



THE CHILDREN'S  
BOOK COUNCIL  
OF AUSTRALIA

# ACT BRANCH 2017 ANNUAL REPORT



## The year in Review...

CBCA ACT Branch had another successful year in 2017. We delivered many services during the year and we continue to grow and review these services.

Our outreach programs were: Gunning Public School, Gunning Public Forum Children's literature, Christmas Book Appeal, Gunning Rural Fire Service, McKellar Cottage Early Childhood Centre, ACT PlayFest.

In 2017 our traditional events were well attended and we had an increase in attendance at most of our events. There were some new events and further collaboration with many partners.

**Professional Learning Events:** And The Winner Could Be..., Celebrate Story Creators Night, Short List Talk and Workshop

**Social Events:** Book Week Dinner

**Prizes Awarded:** Catholic University Children's Literature Prize, University of Canberra Children's Literature Prize

**CBCA Book of The Year Award and Book Week "Escape to Everywhere":** Book of the Year Awards celebration at NLA, Book Week at Westfield Woden

**Outreach Events:** Christmas Book Appeal, Make Your Own Story Book Competition, Hands Across Canberra Storytelling at the Lodge, Children's Week

We also announced the recipient of the Laurie Copping Award for 2017. Tania McCartney received the Award, and as her citation declared, *'she is passionate, gracious and articulate about the importance of books for children'* and *'the many projects that she initiates and takes part in are richer for her involvement, particularly her continuing commitment to giving her time to encourage other book creators'*.

Committee Meetings were held every second month at ALIA House. These meetings reviewed past events and planned upcoming activities. The three permanent subcommittees; Events, Marketing and Partnerships continued to help distribute the work-load of the committee members. These subcommittees met at required times throughout the year.

The full financial report was audited again by an external CPA and was tabled and accepted at the AGM. The ACT Branch continues to be financially viable ensuring that all events are supported by suitable funding either through event sales or sponsorship.

In 2017 there was a total membership of 94 members, with the database of over 300 members. The target of 100 members still needs more work to be achieved.

Review of the members was undertaken to reveal that 27 members hadn't renewed their membership from 2016 (28%) down from 37% the previous year. This reduced was largely due to sending out reminder renewals early in the year. The continual growth in Institution or school membership was largely due to schools needing to be members for their students to participate in the Make Your Own Storybook Competition.

In 2017 we asked members to buy their CBCA Book Week merchandise through the CBCA eStore. A few orders came through the Branch where schools were unable to use credit card facilities. These orders were processed through the eStore for the schools and distributed from the National Office. A small amount of merchandise was purchased by the Branch to use at events as promotion for CBCA Book Week events. No commission was received from National for eStore sales in the ACT and sales figures were not supplied.

The Branch Committee and the Marketing Subcommittee have been reviewing how and what we market to our members and the general public and how we can enhance our communication with the diverse stakeholders of CBCA ACT Branch.

Previous strategic plans have highlighted the need for the Branch to grow partnerships. CBCA ACT Branch continues to grow our partnerships and sponsorship for our programs and events.

We acknowledge the following partnership:

- Australian Library and Information Association (ALIA)
- Harry Hartog Bookseller
- National Centre for Australian Children's Literature (NCACL)
- Local Authors and Illustrators and SCBWI
- National Library of Australia & National Library of Australia Publishing
- Libraries ACT
- Love2 Read Canberra
- Dymocks

The full annual report was tabled and accepted at the AGM in April and can be found on our website. <http://cbcaact.org.au/annual-reports-and-agm/>

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## Branch Committee 2017

### Executive:

President: *Julie Long OAM*

Vice President:

Vice President:

Treasurer: *Justine Power*

Secretary: *Rosemary Thomas*

Membership Officer: *Norma John*

National Board Nominee: *Justine Power*

### Events Subcommittee:

Chair: *Julie Long OAM*

Schools Coordinator: *Norma John*

Author Coordinator: *Tanya McCartney*

Christmas Book Appeal: *Veronica Melville*

Other: *Rosemary Thomas, Justine Power*

### Marketing Subcommittee:

Chair:

Newsletter: *Kirrin Sampson*

Website:

Publications: *Norma John*

Other: *Julie Long OAM and Justine Power*

### Partnerships Subcommittee:

Chair: *Julie Long OAM*

National Centre for Australia Children's Literature: *Julie Long OAM*

Libraries ACT: *Jan*

Love 2 Read: *Julie Long OAM*

ACT Playgroups: *Rosemary Thomas*

Children's Week Committee: *Julie long OAM*

Outreach program: *Rosemary Thomas, Julie Long OAM*

### Ex-officio

Archives: *Jane Black*

Public Officer: *Norma John*

## ACT Branch President Report

CBCA ACT Branch had another successful year in 2017. We delivered many services during the year and we continue to grow and review these services.

In 2017 our traditional events were well attended and we had an increase in attendance at most of our events.

The Branch AGM was held at ALIA House in March and I wish to thank all those who put their hand up for positions on our committee. In particular the Branch thanked Leanne Barrett for her work over several years, as President by making a special presentation and a loud vote of appreciation.



We also announced the recipient of the Laurie Copping Award for 2017. Tania McCartney received the Award, and as her citation declared, *'she is passionate, gracious and articulate about the importance of books for children' and 'the many projects that she initiates and takes part in are richer for her involvement, particularly her continuing commitment to giving her time to encourage other book creators'*.



When the Short List was announced at midday on 28 March there was more excitement locally when Gina Newton's book appeared in the Eve Pownall category. We were all able to chat about this at the 'And the Winner Could be' event later that night. The presenters were Kirrin Sampson (Eve Pownall), Rachel Richards (Older Readers), Bernadette

Aitken (Younger Readers), Odette Holweg (Picture Books) and Jill Howard (Early Childhood). Their passion and dedication to undertaking this task shone in their explanations about the books they chose to put on their lists. It was a very informative night. Thanks to James from Harry Hartog for having so many tempting titles on hand for us all to purchase at leisure.

I attended the National AGM and Board meeting in Melbourne in early April. Some snippets from this are that Anna Walker will be doing the art work for the 2018 Book Week merchandise, the Crichton Award for a first time illustrator of a Picture Book will become a National Award and the Branches will be moving to a National website.

In November I represented the Branch at the Chief Minister's Reading Challenge Award at the National Library. Our member authors Irma Gold, Tania McCartney and Tracey Hawkins were some of the ACT ambassadors.



We continue to develop our partnership with Harry Hartog Woden and thank them for their enthusiasm and generous support.

I would like to thank all the Committee members, volunteers, Branch members and partners for their support that helped ACT to deliver the CBCA events and programs throughout 2017.

**Julie Long OAM**

CBCA ACT Branch President.

## Meetings I January to 31 December 2017

### Branch Committee Meetings

Committee Meetings were held every second month at ALIA House. These meetings reviewed past events and planned upcoming activities.

The three permanent subcommittees; Events, Marketing and Partnerships continued to help distribute the work-load of the committee members. These subcommittees met at required times throughout the year.

### CBCA Structural Review Working Party Meetings

During 2017 Rosemary Thomas represented our branch at these meetings. Discussions centred on how to nationalise all branches to one united CBCA. There were many discussions via teleconferences and one face to face day planning meeting. The work is still ongoing with the outcomes of the committee being investigated further. The members of this group are transient with experts/volunteers called on as needed.

## Administration & Governance

### CBCA ACT Branch Strategic Planning Meeting

The strategic planning meeting held on 16 January asked attending members to review the Strengths, Opportunities, Weaknesses and Threats to the ACT Branch.

Ideas for events to be held in 2017 was brainstormed and partnership opportunities with NCACL were canvased.

Professional Development for members:

- Judge's Talk to be more workshop style
- Investigation of TQI accreditation for PD events
- Continue to provide Teachers Notes for events and exhibitions

Social Events:

- Compile list of top events ideas nominated

Planning for succession for committee positions was explored. Discussions of ensuring that all positions had adequate turnover of personnel and mentoring of new people for event co-ordination and Executive positions.

ACT Branch aims were reviewed and compared to National objectives. It was acknowledged that all activities needed to relate to at least one of the Branch aims.

### Aims and Objectives of ACT Branch

1. Promote meaningful (touches children, adults and all readers) children's literature, including highlighting quality examples.
2. Celebrate and support Australian authors and illustrators
3. Collaborate with all stakeholders in children's literature
4. Reach a diverse audience including children of all ages, adults, teachers, librarians, non-English background and speakers, indigenous, people with disabilities, elderly, etc
5. Social networking with children's literature enthusiasts
6. Provide professional development and education on children's literature
7. Provide discussions on children's literature
8. Be a recognised authority of children's literature
9. Define the criteria for judging quality children's literature

These objectives are in line with those in the ACT constitution and aims of the CBCA nationally.

## Governance

The Committee found meeting extremely hard again this year as members of this Committee were also involved in other CBCA committees. We continue to look at the roles of Committee members. Justine is drafting the policies for the payment and reimbursement Policy. The Laurie Copping Award judges was discussed the Policy will remain the same. Our Governance Policy is also tightly aligned with the National Governance Policy.

## Branch Archives

This year has seen the ACT Branch's archives grow with the addition of items documenting the many and varied activities undertaken by the Branch.

An assessment was made of a number of boxes of archival material to remove duplicates in preparation for eventual transfer to the ACT Heritage Library where the previous deposit of the Branch's archive is housed for long term safe keeping.

The Branch's e-newsletter is now being deposited with the National Library of Australia via their legal e-deposit program. This measure will ensure that the e-newsletter is widely accessible and preserved for future generations.

## Outreach

### Gunning Public School

Rosemary Thomas arranged for Stephanie Owen Reader to visit Year 3-6 children and talk about the research and construction of her CBCA EP Award winner *Lennie the Legend, in August*. The children were very excited as they do not often have such prestigious authors visit their school. The session was extended as many interesting and searching questions were formulated by the students for Stephanie to answer.

This type of outreach program is very worthwhile and more schools on the fringe of Canberra would welcome such visits to promote children's literature. This visit generated press coverage on Facebook, school internet site, Yass and Goulburn local newspapers.

### Gunning Public Forum Children's literature.

Rosemary Thomas was invited to present a session on Children's Literature, the focus this year was on the aspects of a good quality Early Childhood book. This was attended by many members from the communities of Gunning, Crookwell, Yass and Goulburn. It stimulated lots of questions and interest in the old and new books available for purchase. This is the fourth session that has been requested by the Gunning Librarian and each year different topics concerning Children's literature are covered.

### Christmas Book Appeal

In 2017 we had another successful Christmas Book Appeal. The Appeal delivered over 1800 books to disadvantaged children in our region. The increased support enabled us to deliver books to extra organisations. I would like to acknowledge and thank our partners and schools that help us deliver this program. The role of Libraries ACT in supporting, promoting and being a collection point for donated books is also appreciated.

### Gunning Rural Fire Service

Our Branch was approached by active members of the brigade to donate a book prize package comprising quality children's literature. This resulted from the outreach sessions at the Gunning library. The books were an age range from 0-18 years. The funds raised would support the purchase of equipment for the town brigade.

### Yass Library

Yass Library went independent in 2017 so Rosemary Thomas visited the Library staff and encouraged them to join our Branch and participate in our events. This saw them become members and display MYOSC entries from their region.

## McKellar Cottage Early Childhood Centre

We were approached by this centre, based in Melba, about new books for the children to read and share. Our Branch was able to donate several current Early Childhood appropriate books to assist them.

## ACT PlayFest

The ACT Playgroup Association hold expos each year for families and their children under the age of six to find out about organisations that provide services that they might be interested in. Our Branch attended the October expo held during Children's Week and shared the space with Libraries ACT.

At this event we also gave away a lucky door prize of books to someone who had visited our stall. This PlayFest was our seventh and as always, the volunteers were kept very busy for two hours talking to the 180 people about reading and books. Our focus this year was promoting the importance of;

- reading to your children every day
- singing songs and nursery rhymes
- storytelling
- talking and listening to your children

Many families took the time to sit down in our book corner and share a story with their children. We would like to recognise the generosity of Harry Hartog Bookseller (Woden) for donating several books for the lucky door prize at this event.



We had a full show bag of goodies; literature about reading, book lists, stickers, bookmarks, posters or information about their organisation/business. Many likeminded organisations and businesses sponsored material to go into our show bag. Thank you to Australian Library and Information Association, ACT Bilingual Education Alliance, Harry Hartog Bookseller (Woden), Libraries ACT and the National Centre for Australian Children's Literature.

## Events & Education

The Branch provides our membership with a variety of events that allow them to build their social networks with children's literature enthusiasts. At times these events are social and at other times for professional learning.

### Professional Learning Events

#### And The Winner Could Be...

A group of 29 children's literature enthusiasts gathered together at ALIA House, Deakin, on Wednesday 11 May at 6.00pm to listen to several speakers give their views on some of the Notable Books from the Book of The Year Awards.

- Picture Books: Odette Holweg
- Early Childhood: Jill Howard
- Younger Reader: Sonia Brown (Rachael Hind)
- Older Reader: Rachel Richards (Ann Ross)
- Eve Pownall: Kirrin Sampson

Harry Hartog Bookseller, had a display of the selected books and many of the Notable books to purchase. Supper was supplied by Mr. Cappuccino.

## Celebrate Story Creators Night

Tuesday 7 June 2017 at ALIA House

An appreciative group of 36 people attended the Creators' Night.

Creators who presented were: Emma Allen, Craig Cormick, Pauline Deeves, Jack Heath, Harry Laing, Kerry Malone, Tania McCartney and Cate Whittle shared their passions – creating Australian children's literature.

It was interesting to hear the different ways each has developed into an author and/or illustrator. We were held spell-bound by the way that each explained how she or he had embarked on the creative journey, tantalising us with the 'about to be published' works.

James Redden from Harry Hartog Bookseller provided the opportunity to buy books from our creators, as well as many of the Shortlisted books. Supper was supplied by Mr. Cappuccino.

## Short List Talk and Workshop

Attendees discovered the CBCA Book of The Year Awards Short List new on-line format at a workshop held at St Monica's School in Evatt.

The group viewed the judge's on-line videos which discussed their detailed views of each Shortlisted book. Discussion of the titles on the Short List and exploration of activities was explored. Participants received the free access code to further explore the 6-10hours of teacher identified professional development.

## Social Events

Social events for our members are an important part of our events calendar. They provide members with the opportunity to meet or reconnect with other members in a relaxed setting, to celebrate events, to meet authors and illustrators and to learn more about programs that people are engaged in.

## Book Week Dinner

Annually, the Branch hosts a dinner during Book Week to thank both the local and the visiting authors and illustrators for presenting at the Children's Seminar. In 2017 the dinner was held at the The Haig Italian Restaurant.

## Prizes Awarded

### Catholic University Children's Literature Prize

The ACT Branch gives Catholic University Prize awarded to the best Canberra ACU undergraduate student who completes the Children's Literature for Literacy unit for Semester 1. It was awarded to Jennifer Lange, who also received a year's membership to the Branch as well as a monetary prize of \$100 and a certificate.



### University of Canberra Children's Literature Prize

The ACT Branch also presents a prize to one student from the University of Canberra. It is given to the highest academic achieving student at the University of Canberra in the Creative writing for Young People unit. The presentation was made at the Awards announcement event at the National Library and the awardee was Aline Niyonsenga. She received a year's membership to the Branch as well as a monetary prize of \$100 and a certificate. Her proud mother was there to share in the excitement.

## CBCA Book of The Year Award and Book Week “Escape to Everywhere”

Each year our Branch holds several events to celebrate Australian Children’s Literature. Some events are directly related to the CBCA Book of the Year Awards and others involve our members, judges, students, authors and illustrators. These events are organised to meet the objectives of;

1. Promoting meaningful children's literature, including highlighting quality examples, and
2. Celebrating and support Australian authors and illustrators

### *Notable Local Authors 2017;*

When the Notables list was announced there was a fabulous array of local creators included:

- Jennet Cole-Adams, *Resource – Stories of Australian innovation in wartime* (Eve Pownall)
- Pauline Deeves, *Socks, Sandbags & Leeches: Letters to My Anzac Dad* (Eve Pownall)
- Tony Flowers, *Hello!* (Eve Pownall)
- Carlie Gibson, *The Sisters Saint-Claire* (Picture Book)
- Jack Heath, *Fail Safe* (Younger Reader)
- Janet A Holmes, *Blue Sky, Yellow Kite* (Picture Book)
- Joanna Karmel, *Hello!* (Eve Pownall)
- Tania McCartney, *Smile/Cry* (Early Childhood)
- Gina M. Newton, *Amazing Animals of Australia’s National Parks* (Eve Pownall)



### **Book of the Year Awards celebration at NLA**

The Awards Announcement event at the National Library was very well attended. The audience was particularly enthusiastic when two of our member schools St Bede’s Primary in Braidwood and CGGS performed. Afterwards a selection of local authors were available to sign books outside the National Library Bookshop. Our partnership with the National Library is also an important one for the Branch and we look forward to hosting other events there in the future.

### **Book Week at Wesfield Woden**

One of our member schools Sacred Heart Primary School again supported Westfield Woden as they celebrated Book Week 2017 with activities available all week including:

- SACRED HEART PRIMARY SCHOOL BOOK WEEK EXHIBITION
- STORY TIME daily hosted by Harry Hartog and local authors.
- DECORATE YOUR OWN LIBRARY BAG, children had the opportunity to decorate their own library and take it home with them!

## Outreach Events

### Christmas Book Appeal

This program has been running in Canberra since the 1950s, giving underprivileged children books as gifts for Christmas.

The appeal partnered with Libraries ACT, ALIA, Dymocks, Harry Hartog and Queanbeyan Library to collect books on the behalf of CBCA ACT Branch for the month of August. In school terms 3 and 4 the following schools also collected books for the appeal; Canberra Girls

Grammar School Grey Street Deakin, Kaleen Primary School, Majura Primary School, Merici College, Radford College, Turner School and Yarralumla Primary School.

We would like to acknowledge the appeal coordinator, Veronica Melville and all our Branch volunteers who contributed to the collection of the books and those who helped at the packing working bee.

We would like to also thank National Library of Australia Publishing who made a generous donation of books to the appeal.

*2017 Book Donations: 1838*

*Book Appeal Gifts given to children in 2017: 1813*

Donation Recipients: ACT Together, Beryl Women, Care & Protection Services, Communities @ Work, Doris Women's Refuge, Louisa Women's Centre, Ronald Mc Donald House and Your Place Housing Support

### Make Your Own Story Book Competition.

In 2017 we continued a writing competition with the help of the competition coordinator, Krys Saclier. Free workshops for member schools were run to assist students in producing their books. The workshop's content included;

- What makes a great story book
- What elements are necessary in a book
- Writing (narrative, strong sentences)
- Illustrations
- Book construction

A successful Awards Presentation was held on Wednesday 26 October at Belconnen Library with a wonderful speech from Jackie French, who also spent time talking to each winner about their books.

All winners attended the presentation and afternoon tea with members of their family. Approximately 120 people attended including board members from the ACT Field Naturalists who sponsored the Bettong Nature Award.

Judge Jacqueline de Rose Ahern assisted with the certificate



presentations; Rhian Williams from the Field Naturalists assisted with driving Jackie to and from the event; and Leanne Barrett kindly took photos at my request due to a lack of volunteers.

James Redden of Harry Hartog was unable to attend the event and sell books, but he has expressed interest in continuing to support the event.

The staff at Belconnen Library were incredibly helpful, particularly Nancy Riggs. We had to move 100 chairs into the main library. I would recommend finding a school to host this event in future due to the disruption and difficulty of setting up in a public space.

All books in the ACT have been removed from libraries and returned to schools. Rosemary Thomas and Justine Power provided assistance with Southside and NSW books. I would recommend only using one library in future for ease and safety.

Every student received a participation certificate, and several extra Merit Certificates were also sent out. Orana School, Macquarie Primary, Farrer Primary, Mt Carmel Yass, St Vincent's Aranda, and St Monica's Evatt received Certificates of Appreciation for submitting a large number of entries.

Jackie French is in email communication with Outstanding Achievement winner Shiri Liu to offer additional feedback on her work.



## Hands Across Canberra Storytelling at the Lodge



The lawns of the Lodge were alive with children running and playing in dappled shade before settling down to hear prominent Canberran Rhys Muldoon read a story.

The Turnbells, while unable to attend, had invited the Hands Across Canberra charity in conjunction with CBCA ACT Branch to host the educational event. It was aimed at bringing together disadvantaged children and the organisations that support them, in an effort to draw attention to the less fortunate in the nation's capital.



Six famous Canberrans, including renowned actor, children's book writer and former *Playschool* personality Rhys Muldoon, along with authors Tania McCartney, Stephanie Owen Reeder and Jack Heath, illustrator Tony Flowers and story-teller Mollie Bee, donated their time to host workshops at the event.



## Children's Week

CBCA ACT Branch is an organisation that promotes children's literature and Children's Week is a great opportunity to promote Australian children's authors and illustrators. Our Branch is represented on the ACT Children's Week Committee by Julie Long OAM. This year our Branch applied for two Children's Week grants and was successful, The Make Your Own Story Book competition and the Christmas Book Appeal benefitted from these grants.

## Finance

The full financial report was audited again by an external CPA and provided as an attachment to this report.

The ACT Branch continues to be financially viable ensuring that all events are supported by suitable funding either through event sales or sponsorship.

## Profit and Loss

Total income 7,563\$ with net profit of \$5,193

- Donations Received \$1,230
- Membership Fees Collected \$4,809

## Balance Sheet

Total equity \$52,493

- Cheque Account ending balance of \$26,889
- Term Deposit ending balance of \$25,645 these funds are the profits from the 2014 National Conference held in Canberra.
- All trade creditors and debtors have been resolved.

## Membership

In 2017 there was a total membership of 94 members, with the database of over 300 members. The target of 100 members still needs more work to be achieved.

Review of the members was undertaken to reveal that 27 members hadn't renewed their membership from 2016 (28%) down from 37% the previous year. This reduced was largely due to sending out reminder renewals early in the year. The continual growth in Institution or school membership was largely due to schools needing to be members for their students to participate in the Make Your Own Storybook Competition.

Thank you to Norma John for all her work in keeping the membership data base up to date and monitoring our growth in membership.

	2017	2016	2015
<b>New Members</b>	32	22	17
<b>Non-renewed</b>	27	31	22
<b>Concession</b>	10	10	11
<b>Personal</b>	52	48	50
<b>Institution</b>	27	20	16
<b>Life Members</b>	6	5	4
<b>Kindred Sponsor</b>	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>	94	83	83

## Merchandise

In 2017 we asked members to buy their CBCA Book Week merchandise through the CBCA eStore. A few orders came through the Branch where schools were unable to use credit card facilities.

These orders were processed through the eStore for the schools and distributed from the National Office. A small amount of merchandise was purchased by the Branch to use at events as promotion

for CBCA Book Week events. No commission was received from National for eStore sales in the ACT and sales figures were not supplied.

National also launched their new retrospect range of merchandise via RedBubble. Artwork from previous year's CBCA Book Week artwork can now be purchased on such items as tea towels, t-Shirts, mugs, mouse mats and calico bags.

## Marketing & Communications

The Branch Committee and the Marketing Subcommittee have been reviewing how and what we market to our members and the general public and how we can enhance our communication with the diverse stakeholders of CBCA ACT Branch.

### eNews

This a fortnightly update was distributed most Fridays by email using MailChimp. It gives an overview of what is happening and notification of upcoming events, along with attachments of invitations, flyers and brochures. Thank you to Odette Holweg for her work over the year.

### Newsletters

Over January to December 2017, newsletters were published and emailed to members using MailChimp. Thank you to Kirrin Sampson who efficiently kept this communication regularly for our membership. During 2017 2 x Newsletters were sent to the CBCA ACT membership list. Newsletter 1 June - 54.9% open rate, Newsletter 2 October - 63.1% open rate.

### Website

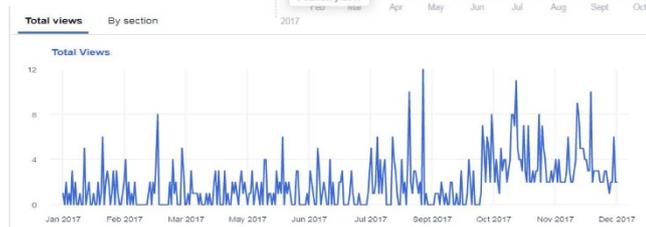
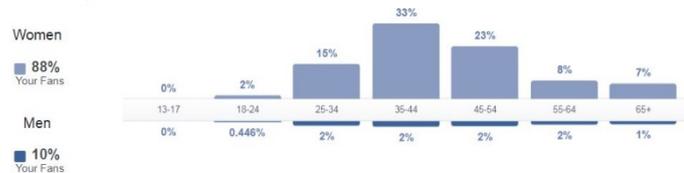
This year we continued to add content to the website and a new page was added for the Make Your Own Story Book Competition and Past Events & Photo Gallery. The Branch has agreed in principle to joining the National website but more work needs to be done before smooth running can be guaranteed and we move over.

### Facebook Statistics

Our reach using Facebook continues to grow enabling us to communicate with a broader range of the community in an instantaneous style.



Aggregated demographic data about the people who like your Page based on the age and gender information they provide in their user profiles.



## Partnerships

Previous strategic plans have highlighted the need for the Branch to grow partnerships. CBCA ACT Branch continues to grow our partnerships and sponsorship for our programs and events.

### Australian Library and Information Association (ALIA)

We would like to thank ALIA and their staff, especially Kirrin Sampson, for their support throughout 2017 by providing the ALIA House Boardroom and storage space, pro bono, for our events and meetings.



### Harry Hartog Bookseller

We acknowledge the support given to the Branch by Harry Hartog and James Redden. James from Harry Hartog sold books at events that we hosted in 2017. They donated books; for prizes, to give to Children's Libraries in Papua New Guinea and towards the Christmas Book Appeal. Harry Hartog was a sponsor for our ACT PlayFest, Christmas Book Appeal and the

Make Your Own Story Book Competition.

### National Centre for Australian Children's Literature (NCACL)



Every year, Branch members show their support for the National Centre for Australian Children's Literature by donating books and creator works, It is important to maintain this type of link to the Centre and the work it is doing to improve the profile of Australian Children's Literature. Some members gave assistance at the "Imagine If..." exhibition and also sold (and purchased!) raffle tickets for an original art work by Bob Graham. Art work and CBCA Book Week posters covered the walls of the Clive Price Suite at the University of Canberra. School groups were

invited to attend and the response was good. For the launch, Bob Graham came to Canberra and many Branch members were honoured to go out to dinner with him.

Illustrators contributing to the "Imagine If..." exhibition - Kerry Argent, Graeme Base, Freya Blackwood, Ron Brooks, Neil Curtis, Kylie Dunstan, Vivienne Goodman, Peter Gouldthorpe, Bob Graham, Brian Harrison-Lever, Elizabeth Honey, Patricia Mullins, Narelle Oliver, Matt Ottley, Gregory Rogers, Anne Spudvilas, Shaun Tan, Jane Tanner, and Steven Woolman. There were 40 framed artworks including 16 from The CBCA Children's Book Week Artwork Collection and 3 display cabinets showing the stages of the creative progress and another showing samples of Book Week merchandise from 1987-2017.

Branch members were in attendance in good numbers at "Celebrating an evening with May Gibbs" in May. The guest speaker was Jane Brummit, a noted May Gibbs authority who co-wrote *May Gibbs: More than a fairy-tale* in 2012. ACT Branch Life member and author/illustrator Tania McCartney also spoke about her upcoming children's book about May Gibbs. A highlight of the evening was the presentation of a 1915 preliminary artwork by May Gibbs for her published book *Gumnut Babies* to NCACL.





## Local Authors and Illustrators and SCBWI

During the year CBCA ACT supported many book launches, exhibitions and talks by local authors and illustrators who are our members. We actively promote their events and encourage our wide network to participate.

## National Library of Australia & National Library of Australia Publishing

The Committee would like to acknowledge the support that the NLA staff gives to our Branch. In 2016, the NLA ACT Celebration of the CBCA Book of the Year Awards Announcement. The bookstore and Candice Cappe also provide support to CBCA ACT Branch by providing flyers for us to distribute at the ACT Playgroup Expos along with books for the lucky door prize. NLA Publishing also donated books to the Christmas Book Appeal. The NLA Publishing House continues to support Australian Children's Literature and many of our local children's authors and illustrators have published books through the NLA.

## Libraries ACT

Libraries ACT continued to support CBCA ACT Branch in August 2017 through the collection of donations for the Christmas Book Appeal. The Branch would like to thank Director Vanessa Little, Sarah Steed and the staff of Libraries ACT for supporting the Book Appeal.

## Love2 Read Canberra

In early 2014, CBCA ACT Branch joined the newly formed group Love2Read Canberra. Love2Read Canberra brings together organisations in Canberra with a common interest in the advocacy and celebration of books, literacy, authors, illustrators, and the pleasure of reading, for the purpose of supporting and coordinating such efforts in the ACT and region (including e.g. Goulburn, Yass, Queanbeyan, Cooma, Bungendore).

Organisations involved include; ACT Bilingual Education Alliance, Libraries ACT, Children's Book Council of Australia (ACT Branch), ACT Writers' Centre, National Centre for Australian Children's Literature (NCACL), National Library of Australia, Australian Library and Information Association (ALIA), Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators (SCBWI) Australia and New Zealand (ACT Branch), Dymocks Bookstores, Harry Hartog Bookseller, Indigenous Literacy Foundation (IFL), ACT Education and Training, Aussie Writers, ArtsACT, Library of the Alexander Maconochie Centre (AMC).

## Dymocks

Dymocks Belconnen, Canberra and Tuggeranong were collection sites for our Christmas Book Appeal during our collection month in August.

## Additional Partnerships

The following organisations and businesses partnered with CBCA ACT Branch in 2017 for the ACT Playgroup Expos; ACT Bilingual Education Alliance, Fremantle Press, Magabala Books, and Walker Books Australia.

The following organisations and businesses partnered with CBCA ACT Branch in 2017 for the Make Your Own Story Book Competition; ACT Children's Week Council and the Hellenic Club of Canberra.