nominations to the Board have now closed – details of the nominees are in this issue. Do take part in the online voting process. We look forward to welcoming the successful nominees to the Board to fill the four vacancies we have this year.

Our Awards are well under way with judging starting in some already! Do have a look at the announcement about exciting developments with the Inspiration Award – and if you are in the lucky position of having a refurbishment or a whole new library, do think about nominating your library. There are winners for both Primary and Secondary Libraries.

Tricia Adams

P.S. Don't forget you can still register for our School Librarians' Day on Reading for Pleasure at Browns Books for Students Northern Showroom in Preston on 9 March 2016: www.sla.org.uk/members-day



SCHOOL LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

(Registered Charity Nos. 313660 and SC039453)

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2016

NOTICE is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of the School Library Association will be held at Tortworth Court Hotel, Wotton-under-Edge, Gloucestershire, on 25 June 2016 at 9:00 am.

£1

SUPPORT THE SLA

£1

GIVE&WIN LOTTERY

TICKETS NOW ONLY £1

A reminder that the SLA has joined **GiveAndWin**, the fundraising lottery. For every £1 ticket sold, the School Library Association receives 50p and if you win, we do too! Drawn every Saturday, GiveAndWin has a top prize of £25,000, But that's not all, if you win, the School Library Association wins £25,000 also! Play just once or every week – as long as you are over 16 all you need to do is sign-up online.

For full details please visit the School Library Association page at **GiveAndWin** - <http://voluntary.giveandwin.co.uk/charitypage/school-library-association/> – or find out more about **GiveAndWin** at www.giveandwin.co.uk



Professional Update

RESEARCH ROUND-UP

NLT & RM Books

Research finds ebooks have measurable impact on boys' literacy levels, reading confidence, enjoyment and engagement

A major national study into the impact of ebooks on school pupils' reading has concluded that using ebooks can significantly raise literacy levels, improve engagement and change attitudes to reading for reluctant readers. The research by the National Literacy Trust is one of the first and largest studies into the impact of ebooks on reading attitudes, behaviour and attainment in UK schools, studying pupils from 40 schools using RM Books ebooks.



During schools' projects, which took place between September 2014 and July 2015 and lasted for an average of 4.2 months, it was found that boys' reading levels increased by an average of 8.4 months, compared to 7.2 months' progress made by girls. Pupils who used RM Books more, made more reading progress. Positive changes in attitudes to reading were especially pronounced for boys: There was an 11% increase in the number of boys who enjoyed reading using technology, twice as many boys felt that reading was cool at the end of the project (36.4% pre, 66.5% post) and the percentage that felt reading was difficult almost halved (28.0% pre, 15.9% post).

The study had the greatest impact on boys who did not enjoy reading at the beginning of the project. The proportion of the most reluctant readers who said they enjoyed reading using technology increased from half (49.2%) to almost two thirds (64.2%). Interestingly, the percentage that enjoyed reading on paper also increased, fourfold, from 10.0% at the beginning of the project to 40.0% at the end of the project, indicating that ebooks acted as a catalyst to uncover an exciting new world of reading for these pupils.

The NLT's research findings are particularly relevant as their (separate) annual literacy survey found the vast majority (88.6%) of 30,032 children and young people said they now read using technology. The NLT's full study, entitled *The Impact of ebooks on the Reading Motivation and Reading Skills of Young People: a study of schools using RM Books* can be viewed at www.literacytrust.org.uk

Ofcom

Children and parents: Media Use and Attitudes report.

This report examines children's media literacy. It provides detailed evidence on media use, attitudes and understanding among children and young people aged 5-15, as well as detailed information about the media access and use of young children aged 3-4. The report also

includes findings relating to parents' views about their children's media use, and the ways that parents seek – or decide not – to monitor or limit use of different types of media.

The report is a useful reference and provides context to the work Ofcom undertakes in furthering the interests of consumers and citizens in the markets it regulates.

<http://stakeholders.ofcom.org.uk/market-data-research/other/research-publications/childrens/children-parents-nov-15/>

Outside in World

Reading the Way: Inclusive books from around the World. November 2015

Outside In World aims to help change the future of inclusive and accessible books with the launch of its new research findings.

Disability is a disturbingly under-represented area in children's literature and many more inclusive and accessible books are needed. The results of the groundbreaking 'Reading the Way' project, undertaken in 2014/15 with funding from Arts Council England, Unwin Charitable Trust and Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation, shows that books from around the world have a wealth of new perspectives on disability and new ways to access stories to offer UK children. As well as highlighting many potential candidates for UK publication, the consultation has generated valuable learning points and good practice to help the UK shape children's books of the future.

<http://www.outsideinworld.org.uk/childrens-books.asp?page=Readingtheway&am=Readingtheway>

Gear up for Shakespeare

14–20 March 2016 sees the return of **Shakespeare Week**... and what great timing it is that **Globe on Screen** has just been launched on the award-winning Drama Online platform:

<https://www.jcsonlinerresources.org/catalogue/drama-online-other-collections#dramaonlineshakespearesglobe>

Offering access to high quality recordings of live performances of 17 of Shakespeare's major works, **Globe on Screen** includes over 60 hours of theatre, and more plays are coming soon.

30-day free trials of Drama Online are available to schools worldwide through JCS Online Resources, and you can register at <https://www.jcsonlinerresources.org/free-trial-request-form>

Ballot for SLA Board Members

HOW TO VOTE

As agreed by the SLA Board, electronic voting will be used for the ballot for the SLA Board vacancies. The candidates nominated for election are listed opposite. >>> For full information on how to vote, please go to the voting page on the SLA website: www.sla.org.uk/vote

Votes can only be accepted from SLA members or their nominated representatives whose subscriptions for the current year are paid or invoiced.

ELECTRONIC VOTES MUST BE CAST BY 12 NOON ON 31 MARCH 2016

IT'S YOUR ASSOCIATION – PLEASE USE YOUR VOTE!

As the nominations for Chair, Vice Chair and Treasurer are not contested, the following candidates will be declared elected at the SLA's Annual General Meeting to be held on 25 June 2016.

CHAIR: Annike Dase

VICE CHAIR: Carl Cross

TREASURER: Susan Staniforth (co-opted as Treasurer for 2016–2017)

PAST CHAIR: Karen Horsfield (an invitation to remain as Past Chair will follow at the Annual General Meeting)

BETT Report

The BETT Education Show is always a special event for MLS, and the spirit of innovation was very much alive and well in 2016!

by Chris Lunt, MLS Business Development Manager

Reading Cloud

MLS officially launched the Reading Cloud at BETT a year ago and now hundreds of schools are actively using it. As such, the conversations we had with customers this year were all about how students were enjoying making the most of the Reading Cloud – which offers a whole new social dimension to our library software. Since its launch we have seen over 17,000 unique users created, over 4,000 blogs written and over 8,000 items added to participating student's Home Library collections. We've also seen hundreds of students logging on at weekend and outside normal school hours. Any scepticism about whether teenagers would take to using a platform designed to share their love of reading was long since behind us. This year at BETT, more library staff and teachers were asking us about accessing the software from home and via our iMLS mobile and tablet application which also will soon have a new look offering a variety of system interface skins to choose from.

Secondary eBooks NOW

What also made the BETT show special was the reaction to our eBooks package. We launched a collection called **Primary eBooks NOW** a few months ago to make it far easier for primary schools to access premium eBook content, building a collection which could be activated within Junior Librarian.net and the Reading Cloud, comprised of over 1,000 popular titles. We announced at this year that we had added even more great content to the collection (including some perennial favourites by Roald Dahl and the popular Wimpy Kid series). But what a lot of people don't know is that it was at the BETT show just one year ago where the Primary eBooks NOW collection was conceived – during a meeting of minds of MLS, OverDrive, and some of our primary school customers who were eager for us to create an eBook platform tailored specifically to meet their needs. The moment it was launched, the collection became a massive hit and subscriptions are still coming in thick and fast – such is the value of the content – and the number of enquiries at BETT gave us the confidence to press on and create a similar collection for secondary schools too. So, watch this space, **Secondary eBooks NOW** is under construction and will be available to MLS customers in the near future!

For more information please contact info@microlib.co.uk

The following eight nominations have been received for the four SLA Board vacancies for 2016–2019:

Heather Bignold

Since qualifying in 1986 I have worked in a variety of libraries. However, I always felt that I wanted to work with young people and then, in 2000, I was lucky enough to be appointed to what has turned out to be my ideal job: school librarian (at an independent prep school). It is an amazing privilege to have the opportunity to get the right book to the right pupil, and to see the pupils developing as readers, especially those who don't find it easy. I was one of the founding members of the Dorset Branch of the SLA in 2009 and am currently Chair. We are campaigning to keep our SLS, and we promote support for all libraries.

Sally Dring

I have worked at Ripon Grammar School for 5 years now and was in my previous role for nine years. I learnt on the job and finally gained Chartership about 5 years ago. I am currently an SLA Board member, Chair of the SLA Yorkshire & Humberside Branch and have just become a mentor for CILIP Chartership candidates. I am passionate about these roles and welcome the overview it gives me, both locally and nationally. I enjoy working to improve our status and on providing publications and training to support those new to the profession as well as developing the expertise and confidence of those who are expanding their horizons. Please give me the opportunity to continue what I've started.

Helen Emery

Following a graduate traineeship at a school Library in Bristol, I studied LIS at UCE, Birmingham and gained a Masters degree in 2002. I have 13 years experience running the LRC at King Edward VI School, Lichfield, as well as for the last 3 years having a responsibility for Literacy Across the Curriculum. I was highly commended in the SLYA 2011 and am SLA Staffordshire Branch Chair. The SLA has come to feel like my professional family – giving support to each other and always being there for us no matter what. I am keen to contribute to the Association by standing for Board member and hope I can bring my passion and skills to the role.

Darren Flynn

Qualifications: PGDip Library and Information Management; BA English and American Literature Level 2 Teaching and Education

Committee Experience: CILIP Yorkshire & Humberside, Events Coordinator; CILIP Information Literacy Group, TeenTech Sub-group; E-Safety Committee; Dixons Allerton Academy

Experience: Conference Presentations (LILAC x3, SLA); Extensive experience delivering CPD to teachers and librarians; Designing and working in an award-winning library space (The Bridge Learning Commons)

Current Position: Information Literacy Lead, The Bridge Learning Commons, Dixons Allerton Academy

Responsible for designing, delivering an IL and academic skills programme; Delivering e-learning and academic skills strategy; Teaching and co-teaching in timetabled lessons and project-based learning; Delivering staff CPD on e-learning, IL/academic skills.

Sally Harrison

I am a Chartered Librarian with experience in school and public library environments in Essex, Kent and at an international school in Bonn. I have worked in Essex School Library Service since 2003 initially as an Advisory Librarian and since 2014 as Principal Library Adviser and Service Manager. Essex SLS is part of EES for Schools which is a centre of school expertise. The library service focus is on helping schools to develop effective learning communities by engaging young learners with literacy and helping them develop a lifelong love of reading.

Lesley Martin

I am a Chartered Librarian with over 25 years experience in school libraries and have been in my present post since 2001. Although mainly responsible for library services in the senior school I also oversee libraries in our Prep and Pre-Prep schools. I work with our English department to promote reading for pleasure and along with our Head of Independent Learning have developed a programme of Learning and Thinking Skills for Y9–11. I am a supervisor for EPQ and will be taking over as Coordinator. I was on the Carnegie Greenaway judging panel in 2010/11 and have been a judge on the SLA's Information Book Award since its inception. I was an SLA Board member from 2008–2014.

Amy McKay

I have a BA Honours in English and Education, NVQ Level 3 in Library and Information Services and am currently working towards Chartership. I have been a school librarian for 11 years. At my first school, I developed the library to such a standard that it won the biennial Northants School Library Award. I have been in my current position for 8 years and have developed the library from scratch. SMT describe it as "an outstanding library in a good school". Last year we achieved the county gold quality-mark and my assistant and I were awarded the Northamptonshire Education Unsung Heroes accolade. I am an active member of YLG, having previously chaired EMYLG and represented them as a CKG judge. I am currently CKG National Coordinator.

Margaret Pemberton

I have been a Chartered Librarian for over 30 years specializing in work with children. This has included both public library and school library experience. I worked with Bristol School Library service for 9 years, until 2014, and am now a freelance school library and book adviser. Professionally I have been active in children's librarianship for the last 15 years, especially Youth Libraries Group and I was lucky enough to chair the Carnegie/Greenaway awards in 2010. I currently review books for *The School Librarian* as well as *Books for Keeps*, *Carousel* and *Armaddillo*. I am interested in the development of digital media within schools and boosting information literacy and the love of reading.

SLA Inspiration Award

NEW SCHEDULE ANNOUNCED

The **SLA Inspiration Award** has been running since 2014 and we have seen some truly inspiring and exciting school libraries. The past two years have seen twelve schools shortlisted from across the UK (and even one in the Netherlands) with four of those schools hailed as the most inspirational.

The award has been made annually to the school library space that shows inspiration, innovation, creativity and resourcefulness in its library design and in use, either through creative use of specific products or promotions. The Award was created to set future standards for the recognition of excellence in school library design.

At the heart of the Inspiration Award are the schools who take part. Our aim is to make the application and judging process as smooth as possible allowing schools plenty of time to submit entries and for longlisted schools to prepare for judges visits.

Going forward, the Inspiration Award will take place biennially with prizes awarded in both primary and secondary sectors. The entry period has been extended giving schools more time to complete their application. Judges visits to schools that make the longlist will take place from late spring to early in the summer term with the shortlist announced late June/early July.

The award will continue to be sponsored by Gresswell and LFC, part of the Demco Europe family of companies who will be increasing the prize money to £750 for the winners

and £200 for the runners up in each category.

Will Hinks, Managing Director of Demco Europe said 'We are proud to support the Inspiration Award as a way of highlighting the importance of school libraries in both the primary and secondary phase.'

He added 'To see libraries pupils once described as boring and unexciting transformed into spaces they now say are inviting and make them want to read more reinforces how valuable school libraries are, and we are committed to giving school libraries a platform to be celebrated.'

So, does your school library have what it takes to join Oak Tree Primary School, Dixons Allerton Academy, All Saints' Primary School and Valley Park School in the Inspiration Award hall of fame?

The next SLA Inspiration Awards will take place in 2017. Entry will open on Monday **11 April 2016** and close on Friday 10 February 2017.



School Libraries in Action

Coventry's St Augustine's Catholic Primary School has seen outstanding progress in reading since the school library was completely re-designed and re-fitted by Peters Books & Furniture, a Birmingham-based company. They worked with St Augustine's to create a bright and inviting new library, designed to tempt even the most reluctant child to read.

The new library was unveiled in September 2014, complete with new books, also from Peters Books & Furniture, and now, just over a year later, the school is already seeing results through improved progress and attitude towards reading amongst its students. A recent survey within the school found that 98% of pupils now say they enjoy reading.

Julia Etheridge, St Augustine's Leader of Reading, said:

"Two years ago our school library languished in a corner of the school. The bookshelves were old, the books uninspiring and hard to access. Now, all children throughout the school visit the library at least once a fortnight as a class or in small groups, and progress in reading at the end of last term was good or outstanding in nearly every year group. The new library has become the heart of the school. It is a symbol of the value we place on reading, and an invaluable place for our children."

In addition to designing engaging library spaces for schools, Peters Books and Furniture stocks the widest range of children's books in the UK – www.peters-books.co.uk.

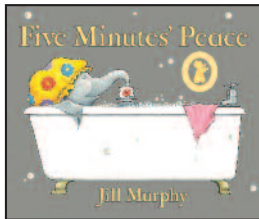


Poster Offer

Celebrate 30 years of Five Minutes' Peace

Five Minutes' Peace, the warm and funny modern classic of family life by Jill Murphy, started a publishing phenomenon 30 years ago.

Since then it has sparked further stories in the Large Family series, including *Mr Large In Charge*, *A Piece of Cake*, *A Quiet Night In* as well as the Kate Greenaway shortlisted *All In One Piece*. Celebrate 30 years of the Large family with a *Five Minutes' Peace* poster.



For a *Five Minutes' Peace* poster, simply contact jo.humphreys-davies@walker.co.uk.

Thank You

THE FRIENDS CALENDAR 2016

Peter Sheldon writes:

A huge thank you to all 'Friends' out there who supported Farms for City Children through the purchase of this year's calendar.

Now that all the monies are in, I have just mailed a cheque for £500 to the FFCC charity, and with their own sales of the 500 copies they bought for selling through their farms and online shop they are delighted with the results and have already expressed interest in repeating the venture with the 2017 calendar. They have asked me to express their thanks and gratitude to you all.

So please look out for announcements later in the year when I should have assembled another exciting team of talented illustrators for the 2017 Friends Calendar, when we will again be supporting Clare and Michael Morpurgo's Farms for City Children charity.

Best wishes for 2016 and enjoy the illustrated months ahead.



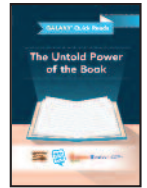
School Library Association

Reading Report

Reading Agency: Galaxy Quick Reads (2016) – The Untold Power of the Book

<http://goo.gl/V6pwx> [pdf]

The report identified numerous and significant benefits that can be derived from reading. From the awareness it offers of a world beyond our own, through to the guidance it provides us on connecting with others or reflecting on ourselves – the impact reading for pleasure can have on our everyday lives is substantial. When it comes to offering an awareness of the world outside our own, findings show that the majority of respondents agree that learning about other cultures, worldviews and ways of life is the primary benefit of reading and the key reason they turn to books. Almost half of participants also felt that reading made them more sympathetic to others' beliefs, whilst many respondents even said that this had had a direct effect upon their behaviours in life situations, especially their tolerance.



For many, reading provides the impetus and guidance to make significant changes in their lives. Nearly one in ten people has been empowered by reading to change their job, one fifth of regular readers have made changes to their health routines and hobbies, and more than a third have been encouraged to travel. A further two fifths of respondents told us reading is an alternative to conventional stress remedies. Reading is also a catalyst for self-reflection with books allowing readers to realise they are happy with what they have, enabling them to better appreciate their own lives. Many readers also cited books as being important in their coming to terms with difficult situations, whilst two fifths of respondents reported that reading has led them to recognise it is the small things in life that bring the most joy.

Free History Resources

Over 560 schools from 26 countries have now registered for free access to the

Churchill Archive

Churchill Archive, and if your school is not on the list, it will only take a few minutes to register at

www.jcsonlineresources.org/churchill-archive-access-request-form

An expanding range of free classroom-ready resources, specially designed to introduce students to the wonders of working with archive sources, are available in the complementary Churchill Archive for Schools website.

The **Churchill Archive** and **Churchill Archive for Schools** websites also offer useful tips about how to use archive content in teaching and learning – for example:

- Ask the Archivist – valuable tips about using the Churchill Archive
- How to get the most out of the Churchill Archive's resources
- Using the Archive of a 'great man' to learn about ordinary people.

www.jcsonlineresources.org/catalogue/churchill-archive

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