



# CBCA Tasmania Newsletter December 2023

The Children's Book Council of Australia (Tasmania Branch) Inc., PO Box 113, Moonah, TAS 7009 (tas@cbca.org.au)

# From the Desk: Steve Martin, President Tasmanian Branch

## Read Aloud to Your Child Every Day

It was with great pride that our Branch successfully launched the national campaign to "Read Aloud To Your Child Every Day", on Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> October 2023 at Hobart's Mathers House.



L-R Felicity Sly (CBCAT), Jenni Daw (T4Kids), Shadow Minister for Education Josh Willie MLC, Steve Martin (CBCAT), Dean Young Liberal MP, Tasmanian Senator Tammy Tyrrell and Connect42's Rosie Martin (Speech Pathology TAS).

There are hundreds if not thousands of organisations locally, statewide and nationally that link to literacy and literature, offering services, opportunities and assistance; all with their own aims, message and vision - but you have to find them.

So what if we all promoted a singular message, one that resonates with everyone? What if we concentrated on that one constant, but simple message?

Evolving from our partnership with Toast for Kids Charity Inc publishing "Tassie Rhymes for little tigers" by Narelda Joy, the Book Council of Australia Tasmania Branch are taking the lead with this joint campaign - now reaching out nationwide to individuals such as yourselves, organisations, Councils, institutes, governments, schools, parent groups, agencies, not for profits, speech pathologists, writers' groups, book and reading advocates. We are presenting the opportunity to partner with this effort, by adopting and promoting the one message: "Read aloud to your child every day".

#### Thousands of voices with a single message.

Through creating a national coalition, it is hoped a singular, positive message fosters a culture of reading aloud to your child every day and becomes part of everyone's normal daily routine.

Through supporting the one singular message - instead of numerous organisations with similar, or differing messages - we can better link with each other, highlight services and opportunities, further reach out and engage with our communities, and assist in raising literacy levels Australia wide.



Logo designed by Elizabeth Sly

To assist with the campaign, we have created a "banner" which can be positively utilised to promote the message. It is, upon request, available to any organisation wishing to partner with our campaign. It can also be provided with a blank area for insertion of your own logo.

Our aim is for this campaign to become just as important - if not more - as the "Life Be In It" and "Slip, Slop, Slap" campaigns.

For organisations reading this President's Report and considering partnering with this effort, additional information can be found at the end of the newsletter.

The Children's Book Council of Australia - Tasmanian Branch.

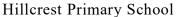
#### #readaloudtoyourchildeveryday

## Readers' Cup

Devonport Readers' Cup was conducted on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> November at Devonport Christian School with nine local primary schools competing for the Quizmaster's Cup, Creative Challenge Cup, and the Devonport Readers' Cup Champions.

Miandetta Primary School won the Quizmaster Cup; and Hillcrest Primary School the Creative Challenge and Cup Champions.







Miandetta Primary School

This year's Devonport Readers' Cup was of very high standards with many teams focusing on the message from Bully on the Bus by Kathryn Apel. Congratulations must go to all the teams that participated, along with thanks to their wonderfully dedicated teachers.

Thanks also to Devonport Christian School for hosting the event and to our judging officials - L-R Janet Edmunds (T4K), Steve Martin, Devonport Cr. Janene Wilczynski, ARN Radio's Teena Snare & Latrobe Deputy Mayor Cr. Vonette Mead.





We now look forward to the 2024 Readers' Cup on Friday November 8, which will be hosted by Devonport Primary School, Stewart Street, Devonport. Pop this date in your diary!

### **Grant Funding**

As you would be aware, our federal funding used to develop the following programs:

- a) Author and Illustrator workshops and presentations in schools,
- b) Readers' Cup Competitions for Tasmanian primary and secondary students,
- c) Book Week activities

is set to end 31st December 2023.

Over the past 12 months, approaches have been made to the then Minister for the Arts, Elise Archer, and more recently Art Tasmania's CEO David Sudmalis to continue the funding. Mr. Sudmalis was very welcoming and complimentary to the work our branch has undertaken and will investigate opportunities. Fingers crossed!

### In closing

As you can see, the past few months have been very busy: not only lobbying for continued funding for creator visits to our schools; in preparation for and hosting our AGM; personally coordinating and conducting the Devonport Readers' Cup; participating in National CBCA's interviews to appoint an Independent Director Governance; plus launching and promoting our national campaign *Read Aloud To Your Child Every Day*.

The *Read Aloud to Your Child Every Day* campaign is a priority area, requiring personal contact with interstate and statewide organisations seeking support for the campaign. This obviously will eat up a lot of time, but will be well worth it. If you are a member of an organisation etc., your direct contact with CBCA Tas would also be appreciated.

On behalf of our Committee, our best wishes for the Festive Season, and may your Christmas and New Year be everything you dream and wish them to be!

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year

The

Steve Martin

President, Tasmanian Branch, Children's Book Council of Tasmania

# Parliamentary Support for "Read Aloud to Your Child Every Day"



Linda Scott, President Australian Local Government Association



Mick Tucker, President Local Government Association of Tasmania and Mayor Break O'Day Council



Rebecca White, Leader of the Labor Party, with Josh Willie MLC Shadow Minister Education



Liberal State Government

# Readers' Cup

On Friday 10 November, a team of six students from Latrobe Primary School attended the CBCA Readers' Cup which was hosted by Devonport Christian School. There were nine teams in total representing other primary schools from our area.

Our Year 5 Latrobe Primary School representatives, were Maddison, Cadence, Beatrix, Zac, Kielan and Zara.

To prepare for the Readers' Cup, students read and studied six preselected texts prior to the event. This was work undertaken with Miss Jess Buchanan.

At the Readers' Cup event, students were provided with opportunities to share their understandings of the texts through a series of quizzes and presentations, which were judged by a panel of judges. Overall, the quiz questions were very challenging and our team worked really well together to put their best effort forward.

The students particularly enjoyed viewing the wide variety of informative presentations and plays put on by the other teams.

Students also enjoyed having a look around the venue, patting chickens and goats as well as a play on the playground.

The 2024 Readers' Cup will be hosted by Devonport Primary School. Our team have certainly come away enthused with many ideas for next year's Readers' Cup!











# **City of Literary Promise**

Hobart has become a UNESCO City of Literature. Click here to read the article in Forty South Tasmania and learn more.



# eStore Merchandise

If you are searching for those end of year gifts or Christmas presents, check out the CBCA eStore for suggestions.

- Spencil stationery and Artisan range
- Gift Cards of varying amounts
- 2023 Coaster Set (4)
- Tote Bags

Click here to browse the Christmas collection in the eStore.



Buy for the new school year.



Our first piece of magic for 2024 is the 2024 Digital Yearly Planner, absolutely FREE!



# Libraries Tas – Little Explorers Book Pack and Competition

With a Little Explorers book pack, curious kids are never short of a book!

Each Little Explorers book pack contains five carefully selected books on an early learning topic for children aged 4–8 years.

There are four to choose from:

- 1. Living things: books about plants, animals, habitats and life cycles.
- 2. <u>Our planet</u>: books about resources, sustainability, recycling, weather and climate.
- 3. Space: books about planets, stars and space exploration
- 4. <u>You, me, everyone</u>: books about families, communities, culture and celebrations.

Each pack has a combination of story books and information books along with reading tips and activities based on the topic. The books in Little Explorers packs will suit an independent reader as well as shared reading between child and adult.

**Find Little Explorers packs in these libraries:** Kingston, Launceston, Hobart, Rosny, Glenorchy, Devonport, Burnie, Ulverstone, Huonville, Sorell, Wynyard, Cygnet, Longford, New Norfolk, St Helens, Bridgewater, Smithton, Deloraine and Exeter or place a hold for pickup at your <u>local library</u>.









# Name the Little Explorers Competition

Our Little Explorers need names! Can you help us name our four adventurous friends?

Click on this link below to find more information.

https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=xzq-qWAMHkmLO6Mvj0auyBPjAvpTEV1Fin3nx35VW4xUODJEREFZVU1FOU1VMTE5QUhSS0pEUEhFSC4u

# Australia's nominees for the 2024 Astrid Lindgren Memorial Award

Congratulations to the authors and the Indigenous Literacy Foundation for their nomination to this prestigious international award.

Ursula Dubosarsky, Author Susanne Gervay, Author and as an organisation the Indigenous Literacy Foundation. See the full list of nominees here.

# Membership

CBCA Tasmania wishes to thank all its members for their support during this year. Without your membership CBCA Tasmania wouldn't exist.

With 2023 almost finished it is time to think about renewing your <u>Personal or Institutional Membership</u>. These subscriptions are vital for our local branch to function efficiently and develop our events and programs that have such an impact in schools and communities around Tasmania. Please renew your membership for 2024 as soon as possible. Membership forms are available on the website (link above).

These subscriptions not only support CBCA Tasmania Branch, but also help to keep

you informed about what is happening in CBCA Tasmania and in Australia.

https://cbcatas.org.au/membership/





Hardie Grant Children's Publishing is delighted to announce that the 2023 Little Hare Illustration Prize is now open. Awarded biennially, the prize is open to aspiring picture-book artists across Australia and New Zealand.

Entrants are invited to create sample artwork for an upcoming Little Hare picture-book manuscript. The winner will receive a publishing contract, an advance against royalties, and comprehensive art direction and editorial support to take the picture book through to publication. This year's Little Hare Illustration Prize text is *The Everyday Tutu* by Andrea Rowe, best-selling and award-winning author of the 2022 CBCA Early Childhood Book of the Year, *Jetty Jumping*.

'Andrea's spirited, delightful text presents a main character that will be recognisable to any parent of a determined and fashion-forward preschooler,' said Hardie Grant publisher Chren Byng. 'It's a text that will suit oodles of different illustration styles and is rich with possibility for emerging artists. We can't wait to see what it inspires!'

Artists from any background are invited to enter, including self-taught illustrators, college graduates, graphic designers and fine artists. To be eligible for the prize, artists should not have illustrated more than one picture book with a trade publisher.

'Our judging team is looking for artists who can demonstrate skill in composition, character development and design, and visual narrative,' said Byng, 'as well as original and arresting illustration styles and points of view. We have a long tradition of working with and developing emerging artists and the Little Hare Illustration Prize is a celebration and affirmation of that commitment.'

Established to inspire new work from unpublished and emerging artists, the Little Hare Illustration Prize helped launch the publishing careers of 2021 winner Meg Rennie (*Let's Build a Boat*) and shortlistees Jake A Minton (*Zombie Diaries and There's No Such Book*), Jennifer Goldsmith (*Freckles*) and Myo Yim (*White Sunday*).

The key dates for the 2023 Little Hare Illustration Prize are as follows:

- Entries open: Tuesday 17 Oct 2023
- Entries close: midnight, Monday 15 January 2024
- Shortlist announced: mid-February 2024
- Winner announced: late February 2024

To enter the 2023 Little Hare Illustration Prize, please click <u>here</u>.

# Author Pen Pals A New Initiative to Raise Literacy Levels and Make Reading Cool Again

In 2023 children's authors Kate Foster and Dee White started Author Pen Pals, a new initiative to get kids excited about reading. The programme inspired by UK-based Book PenPals, connects Australian authors and illustrators with Australian schools, especially those whose lack of funds or remote location means they rarely, if ever, get to host authors or illustrators.

Author Pen Pals pairs a book creator with a group of primary school students, sending them a minimum of four postcards or letters throughout the school year. Students send two responses, and everything is delivered the old-fashioned way via snail mail. It's an opportunity for children to ask questions and discuss books with the people who create them.

In 2023 over 200 authors and illustrators participated, from debut to emerging to seasoned creators, and approximately 90 schools across all states and territories and over 250 individual classes signed up.

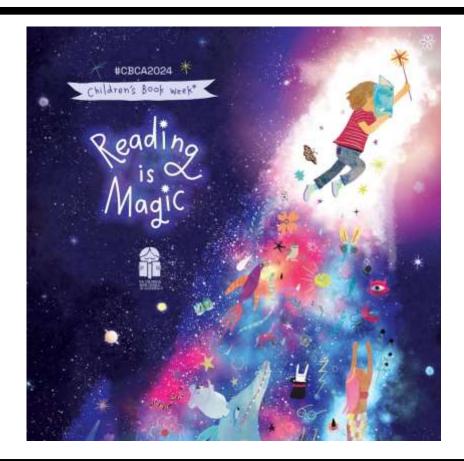
"Dee and I are super excited and so very proud to take our programme into its second year," says Kate Foster. "We have an impressive list of creators already on board for 2024, and we'll continue to accept new creator and school sign ups right through until early next year." Nurturing strong literacy skills in children has multiple benefits, from improving memory and concentration, boosting performance and critical thinking, and developing empathy, stronger mental health, and self-image.



Dee White says: "The Author Pen Pals programme provides some much-needed support for educators and makes books and reading cool while celebrating Australia's homegrown talent.

Rachael Hind, Teacher Librarian at St Thomas Aquinas Primary School, one of the many participating schools in 2023, says: "Classes have loved receiving letters and packages from our authors and enjoyed replying to questions the authors asked. It has been wonderful to get to know the work of authors new to us and their books are now very hot property in our library."

If you'd like more information about Author Pen Pals, please contact Kate on 0431 636 825, or Dee on 0438 730 218 or email them both at authorpenpals@gmail.com





When you buy a local book from a local independent bookstore, you are not only buying something of value, you're investing in Australian literature and the stories that may have comforted or sustained you over the last year. You are creating jobs in your community, supporting emerging authors and the bookstores which nurture them, and ensuring that a thriving literary community will feature in our post-pandemic world.

 $\frac{https://www.asauthors.org/news/this-book-week-share-the-message-shoplocal-readlocal}$ 



ALIA is delighted to announce that the National Simultaneous Storytime book for 2024 is *Bowerbird Blues* by Aura Parker. NSS 2024 will be held on Wednesday May 22, 2024 at the new time of 12pm (AEST).

National Simultaneous Storytime (NSS) is held annually by the Australian Library and Information Association (ALIA). Every year a picture book, written and illustrated by an Australian author and illustrator, is read simultaneously in libraries, schools, pre-schools, family day cares, childcare centres, family homes, bookshops and many other places around the country. Now in its 24th successful year, it is a colourful, vibrant, fun event that aims to promote the value of reading and literacy, using an Australian children's book that explores age-appropriate themes, and addresses key learning areas of the National Curriculum for Foundation to Year 6.

#### NSS aims to:

- promote the value of reading and literacy,
- promote the value and fun of books,
- promote an Australian writer and publisher,
- celebrate and promote Storytime activities in public libraries, school libraries, classrooms and communities around the country,
- and provide opportunities to involve parents, caregivers, the media, and others to participate in and enjoy the occasion.



# Book Review – The Secret Boat written by Mark Macleod and illustrated by Hélène Magisson

The Secret Boat is a delightful collection of poetry for younger readers that reflects familiar places, amusements and interests of children - exploring the beach, the home and backyard; engaging within the family, food experiences, animals, playing with friends and more. It culminates with a selection of verse just right for the end of the day and associated bedtime routines. Free and rhyming verse provide variety, often with short lines and carefully considered breaks to guide the flow of the language and how each poem is read. Descriptive language, and lots of verbs add to the action and are harnessed to reflect a range of moods - playful, whimsical, and slightly disgusting - slugs for breakfast! Macleod's sense of humour shines through this artful collection. Hélène Magisson's whimsical illustrations are vibrant, playful and full of action adding a further narrative to many of the verses to encourage multiple interpretations as she presents a diverse range of unique characters. On the literal level the poems reflect childhood, but the illustrator encourages young readers to consider other possible characters undertaking a range of activities. Magisson also plays with layout and design so that the turning of a page is a surprise - a double page spread, individual cameos with white space to highlight, or background colours to add meaning and atmosphere - they are the perfect accompaniment to an engaging and entertaining selection of verse.

Highly recommended.

Reviewed by Jennie Bales

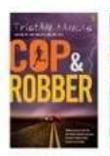
CBCA Tasmania Committee Member



Dirt Lane Press, 2013

# 5 Writers 5 Minutes

Tristan Bancks, Lian Tanner, Deborah Abela,
Sarah Armstrong & Zanni Louise
take you behind the scenes













WWW.YOUTUBE.COM/@5WRITERS5MINUTES



SWRITERSSMINUTES.BUZZSPROUT.COM



The Uber-talented writing group has launched a bite-sized <u>podcast</u> and <u>YouTube</u> channel sharing their top writing tips and tools.

The **5 Writers 5 Minutes** podcast features <u>Deborah Abela</u>, <u>Tristan Bancks</u>, <u>Sarah Armstrong</u>, <u>Lian Tanner</u>, and <u>Zanni Louise</u> who share weekly writing and editing secrets, reveal how their books developed, and give tips on how to write your own story.

It's ideal for teachers to use in the classroom and for keen young (or not-so-young) writers everywhere.

YouTube channel: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/@5writers5minutes">https://www.youtube.com/@5writers5minutes</a>

Podcast: https://5writers5minutes.buzzsprout.com/

# **Calendar of Events**

7 February 2024	Australian Children's Laureate for 2024 and 2025 Announcement The Official Program Launch will be LIVE and ONLINE 20 February 2024.  https://www.facebook.com/ChildrensLaureate https://www.childrenslaureate.org.au/
27 February 2024 7 pm	2024 Notables Announced
22 May 2024 Noon	National Simultaneous Storytime 2024 ALIA is delighted to announce that the National Simultaneous Storytime (NSS) book for 2024 is <i>Bowerbird Blues</i> by Aura Parker (Scholastic, 2023). Bowerbird Blues stars a beautiful bowerbird on the search for (you guessed it) BLUE! It's a moving story of longing and connection that unfolds as the bowerbird's search sends him soaring across the sea, sky and city. <a href="https://www.alia.org.au/EventDetail?EventKey=NSS2024">https://www.alia.org.au/EventDetail?EventKey=NSS2024</a>
27 March 2024 Noon	2024 Shortlist Announced
16 August 2024	2024 Winners and Honours Announced
17 August 2024 – 23 August 2024	CBCA Children's Book Week 2024 Reading is Magic!

If you have any dates suitable for inclusion, please send them to <u>tas@cbca.org.au</u> Ensure that you include the supporting url (if there is one).



# THE COUNTDOWN IS ON!

Who will be the Australian Children's Laureate for 2024 and 2025?

7 FEBRUARY 2024 The Announcement 20 FEBRUARY 2024 Official Program Launch

Events will be held LIVE and ONLINE.

More details about how to watch and be involved coming soon.

# **Perform Education touring in 2024**



# Support grows for national campaign

Since our national launch of the "Read Aloud To Your Child Every Day" campaign, support for our message has steadily grown across municipalities, political boundaries, libraries, organisations, businesses, with community leaders coming on board and yes nationally.

- Josh Willie MLC, Shadow Minister for Education
- Dean Young MP, MHA Government Whip and Parliamentary Secretary for small business and industry
- Rosie Martin, 2017 Tasmanian Australian of the Year, Founder Connect42, Speech Pathology Tasmania
- Tammy Tyrrell, Senator for Tasmania
- Bruny Island Unique Library
- Linda Scott, President Australian Local Government Association representing 537 local government areas; Councillor City of Sydney
- Mick Tucker, President Local Government Association of Tasmania; Mayor, Break O'Day Council
- Bec Thomas, Mayor City of Glenorchy
- Cheryl Fuller, Mayor Central Coast Council
- Marcus Blackie, Mayor King Island
- Michelle Dracoulis, Mayor Derwent Valley
- Paula Wriedt, Mayor Kingborough Council
- Rod MacDonald, Mayor Tasman Council
- Teeny Brumby, Mayor City of Burnie
- Mary Duniam, Mayor Waratah-Wynyard Council
- Peter Freshney, Mayor Latrobe Council
- Kerry Vincent, Mayor Sorell Council
- Andrew Wardlaw, Commissioner Dorset Council
- Jess Green, Deputy Mayor Tamar Council
- Vonette Mead, Deputy Mayor Latrobe Council
- Janene Wilczynski, Councillor City of Devonport
- Chris Lynch, Councillor City of Burnie
- David Hume, Councillor City of Clarence
- ARN radio network Radio 7AD & SeaFM
- Michelle O'Byrne, Shadow Minister for the Arts
- Children's Book Council of Australia National
- Kevin Abood, Window on the World Book Lounge, Ulverstone
- Tasmanian Liberal Government

Many more to come - we have just started.



The Tasmanian Branch, Children's Book Council of Australia are now taking this message nationally and are reaching out to people and organisations such as yourselves, presenting the opportunity to partner with this effort, by adopting and promoting the one message: "Read aloud to your child every day".

#### Thousands of voices with a single message.

Through creating a statewide and national coalition, it is hoped a singular, positive message encourages a culture of "Read aloud to your child every day", becoming part of our normal daily regimen, and assists in lifting literacy skills.

If you would like to partner with us, promote the message, and receive a copy of our "banner" for your positive use, simply contact us <u>tas@cbca.org.au</u>. We look forward to hearing from you.



Steve Martin

#### **President**

## **FAQs**

## Will it cost anything?

There is no cost involved.

## How long will our organisation need to be involved?

As long as you like. Creating a culture of reading aloud will not happen overnight. It is hoped that having a combined voice with one message will encourage reading aloud every day and the longer the message is promoted, the better chance of achieving this goal.

## Will this message diminish our organisation's work?

No. Through this message, it is hoped to ignite the desire to read aloud, and to promote supporting services ready to assist. Inserting your logo in the banner would also promote your services and at the same time be seen as part of a national collective.

#### How can we use the banner?

The banner can be utilised in any positive promotion around your organisation's work and services. It can be added as an email signature - and is available in both low and high resolution.

#### How did you arrive at this message?

See Bibliography below.

- Over the past two years our branch partnered with Toast for Kids Charity Inc., creating and publishing a 100% Tasmanian children's book, (with a companion braille/low vision version), providing it free to parents of newborn babies with the encouragement to read aloud to your child every day.
- Partnered with radio ARN Tasmania from 1<sup>st</sup> May 2023 to promote the
  message: "There's a simple, easy way to help your children learn read aloud
  to them every day. Studies have shown that reading aloud can help your child
  develop language skills, learn more, and enjoy reading. By reading aloud every
  day, you will be investing in their future. So be proud, read aloud!"

#### Can our organisation promote to other similar organisations?

Yes, you can and please be encouraged to do so. All we ask, should another organisation come on board, that they register their contact details with us.

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# The CBCA Tasmania Blog

Are you ready to write?

Jennie is always looking for new contributors and expanding ideas and experiences around children's literature. If you have:

- a story to tell about your engagement with kids' books
- a writing or illustrating process to share
- reviews of some great books shared with the kids or
- the magic of access to a room of books

why not share it on the blog?

Check out examples on the blog itself — <a href="http://cbcatas.blogspot.com/">http://cbcatas.blogspot.com/</a> — and be inspired.

Contact Jennie via <u>tas@cbca.org.au</u> with "EOI: CBCA Blog Post" in the subject line.

All expressions of interest will be forwarded to Jennie and she will get back with some guidelines (200 to 300 words is a good baseline) and discuss a date.



# The National Centre for Australian Children's Literature

The Centre holds one of the world's largest and most comprehensive collections of translations of Australian children's books. We hold over 5,500 translations in 68 different languages. This collection continues to grow through the generosity of Australian publishers, authors, illustrators, and private donors. For example, we hold *Fox* (Allen & Unwin, 2000), by Margaret Wild and Ron Brooks in 15 different editions, including eight different languages.

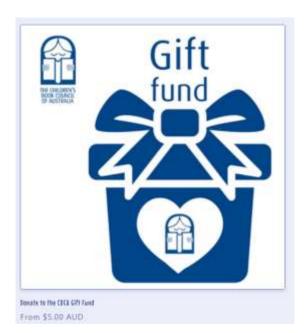
We welcome visitors and researchers to the Centre. Please contact Emeritus Professor Belle Alderman, Director, if you wish to visit. <a href="https://www.ncacl.org.au/">https://www.ncacl.org.au/</a>



# THE CHILDREN'S REDDING TIME BOOK COUNCIL REDDING TIME OF AUSTRALIA

Children's book news and reviews from The Children's Book Council of Australia

Reading Time is a great source of information and reviews <a href="http://readingtime.com.au/">http://readingtime.com.au/</a>





Bosate to the CICA Award Foundation From \$5.00 AUD

# The CBCA Awards Foundation

Proudly Funding Prizes for the CBCA Book of the Year Awards

#### Benefactors

Allen & Unwin CBCA NSW Branch Laurie Copping OAM Margaret Hamilton AM Maurice Saxby AM Scholastic Australia Thyne Reid Trust No. 1

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#### In memoriam

Jean Chapman • Max Fatchen • Beryl Moncrieff Matthews • Jill Midolo • Narelle Oliver • Jan Ormerod • Eve Pownall • Marion E Robertson • Gregory Rogers • Cassandra Weddell • Maisie Williams, Garah, NSW

Donations to the CBCA Awards Foundation are tax deductible and can be sent to: PO Box 1163, Fyshwick ACT 2609. (June 2022)