



# LET'S READ Newsletter

June 2007



## Welcome

In this edition we have highlighted the Deception Bay *Let's Read* program, and included information about the upcoming evaluation workshop in Melbourne and news about the addition of a Let's Read bag that communities can order and a list of all the communities delivering Let's Read.



## What's happening in...Deception Bay

*Let's Read* in Deception Bay is a Caboolture Shire Library Service project which is all about building relationships to get the *Let's Read* message out in as many ways as possible. The Library Service *Let's Read* project began by partnering with Communities for Children, who provided much-needed funds, and then we began to build on existing community connections.



With a December 2006 *Let's Read* launch, the Deception Bay Library hosted a Playgroup celebration inviting all the local playgroups to an end of year party. We introduced the *Let's Read* kits through local Samoan and Indigenous storytellers, lots of food, and the Samoan Playgroup children singing some of their rhymes. It was a great way to introduce the *Let's Read* kits and give the different playgroups a chance to get to know one another.

We have held two local training days for our community partners and both have been well received. The response from our community partners has been positive and included comments such as - "what wonderful books!"

*Let's Read* in Deception Bay has really branched out to include the local Indigenous and Samoan communities, incorporating a community arts project to create Indigenous and Samoan books with local content and in Samoan/English languages. Everybody loves these simple little books and it has really engaged the whole community in early childhood literacy.

It's a really exciting time, and our *Let's Read* project now has over thirty community partners with bulk loans in many outposts, such as Child Health and Family Centres. *Let's Read* is really making a difference in Deception Bay!

*Gail Robinson, Deception Bay*

### Initiative of:



CENTRE FOR  
Community  
Child Health



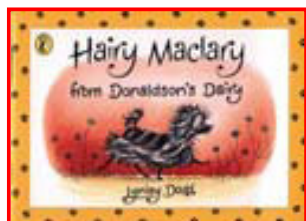
### Inaugural corporate sponsor:





## Hairy Maclary from Donaldson's Dairy

Hairy Maclary is recommended on the 3 ½ year booklist and is read aloud on the DVD. This great title effectively incorporates the use of rhyme, rhythm and repetition and is great resource to help teach children about size, colour and numbers. Families may also be encouraged to purchase or borrow the other titles in the Hairy Maclary series if they receive a free copy of this book.



*Hairy Maclary from Donaldson's Dairy*  
By Lynley Dodd

"Hairy Maclary goes off for a walk with a few of his friends – and comes up against something that gives them all a nasty surprise!"

## Let's Read Bags

New, bright yellow bags have been printed with the *Let's Read* worm on both sides and are now available for purchase for \$1.50 each. A new resource order form has been included with this newsletter which includes these new bags.



## Communities now delivering *Let's Read*

We are pleased that the following communities are now delivering *Let's Read*:

### NSW

- Ballina
- Cessnock
- Coffs Harbour
- Dubbo
- Fairfield
- Lismore
- Narromine
- Parramatta
- Raymond Terrace
- Taree
- Wellington

### QLD

- Deception Bay

- Gladstone
  - Inala
- ### SA
- Birkenhead
  - Port Adelaide

### TAS

- Burnie
- Devonport
- Penguin
- Penguin – Smithton
- Riana

### VIC

- Bacchus Marsh
- Corio

- Cranbourne
- Doveton
- East Gippsland
- Kyabram/Stanhope
- Preston
- Sunshine West
- Warrnambool
- Wodonga

### WA

- Kwinana
- Mirrabooka

## Staff Updates

We have said good-bye to Ross Coverdale this month. Ross has been with *Let's Read* since its inception and has been instrumental in guiding the program through the initial planning and implementation of the program in the community.

For all community-related enquiries please contact Michelle Croker on 03 9473 4350 or [michelle.croker@thesmithfamily.com.au](mailto:michelle.croker@thesmithfamily.com.au).

## Feedback

Please take the time to let us know how things are progressing, so that we can share your experiences with the other communities that are implementing *Let's Read*. The next edition of the newsletter will be produced in July. Please email your stories to [kara.macleod@thesmithfamily.com.au](mailto:kara.macleod@thesmithfamily.com.au), by **June 22, 2007**.

