

North Norfolk Children's Book Group – August 2011 Newsletter

Dear Members

What a term we have coming up for you - we hope you have lots of stamina because it would be criminal to miss ANY of these events. Diaries at the ready!

Straight into the term with **Malorie Blackman** at the Jubilee Centre. Malorie has been writing for many years and her books have been showered with praise. Ask any 14 year old about Noughts and Crosses - a novel about racism and violence which demands to be read. Her new novel for teenagers is equally controversial in a completely different way. Malorie is a wonderful speaker - you and your children will be charmed by the way she shares her experiences and her views. This event is for 11+ because she has agreed to talk about the variety of her work and not just books for older readers.

Jonathan Stroud has long been a favourite of mine - The Amulet of Samarkand is a good starting point - a very funny magic-y fantasy book - brilliant for disconsolate Harry Potter fans, and wonderful to read aloud. Jonathan wrote his first book at the age of 8, so if you have children who are intent upon becoming writers bring them along.

Caroline Lawrence is best known for her wonderful Roman books, which began with The Thieves of Ostia in 2001. She has amassed a huge body of fans over the last decade. Dressed in Roman garb she has visited schools all over the country, inspiring children to read about the Romans and their world. And now she has written a story set in the American west - the beginning of a series, which already has a huge following. I'm not sure how she will be dressed when she visits us - but you may be assured that the evening will be very entertaining. Anyone dressed in cowboy garb may be eligible for a magnificent prize... yeeeeeha!

We are delighted that **Jackie Morris** is coming all the way over to Norfolk Children's Book Centre for 6th October to launch her new book of Nursery Rhymes on National Poetry Day. This will be an invitation only event to which adult book group members will be invited - you will receive your embossed invitation in the Autumn! Put the date in your diary and dust off your cocktail dresses - we are hoping this will be a glittering occasion - the first time a book launch has been hosted at Norfolk Children's Book Centre. AND if you buy a Jackie Morris book from the bookshop in September you will be awarded a raffle ticket, which will go into the hat, and on the big night some lucky person will win a beautiful Jackie Morris original painting. Jackie is sending the painting to us to display in the shop from 1st September, so do come in and have a look.

We have another event lined up for the Autumn particularly for **football fans** - but I'm going to save that for our next missive - you'll have to try guessing!

None of these events will be available to you free of charge UNLESS you pay your membership subs of course, those who owe subs will get a renewal form in a separate email . We promise members three events a year - and we have already got FIVE lined up for the first term alone - what an amazing bargain. We haven't forgotten our members with younger children either - there will be some delights coming up in the Spring - we are in negotiation with some very interesting people at the moment and will keep you informed.

Either reply to this email or phone Norfolk Children's Book Centre on 01263 761402 to book places for these events - and **please** tell friends and neighbours about us - non-members are welcome to come along but they pay £3 on the door and £1 for their children.

Malorie Blackman 7.00pm for 7.30pm start. Jubilee Centre, Aylsham 21st September. Suitable for Y6 and above.

Jonathan Stroud 7.00pm for 7.30pm start. Venue to be confirmed. 28th September. Suitable for Y5 and above

Caroline Lawrence 7.00pm for 7.30pm start. Venue to be confirmed. 17th October. Suitable for Y5 and above

Book Launch with **Jackie Morris** 6.00pm at Norfolk Children's Book Centre 6th October (National Poetry Day) Adults only.

Marilyn Brocklehurst