



# MAY 2009

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## K.O.A.L.A.

*KOALA is the children's choice award of NSW. Children of NSW read and vote for the Australian books they have most enjoyed reading.*

## CALENDAR 2009

20 February	Nomination Kits mailed out & available on website
23 March	Nominations Close
18 May	Shortlist Poster & Voting Kit mailed
18 September	Voting closes. All votes sent to KOALA
late October TBC	Awards Day & Winners Announced

## WEBSITE

[www.koalansw.org.au](http://www.koalansw.org.au)

Special thanks to the team at SiteSuite: websites made easy. They have lived up to their motto 'websites made easy' by creating a great website for us. Visit often and keep up-to-date with KOALA.

## EMAIL ADDRESS

[contact@koalansw.org.au](mailto:contact@koalansw.org.au)

## SPONSOR



## SHORTLIST 2009

The shortlist is out at last! As usual it is an interesting mix of titles. Eighteen new titles appear on the list and we are delighted to welcome first time shortlisted authors and illustrators Kathy Castle (*Go Girl!*), Roslyn Motter (*Doofuzz Dudes*) and Aaron Blabey (*Pearl Barley and Charley Parsley*).

Not surprisingly *The Wizard of Rondo* the sequel to the 2008 KOALA winner, *The Key to Rondo* by Emily Rodda is on the list and the popular *Deltora Quest* series winners in 2003 and 2004 appear in a different format as *Tales of Deltora*. Andy Griffiths and Felice Arena prove their continuing popularity with four shortlisted titles each. For the first time since 1993 there is no *Selby* book on the KOALA shortlist.

*Then* by Morris Gleitzman and *The Wizard of Rondo* by Emily Rodda are also shortlisted for CBCA Awards in 2009 and the 2008 CBCA winner *Pearl Barley and Charley Parsley* (Early Childhood) and shortlisted titles *Pharaoh* and *Shaggy Gully Times* both by Jackie French have made the KOALA shortlist this year.

More than half of the shortlisted titles are on the NSW Premier's Reading Challenge lists.

I'm sure your readers will be delighted with Graeme Base's artwork of colourful smiling koalas on our Shortlist Poster.

*Antonina Fieni — KOALA president*

## COMMITTEE MEMBERS FOR 2009

Val Noake (e:lit), Alyson Simpson (Sydney University), Antonina Fieni (St Mary's, Georges Hall), Jenny Williams (Lucas Heights Community School), Cathie Tasker (Koala Books), Catherine McClellan and Kris Fegent (Lateral Learning), Yvonne Georgopoulos (Fairfield City Public Library), Janine Dawson (illustrator), Ruth Franklin (Books and Beyond), Anne Vermeesch (Newtown Public School), Narelle Adams (Parramatta City Library), Kirren Wilson (Calvary Chapel Christian School, Georges Hall), Alex Mills (Ashfield Municipal Library) & Sylvia Braden (St Joseph's, Moorebank).



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## ARE YOU A WINNER?

Congratulations to the following schools who have won an original Alan Stomann Selby print for being an early bird member.

- Newtown Public
- Austinmer Primary School
- Bringelly Public School

## KOALA WEBSITE

Visit the KOALA WEBSITE and vote online!

## [www.koalansw.org.au](http://www.koalansw.org.au)

Our website is jammed pack with information, photos, order forms and kids' activities. Thanks to SiteSuite, online voting is accessible to all our members. We still accept votes faxed to us but encourage you to try the simple online voting. In term 3, friends of KOALA (members) will be provided with a password to access the voting section of the website. Students & teachers can then type their name & grade and select their favourite title from a drop down menu. It is simple and kids love it! They can even vote from home. This voting system can be accessed from the website next term from July 21 to 18 September.

## 2009 POSTER

Our special thanks to Graeme Base for designing and illustrating our wonderful *VOTE NOW! Shortlist Poster* for 2009. Graham has been a strong supporter of KOALA over the years and his design this year certainly acclaims his support.

## TEACHER'S NOTES

Many of the shortlisted titles have teacher's notes available and can be found at [www.koalansw.org.au](http://www.koalansw.org.au). Just click on the LINKS page.

## BOOKMARKS & LIBRARY BAGS!

Kids love our KOALA bookmarks which they can colour in their own style. They are terrific gifts to add to end of year presentations or reward students for voting for their favourite KOALA book or completing the PRC. This year we have a new bookmark designed by our very own KOALA Legend, Terry Denton. We also have the coolest library bag ever(!) with 21 koala designs put together by 21 of our most favourite illustrators. Prices are reasonable and order forms can be downloaded from the KOALA website.

## WANTED!

*A Host School for Awards Day!*  
Give your students the thrill of playing host to their favourite authors & illustrators Seeking a school with a hall that accommodates 300 students, be accessible by train and be willing to play host to authors, illustrators and students from other schools. The day and date is negotiable but always in late October or early November. The awards presentation is organised by the committee. If you'd like more information, contact Val Noake on 9565 1277 or email us at [contact@koalansw.org.au](mailto:contact@koalansw.org.au)

## NSW PREMIER'S READING CHALLENGE

With more than half of the shortlisted titles on the Premier's Reading Challenge list, the KOALA shortlist can support your children's participation in the Premier's Reading Challenge.

The following shortlisted titles are on the Reading Challenge list. Students reading these titles can record a vote for KOALA and count them as titles they need to read for the challenge. Shortlisted titles not on the list can be counted as free choice selections.

### Years 7-9

*Ranger's Apprentice* SERIES  
by John Flanagan

*Keys to the Kingdom* SERIES  
by Garth Nix

### Years 5-6

*Specky Magee* SERIES  
by Felice Arena

*Beginner's Luck*  
by Alyssa Brugman

*Hot Potato*  
by Alyssa Brugman

*Dragon* SERIES by Carole Wilkinson  
*The Wizard of Rondo*

by Emily Rodda  
*Tales of Deltora*

by Emily Rodda  
*Shaggy Gully Times*

by Jackie French  
*Treasure Fever*

by Andy Griffiths  
*Zac Power* SERIES

by HI Larry

### Years 3-4

*Are We There Yet?*  
by Alison Lester

*Hello God* by Moya Simons  
*Tashi* SERIES

by Anna & Barbara Fienberg  
*The Big Fat Cow That Went Kapow*

by Andy Griffiths

### K-2

*Pearl Barley & Charlie Parsley*  
by Aaron Blabey

*Jungle Drums*  
by Graeme Base

*Rex*  
by Ursula Dubosarsky  
illus by David Mackintosh

*The Trouble with Dogs*  
by Bob Graham