

VISITORS

Among the many visitors since the last newsletter were Steve Spargo and Michelle Basneau from Walker Books, who arrived carrying a big box. When the lid was lifted out popped a 'Happy Birthday' balloon, to celebrate Walker Australia's 20th birthday. Congratulations!



Also visiting was Celeste Walters, who was a surprise speaker to children from Blue Mountains Grammar School. Here is a wonderful letter from their teacher:

'Thank you for keeping me informed of all the happenings at Pinerolo. We thoroughly enjoyed our visit to you last month and my class have just finished writing their reviews about our visit. I will send you a photo of the display once we've finished but you are also most welcome to come and look at it and read the reviews for yourself. The students had a wonderful time and were inspired by your passion for picture books. We've stopped calling them children's picture books because over the past few weeks we feel they are books for all ages not just children. I will come with my family and visit you on your open day as I'm keen to share with them how wonderful Pinerolo is.'

Lori Gerrard, Blue Mountains Grammar School.

I love talking to groups of children and I very much appreciate receiving feedback like Lori's. There are only a few weeks left until the end of the school year. If you can fit in a visit, it will be worthwhile.



ILLUSTRATORS IN RESIDENCE 2013

Jill Carter-Hansen

Jill is a writer and illustrator who has had several picture books published. She was working on an extraordinary number of projects and made full use of her time at Pinerolo and the resources and facilities available.



Laura Burroni

Laura is an Italian illustrator who moved to Australia with her husband and young son last November. She had attended the illustration course run by Donna Rawlins and Wayne Harris and she submitted impressive ideas. During her week at Pinerolo she worked on a picture book and she was here for the one-day course with Margaret Wild. Here she is introducing her work on computer to other participants.

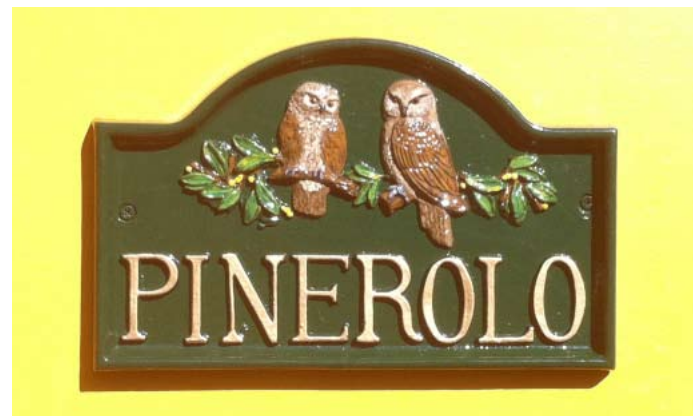


We are grateful to the Copyright Agency for funding this program

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NEW SIGN

My new cast-iron sign. Isn't it beautiful?



NEXT OPEN DAY
Sunday 1 December 10am - 4pm
Watch the website for details

NEW PICTURE BOOKS

Australian picture books are up there with the best in the world and I continue to be impressed with those I receive from publishers. Perusing my 'review shelf' is a regular attraction for visitors to Pinerolo. Here are some treasures received recently:

AN AUSSIE YEAR by Tania McCartney & Tina Snerling (EK Books). Twelve months in the life of Australian children, representing our multi-cultural society and the vibrancy of traditions and events throughout the year.

BABY BEDTIME by Mem Fox & Emma Quay (Penguin). A mother elephant gently and so lovingly putting her baby to sleep. A huggable book for bedtime, not only because it is beautiful but because it has a padded cover.

BANJO AND RUBY RED by Libby Gleeson & Freya Blackwood (Little Hare). I had the privilege of attending the launch in Orange of this lovely book. It's a touching story, so beautifully and sensitively illustrated. Another winner from this award-winning partnership. Highly recommended.

THE BOY ON THE PAGE by Peter Carnavas (New Frontier). Loved this! The meaning of life is thoughtfully portrayed as we follow the exploits and the life of a boy who fell on a page and wonders why he is there. Recommended.

CLEMENTINE'S WALK by Annie White (New Frontier). One by one, everybody is too busy to walk with Clementine, but all is well in the end. A charming family story well designed and illustrated, with plenty of clear white space.

ESTHER'S RAINBOW by Kim Kane & Sara Acton (Allen & Unwin). I loved 'The Unexpected Crocodile' so this book was a welcome new one from these creators. It is a very appealing story about finding rainbow colours everywhere.

FIGARO AND RUMBA AND THE COOL CATS by Anna Fienberg & Stephen Michael King (A & U). Not strictly a picture book but I can't resist this second chapter book about Figaro and his trusy cat-friend Rumba.

I'M A DIRTY DINOSAUR by Janeen Brian & Ann James (Penguin). A fun book! Ideal for early childhood - about getting dirty and enjoying it. Rollicking join-along text, colourful, muddy illustrations, innovative design combine in an impressive production. Highly recommended.

LITTLE BIG by Jonathan Bentley (Little Hare). A small boy imagines how he'd cope if he was big, but there are advantages to being small. Expertly illustrated making a very satisfying picture book for early childhood.

LITTLE PIGGY'S GOT NO MOVES by Phillip Gwynne & Eliza McCann, illus by Tom Jellett (Little Hare). Everybody else can do their own dance, except Little Piggy. When he discovers his own moves everybody else joins in!

THE NAUGHTIEST REINDEER by Nicki Greenberg (Allen & Unwin). No, it's not Rudolf, it's his sister Ruby, who is the naughty one and in danger of creating chaos on Christmas Day. Action-packed story and illustrations make a fun Christmas present.

ONCE TASHI MET A DRAGON by Anna & B Fienberg, illus by Kim Gamble (A & U). Tashi is already an established favourite. This lavishly illustrated picture book takes readers to a new world and a new adventure.

OWL by Anna Pignataro (Windy Hollow). A touching and sensitive story of enduring love and friendship. A book for owl lovers everywhere.

PUPPY PLAYTIME by Celeste Walters & Adele Jaunn (Little Hare). Award-winner Celeste Walters has written a fun romp through numbers one to ten, with loveable puppies bouncing everywhere. Equally playful and appealing illustrations.

THE SWAP by Jan Ormerod, illus by Andrew Joyner (Little Hare). Dedicated to the late Jan Ormerod, this warm and funny story will be a winner for anyone with a new baby in the family and a bit of sibling rivalry.

THIS LITTLE PIGGY WENT DANCING by Margaret Wild & Deborah Niland (A & U). A new version of 'This Little Piggy Went to Market' by this award-winning author and illustrator. Follow your favourite piggy from page to page.

THE THREE WALLABIES GRUFF by Yvonne Morrison & Heath McKenzie (Little Hare). Once they find a new home the wallabies' main fear is being gobbled up by the Yowie. Will they prevail and live in peace in their own slice of paradise?

WE WISH YOU A RIPPER CHRISTMAS by Colin Buchanan & Greg Champion, illus by Roland Harvey (Scholastic). A fun Christmas gift book for the whole family. It's the classic 'We wish you a Merry Christmas' song, Aussie style, complete with a CD and very Australian illustrations.

WELCOME LITTLE SCRUBFOWL by Sandra Kendall (Windy Hollow). Life at the top end of Australia and its unique wildlife is portrayed in this colourful book, complete with useful factual information.

WHAT NOW BABY BEARS? by Toni Brisland & Emma Stuart (Little Steps). Bears in the wild are endangered, so this timely story highlights their plight. They are cared for but it would be so much better if they could continue their life unhindered by human intervention.

WHERE'S SANTA? AROUND THE WORLD by Louis Shea (Scholastic). Here's a book to keep everyone busy all Christmas Day! A colourful look-and-find trip around the world with Santa. Detailed illustrations to explore.

WOMBAT GOES TO SCHOOL by Jackie French & Bruce Whatley (HarperCollins). Another delightful adventure for Mothball, Australia's favourite wombat, so successfully introduced in *Diary of a Wombat*, eleven years ago.

THE WOMBATS GO ON CAMP by Roland Harvey (A & U). Hours of fun with these eccentric and hilarious characters. Bound to become another Roland Harvey classic.

Thanks to everyone for your support and your interest. Pinerolo is a unique place. If you're interested in picture books it's well worth a visit. Come some time soon! I love nothing better than talking about my artwork and book collection – **and of course selling artwork! Have a look at our gallery: <http://www.pinerolo.com.au/gallery.html>** In the meantime, get lost in a picture book!

Margaret Hamilton AM