

## **SLG NEWS – July Bulletin**

Welcome to the July edition of the e-newsletter from SLG! For those of you who have just subscribed, this is CILIP's monthly email which brings you SLG news and other information that may be of interest to you.

### **WHAT HAS SLG NATIONAL BEEN UP TO LATELY?**

#### ***Working with SLA and YLG***

We continue to forge closer links with these groups. Following on from Tricia Adam's attendance at our Peterborough conference, Sue Shaper (as SLG Chair) was at Guildford last weekend for the SLA conference. It was a great opportunity to make new contacts and get new ideas amongst a really enthusiastic group of librarians. Sue was also a guest at this week's Carnegie and Kate Greenaway Awards. It was a privilege to hear David Flickling's passionate speech and to experience the genuine excitement of the occasion.

#### ***Joint SLG National and YLG London Summer Party***

This was held at Waterstones in Piccadilly, was another thoroughly enjoyable occasion and judging by the thank you's that both groups have received since it was a huge success. Authors, publishers and librarians from both the public and schools sectors mingled and networked with nothing more required of them than the joint desire to crack the cryptic clues that had been set for us. The SLG national committee sees greater co-operation between our groups to be the way forward and we thank everyone concerned for making this both possible and such a pleasure.

#### ***Campaign for the Book***

The one day conference took place this weekend in Birmingham. The SLG National committee was represented by Karen Usher (our Vice-chair) and national committee members Laura Taylor and Karen Hans.

Initial feedback suggests that this was a very positive, inspiring day full of action point suggestions which Alan Gibbons, SLG, SLA, Reading Agency, MLA, National Literacy Trust and Unison will take forward. These include encouraging Head teachers and teaching unions to support the need for libraries and qualified staff in all schools as recommended in the 2006 OFSTED report '*Good School libraries: making a difference to learning*'. There was also a big focus on reading for pleasure and reader development, particularly as so many children's authors were present.

Liberal & Conservative MPs were present and hopefully came away with a better understanding of the issues. Unfortunately Labour was not represented as Lynn Brown, who had planned to attend and has a great interest in library issues, was promoted to the Whips office this week and this new role has certain curtailments she is obliged to respect.

***'Hear It, Read It: How Stories, Live Poetry and Book Talking turn Literacy into Lifelong Learning'***

The Wales steering committee arranged a successful one-day school with guest speaker, Alec Williams, at the beginning of June.

**DID YOU KNOW?**

***Readability***

Colleagues in Primary schools might be interested in a new scheme that has been designed to promote reading. Called "Readability", it has the threefold aim of raising awareness about disability, a fundraising partnership between the school and the Leonard Cheshire Disability charity and promoting reading for pleasure. Each child taking part will receive a free activity book. More details at:

[www.LCDisability.org/Readability](http://www.LCDisability.org/Readability)

***USBORNE YOUNG WRITERS AWARD 2009***

See the Usborne website: [www.usborne.co.uk/youngwritersaward](http://www.usborne.co.uk/youngwritersaward) for details of this new award

**DATE TO NOTE**

The next committee meeting is July 8th when we will be discussing plans for the forthcoming year. Any members with concrete suggestions or comments on how SLG can advocate and work for its membership should please email Sue Shaper. [s\\_shaper@hotmail.com](mailto:s_shaper@hotmail.com)

**SLG NATIONAL COMMITTEE OFFICERS 2009**

Chair: Sue Shaper, Director of Library Resources at The Broxbourne School

Vice Chair: Karen Usher, Librarian at South Hunsley School

Secretary: Rebecca Hemming, Head of Library at University College School

Treasurer: June Brooks, Hampshire Schools' Library Service

You can get regional contact information and also contact the National Committee on the SLG web pages – <http://www.cilip.org.uk/slg>

**PLEASE HELP**

If you know of other SLG members who haven't received this, then please encourage them to register with the CILIP website so that they can be included on the distribution list in future. Make sure that the CILIP e-news box is ticked in the section under eBulletins in the 'My Profile' section.

If there is anything relating to School Libraries that you would like included in the future bulletins, please email [rhemming@ucs.org.uk](mailto:rhemming@ucs.org.uk)