



## Branch Report

### **Ballarat Branch Annual Report 2018**

Branch Convenors: Julia Petrov & Leonie Darken – St Patrick's College

#### **Term 1**

##### **March 21, Clayton's CBCA - Ballarat**

Our branch supported a successful Clayton's CBCA night. The speakers were informative and entertaining and it was interesting to learn about their choices. It was great to see staff from lots of different libraries and teachers from different schools.

Due to a number of factors there was no branch meeting this term.

#### **Term 2**

##### **June 6, Branch AGM - Lake View Hotel**

Lots of interesting conversations and ideas were shared at our AGM. We have had one change in our office bearer positions. We thanked Marcia Phillips for her work on the Ballarat Executive, thanked Melissa Dunely for her ongoing service and welcomed Rosalie Corbett to the team.

Our focus this meeting was on resourcing the VCE and embedding information literacy into a range of subject areas. Melissa Dunley gave an entertaining and informative presentation of how she prepares the Year 12 English students for the research component of their oral presentation SAC. We discussed the various databases we subscribe to, how we promote them and support their access.

We also had a report from CBCA by Debbie Marshall.

##### **June 2, CBCA Judge's Talk – Sovereign Hill**

We continued our support of the Ballarat branch's CBCA Judge's talk. Hosted by Sovereign Hill, we were lucky to have 3 judges present a comprehensive and engaging summary of shortlisted books.

#### **Term 3**

##### **September 12, Host – Ballarat High School**

We were welcomed into a lovely meeting area that caught the afternoon winter sun which set the mood for a valuable meeting. Our hosts Ingrid Perkins and Rosalie Corbett described the new Year 8 reading program they are introducing in conjunction with the English faculty. They also gave us a brief tour of their library.

After an informative CBCA report we all shared our Book Week triumphs and trials. Megan Grant presented a visual summary of Book Week at Damascus College and other members discussed different activities that linked to the theme. Given the amount of work we all put in towards making Book Week special for our schools, it was great to have an opportunity to share ideas for others to use next time and to laugh over the things that didn't quite go to plan despite our best efforts.

## Term 4

### November 28, Host – St Patrick's College

For our Christmas breakup meeting we had an author / illustrator presentation by Karla Strambini about her picture book, *The Extraordinary Mr Qwerty*. We learnt about the different stages of production and some of the challenges in working with editors, graphic designers and international publishing houses. Ballarat Books were present to sell copies of Karla's book and they sold well. The meeting concluded with an informal gathering where we socialized and caught up with the news in each other's schools. The challenges of booklists were discussed as were the various ways we support the English department in selecting texts. A happy night, it was great hear from a local talent and to have the opportunity to catch up before the end of the year.

