THE CHILDREN'S BOOKS HISTORY SOCIETY invites you to

A STUDY DAY ON

Different Perspectives on Children's Books: Publishing, Illustrating and Archiving





Saturday 1 November, 2025

at the Church Hall of the Great Crown Court Church of Scotland, Russell Street, Covent Garden, London WC2B 5EZ

Speakers will be:

Rita Ricketts, who will explore Blackwell's Children's Publishing.

Pam Dix, who with Ruth Thomas has been researching and will soon publish a book on illustration in children's information books.

Lesley Heming, on illustrator Clarke Hutton (1898-1966) and his place in twentieth century book art.

Mark Impey, award-winning illustrator on his newly published historical work *Blitz*

Adam Goldwater, Collection & Exhibitions Director at Seven Stories who will share developments there including the archives.

Details at www.cbhs.org.uk or contact the Society's Secretary: rkirkpatrick.molesworth@virgin.net

BOOKING FORM Cost £25 per person (includes lunch).

I shall bring...... guest(s).

Name	
Address	
Telephone	
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Please send your completed form to the Secretary and let him know if you have paid by bank transfer direct or by Paypal. If you do not wish to make payment in this way ,please enclose a cheque payable to the Children's Books History Society to:

Robert Kirkpatrick Secretary, Children's Books History Society 6 Osterley Park View Road Hanwell, London, W7 2HH

Tel: 020-8567-4521

e-mail: rkirkpatrick.molesworth@virgin.net

Payment by bank transfer direct to the Society's bank account:

Name of account: Children's Books History Society NatWest Bank plc, London Sloane Square Branch

Sort code: 60 - 19 - 26 **Account number 23712457**

or by Paypal, to: sarahjwilloughby@aol.com.

It would be helpful if you could let the Secretary know when you have made a payment.

PROGRAMME FOR THE DAY

- 9.30 10.00 Arrival, Coffee and Registration
- 10.00 10.10 Welcome and Introduction Chair
- **10.10 10.55 Rita Ricketts**: "Only the best is good enough for our children" (Sir Basil Blackwell). An overview of Blackwell's publishing for children.
- 11.00 11.45 Pam Dix: Imagining the past: how illustrators present history in children's information books.
- 11.55 12.45 Lesley Heming: The illustrator Clarke Hutton (1898-1966). Instrumental in the establishment of the highly successful Puffin imprint for Penguin Books. He also wrote and illustrated the 1945 classic of children's books *A Picture History of Britain*, which ranged from pre-history to the 1940s. Oxford University Press issued a facsimile edition of this in 2007.
- **12.45 1.30** LUNCH (provided)
- **1.35 2.35 Martin Impey:** Martin Impey: Creating *BLITZ One Family's War: The stories within the story!* (As featured on BBC 1's The One Show).
- 2.40 3.35 Adam Goldwater: Seven Stories: The National Collection of Children's Books: an overview including the archives and developments.

3.35 – 4.30 TEA and DEPART



Alisa Poret How the revolution was victorious, GIZ 1930

Information Books

Information about the speakers in order of appearance:

Rita Ricketts is the Bodleian Blackwell Fellow at the University of Oxford, and a laureate of the European Women's International Leadership Award. Her research focuses on the stories of "ordinary" people. Amongst them are those who worked for Blackwell's. Three books resulted from her work and a proliferation of articles.

Pam Dix is the Chair of IBBY UK. She has worked as a librarian and a university lecturer. She runs a small charity, the Akili Trust, which establishes community libraries in rural areas in Kenya, and was until recently on the board of Book Aid International. She has written on school libraries and co-edited the proceedings of the IBBY Congress in New Zealand (*Children's Literature in a Multiliterate World*). Her current research area of interest is illustration in information books for children. She was a member of the Bologna Ragazzi Award judging panel this year and writes a regular column for *Books for Keeps* on illustration in information books with Ruth Thomson.

Adam Goldwater is the Collections and Exhibitions Director at Seven Stories, the National Centre for Children's Books, bringing 20 years of experience in museums, storytelling, and audience magic. From behind the scenes at Tyne & Wear Archives & Museums to shaping the future of the Great North Museum: Hancock, Adam has led exciting public programmes, managed museum operations and made collections come alive for curious minds of all ages.

Lesley Heming Originally a practising lawyer, for the past 20 years Lesley has specialised in selling antiquarian illustrated books. She has applied her expertise to support the Glasgow School of Art in rebuilding its collection following the losses incurred in the 2014 fire. She has contributed several articles on illustrators including bibliographies for *Studies in Illustration* published by the Imaginative Book Illustration Society.

Martin Impey is an award-winning author and illustrator. He has worked on nearly 60 books spanning a career of 35 years. His latest book *BLITZ One Family's War* was featured on BBC 1 and awarded Best Picture Book 2025 by The English Association. It recently won The Historical Association YOUNG QUILLS Award, and, at the time of writing, has been shortlisted for THE WEEK JUNIOR Book Award for Graphic Novel.

The Crown Court Church entrance is located in Russell Street, off Covent Garden, next to the Fortune Theatre and opposite the Theatre Royal. The Church Hall where the conference is taking place is next door to the Stage Door of the Fortune Theatre – a ring of the bell will bring someone up to answer the door.

