



**MEDIA RELEASE**  
**Wednesday 15 March 2017**

<http://www.storylines.org.nz>

## **STORYLINES ANNOUNCES NOTABLE BOOKS 2017**

**Outstanding books for children and young people published by  
New Zealand authors and illustrators in the previous year.**

The Storylines Children's Literature Trust is delighted to announce the 33 outstanding New Zealand children's and teens' books selected for its Notable Books listings for 2017.

The 2017 list, for books published in 2016, is embargoed until **5.00 am, Wednesday 15 March**. You can read the full list below, and see the poster with book jackets [here](#). **The 2017 Notable Books (published during 2016) are:**

### **JUNIOR FICTION 2017 (9)**

*The Road to Ratenburg* by Joy Cowley, illustrated by Gavin Bishop (Gecko Press)

*Annual* edited by Kate De Goldi and Susan Paris (Gecko Press)

*The Diamond Horse* by Stacy Gregg (HarperCollins UK)

*Rona* by Chris Szekely, illustrated by Josh Morgan (Huia)

*Enemy Camp* by David Hill (Penguin Random House NZ)

*The Impossible Boy* by Leonie Agnew (Penguin Random House NZ)

*Grandad's Wheelies* by Jack Lasenby, illustrated by Bob Kerr (Penguin)

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Random House NZ)

*Barking Mad* by Tom E Moffatt (Scholastic)

*Sunken Forest* by Des Hunt (Scholastic)

### **NONFICTION NOTABLES 2017 (10)**

*See Play Do: A Kid's Handbook for Everyday Creative Fun* written and illustrated by Louise Cuckow (Beatnik)

*Bruce Wants to Go Faster* by Dreydon Sobanja, illustrated by Murray Dewhurst (Inspired Kids)

*Armistice Day: the New Zealand Story* by Philippa Werry (New Holland)

*Speed King: Burt Munro, the World's Fastest Indian* by David Hill, illustrated by Phoebe Morris (Penguin Random House NZ)

*Jack and Charlie: Boys of the Bush* by Jack Marcotte (Penguin Random House NZ)

*The Beginner's Guide to Netball* by Maria Tutaia (Penguin Random House NZ)

*Cricket with Kane Williamson* by Kane Williamson (Penguin Random House NZ)

*The Cuckoo and the Warbler: A True New Zealand Story* by Kennedy Warne, illustrated by Heather Hunt (Potton & Burton)

*ANZAC Heroes* by Maria Gill, illustrated by Marco Ivancic (Scholastic)

*Much Ado about Shakespeare* written and illustrated by Donovan Bixley (Upstart Press)

### **PICTURE BOOKS 2017 (12)**

*If I was a Banana* by Alexandra Tylee, illustrated by Kieran Rynhart (Gecko Press)

*Gwendolyn!* by Juliette Maclver, illustrated by Terri Rose Baynton (HarperCollins)

*Tuna and Hiriwa* by Ripeka Takotowai Goddard, illustrated by Kimberly Andrews (Huia)

*Maui – Sun Catcher* by Tim Tipene, illustrated by Zak Waipara (Oratia Media)

*Gladys Goes to War* by Glyn Harper, illustrated by Jenny Cooper (Penguin Random House NZ)

*Fuzzy Doodle* by Melinda Szymanik, illustrated by Donovan Bixley (Scholastic)

*Gorillas in our Midst* by Richard Fairgray, illustrated by Terry Jones (Scholastic)

*Henry Bob Bobbalich* by Juliette Maclver, illustrated by Link Choi (Scholastic)

*Witch's Cat Wanted - Apply Within* written by Joy H Davidson, illustrated by Nikki Slade Robinson (Scholastic)

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*The Harmonica* by Dawn McMillan, illustrated by Andrew Burden (Scholastic)  
*Rasmas* by Elizabeth Pulford, illustrated by Jenny Cooper (Scholastic)  
*The Best Dad in the World* by Pat Chapman, illustrated by Cat Chapman  
(Upstart Press)

## **YA NOTABLES 2017 (2)**

*Lonesome When You Go* by Saradha Koirala (Mākarō Press)  
*Coming Home to Roost* by Mary-anne Scott (Longacre | Penguin Random  
House NZ)

The 33 titles selected represent a mix of many of New Zealand's well-established authors and a significant number of new authors and self-published books.

"The awards, given since 2000, are a respected yardstick for the best children's books published in New Zealand each year, an invaluable guide for booksellers and buyers and much prized by authors, illustrators and publishers," says Dr Libby Limbrick, Storylines Chair.

This annual list of Notable Books also ensures that children, parents/grandparents, teachers, librarians and the public are all made aware of the large range of high quality children's and teens' books being published in New Zealand.

The selection panel includes children's and YA librarians, authors, illustrators, teachers and academics; several members have served as judges for the New Zealand Post Children's Book Award (and under its previous sponsor AIM) and the LIANZA Book Awards.

**The award certificates will be presented at the Storylines Margaret Mahy Medal Presentation and National Awards Day in Auckland on Sunday 2 April.**

The Margaret Mahy Medal Lecture will be delivered at the same event.

The Storylines Trust and Foundation together comprise New Zealand's only national organisation working year-round specifically to promote children's and young adult literature, through their author awards, publications, advocacy and

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their brand new Storylines National Festival Tour.

<http://www.storylines.org.nz>

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