

Newsletter Number One, December 2010

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Welcome to the first ever newsletter from Pinerolo, the Children's Book Cottage in Blackheath. I'd like to keep in touch with news and plans for future events and programs, and would welcome feedback. If you are a teacher librarian or public librarian I would love to keep in touch with you about school visits.

Pinerolo is situated on the picturesque Shipley Plateau, 2km South West of Blackheath in the iconic Blue Mountains. Our property backs onto the Megalong Valley where kangaroos, wallabies, lyrebirds, bowerbirds, black cockatoos and other wildlife live, and frequently visit us. Shipley Plateau was renowned for its apple orchards and there is just one remaining. However, what also remain are the hundreds of majestic pine trees which were planted as windbreaks and our historic packing shed.

We named the property Pinerolo (an Italian word meaning 'place of pines'), after the ancient town in Piedmont, northern Italy that we have visited many times.

### OPEN DAY 13 November 2010

People began arriving at 11.15 am and continued to drop in until after 5 pm. It was a sunny, hot day, rather unusual for Blackheath, so we were pleased to see people outside enjoying their lunch in the sunshine.

Thank you to everyone who came and made the day such a success. Although everybody did not sign the visitors' book, we estimated that over one hundred and thirty people came, from as far afield as Sydney, Oberon, Newcastle and Melbourne.

We were pleased to see a good turnout of children's authors and illustrators who seemed to enjoy seeing their work on the walls as much as catching up with each other. Among them were Noela Young, who came with Pixie O'Harris' daughter Halcyon Evans, Allan Baillie, still in shock from his near-death experience in Bilgola pool, and (in alphabetical order) Anne Bowman, Jan D'Silva, Libby

Gleeson, Lincoln Hall, Dee Huxley, Stephen Michael King, David Legge, Annette Lodge, Stephen Measday, Donna Rawlins, James Roy, Julie Vivas. And we were thrilled to see legendary bookseller Albert Ullin and Jeff Prentice from Melbourne along with many librarians, booksellers and publishers.

I am proud of my collection of original artwork and the cottage gives me the perfect opportunity to share it with everyone interested and to promote picture books to the community and to schools.

Since open day we've had a steady stream of visitors. These have included Myra Lee and Fran Robinson (ex Scholastic), Stephen Axelsen and his mum, authors Susan Ross and Hugh Todd. And I've had a meeting of the Publish! Blue Mountains committee here, so it hasn't been lonely.

Pinerolo is open by appointment, so it's simply a matter of phoning and letting us know when you'd like to visit.

### Christmas

Attached is an order form for a beautiful print by award-winner Patricia Mullins – the most popular illustration from *A Crash of Rhinos*, which I had the pleasure of working on for ABC Books. There are only 50, so order as soon as possible.

It is with huge sadness that we note the death of Eleanor Coerr. Her most famous book *Sadako and the Thousand Paper Cranes*, (which I had the honour to publish almost 30 years ago) was one of the most important books of the 20th century. We already miss her as she was family for us.

As Christmas approaches, and the rain continues, our pine trees look their most majestic. However, they aren't covered with snow, they are frequently visited by black cockatoos and magpies, who sway precariously on the top-most branches. We wish everyone peace, good health and happiness for Christmas and 2011. Watch this space for future developments at Pinerolo, the Children's Book Cottage.

Margaret Hamilton AM

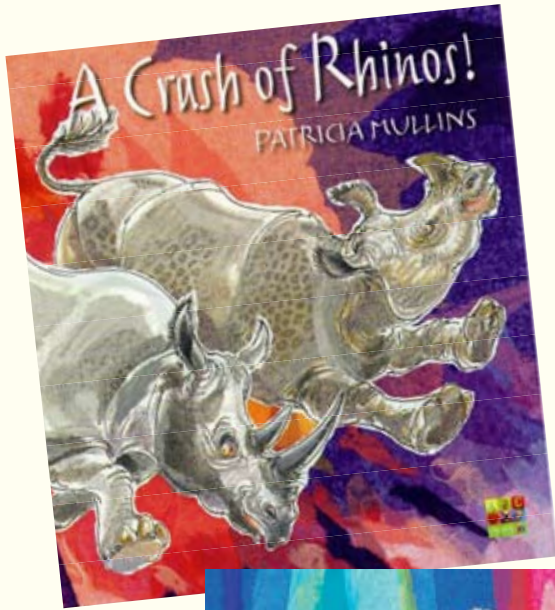


Dee Huxley with the lovely sign she made and her artwork from 'Raindance'.



The Hamilton family, Melissa, Margaret and Max in our brand new T-shirts!

# The Perfect Christmas Present!



'Every double page is a mass of illustrations ... each variety a group with a wonderfully appropriate collective noun to describe it ... quite breathtaking. Don't miss it.' *Reading Time* November 2010.

Patricia Mullins has released her first limited edition print, just in time for Christmas. Giclee fine art technology achieves higher quality prints than the normal lithographic process and better colour than screen printing. Prints conform to worldwide archival standards consistent with collectible fine art.

A rare opportunity to acquire work by award-winner Patricia Mullins. This first edition 'A band of gorillas/A mosh pit of monkeys' is limited to only 50 prints, each individually numbered, titled and signed by Patricia Mullins.



Actual size: 33.5cm x 56.5cm (plus white border approx 4cm all round)

## Currently on display at

Pinerolo, the Children's Book Cottage, Blackheath, NSW  
www.pinerolo.com.au Enq: Margaret Hamilton 02 47878492 or hamiltonbooks @iprimus.com.au

**DON'T MISS OUT – ORDER NOW!**

To: Pinerolo, the Children's Book Cottage,  
PO Box 172, Blackheath NSW 2785  
or email: Margaret Hamilton - hamiltonbooks@iprimus.com.au

Please supply ... print/s from Patricia Mullins' book *A Crash of Rhinos!*  
@ \$290 each plus \$10 postage within Australia.

Name: .....

Address: .....

..... P/code: .....

Email: .....

Phone: .....

Payment enclosed \$300.00 payable as (Please tick):

Cheque (payable to Margaret Hamilton)

money order

direct deposit: C'wealth Bank BSB: 062182

Acc name: Margaret Hamilton. Number: 10026200

Please deliver to the address above or to (if different address):

Name: .....

Address: .....

..... P/code: .....