

# Children's Book Week — Library Roundup

Children's librarians were asked to send in details of activities they had planned for Children's Book Week. Due to *InCite's* schedule the activities listed, in most cases, have been executed and the librarians involved are probably now relaxing a little with a well-earned cup of coffee, and thinking back over this hectic (but rewarding) week in the library calendar.

*Animalia* has enjoyed great success. It has been sold to England, America and Canada and, in Australia alone, over 70,000 copies have been sold since publication in September 1986.

During Children's Book Week, the LAA Far West Regional Group intends to put on a community display. The Country Women's Association has kindly donated the use of their hall and the librarians are busily working on their individual displays.

The group hopes to include the Travelling Book Exhibition of 325 Australian titles from the Australian Library Promotion Council and Barbara Anderson has been invited to run a series of workshops on storytelling and readers' theatre.

Activities will extend over a two week period, from Monday 17 July to Friday 28 July and it is hoped that the community will be heavily involved.

Alison Reid



Featured in the celebrations in the West will be 'seek and destroy' dalek from the Doctor Who display; Joshua the mining dinosaur; and the sculpture cast lady who is such an avid reader that she even reads newsprint with her sunglasses on.

## Warringah Shire Library — going to the source

This library is inviting children and their parents to come and meet the source of all the excitement — the authors and illustrators. Joan Dagleish, Pamela Allen and Elizabeth Hathorn will talk about their books and writing. A competition based on the shortlisted titles will be held and children have been invited to decorate their 'nautical theme' entry forms.

Born in 1936 in Kempsey NSW, Robin Klein is one of nine children. As they were very poor and had no money for books, Robin used to write her own. She was only 16 when her first short story was published and she won her only school prize for writing. After leaving school, Robin had an extremely varied career as a tea lady, telephonist, bookshop assistant, library assistant, nurse and craft worker.

## Upper Murray Regional Group

A 'Welcome to Children's Book Week' sign will greet library users as they enter the main library. Past winners of the CBC awards will be on display and there will be a special 'Sail Away with Books' display. Two competitions will be held (one for younger children up to eight years old and one for older children, up to 14 years old). Five winners from each section will be able to choose one book each from the shortlisted titles as their prize. Class visits from local schools will centre on book talks and readings from shortlisted books. Children will receive library bags with bookmarks, a puzzle, joke and colouring sheets and, importantly, a library membership form.

The Erindale Centre Library is a joint-use library and is part of the ACT Library Service. Book Week is an important time of the year for us and several thousand school children from local schools and pre-schools pass through the library during that time. They come to hear stories from the shortlist and to look at their school's contribution to the library decorations.

This year we plan to rig up the children's section with ships, flags and sails to fit the theme "Sail away with books". Staff will dress in nautical outfits. At present we plan to do a very colourful felt board of Murgatroyd's Garden (Drahos Zak), a shadow play of Kojuro and the Bears (Junko Morimoto), as well as a slightly irreverent felt board from Sister Madge's Book of Nuns (Doug McLeod). The older children will have a reading from the very exciting Space Demons (Rubinstein).

Photographs are enclosed of last year's Book Week. Although the theme last year was 'Key into Books' we chose to decorate the library as an old Australian general store. The books which lent themselves to this theme were *Bossy Boots* (David Cox), *The Green Wind* (Thurley Fowler) and *Burke and Wills* (Roland Harvey).

Brenda Thompson  
Children's Librarian



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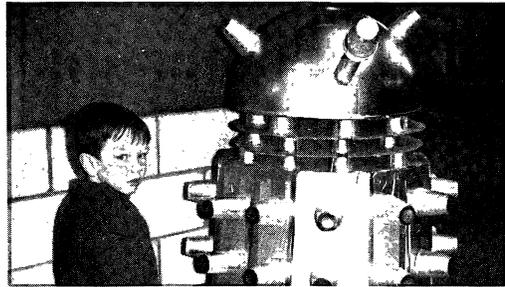
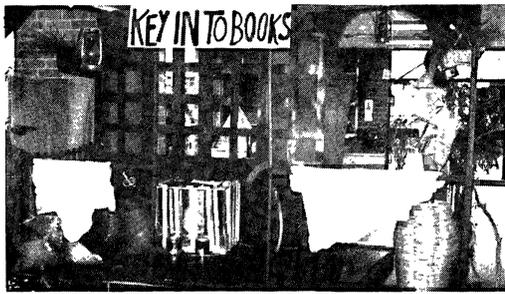
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## Ryde Municipal Libraries — A feast for the senses

There will be no escaping Children's Book Week in the Ryde, NSW area. Miranda Harrowell, Children's Librarian and her staff plan to have 'Pigs Might Fly' display in what they call their Pink Room, complete with pigs grunting and squealing noises on tape. Space Demons will zap their way across one branch window and an 'In the Wild' display will sport stuffed animals of all shapes and sizes. On the more risqué side, there may be a readers' theatre presentation of Sister Stephanie from Doug MacLeod's *Sister Madge's Book of Nuns*. The story is about a nun who can't reach the birdseed on the top shelf of the local store who reeks revenge on the unhelpful supermarket manager —

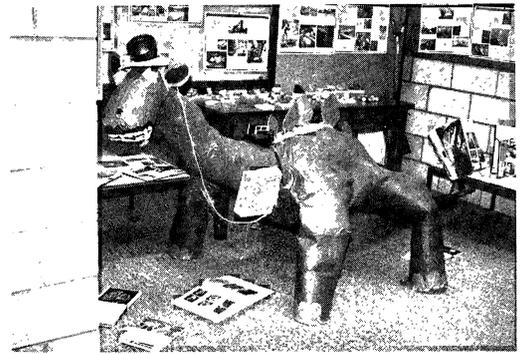
*Sister Stephanie left the store  
but came back with a mighty roar  
the windows smashed, alarm bells rang,  
the nuns had formed a bikie gang  
the gang was fierce, the gang was mad  
the gang was old and leather-clad  
with chains and crosses, clubs and spikes  
the nuns revved up their superbikes*



The theme for last year's Children's Book Week was 'Key into Books'. Erindale Centre Library, ACT, was decorated as an old Australian general store.

the award winning books. The Balwyn Library will have the Gardner Puppet Theatre presenting 'Gold or Gumnuts' and Ashburton will feature Red the Clown. Weekly storytimes will be based on the shortlisted titles.

Walter McVitty on the great success of Farmer Schultz's Duck — 'I am surprised by the huge emotional appeal of ducks.' He may be tempted to merchandise — Christmas cards, paper, calendars and the like, but would prefer to put all his energy into producing good books.



Inside the 'store' a rod puppet play of Bob Graham's *First there was Frances*. Staff pictured are Trish Barron (back left) and Zenobia Williams.

## Bankstown Libraries

Displays in the library will be on a pirate theme. Children will be presented with newspaper sailor hats. A Captains' Carnival will be held where children will be encouraged to dress up as favourite book characters and come and listen to readers theatre and sing sea shanties. Their display will feature a ship and a sign 'Sail Away to a Sea of New Books'

## Camberwell City Libraries

Camberwell is taking the unusual step of departing from the suggested CBC 'Sail Away with Books' theme. Cathy Hunt, Youth Services Librarian, says 'The America's Cup' was topical and used as a basis for the summer reading program and a number of activities during the school holidays in January. During Children's Book Week this year each of their three libraries will hold one major activity. At Camberwell Library there will be theatre groups performing a show based on

## Melbourne City Libraries — galleons in space

Jo Leonard the Children's Services Librarian, Melbourne City Libraries sent *InCite* a terrific looking program covering events at Carlton, Flemington, East and North Melbourne Libraries. On the cover a pirate sits astride a soaring rocket, Saturn winks in the background. Inside the list of events is written on the sails of a galleon floating through space.

Events listed include a visit from the New Theatre Daytime group, a film showing of 'Treasure Island' and storytelling (with people of all ages encouraged to come along in their pj's accompanied by their favourite bedtime toy). The educational side of Children's Book Week has not been ignored as their program includes a pre-school storytime session followed by coffee and the video of 'Babies Need Books' and a talk for parents at most branches entitled 'Children's Books and Reading'.

# Blackwell

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