

## Australia sponsors IBBY's big day

The 1988 International Children's Book Day has special significance for all Australians this year as Australia is the world-wide sponsor.

International Children's Book Day is organised by IBBY (the International Board on Books for Young People) on 2 April, the birth-date of Hans Christian Andersen. This is not only to celebrate the works of the great master, which have enchanted children all over the world, but also to bring to mind the works of children's authors and illustrators, past and present, which have enriched the lives of young people in all countries.

Each year a different national section of IBBY is selected from nominations to the IBBY Executive to sponsor the day. It is indeed fitting that in this Bicentennial Year Australia should have been selected and IBBY Australia is grateful to the Bicentennial Authority for financial assistance in mounting this project.

For distribution throughout the world, a beautiful message for all children 'The Magic Carpet' has been written by the distinguished Australian writer for children, Patricia Wrightson, winner of the 1986 Hans Christian Andersen Award for writing. A delightful poster, designed by the renowned artist and illustrator of children's books, Robert Ingpen, winner of the 1986 Hans Christian Andersen Award for illustration is available.

The Hans Christian Andersen Awards, known as 'The Little Nobel Prizes for Children's Literature', are the most prestigious prizes in the world for this genre. So again it is fitting that these two artists, who not only brought the awards to Australia for the first time since their inception in 1956, but in addition were the first to bring both awards to the same country in the same year, should be the feature artists representing Australia in 1988.

As 2 April this year falls on Easter Saturday, IBBY suggests that all libraries, schools, schools of library studies, bookshops and publishers celebrate the day during the week before and the week after Easter with all sorts of innovative ideas. The poster and message, printed in the four official languages of IBBY - English, French, German and Spanish should help considerably in displays.

Posters and messages are being distributed to the 50 member nations of IBBY and are



Detail of IBBY Bookmark by Rodney McRae.

available to Australians for \$7 for poster and message (\$10 posted).

The 1988 IBBY bookmark is really something special and most appropriate for our Bicentennial Year. It carries a design by a brilliant up and coming young illustrator of children's books, Rodney McRae. It depicts a ship of the First Fleet sailing into Sydney Harbour. Bookmarks may be obtained from Australian IBBY at a cost of \$6 per pack of 100 (\$8 posted).

The popular Hans Christian Andersen Dinner will take place on 24 March at Len Evans Wine Cellars, 16-18 Bulletin Place, Circular Quay at 7.00 pm.

Guest speakers will be Jean Chapman and Sandra Laroche, writer and illustrator of the recently published book 'Capturing the Golden Bird'. The book will be launched at the dinner.

Eighty places will be allocated on a first come basis. Cost of the famous Len Evans gourmet meal including all pre-dinner and dinner drinks is \$30.

Receipts will not be sent (if your cheque is not returned to you, you have been accepted), there will be name tags at the door. When applying, kindly list the names of all guests and include the name, address and telephone number of a contact person. Cheques for the dinner, poster and message and the book-marks should be made payable to IBBY Australia and sent to Ena Noël, President, IBBY Australia, PO Box 194, Edgecliff NSW 2027.

Ena Noël

## KOALA Awards 1987

Thanks to NSW Branch Council the celebration of the announcement of the KOALA (Kids Own Australian Literature Award) was held both in the city and the country.

The inaugural KOALA was presented on the 26 October 1987 (International Children's Day) at Taronga Park Zoo. Six hundred enthusiastic readers from primary and secondary schools had the opportunity to see Mem Fox and Julie Vivas accepting their KOALA for *Possum Magic*. Unfortunately Robin Klein was unable to attend to accept her award for *Hating Alison Ashley*.

The celebration did not end in Sydney. Mem and Julie travelled to Cowra the next day so that more of the voters, who had sent in 140,000 votes in NSW and the ACT, could meet their chosen author and illustrator. The Cowra trip included a visit to Carinya and Erambie preschools and a 'magic picnic in the park' where primary schools from the Cowra area converged. All of this was organised by teacher librarian Judy McLaren. Mid-state television covered the picnic the next day.

NSW Branch Council funding of Mem and Julie's fares enabled many children to participate in the presentation of their own award.

Liz Bowring.



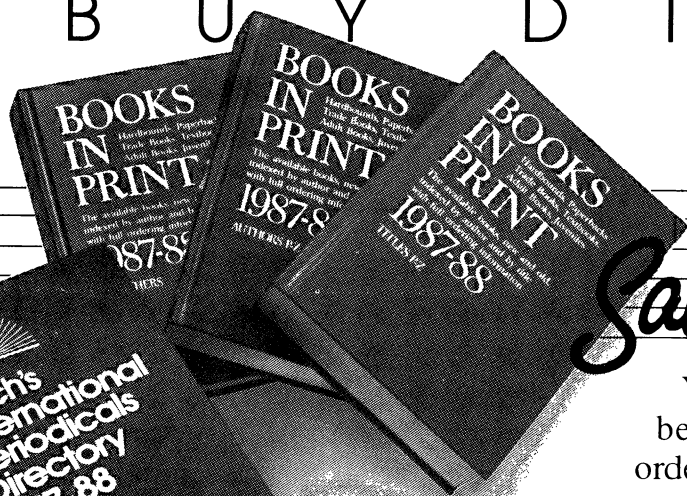
The VALA Award is made each year to the Australian library or information centre judged to have made the most innovative use of computer technology during the previous year.

Nominations are now invited for the 1988 Award for systems installed in 1987.

**Guidelines and nomination forms should be obtained from: The Secretary, VALA, GPO Box 2342V, Melbourne VIC 3001.**

**Nominations close 29 April 1988.**

B U Y D I R E C T



Save time & money!

You can not buy RR Bowker publications at a better price anywhere else. Register your standing order with us and save time and money.

**CALL US NOW AND COMPARE OUR PRICES!**

**PHONE US NOW!**

Butterworths Pty. Ltd.  
271-277 Lane Cove Road  
NORTH RYDE N.S.W. 2113  
Phone: (02) 887 3444

Butterworths