

Hullabaloo!

Newsletter of the Teaching Resources Collection at Bishop Grosseteste University Library



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Welcome to the spring edition of *Hullabaloo!*, which this time has been taken over by second year English Literature students Emma Ozenbrook, Damian Kuzma, Zoe King and Charleigh Bates. We have filled this issue with a wide variety of articles on children's literature, so you're bound to find something that sparks your interest.

Happy reading!

Meet The Team!



Emma Ozenbrook

"I would like to work in publishing"



Damian Kuzma

"Currently working on my first novel"



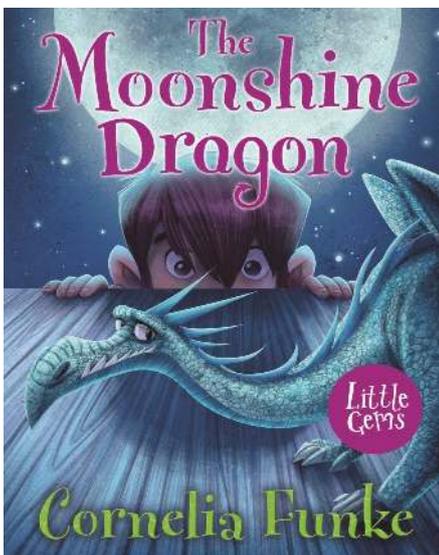
Zoe King

"I would like to be a writer"



Charleigh Bates

"I'm looking forward to what the future holds"



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The Knights' Trail

By Emma Ozenbrook and Emma Sansby

Remember Lincoln's Magna Carta 'Barons' back in 2015? More recently you may have seen knights on horseback being painted all around Lincoln and wondered what they are. Well, the 36 beautifully painted knights are a celebration of the 800th anniversaries of the Battle of Lincoln and the Charter of the Forest, and from the 20th May right through to September you will be able to follow a new 'Knights' Trail' around Lincoln.

Bishop Grosseteste University has its very own Knight called 'Knight and Day' (pictured right, in the Library on his pre-Trail tour of the campus), created by Kieron Reilly and Lynsey Brecknell from Birmingham. The University's Skinner Building is incorporated into the silhouette of Lincoln's iconic skyline, and the University's corporate colour purple merges into the sunset. Knight and Day will be positioned at Newport Arch, so be sure to pay a visit!

Taking children on The Knights' Trail? Why not extend the adventure and make it even more exciting by enjoying books with them about knights? There is a great selection in the Teaching Resources Centre. Recommendations for young children include *The Moonshine Dragon* by Cornelia Funke, which will capture all imaginative little minds, along with the humorous and dramatic story of *The Knight and the Squire* by Terry Jones, illustrated by Michael Foreman. You could even create your own story sack for the occasion (more on that throughout this issue), or design your own Knight at www.knightstrail.com, and print it off.

If you're wondering what the Battle of Lincoln was all about, it happened on 20 May 1217 against the backdrop of the First Baron's War (1215-1217), and was fought between the English and the French. King John (who had died just seven months earlier, in October 1216) had angered his own noblemen and barons to such an extent that when Louis, Prince of France, proclaimed himself King of England in the summer of 1216 many of them openly supported Louis' claim to the throne.



Image © Bishop Grosseteste University

Louis' forces captured key English strongholds, and soon controlled a large part of the country. King John's successor was his 9-year-old son, King Henry III, ruling under the regency of William Marshal, 1st Earl of Pembroke. Luckily for Henry, and for England, William Marshal was not only a respected statesman but also a highly skilled and experienced soldier, and was able to regain the support of the nobles and barons in the nick of time, just as the French were gaining ground in the north and besieging Lincoln.

At the time of the Battle only the Castle was held by the English, with the rest of the city in French hands. Marshal (then about 70 years old) and his forces, including 400 knights and 250 crossbow men, entered the city through the old Roman gates, including Newport Arch, and fought for six hours—mostly around the east gate of the Castle (pictured right) and the front of the Cathedral—and was ultimately victorious, with Louis subsequently forced to make peace.

Controversially, as the French retreated down the hill the English followed, sacking and pillaging the city as they went, believing its residents to be loyal to Prince Louis. The sacking became known as

'Lincoln Fair' and this is why the battle is sometimes referred to as *The Battle of Lincoln Fair*.

You can see copies of both the 1215 *Magna Carta* and the 1217 *Charter of the Forest* inside Lincoln Castle today; Lincoln being the only place in the world where original copies of both iconic documents are on permanent display.



Lincoln Castle by Gustavo Faraon.
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Grab Your Diaries...

You won't want to miss out on these celebrations, so grab your diaries and be sure to pencil in the dates ...

- National Share-a-Story month - May
- The Knights' Trail starts! – 20th May
- CILIP Carnegie and Kate Greenaway Book Awards winners announced – 19th June
- UKLA Book Award winners announced– 30th June
- Roald Dahl Day – 13th September
- National Poetry Day; this year's theme is freedom! – 28th September
- National Non-Fiction November – The Federation of Children's Books Group
- Summer Reading Challenge – This year's theme is animal agents!
Go to <http://readingagency.org.uk> to find out more ...

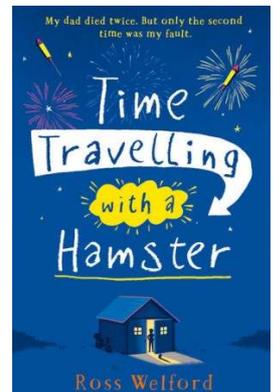
The CILIP Carnegie And Kate Greenaway Book Awards 2017

By Zoe King

The CILIP Carnegie and Kate Greenaway Children's Book Awards are here again, with their longlists and shortlists chock-a-block with literary and illustrative talent. It should go without saying that all the titles have earned their place on the two lists, but here are a few favourites that stood out for me, each of which can be found in the Teaching Resources Collection (TRC).

***Time Travelling with a Hamster* by Ross Welford**

This quirky book captivates the reader with a story jam-packed with humour and fun. Al Chaudhury (full name - Albert Einstein Hawking Chaudhury), 12, receives a letter sending him on a journey to uncover a secret time machine and travel to the year 1984, all in the hopes of saving his late father's life. Of course, not everything goes to plan, and Al soon realizes that fiddling with time in the past can create a whole lot of trouble in the present. Join Al and his pet hamster Alan Shearer on a quirky, unforgettable time travelling tale of laugh-out-loud and often tear-jerking moments.



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HarperCollins Publishers Ltd
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***Aubrey and the Terrible Yoot* by Horatio Clare**

In this book, author Horatio Clare engages with the tough subject of depression in a sensitive and unique way. The story begins with a rambunctious young boy named Aubrey, whose 'live to the limit' philosophy wreaks plenty of havoc. However, when his father falls under the spell of the so-called 'terrible Yoot', Aubrey sets forth on a heroic quest to break it, with the aid of a few talking animals along the way. Jane Matthews' intricate black and white illustrations add to the book's heart-warming magic and success.

***The Whale* by Vita and Ethan Murrow**

This endearing and wordless picture book follows the lives of two children, a girl and a boy, who both set off on separate expeditions to catch a glimpse of the legendary Great Spotted Whale. In an unforeseen turn of events, their brave journeys bring them together, and they soon realize they share an ancestor who was the first person ever to sight the Great Spotted Whale! Ethan Murrow's black and white illustrations manage to capture the excitement of sea adventure and the blissful moment of seeing a whale up-close for the first time; you will find yourself pouring over every one, and noticing new details each time you revisit them.

***The Marvels* by Brian Selznick**

This book weaves together two seemingly unrelated stories. The first half, made up entirely of illustrations, follows Billy Marvel, lone survivor of a shipwreck in 1766. The second half is told in prose and picks up in 1990, when a young boy named Joseph runs away from school to his uncle's puzzling and mysterious house in London. A lot of effort has gone into making this tale a beautiful addition to your bookshelf. The pages are edged with gold and the midnight blue cover is adorned by an intricate and fascinating maritime illustration. With a story and design like this, it's no wonder *The Marvels* has made it to both longlists.

The winners are announced in June, so keep your eyes peeled! To look at the full list of nominated titles go to www.carnegiegreenaway.org.uk.

From Dark To Dust: Philip Pullman's New Book!

By Damian Kuzma

After seventeen years, Phillip Pullman (pictured right) is adding yet another instalment to his world-famous *His Dark Materials* series with his upcoming novel *The Book of Dust*. Whilst happening in the same universe, *The Book of Dust* will be the beginning of a brand new trilogy focusing on Pullman's character Lyra Belacqua and her life before Jordan College.

Not much is known about the story of these upcoming books, but it is clear Pullman wants us to focus on Lyra and her journey. From everything Pullman has revealed so far, we know he plans to begin the first chapter with Lyra and close the last with her as well. Wanting to write more on Lyra, Pullman has created a longer story arc for his character, beginning from her birth all the way to adulthood.

With such a focus on characterisation, what can we actually expect from *The Book of Dust*? One reason why Pullman wants to return to this world is the idea of Dust. While present, and slowly developed, throughout his previous books, Pullman always wanted to return to this mysterious substance and discover more about it.

With the return of Lyra in her younger years and the exploration of Dust, could we assume that this new trilogy is meant as a prequel to Pullman's *His Dark Materials*? As an answer to his fans, Pullman explained that instead of working on a prequel to his novels, he is working on an 'equal', and rather than positioning itself before or after previous events of the story, *The Book of Dust* will in fact stand beside the previous material. While the new trilogy will be its own standalone story, the fans of *His Dark Materials* will notice the same settings and even returning characters from previous books.

With this in mind, it is clear that *The Book of Dust* will be easy to pick up whether you have read the previous books or not. So how can you get started on this new adventure? *The Book of Dust* will be officially published on 19th October this year. For more information and to find out what Pullman has revealed about the book so far, visit the author's official website at www.philip-pullman.com.



Photo by Chris Boland
www.christopherinessex.co.uk

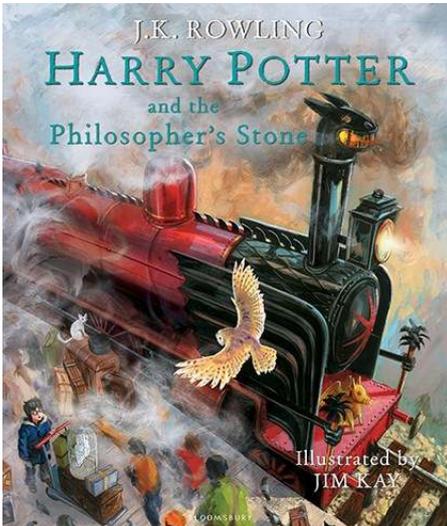
Can't Wait Until October?

Lucky for you, the TRC has many fantastic fantasy novels for you to read until *The Book of Dust* is released. Venture into the world of dragons with Christopher Paolini's *Eragon* series, discover the magical power of books in Cornelia Funke's fantasy novel *Inkheart*, or delve into classics like Alan Garner's *Weirdstone of Brisingamen* trilogy or Susan Cooper's *The Dark is Rising* series.

Pop into the Library to see what worlds await you there!

Growing Up With Magic: The 20th Anniversary Of Harry Potter

By Zoe King



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and Bloomsbury Publishing Plc.

On the 26th of June 1997, the first book in the Harry Potter series was published. For J.K Rowling, this was the realization of a lifelong dream to become an author. She invited children and adults from all walks of life to step into a world full of magical adventure, and not once has anyone looked back.

I was ten years old when I first picked up a copy of *Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone*. That was also the day I discovered the power of reading. J.K. Rowling planted a love of books in my mind like a seed. The more I read, the more the seed grew. Soon enough, I had made my way through all the Harry Potter books as fast as you can say Quidditch.

The wizarding world gave me somewhere to escape to when life got a bit hard. Hermione, a strong and intelligent girl, was an important character for the young girls of my generation. For me, she made books and studying cool, and without her I might not have tried as hard with my education. As for Harry, a bespectacled and unlikely hero, he is the underdog in all of us. No one is perfect, but Harry showed us that with a little bravery and determination, we can accomplish most of what we set our minds on. When things got tough, Ron was there to provide some light-hearted comic relief and prove himself greater than his humble beginnings. Now, at 21, I find myself wishing 'if only Hogwarts was real'. If only I was in a class with Professor Lupin, transforming boggarts and classifying hinkypunks. If only I could fix my glasses with 'oculus reparo' rather than going to the trouble of making an appointment at Specsavers. But whether magic does or does not exist, J. K Rowling's books have given us characters we can relate to, a place to call home, and beliefs to live by.

To celebrate the 20th anniversary of Harry Potter, Bloomsbury have designed new editions of *The Philosopher's Stone* which are currently available for pre-order. There are four different designs to choose from, based on each Hogwarts house. To see the designs and learn more information, visit <https://tinyurl.com/mcma4ds>.

*There's always room for a story that can
transport people to another place.*

J. K. Rowling

Happy Birthday...

The Famous Five: 75 years on the island, adventures still await!

By Damian Kuzma and Zoe King

This year we celebrate the seventy-fifth anniversary of Enid Blyton's first *Famous Five* novel. When considering massive anniversaries such as these, it's funny just how frozen in time the stories are. Time might go by, but the adventures of Julian, Dick, George, Anne and Timmy the dog still remain stories we come back to again and again. In a land where ginger beer flows and ham sandwiches are a staple diet, who doesn't enjoy good old classic tales of pure adventure?

Between the *Five On a Treasure Island* and *Five Are Together Again*, there are twenty-one novels to enjoy in the series. With new editions and discounted collections out there, it's easier than ever to get started on these gripping adventures.



Dr Seuss' The Cat in the Hat Turns 60

Before *The Cat in the Hat*, many early childhood stories were overwhelmingly lacklustre, and in the US tended to follow the dull adventures of polite twosome 'Dick and Jane'. But one day, author Theodore (Dr) Seuss Geisel was approached by a publisher to create a story to bring excitement and fun to reading so that children could be inspired. It was a tall order, so much so that it took Dr Seuss almost nine months to complete. However, he managed to pull it off and soon enough a children's classic was created, with a ground-breaking 60 pages of rhyme and 236 words (only one of which has three syllables).

The Cat in the Hat invites a bit of chaos and fun into a child's life, in a revolt against the perfect and ordered world of the aforementioned Dick and Jane. 60 years on, and it is just as beloved as it was the first time it was published. As Dr Seuss said himself, "You can find magic wherever you look. Sit back and relax, all you need is a book".

Competition Time!

Which book in the Harry Potter series begins with the following sentence?:

The villagers of Little Hangleton still called it "the Riddle House," even though it had been many years since the Riddle family had lived there.

**Guess correctly and you could win an illustrated copy of
*Harry Potter And The Philosopher's Stone.***

Enter by emailing hullabaloo@bishopg.ac.uk by 30th June 2017. Good luck!

Choose A Book And Snuggle Up!

By Emma Ozenbrook

Technology surrounds us. It affects almost all aspects of our daily lives, including the types of books we read to young children. Nowadays there are generally two types of books to read:

- Traditional paper books
- Electronic books, otherwise known as e-books.

With the advance of phones, tablets, and e-readers, e-books have become a popular reading standard. Still, there's something about the feel of an old-fashioned paper book that will always have me reaching for a physical copy over an electronic copy.

Schools have been integrating electronic learning into the classrooms over a number of years, however, it is becoming a cause for concern about how much time children are spending in front of screens. Apps for infants, homework via websites, e-books for children, interactive sport games, they are all adding up to more and more screen time for children.

With libraries becoming increasingly difficult to access due to their ever decreasing opening hours, it is easy to see why technology has become a solution for easy accessibility to their own library. However, it will never be able to imitate the tactile experience of holding a book in your hand, smelling it, turning each page and being able to see the progress you are making, sharing the suspense of what is on the next page with an excited child, becoming sentimental about favourite books, and being able to pass them on to friends and family.

All of that said, both types of literature, print and electronic, help children to develop a lifelong love and habit of reading, but for now, give their tired little eyes a rest from a screen, turn the technology off, choose a book, snuggle up and make some memories.



Snuggling Up With... Beauty And The Beast

By Zoe King

Disney's live-action version of *Beauty and the Beast* has just landed in cinemas all over the world. At the centre of the story is the intelligent heroine Belle with her enthusiasm for reading. Alongside Disney's film release, a new version of Gabrielle-Suzanne Barbot de Villeneuve's 18th century tale has also been published. As Emma touched upon in the article above, a child's experience of physical books is important and this book is perfect to snuggle up in bed with.

The new book has been designed by *MinaLima*, the same graphic design company who supplied the

artwork used in the Harry Potter film franchise.

Particularly special amongst the beautiful illustrations are nine features that a child can interact with, stepping into the world of Beauty and the Beast without leaving their bed. A fold-out map lets them discover every inch of the French town Belle grew up in, while another invites them into the Beast's enchanting castle. These and the many other interactive features help the children with their imagination and reading. Be sure not to miss out!

Maths And Literature Hand-in-Hand: Is That Even Possible?

By Damian Kuzma

‘But maths is boring!’. All the teachers out there: raise your hand if you ever heard a student say exactly that. Well, I can’t see your hands but I think it is pretty safe to assume quite a few went up. We all know how exciting literature can be, and how pleasant it can be to sit down with a good book. Maths tends to be the opposite, all formulaic and set in stone. So how about putting the two together? A crazy concept, but, believe it or not, this is exactly what *Maths Through Stories* have done.

Alongside this year’s World Book Day, the folks over at *Maths Through Stories* launched their website which specializes in sharing the benefits of learning maths through storytelling. Not only does the website recommend great maths-focused literature, it also offers resources for teachers and has an forthcoming section about constructing your own mathematical stories. While still a work in progress, the *Maths Through Stories* website already offers loads of resources for teachers and students looking to become teachers, and even for parents wanting to help their children get into mathematics. To find this wonderful new website, visit www.mathsthroughstories.org, follow them on twitter @mathsstories or visit their Facebook page at www.facebook.com/MathsThroughStories.

THE TALE OF
KITTY-IN-BOOTS



WRITTEN BY
BEATRIX POTTER
ILLUSTRATED BY
Quentin Blake

Would Beatrix Potter Approve?

In Beatrix Potter’s own words, *Kitty-in-Boots* follows the story of ‘a well-behaved prime black Kitty cat, who leads rather a double life.’ The 103-year-old tale was rediscovered by publisher Jo Hanks in an old biography on Potter’s literary life. Inside the book was a reference to a 1914 letter, addressed from Potter to her publishers, which described a new story about a mischievous little kitty. Upon Hank’s discovery, several handwritten manuscripts were soon uncovered in the archives of the Victoria and Albert Museum. Alongside the manuscripts were

Potter’s own coloured illustrations of Kitty and Mr Tod. She had supposedly intended to finish the story, but her writing is thought to have been interrupted by the First World War and illness. *Kitty-in-Boots* was then put aside and forgotten for over a century.

Published for the first time in 2016 with illustrations by world-renowned artist Quentin Blake, the book’s release has been met with both praise and criticism from avid readers of the original tales. Some argue that Blake’s illustrations show no respect for the late author’s much-loved drawing style. His quirky and erratic drawings are said to be worlds away from the detail and intricacy usually expected from a Beatrix Potter book. Lovers of Potter’s artwork were also disappointed to discover that the author’s few original sketches were absent from the publication. Not only was the choice of artist scrutinized, but the size of the book itself. Many argue that Beatrix Potter preferred her books pocket-sized, as they are perfect for children’s small hands.

However, there are also those who are open to the fresh take on Potter’s traditional style. Rather than out of place, Quentin’s rebellious illustrations suit Kitty’s own mischievous personality. Although the new design separates *Kitty-in-Boots* from its predecessors, perhaps it is just stubborn nostalgia keeping older readers from enjoying an otherwise charming and delightful tale. After all, it is proving to be very popular with the current generation of little nippers, which is all anyone can hope for in a book intended primarily for children.

By Zoe King

From The Globe To The 21st Century: Bringing Shakespeare To Life For The Modern Child

By Charleigh Bates

For 3 to 7 Year Olds

I think I have to admit defeat in getting 3- to 7-year-olds to understand the language of Shakespeare - it just isn't going to happen! However, what I can impart, or at least try to, is the idea that the Bard's work is still relevant today. This idea is demonstrated through a very simple picture book called *The Boy, the Bear, the Baron, the Bard* by Gregory Rogers. It is the story of a boy who loves acting. We see the young boy get ready for a play, don his costume, step out onto the stage, and then...suddenly...

HE IS IN SHAKESPEAREAN LONDON!

He then rescues a bear and meets a very uncharacteristically grumpy Shakespeare! What I love about this book is that the character of Shakespeare is very humorous. This humanises him, whilst also allowing children not yet old enough to understand the jokes within his plays, the chance to experience the humour.

Pictures are also used really effectively within this book, especially in showing the transition between modern day and Shakespearean London. Not only does this show that Shakespeare's work is relevant today, it also promotes the vividness of imagination and the idea that when we read or watch a play performed, it stops being words on a page or a man in a costume and becomes alive! The sooner children understand this, the more likely they are to have an ingrained love of reading, and if we get them thinking like this about Shakespeare early on, we can provide them with a stable base to start exploring the Bard in their later years.

For 7 to 11 Year Olds

Hurrah! We are now at an age where children might start to understand the language... Okay... maybe not, but even if they did, so what? Shakespeare's boring, right?

ENTER, MANGA SHAKESPEARE!

Manga Shakespeare does exactly what it says on the tin, portraying Shakespeare's plays through Manga animation. Not only is this already a very popular medium, it provides an easy entry point of interest for children.



I deliberately read a Manga version of a play I had no knowledge of, and found that the artwork very much gave the language a grounding quality; in other words, if you don't understand the language, you DEFINITELY understand the pictures!

Pictures also give children an idea of what the play would look like on stage - let's not forget that Shakespeare's plays were written to be seen, not read!

The only disadvantage of the Manga format is that you don't necessarily feel the craftsmanship of Shakespeare's language through speech bubbles!

Other than that, I think these could be a real gateway to Shakespeare, and I will certainly be reading more!

Storysacks®: Reading Beyond The Pages

By Charleigh Bates

Trying to teach children the fundamental importance of reading whilst still making it entertaining can be difficult. Never mind trying to teach children that reading is not just limited to the classroom! Enter the Storysack (although, you can use them in the classroom too)!

Storysacks were invented by Neil Griffiths, an honorary graduate of BGU (and yes, that was a shameless promotion of my university).

Moving on!

A Storysack is a large cloth bag containing a children's book. But the reading doesn't stop after the last page is flipped! Each sack contains supporting materials to stimulate language activities and make reading a memorable and enjoyable experience.

One of my favourite materials in the sacks are the non-fiction books. They not only give children an understanding of how the story can be applied to the 'real world', which in turn can show them that everything they learn in the classroom can be applied to everyday life at home, they also help children to understand that stories can be a 'springboard' into other, deeper interests.

Imagine: little Tommy, reading Neil Griffiths' *Itchy Bear* from a Storysack and then reading the accompanying non-fiction book, which leads him to really like bears. Then, as an adult, he becomes a leading zoologist (or, perhaps 'ursinologist'!) and you and your Storysack made that happen.

The sacks also contain stuffed toys and audiobooks, which are a fantastic feature for SENI and EAL students, as they provide another, more accessible way of presenting the story. Audiobooks give the EAL student an opportunity to hear stories read aloud, giving them more exposure to spoken language, thereby enhancing their pronunciation.

The games are another great feature. These I think, will be the children's favourite items, and are mine too! Not only do they increase vocabulary, which is always a good thing, they also—if the children enjoy them—build up an association of reading with fun (shock horror!).



Storysacks in the TRC

Photos © Bishop Grosseteste University

When I Was A Nipper: The Secret Garden

Edited by Emma Ozenbrook

This issue's nipper is Julie Tinnion, Senior Lecturer in Primary Education at BGU. Julie reflects upon *The Secret Garden* written by Frances Hodgson Burnett ...

"Despite being an avid reader, I was not surrounded by books as a child, although I do remember being given *The Enid Blyton Book of Fairies* for Christmas when I was six and being awarded books as Sunday School prizes. I had no access to a library so my reading was confined to school where I read and heard many wonderful stories during my younger years. I still remember many of these today but the one that stands out is *The Secret Garden*. I

think I was a rather wistful child. A bit of a dreamer, who despite being the eldest of a large and noisy family, somehow identified with the loneliness of Mary Lennox. The story captured my imagination and immersed me in the bleakness of the Yorkshire moors and the brooding atmosphere of the house, with its gloomy corridors and mysterious wailing of wind and a hidden, sickly child. I remember sharing Mary's delight at learning to skip – feeling the chill of her skin, her curiosity when the robin drew her to the buried key and the thrill of expectation when a gust of wind blew aside the ivy and revealed the door to the hidden, tangled garden.

I re-visited the story many times afterwards and such was the impact and power of the narrative, I rather ambitiously wrote the story as a play-script for my school friends, although we never managed to perform it!

When I was teaching, *The Secret Garden* became a Year 2 favourite for the summer term. Although some of the language is not especially appropriate in these enlightened times, even at a young age the children were captivated by the story. I read it to them at all times of the day, grabbing a few minutes before lunch or playtime and often taking the story outside, sitting contentedly together under the shade of a tree – I think Mary, Dickon and Colin would have liked that!



Bird's Farm House, Bathpool. Image Copyright Michael W Beales BEM via Geograph.
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<https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/2.0>

What's On ?

Make sure you keep an eye out for new releases in The Venue, there are many children's films to enjoy this year.

To keep up to date visit:

www.thevenueincoln.co.uk