



Hampshire Book Award 2017 Winner - River of Ink by Helen Dennis



Students from across Hampshire met award winning author Helen Dennis at Winchester Guildhall on Thursday 2nd November when she was presented with the Hampshire **Book Award 2017 trophy for her book “River of Ink: Genesis”**. The event was the culmination of 4 months reading, reviewing and discussion across 44 secondary schools in Hampshire, involving an estimated 528 pupils.

This Hampshire School Library service award is presented annually for the best paperback fiction book published in that year for 11-13 year olds and is judged by Year 8 pupils. The 6 shortlisted books are evaluated using the criteria of enrichment, engagement and enjoyment. Participating schools received publicity material, information **about each author and a judges’ handbook**.



The discussion and voting day in June took place in 6 regional venues with pupils having the opportunity to discuss the shortlist with pupils from other schools. Once votes are cast and a quiz is won, votes are collated centrally and the winner is announced simultaneously throughout the county.

Helen Dennis gave a warm, funny and enjoyable presentation about her very first writing room (a spider filled shed in the garden), her inspirational teacher who encouraged her **to write and who gave her sage advice on the importance of research and ‘finding the extraordinary in the ordinary’**.

Secondary Conference : Using Fiction to Support British Values

Amnesty International have teamed up with CILIP (Chartered Institute for Library and Information Professionals) to support the Carnegie and Greenaway medals through their Amnesty CILIP Honour, which is awarded to an author and illustrator from each shortlist. These Honours are separate from the main award but are given to books that most distinctively illuminate, communicate, or celebrate our personal rights and freedoms. Rowena Seabrook is the Human Rights Education Manager for Amnesty and tours the country giving lectures and delivering workshops on how libraries and schools can promote the human rights agenda. She will be talking about how libraries and librarians can help deliver this message through the use of fiction in particular and bringing along examples of titles that you can use in school. She will also be getting delegates to consider the message of human rights and how schools can work to promote tolerance within school.

The event will take place on Wednesday 31st January 2018 at Winchester Discovery Centre, Jewry Street, SO23 8SB from 10.00am to 12.30pm. To book your place, please click here or visit the training area of our Moodle: <http://sls.hias.hants.gov.uk/training>.

Visit to Peters Booksellers

Seven schools took up the SLS free offer, to visit Peters Booksellers in Birmingham on 15th November to take advantage of our limited 30% subscriber discount for showroom visits. Peters Booksellers are **nationally renowned children’s booksellers: schools** can browse and select from their 40,000 titles, including Accelerated Readers and Manga collections. **Stock is serviced to the school’s individual need and delivered directly to school.** A school librarian commented that they:

“...find the trip to Peters so useful each year, as it’s so much better to actually see and handle the books rather than order from a website or catalogue; this is particularly true when buying non-fiction. The Peters staff are very helpful, particularly Lucy, their manga and graphic specialist. She is very knowledgeable and able to recommend what to buy and what to avoid, making sure I get value for money! Thanks again for a great day”
Paula Ward, Library Manager Calthorpe Park School.

Romsey School Year 9 Pupils Promote the Summer Reading Challenge

Fiona Crowther, Librarian at The Romsey School



For the last four years The Romsey School has been delighted to partner with Romsey Public Library to help promote the Summer Reading Challenge at some of our feeder primary schools. I recruit a team of Year 9 pupils each year to prepare, write and deliver an assembly at three of our largest feeder schools. The theme for the Challenge in 2017 was Animal Agents, so

we wrote an assembly where the Year Nines played characters from the collector card and a few extra ones they invented. We made it into a little story, with the characters' lines each including a short piece about the Reading Challenge, such as the dates, the rewards or the books to be read. Events were interrupted throughout the assembly by a masked criminal trying to steal their maps to the library ("He's behind you!"), but in the end, he joined the Reading Challenge too!

Our Year 9 pupils had enormous fun and it was also a good opportunity for those who were becoming peer supporters in Year 10 to make themselves known to some of the pupils who would be starting our school the following September. The primary pupils thoroughly enjoyed the assemblies and Romsey Library saw an increase in the numbers of pupils signing up and completing the Challenge from those schools. To

Upcoming Events...

- Literature Quiz 2018
February/March 2018
- Support Group Forums
Taking place between 7th - 28th February. Please refer to our Moodle: <http://sls.hias.hants.gov.uk/training>.

- Registration for the Literature Quiz has closed. For further information about the event please contact: sls.events@hants.gov.uk
- To book your place at one of our forums please click [here](#) or visit the training area of our Moodle: <http://sls.hias.hants.gov.uk/training>.

Author Jo Cotterill Visits Fernhill School

Sue Murdoch, Librarian & Careers Coordinator at Fernhill School

Fernhill School is pursuing the theme of empathy this year, so Jo Cotterill's visit on Tuesday 7th November was very appropriate! The inspiration to develop the theme of 'empathy' came from an Empathy 'Lab' session at the SLA conference in Harrogate attended by Sue Murdoch and Becci Hudson (Fernhill's Poet in Residence). They felt that there really is a need to encourage students to walk in someone else's shoes and appreciate another person's problems and challenges – how better to do this than through a story?

Jo's HBA winning book, *'Looking at the Stars'* certainly gives the reader an insight into what it is like to lose everything; other books by Jo tackle bereavement, mental health, disability, LGBTQ and difference. During Jo's talk to Year 8, students were encouraged to believe in their ability to succeed, to really listen to others and interpret non-verbal communication. Jo encouraged empathy by asking for volunteers from the audience: two were asked to mime an emotional response and the other students were asked to copy their partner's gestures and then describe how this made them feel. This was such a good exercise that one of our teachers said that they would use it in lessons. 41 keen students took part in an afternoon writing workshop. Jo ran this with Becci's support and some fantastic stories and dialogue were written; in fact one story was so powerful it reduced the crowd to utter silence. Jo stayed on after school to join Becci's writing club and we just want to say a very BIG thank you to both Jo and Becci! To read the full article please see the post [here](#).



Legislation Update

GDPR - Coming into Effect May 2018

The new General Data Protection regulations come in to effect May 25th 2018, as a result data handling practices will change. There is more information and advice around cloud based services and the changes to current legislation available in the IT section on our Moodle <http://sls.hias.hants.gov.uk/>

For more information, please contact Hampshire School Library Service:

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