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# Orange Chatterbooks Newsletter

## Number 21

### Winter 2006 / 2007



**This newsletter is issued in January, May and September, alternating with Orange Chatterbooks updates in March, July and November. The short updates will briefly highlight the latest things happening with Orange Chatterbooks - news, training, Chatterbooks events and forthcoming national events that you might like to link into.**

**The next edition of the Orange Chatterbooks newsletter will be May. Please e mail items for potential inclusion asap and before Friday April 27<sup>th</sup>. They should go directly to Jerry Hurst at [jerry.hurst@readingagency.org.uk](mailto:jerry.hurst@readingagency.org.uk). Thank you.**

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#### 'Charlotte's Web' – library tie-in promotion with new film in February 2007

By Monday 15 January you should have received all the resources you have ordered for the Charlotte's Web libraries' promotion to tie in with the launch of this film on February 9<sup>th</sup>.

You can download the Charlotte's Web Chatterpack from the Orange website at [www1.orange.co.uk/about/community/chatterbooks.html](http://www1.orange.co.uk/about/community/chatterbooks.html) – if you have any problems call [Tricia](mailto:Tricia) And it's worth trying your local Odeon for free tickets, we've had a couple of examples already of this working – and a good relationship being set up with the cinema.

There will also be an opportunity to showcase on the Orange website your reports and children's creative work from your groups' Charlotte's Web activities. If you would like to join in this, contact Patricia or Tricia, your Chatterbooks coordinators, (contact details at the end of this newsletter) and we will let you have templates for sending in your contributions.

## Ideas, successes and updates - Orange Chatterbooks Winter 2006 / 2007

### BEDFORDSHIRE ORANGE CHATTERBOOKS – ONE YEAR ON AND STILL CHATTERING!

"What are they doing in there?" asks a gentleman at the counter, "Can anyone join in?" It's the first Monday of the month at Kempston Library and eleven young people between the ages of eight and fifteen are jumbled around two small tables negotiating pictures of mythical beasts. Everyone is either laughing or smiling – gnomes are being swapped with Father Christmases, phoenixes traded with mermaids, imaginations are flying around the room like winged horses. "It's Fantasy Night at Chatterbooks" we say proudly. The gentleman, having been made aware of the age limit, has to leave disappointed. No disappointments indoors though. Masterpieces are being created and another successful monthly meeting is in progress.

Kempston Orange Chatterbooks have been meeting now for just under a year. Born on the back of The *Summer Reading Challenge* it has retained its early joiners and seems to have lost none of its early appeal, as evidenced by the constant attendance and surfeit of enthusiasm available at every meeting. One member, a keen cricketer, memorably got special permission to be let off net practice to come during May and June.

Although staff set the theme for each evening, and chart a rough course through the hour, it is the young people themselves that steer the time – very important if the young people are to have a sense of ownership of the group. Discussions can erupt at any time and confidences are regularly shared. During one meeting one member, whilst discussing his chosen book, confessed that he was being bullied at school. The group helpfully and constructively shared their own experiences too... all during a session on time-travel! One parent mentioned how much more confident her daughter had become as a result of Chatterbooks. Another member volunteered to help out at all the children's summer holiday activities. The benefits clearly extend further than the end of a page.

As well as inevitably encouraging reading and widening reading tastes, we have found our members keen to write as well. Fantasy Night spawned several really excellent fledgling stories to be worked on later at home. Poetry night birthed some very surreal group poems later published on Bedfordshire's Virtual Library [www.galaxy.bedfordshire.gov.uk/cgi-bin/vlib.sh](http://www.galaxy.bedfordshire.gov.uk/cgi-bin/vlib.sh)

"A blind table  
smiles  
reading a book.  
The morning is  
pink  
and pours itself out  
with sadness.  
I am as moody as  
a grey sock."

Staff confess to the Chatterbooks hour being the quickest of the month, with sessions like 'Love and Guts' (a romance and horror mix for Valentines Day), 'Time Slip' (looking at time-travel), and 'Food Stuff' to keep the members (and staff!) intrigued as well as engaged. We have all felt it very important to keep a strong sense of fun as we meet. Book School this is not. Games and quizzes have become a popular feature and interesting food treats (pancakes and enormous cookies for America Day were particularly enjoyed!) a necessity. Most members come straight from school so it has been important to keep the atmosphere light and relaxed. Most of the library staff want to get involved in the sessions too, which is excellent when sharing interests and eccentricities! One staff member writes a lot of poetry and was happy to share her experiences and enthusiasm, resulting in Poetry Night, another is an expert on family history – the possibilities are endless.

Biscuits may not last long in a session, but enthusiasm certainly does. Feedback time, when everyone talks about a book they have read, has to be early on for that reason. To prune the excesses of the chattiest in the group, we have found the use of an egg timer and a toy Captain Underpants indispensable! Everyone is allowed only one minute to give reviews and, if a discussion gets out of hand, must only speak when holding the Captain! Cruel but very effective!

Perhaps the best by-product of running such a group has been the number of firm friendships that have grown up – staff and young people alike. Although we meet only once a month our members regularly come in to meet up with each other at other times. There is a strong sense of belonging to something very special. Finding someone who loves the same book as you and exchanging 'best bits' will never lose its appeal either. Eyes light up and the rest of the world disappears. It has always been this way!!

Now at the end of our first year, we find ourselves bowled over, surprised, encouraged, rewarded, exhausted... all these things, but also in the happy position of discussing two groups, a new teen reading group being a definite possibility. Are we ready for this new year? Oh yes please!

*Dawn Bauling*

### **GHERKINS, GARGOYLES AND CROYDON ORANGE CHATTERBOOKS**

Sanderstead Library Orange Chatterbooks group recently visited the Museum of London to meet author Charlie Fletcher and to hear him talk about his debut novel *Stoneheart*, at a special event organised by Hodder Children's Books.

All the children received proof copies of the book the week before the visit. All of them started to read it, one didn't like it, but the others really enjoyed it and were going to carry on reading it.

Eight children and five parents met at the local station and the train journey was good fun, with the children trying to read as much of *Stoneheart* as they could in between sharing sweets and pointing out landmarks such as the 'gherkin' and Tower Bridge. Walking to the museum we tried to spot gargoyles and statues on the buildings (these are a main feature of the book; human statues = good characters, gargoyles = bad characters).

We had time to stop at the museum café and gift shop first then the children got Charlie Fletcher to sign their proof copies. We compared the difference between the proof and retail copies – proof had a different cover design, no end papers, the chapter headings and fonts were different and there were no internal illustrations.

Charlie talked about his inspiration for the book – when he was eight years old he looked at the war memorial at Hyde Park corner and wondered what would happen if one of the soldier statues came to life. Several years later when he returned to London after working in LA he noticed how ornately decorated the buildings are in London compared with those in America and his original thoughts – from when he was eight - came back. This theme developed into the gargoyles at the Natural History Museum coming to life. The main characters are a boy and girl that are similar ages to his own children. He read extracts from his book and showed slides of the actual statues.

Charlie amazed us with his knowledge of the statues – he researched who the soldier at Hyde Park was as well as the sculptor. The sculptor was an army artist who was in the trenches during World War One, determined to create a fitting, lifelike memorial to the soldiers he served with.

It was a really enjoyable trip and the book captured the children's attention. One family went back into London during half term to see how many of the statues and landmarks in the book they could find!

I would definitely consider taking the children on another visit / event in London.

*Janice Hendry*

## DUDLEY ORANGE CHATTERBOOKS CELEBRATES ITS FIRST YEAR

Stourbridge Library Orange Chatterbooks in Dudley has been running for twelve months now. The group started with two members and now has twelve members - three boys and twelve girls - aged from eight to eleven, with numbers increasing almost monthly.

Four of the girls were very shy and hesitant at first about joining in the conversation, but they now contribute freely to the discussion. We find that asking a shy child if they would like to read out a funny poem (from a book that we have already selected) will, after a few meetings, lead to the child feeling confident enough to contribute to general conversation about something they have read.

We find it very rewarding that most months a member will bring along a brother or sister, a friend from school or just someone who is going to their house for tea that day! We have a lively discussion about what we have been reading, do a fun activity, look at the latest books and enjoy a biscuit and a drink.

Here's what some of the members have said about the group:

"I like Chatterbooks you have first choice on the books also because you have drinks and biscuits." *Catherine*

"I like Chatterbooks because we get all the time we need to tell each other what the books are about and we get to look at the new books first, and if we want we can have a drink and one or two biscuits." *Chris*

"It's good to be able to talk about the books we've read." *Emily*

"I like choosing new books." *Emily*

"I like Chatterbooks because you get to recommend books to each other and you have lots of fun." *Evie*

"I like Chatterbooks because I think it's a good idea to talk about the books we've read." *Liam*

*Sue Lovell*

## EDINBURGH BOOK CHATTER...

More than forty keen young readers from across Edinburgh gathered for the first ever **Orange Chatterbooks Jamboree** at McDonald Road Library on November 24<sup>th</sup> 2006.

The Jamboree brought together children from eight Chatterbooks reading groups across the city. Award-winning author, Catherine MacPhail, was the guest of honour, entertaining the audience with tales of writing, finding inspiration and her numerous successful books. Catherine also presented two lucky winners with signed copies of her book *Granny Nothing and the rusty key*, complete with new covers designed by the winners. As if that wasn't enough, all the children then got to take home a goodie bag and choose a book from a selection kindly donated by Scottish Book Trust.

The jamboree was a great success, with one young reader commenting "I never knew writing could be so much fun!". Everyone was delighted that the first-ever Chatterbooks Jamboree went so well, giving many of the children their first opportunity to meet an author and another opportunity to share their passion for books and reading.

Following on from the Jamboree every member of the ten Chatterbooks reading groups across the city received a Christmas present of a copy of *Lion Boy* by Zizou Corder, kindly donated by a local bookshop.

And with plans to celebrate World Book Day 2007 with another local bookshop, Edinburgh's Chatterbooks groups look set for another busy year!

*Brenda Rowan*

## HARINGEY ORANGE CHATTERBOOKS... A FANTASTIC YEAR!

What a fantastic year we have had with our Orange Chatterbooks reading group here at Hornsey Library!

One of our intrepid readers was interviewed by BBC Newsround on why he liked coming to the library for a reading group, the authors he had met and the discussions that took place with the rest of the group. Chris, 10 years old, liked the idea of reading proof copies of soon to be published titles and he also enjoyed the idea that, "If you don't like a book then you can say so!"

Two of our group, Alex and Xavi (11 years), were invited to the Unicorn Theatre to meet Michael Rosen and Joyce Dunbar, as part of National Children's Book Week Celebrations, which they thoroughly enjoyed.

We have been incredibly lucky, with some very talented authors, who have visited to showcase some extraordinary new titles of stunning fiction.

In August, Graham Marks came to talk about *Snatched!* his romp about a circus set in Victorian times and told the children about the research he had done and that circuses had 'clever pigs' who appeared to do sums!

In September, Catherine Webb, author of two *Horatio Lyle* titles, *The Extraordinary and Unusual Adventures of Horatio Lyle* and *The Obsidian Dagger: being the further extraordinary adventures of Horatio Lyle*, talked about the process of writing and where her ideas had come from. The children found out that she got her inspiration for many of the names involved in the stories from the back of the London A-Z!

In October, Sam Enthoven, author of *The black tattoo* came and amazed everyone with his brilliant story of hell, demons, possession and martial arts. The children were so thrilled that they wanted him to read more excerpts from his book. Particular favourites were from the gladiatorial combat in hell and everyone was interested in how Esme's father made a sword from pigeon droppings! Don't ask, you'll just have to read it!

Finally, the icing on the cake, came in November, when the group was asked to nominate their selections for next year's *Summer Reading Challenge*. Publishers had sent in their choices to The Reading Agency, who then had done a pre-selection, and with the help of Jerry Hurst, a great discussion took place, careful consideration of each title ensued and the children really engaged with the project. At the next Chatterbooks meeting, they told me that they had really enjoyed the process and were delighted that they had been given the opportunity to be involved in selecting books that might appear in next year's *Summer Reading Challenge* collections.

Thanks to The Reading Agency, Jerry Hurst and all the authors who gave up their time to attend our sessions.  
*Sean Edwards*

### **HERTFORDSHIRE ORANGE CHATTERBOOKS HOSTS CELEBRITY SESSIONS**

We have had a couple of exciting author visits recently. After Hoddesdon's library was refurbished, we invited Jacqueline Wilson to come along to celebrate the re-opening. She gave a very entertaining and inspiring talk and read from the (then) proof copy of her new *Tracy Beaker* book. We invited members of our Orange Chatterbooks group from Cheshunt Library to come along. As she is a total star for many members of the group, this was a very memorable occasion for them, particularly when Tara was chosen to present her with a bouquet of flowers. I am sure that Tara will never forget the experience!



More recently Alan Gibbons visited Hoddesdon Library. Group members were specially invited to attend an hour-long creative writing session with him. The session was divided into two; in the first half Alan set the scene for a very scary story about waking at night to hear the wind moaning, twigs scraping at the window, billowing curtains and a nearby gallows! He encouraged the group to think of unusual and evocative adjectives to use instead of the tried and tested ones, and he helped them in creating suspense. The session was so successful that one group member had to leave early as his imagination had been over-stimulated! In the second part of the session, Alan led the group in creating amusing eight-line poems where

each child described themselves in terms of an item of furniture, a favourite food, season etc e.g.:

- I am Spring
- I am a comfy armchair
- I am pizza napolitana etc.

The results were very interesting and amusing!

*Barbara Lawson*

### **FREEDOM CENTRE CHATTERBOOKS GROUP IN HULL ROCKS!**

On 21<sup>st</sup> September, the Freedom Centre Library Orange Chatterbooks reading group was joined by Patricia Sharkey from the Reading Agency.

The theme for this session was around *The Oddies* books. At the previous session, the month before, we had read out loud as a group, two of *The Oddies* titles and had decided the theme for this special session would be to design our own *Oddie* character using a sock and various materials.

The idea of this session was to use our imagination, and to bring out our own personality when making this puppet and then to write a short story around our chosen puppet character. We made our puppet 'Gabby the Chatterbooks member' so we had an example on the day!

When Patricia arrived at the session she brought her two children with her, who are used to going to Chatterbooks groups so they knew what to expect. All members sat around the table and we decided to introduce ourselves as we had a few new members - so we said our names, age, school, how we found out about the group, why we like the group, our favourite session and our favourite book we have reviewed.

This was an excellent ice breaker and also introduced our guests to the group. We then read as a group another *Oddie* book and got onto making our puppets. This was great fun - time seemed to fly.



Patricia looked in the folder I keep of session themes, thoughts, observations, as well as the members' files. She seemed particularly impressed as we had put together a questionnaire and asked both parents and members to fill in their thoughts of the group and she asked if I could write another article for the Orange Chatterbooks Newsletter, with the comments, to show other groups around the country what we had discovered while running our group [watch this space...]. We also looked at the wall display the members had produced, showing the group's ground rules as well as poetry they had written for a competition. When the members' parents arrived, Patricia spoke to them about the group and what their children were doing within the group.

Patricia also gave each member a bag which contained three books for them to take home – all members were thrilled with this. When everyone had gone, Patricia said what a lovely group we had, how enthusiastic all the members seemed, how wonderful it was to see and hear the children read out loud as a group and how all the parents are interested in what we are trying to achieve.

*Jo Parkinson and Donna Jones*

### **SHROPSHIRE ORANGE CHATTERBOOKS ENJOY AN EXCITING READING YEAR**

Thanks for putting together the Orange Chatterbooks Newsletter. It always contains interesting items to follow up and I generally glean at least one new idea for a Chatterbooks session from

each issue. We run a small group which meets at Ellesmere Library in Shropshire and the enthusiasm we're greeted with is a real highlight of our working month. The following gives a flavour of our activities during the course of 2006:

- 'Potty about Poetry' - all the children read aloud a poem they'd written since our last session and were then able to use Peoples Network PCs to add them to the wonderful [www.poetryzone.ndirect.co.uk](http://www.poetryzone.ndirect.co.uk) website.
- 'My Story' - two sessions were based on the biography genre, where we looked at some famous examples and then children were given a disposable camera each to take home and use. At the following session, everyone had great fun using the developed films to create the story of *My life so far...*
- 'Greenaway Shadowing' - one of the best sessions of the year, as each member of the group talked enthusiastically and at length about their favourite illustrated book and then debated the pros and cons of the Greenaway contenders.
- 'Chatterbooks Display' - each member of the group contributed book reviews and comments to a Chatterbooks display in a corner of the library
- 'Dahl-icious!' - group members discussed the Roald Dahl titles they'd read during the previous month and then were able to use the Dahl Day activity sheets. Everyone enjoyed the game of 'Consequences' where each member had to contribute a line to a story - there were some very imaginative contributions!
- 'Hans Christian Andersen' - we were able to use a special 'Flying Suitcase' resource for this session, which included use of a CD ROM full of ideas for activities. A discussion of the titles we'd read was followed by a look at a map and tourist resources from Denmark. We ended the session with a game called 'Convince Me!'. Based on the theme of The Emperor's New Clothes, each member was given an incredible statement, such as "My cousin is David Beckham" and had 30 seconds to convince the rest of the group of the statement's truth. Noisy but hilarious.

We'll begin 2007 with a Chatterbooks planning session so that the children can contribute ideas, hopefully incorporating both the *Talking about Senses* and *Charlotte's Web* ideas into the schedule. Many thanks once again for producing such a useful newsletter.

Heather Rodenhurst

### Orange Chatterbooks members run the rule over Big Wild Read stock

Orange Chatterbooks members at **Hornsey Library in Haringey, Oaksmere, Rickmansworth, Stevenage and Watford Libraries in Hertfordshire** and **West Norwood Library in Lambeth** recently checked out the selection of books for this year's **Big Wild Read** Summer Reading Challenge promotional dumpbins. The books had been pre-selected by a panel of children's librarians and book consultants, but as always, it is really important to ensure that children have had the opportunity to comment on, endorse and criticise the selection.

Thank you to the children (an equal mix of boys and girls, ranging in age from seven to twelve) who formed our advisory teams:

**In Hornsey:** Alex Burnett-Pope, William Champion, Alex Davies-Pingue, Bhavna Dumree, Funmi Ilorin, Chris Leonidou, Xavi Maddison, Kip Phillips, Kate Plummer, Lou Renvoize, Tenn Renvoize.

**In Oaksmere:** Abigail, Alexander, Ben, Colette, Emily, George, Laurie, Luc, Rhona.

**In Rickmansworth:** Harry Baker, Melissa Barker, Henry Cutting, James Furr, Edward Hunter, Brandon Kato, Fabian Kelly, Selina Lotay, Bridget Ratliff, Prasanna Suresh, Shreehari Suresh, Shannon Walsh, Yasmin Wood.

**In Stevenage:** Amy Cheriton, Zoe Cheriton, Carl Lane, Carly Ryan, Ashley Seymour and William Simpson.

**In Watford:** Krishan Parbhu, Reena Parbhu, Alice Scully.

**In West Norwood:** Nathanael Arhouzou, Anis Clark, Chante Arnold Fraser, Robyn L Graham, Kemera Green, Doreen Kagweza, Mary Olarewaju, Khalidu Sesay, Jessica Utit, Nicole Utit, Jerdene Wildman.

The collection will be divided between two promotions, one for children aged 4–8 years, and older, less confident readers and one for children aged 8-12 years. Criteria for selection include:

- diversity
- a good range of abilities
- a good range of interests
- appeal to boys and girls
- a good proportion of titles for younger readers (first chapter books etc)
- a mixture of fiction, non-fiction, poetry.



The consultation sessions started with a brief activity to establish a light, fun atmosphere and to get the children focused on different people, different reading habits, and the *Big Wild Read...* and everyone was invited to say:

- something about what they like to read and
- what they think makes a really good *holiday* read

These were recorded on post-it notes and displayed on a flip chart.

Then, using the following guidelines (discussed, then displayed on the wall for reference), the children worked in small groups, looking at the books and recording their votes and comments by attaching post-its to each book as follows:

- Regular, dull post-its... 'No way', 'Boring', 'Bad choice'...
- Vivid pink post-its... 'Whatever', 'OK', 'Not bad'...
- Wild, vivid, kissy lips / heart post-its... 'Awesome', 'Brilliant', 'Must have!'

As each group finished, they swapped with others to ensure that as many children as possible got to see the widest range of books.

These were the guidelines:

When you look at / discuss the books, think about:

1. How much do YOU want to read it? Why?
2. How good is it likely to be AS A HOLIDAY READ? Why?
3. Does it have COVER APPEAL? Will people want to choose it from the dumpbin?
4. Any other thoughts? (about the pictures maybe, or about *who* would be likely to enjoy the book)



And here are just a few of the children's comments on [A really good holiday read is...]:

"something that's not like what you read at school." *Kip*

"a book about things you like to do in the summer or on holiday." *Funmi*

"a book you can pick up and put down whenever you want." *Xavi*

"You need an exciting blurb that makes you want to read the book, and a good picture on the cover." *Ashley*

"Can I do this again next year?!" *Ashley*

"This is a really good collection." *Carl*

"I liked the books that are connected to the theme for the challenge." *Zoe*

*Sean Edwards (Haringey), Jo Jacobs, Michelle Lloyd, Luisa Lombardo, Diane Wilson (Hertfordshire), Naomi Leake (Lambeth), Jerry Hurst (for The Reading Agency). Thanks to Haringey Libraries for permission to use the photographs*

### Using the SENSE Chatterpack: activities at Ballyclare Library, North Eastern Education and Library Board, Northern Ireland

\*SENSE is the UK's largest organisation for children and adults who are deafblind or have associated disabilities and is a key charity supported by Orange

In our last session we talked about SENSE, then did the alphabet activity. The children thought of 3 letter words, then closed their eyes and traced the letters onto their partner's hand.

The children were amazed at how difficult it was; as the session progressed they started to talk a bit about the difficulties of being deafblind, one girl said she "wouldn't leave the house because she would feel as though she was completely cut off from the world no matter where she was and would be afraid that people were making fun of her".

It gave the children a feeling of frustration and helplessness and they started to consider ideas to make people's lives easier, they were surprisingly practical in their approach – preparing food, going shopping etc. There was a whole series of questions raised e.g. "How would people cope at home?", "What if they had no one to care for them?" "How would they know what the alphabet was and who could teach them it?"

The session definitely highlighted the importance of consideration towards anyone with a disability. We are going to do more of the activities in our January session. I think it's an excellent idea, some of the children have touched on these issues in school e.g. one girl's school asked a pupil's mum (who was deaf) to come in and tell the children about it - these activities will further indicate the practical difficulties.

*Josephine Patten,*

### Coming up...

#### JANUARY- FEBRUARY

**National Storytelling Week** Jan 27-Feb3 [www.sfs.org.uk](http://www.sfs.org.uk)

#### MARCH

**World Book Day** 1<sup>st</sup> March [www.worldbookday.com](http://www.worldbookday.com)

**The Cat in the Hat is 50!** 2<sup>nd</sup> March

On March 2<sup>nd</sup> 2007, Dr Seuss' famously anarchic feline, *The Cat in the Hat*, celebrates his 50<sup>th</sup> birthday. Originally written using just 236 'primer' words, in response to a challenge to create a learn-to-read book that would engage and inspire children, *The Cat in the Hat* has helped millions of children worldwide to learn to read and to enjoy books with a winning combination of fantastical characters, crazy antics, fast-paced rhymes and striking illustrations.

As part of the Cat's birthday celebrations, HarperCollins Children's Books are organising **Project 236** – a nationwide read-aloud of *The Cat in the Hat* at 2.36pm on March 2<sup>nd</sup>, and wish to encourage as many children as possible to take part – we may even break the world record! Register YOUR Orange Chatterbooks groups online at:

[www.harpercollinschildrensbooks.co.uk/catinthehat](http://www.harpercollinschildrensbooks.co.uk/catinthehat)

...for more information, advice on how to set up your read-aloud, and to receive a birthday party pack stuffed full with signature bow-ties, stickers, posters and a fun activity booklet to help you create a wild and wacky afternoon for your young readers!

*Catherine Holmes, HarperCollins Children's Books*

## APRIL – JUNE

### The 70th anniversary of the CILIP Carnegie Medal and 50th anniversary of the Kate Greenaway Medal. [www.ckg.org.uk](http://www.ckg.org.uk)

A panel of experts met early in December to produce two 'Top 10s' (one for the Carnegie and one for the Greenaway) from which the public can vote online for their favourite. The period of public voting will run from April to June 2007 with two winners decided by popular vote and announced on 21 June at the winners' party.

The panel was chaired by Nicolette Jones (journalist) who was joined by Colin Brabazon (past Chair Youth Libraries Group); Sharon Sperling (past Chair YLG); Teresa Scragg (past YLG chair); Jonathan Douglas (Director of the National Reading Campaign – from Jan 07); Wayne Winston (Waterstones).

Criteria: Titles are in print (or planned to be re-printed and available in shops before March 2007); a range of publishers should have produced the titles; books should look to produce lively and cross-generational interest and activity during the popular vote period.

CILIP would be very keen to hear about any family reading groups who would like to be involved. For further information please contact: Louisa Myatt: [louisa.myatt@cilip.org.uk](mailto:louisa.myatt@cilip.org.uk) 020 7255 0653

Please note: the Awards timetable has also changed, and the Medals will be awarded on 21st June instead of in July.

### Correction...

In the previous edition of the Orange Chatterbooks newsletter we referred to the *Torchlight Children's Book Award*. This award has been discontinued and we apologise for any confusion this reference might have caused.

### Your Orange Chatterbooks co-ordinators

Your Orange Chatterbooks co-ordinators are:

- **Patricia Sharkey** [patricia.sharkey@readingagency.org.uk](mailto:patricia.sharkey@readingagency.org.uk), 0871 223 2043
- **Tricia Kings** [tricia.kings@readingagency.org.uk](mailto:tricia.kings@readingagency.org.uk), 0871 750 1206

### THE NEXT EDITION OF THE ORANGE CHATTERBOOKS NEWSLETTER

We'd love to hear from you about your Orange Chatterbooks groups. Please let us have your ideas and successes so that we can share them with others through the Orange Chatterbooks newsletter.

The next edition of the Orange Chatterbooks newsletter will be in May 2007. Please email items for potential inclusion ASAP and before Friday 27 April. They should go directly to Jerry Hurst, at [jerry.hurst@readingagency.org.uk](mailto:jerry.hurst@readingagency.org.uk)

Thank you.