

DROMKEEN WINNERS ANNOUNCED



Dromkeen Medal winner Helen Chamberlin.
Photo by James Braund.

The State Library of Victoria has awarded the 2014 Dromkeen Medal to Helen Chamberlin, an esteemed editor and publisher with more than 40 years' experience working in children's literature.

The Dromkeen Medal was established by Joyce Oldmeadow in 1982 to honour an individual's outstanding contribution to children's literature. Since the Medal was first awarded in 1982, it has been presented to 32 prominent Australian writers, illustrators, editors and publishers. The Dromkeen winners were selected by a panel of authors, illustrators, publishers and librarians.

The 2014 Medal recipient Helen Chamberlin has worked as an editor and publisher of children's books, picture books, graphic novels and young adult fiction for more than 40 years, including nearly two decades at Lothian Books. She has nurtured some of Australia's most celebrated writers – such as award-winning author Shaun Tan, Anne Spudvilas and Gregory Rogers. She still develops lists for Windy Hollow Books, Ford Street Publishing and Hachette. Ms Chamberlin also volunteers with the Children's Literature Australia

Network to mentor emerging illustrators and authors, and bring children's book festivals to schools.

Shaun Tan – author of acclaimed graphic novel *The Arrival* – said, 'Helen really is one of our industry's great quiet achievers, someone with a genuine passion for good literature for readers of all ages, coupled with a wise and patient approach to dealing with authors and artists, as well as the vagaries of publishing, with all its changing economic, cultural and political aspects.'

At the Dromkeen awards dinner, the State Library also presented the annual Dromkeen Librarian's Award. This is awarded to a school or children's librarian or teacher for their dedication to improving the literacy of young people.

The winner of the 2014 Dromkeen Librarian's Award is Pam Saunders, currently the head of library at Melbourne High School. Pam has previously worked as a school librarian, and in public libraries, as well as managing the Centre for Youth Literature at the State Library.

ANOTHER WIN FOR BALLARAT HEALTH SERVICES LIBRARY

Ballarat Health Services (BHS) Library's groundbreaking collaborative project with the Services Pharmacy Department and the Standard 4: Medication Safety Committee to enable completion of the hospital's accreditation (reported in *INCITE* in September 2014) has received further recognition, winning a BHS Quality Innovation and Excellence Award.

The Ballarat Health Service confers corporate and clinical Quality Innovation and Excellence Awards, and the Library won the award for the corporate category.

The win was announced at the BHS Annual General Meeting, with the hospital's Board, CEO and executive team all present

to hear the news. BHS Library Manager Gemma Siemensma said the award and the project has given the library 'amazing visibility' within the organisation.

The BHS Library has also made the most of their category win in the ALIA 2014 Australia's Favourite Library awards.

'It's the work of a moment to add 'voted Australia's favourite health library 2014' to our email signatures and it all helps reinforce the excellent reputation the library service has built, with both our parent organisation and our professional communities,' Gemma said.