



Congratulations! If you are reading this it means you are now reading the only newsletter (of varying quality) for people who have an interest in working with young people in libraries.

This month we kick off with news of the YLG London Unconference in Balham Library at the beginning of March, there are still a number of tickets available if you are able to get into London on the 2nd. Following on the DCMS and DCLG are holding an open consultation for people to make their views on public libraries known.

National Science & Engineering Week takes place in March – seven days dedicated to celebrating Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics (STEM) which leads neatly on to an idea I had for a library group that I have tentatively called a STEM Cell.

I have also written a piece about the CILIP CKG Awards and their new policy of long-listing books for the awards.

On the 17th January I created a PowerPoint on Plagiarism that is now available on slideshare.

Andy Robb, author of the *Geekhood* novels for young adults, is setting out to reclaim a corner of the Internet as a friendly and helpful place; you can read about it in *Speakerhood*.

Youth Libraries Group London Unconference

The YLG London Committee is organising an Unconference on Sunday 2nd March at Balham Library.

This Unconference is aimed at people with an interest in promoting Reading for Pleasure to children and young people; we intend to have a day filled with sessions offering support, advice and

ideas on:

- Story times and picture books
- Practical advice for engaging with a teenage audience
- Ideas for reading promotion
- Raised stock awareness
- Carnegie and Kate Greenaway Shadowing, including CKG Judges past and present talking about the process
- Reading groups

Representatives from publishing houses will be talking about their books

Anything you'd like to talk about!

Members of the CILIP YLG London

Committee will be available to talk to all day

Full details on the day can be found here:

<http://bit.ly/1hgANJz>

Open Consultation Public Libraries: what do you think?

The Department for Culture, Media and Sport and the Department for Communities and Local Government has jointly commissioned William Sieghart to produce an independent report considering the current structure and role of public libraries, including community libraries, in England as well as identifying any opportunities for future delivery.

William is supported by an Advisory Panel. Interested parties are invited to submit evidence to help inform their considerations, on the following areas:

1. What are the core principles of a public library service into the future?
2. Is the current delivery of the public library service the most comprehensive and efficient?
3. What is the role of community libraries in the delivery of a library offer?

<http://bit.ly/1kv38Qf>

National Science & Engineering Week

National Science & Engineering Week 2014 takes place from 14 - 23 March

There is no overall theme this year. The organisers are keen to make NSEW a chance to celebrate anything related to science, technology, engineering and maths. Organisers have impressed us so much with their creative and innovative events and activities that we don't feel we need a theme. The sky is the limit!

For schools, though, Explore the future will be the common theme across competitions, new resources and online projects. Building on the enthusiastic response schools had for the Invention and discovery theme last year, we're hoping this theme will encourage teachers and other educators to look forward to the world their students will lead and to use NSEW as an opportunity to add context, enrichment and excitement to the science curriculum.
<http://bit.ly/MHOR4r>

Group Idea: STEM Cell

I had this idea ages ago and I promptly wrote down then got on with doing other things and it soon faded into the low murmur at the back of my mind. It popped up again this morning as I was reading an article about building Lego robots and I thought that it be a fantastic basis for an engineering club, that jogged my memory and the STEM Cell idea bubbled up again but with new pieces added to the mental framework. A cell can be many things, two of which are:

the functional basic unit of life

&

a unit of a clandestine cell system, a penetration-resistant form of a secret or outlawed organization

Wikipedia

A stem cell has the remarkable potential to develop into many different cell types in the body during early life and growth. In addition, in many tissues they serve as a sort of internal repair system, dividing essentially without limit to replenish other cells as long as the person or animal is still alive. When a stem cell divides, each new cell has the potential either to remain a stem cell or become another type of cell with a more specialized function, such as a muscle cell, a red blood cell, or a brain cell.

<http://1.usa.gov/1atc3Mq>

STEM stands for **S**cience, **T**echnology **E**ngineering & **M**athematicss

The **STEM Cell** will be a group dedicated to experimenting with each of the four disciplines by using practical and creative activities and experiments to create or enhance an interest in one or more of the subjects. Much like a covert cell the can be copied and used anywhere and the experience enhanced by communication with other cells and information exchanged about experiments that have been conducted. Similar to stem cells themselves, a group such as this will allow its members to use what they learn to become anything as they grow and develop.

This type of group would by its very nature be cross-curricular and run in conjunction with the Science, Mathematics, ICT and Design & Technology Departments but organised by the Library.

Activities can include:

- The Mentos and Diet Coke experiment
- Raspberry Pi & programming
- Code making & breaking – this one can be used for intergroup competitions
- [Mathematical Origami](#)
- Building Robots from Lego

Activities can be set up to run on a termly

or half-termly basis depending on the length & complexity of the activity and the capability of the young people involved in the group.

2014 CILIP Carnegie & Kate Greenaway Awards Longlisting

The 2014 CILIP CKG Awards mark the first time that a longlist has been compiled from all the books nominated by members of CILIP. The words inaugural and prestigious were used in the CILIP press release – they are good words although ones that I seldom use on a daily basis so I get a thrill when I see them in print (I am a bit of a word nerd).

From the press release:

Traditionally an extensive list of nominated books, comprised of titles which have received one or more votes from member librarians, is made public, followed by a shortlist announcement, before the overall winners are crowned. CILIP, the organisers of the Medals, took the decision to judge and announce longlists in order to shine a spotlight on some of the brightest authors and illustrators in the running for the esteemed awards, to reflect the high number of quality children's books being published.

Read the full press release [here](#)

The books are chosen by the judges using the same rigorous criteria they use for the shortlisting and eventual winning titles.

Over the past few years due to the increase in quality writing for children and young people longlists had been growing ever larger; this has caused suggestion from some sectors about splitting the Carnegie Award at least into a teen and young reader award (that suggestion was shot down in flames and buried at several unnamed crossroads to prevent it ever rearing its head again). Large longlists also adversely affect the judges who have to juggle work, life and reading up to 120

books several times to adequately judge the merits of each according to the [criteria for each](#) of [the awards](#). I will just say that the judges still have to read every title nominated to assess eligibility so the integrity of the awards is not affected in any way.

I am going to be on the CKG Judging Panel next year and am looking forward to the honour (there is a smidgen of dread as well but mostly excitement). A small part of me is upset as some of the books I was hoping would make it through to the shortlists did not make it, I wholeheartedly support the longlisting as it will bring more books to the attention of the greater public as well as stimulating debate in the literary merits of fiction for children.

Adding a longlist to the steps leading up to the announcement of the winning titles will allow shadowing groups to follow the process more closely; previously by some arcane and unknown process the judges were able to whittle down 60+ books into a 6 book shortlist. Working with 20 titles is more manageable and if schools are able to carry the full longlist students will be able to start discussing the awards process sooner and will have the opportunity to compile their own lists of potential winners and discuss the titles in the run up to the shortlisting when the official [shadowing scheme](#) begins.

Plagiarism

I have created a PowerPoint An introduction to the scourge of plagiarism using the recent disagreement between Shia LaBoeuf and Daniel Clowes as an opener and then looking at what plagiarism is and how to avoid it.

You can view the presentation here: <http://teenlibrarian.co.uk/?p=4703>

Speakhood

Andy Robb

There are so many stories about trolling and cyber-bullying that I've decided to try and reclaim a corner of the Internet as a friendly and helpful place. If you've read

my books or seen me at an event, you'll know that a lot of what happens in my stories is taken from Real Life – they're stories about things I've survived. Some of them are funny, some of them are serious, but they're events that I've been through. Here's how ***Speakhood*** works and here's how you can help:

Write something that might help someone else out. It can be fact, fiction, prose or poetry – it can be whatever you like. There are no prizes or anything, but your contribution might just touch someone else's life.

It'll be posted anonymously, but make it about something that means something to you. It might be something just embarrassing, something funny or it might be something very serious. Regardless, send me your posts and, whenever I can, I'll post them on your behalf – but without mentioning your name.

Your experiences and your writing might be able to help someone who's going through a situation that you've already been through. Pass it on.

<http://bit.ly/1lvefGZ>

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Are you interested in sharing successful projects that you have run in your Library?

Have you had a good idea for a Teen Library Group and think that people should know about it?

Would you like to share tips on working with young people in Libraries?



Then

**Teen
Librarian
Needs YOU**

To submit ideas for future articles

To write articles to help your fellow colleagues on the Library front lines

To share examples of good practice in working with young people

To send in ideas and suggestions for future articles

Don't delay share TODAY!