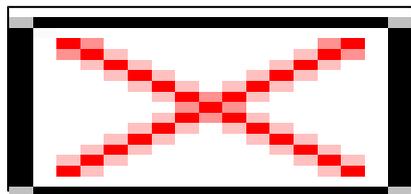




# UKLA BOOK AWARD WINNERS 2018



The winners of the **2018 UKLA Book Awards** have been announced. [We Come Apart](#) [1] by Sarah Crossan and Brian Conaghan wins the 12 ? 16+ category. There are joint winners in the 7 ? 11 category, [Welcome to Nowhere](#) [2] by Elizabeth Laird and **Lesser Spotted Animals** by Martin Brown, and Morag Hood wins the 3 ? 6 category with **Colin and Lee Carrot and Pea**.

The **UKLA Book Awards** are the only awards to be judged entirely by teachers. In their 10th Anniversary year, their choice of winning books which, according to the criteria, can *enhance all aspects of literacy learning?* clearly demonstrates that teachers' judgements are soundly based on pupil response. The 45 teachers involved in the shortlisting were able to share the books with their classes and discover what genuinely works with young readers in each of the three age categories. Nine teachers from around Cardiff and from Gloucestershire formed the final judging panel and had the challenging task of reading all the shortlisted books in all three age categories, which meant nursery teachers reading fiction for teenagers and secondary teachers reading picturebooks.

[We Come Apart](#) [1] impressed the judges with the *free verse* which allowed the characters to come alive? and enabled the *dialogue* to read convincingly?.

Elizabeth Laird's novel [Welcome to Nowhere](#) [2] impressed by the way it showed children how very ordinary lives can be affected by extraordinary circumstances. The judges described it as *a tale that needs to be told?*

Martin Brown brings together some of the strangest and most interesting *lesser spotted animals?* in his book. The judges celebrated the *deep learning by stealth?* which this *superb model of an informational text?* encouraged.

**Colin and Lee Carrot and Pea** written and illustrated by Morag Hood was described as *Very simple, very funny yet with pathos, very cleverly written to develop empathy and show the key values of friendship?*.

The 2018 awards were presented at a special ceremony on July 6th at the UKLA International Conference in Cardiff which began with a celebration of the first 10 years of the award with past winners including [Frances Hardinge](#) [3], [Jason Wallace](#) [4], [Gill Lewis](#) [5], [Philip Reeve](#) [6], Sarah McIntyre and Ross Collins being presented with Emeritus Awards.

Student teachers from 19 universities around the UK took part in Shadowing the awards and read and use the shortlisted books on teaching practice in schools before having their own online vote to select their own winners. The 2018 Carnegie Medal winner [Where the World Ends](#) [7] by Geraldine McCaughrean took the 12-16 category and Rob Biddulph's [Odd Dog Out](#) [8] was the 3-6 winner. The National Education Union sponsors 5 student shadowers to attend the conference and they announced and presented certificates for the student votes to the authors at the ceremony.

For UKLA, giving classroom practitioners the opportunity to read a number of new quality children's books is as important as finding an overall winner. Research carried out by members of UKLA (Cremin et al 2008) clearly demonstrated the links between teachers' knowledge of children's books and the likelihood of pupils becoming successful readers. Despite this evidence, teachers are seldom given time to read new books or funding to purchase them

when they do. As Awards Chair Lynda Graham said: 'Over the last 10 years it has been a joy to involve more than 500 teachers from across the UK as teacher judges in the UKLA Book awards. In common with past teacher judges, teachers this year loved the opportunity to read and discuss quality, newly published books for children and young people, and delighted in opportunities to discuss their reading with group leader tutors from Cardiff Met, Bath Spa, UWE, librarians from Penarth library, and to share these books in their classrooms?.'

The awards are sponsored by [LoveReading4Kids](https://www.lovereadings4kids.co.uk/) [9].

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**Source URL (retrieved on Aug '19):** <http://typo3.booksforkeeps.co.uk/childrens-books/news/ukla-book-award-winners-2018>

**Links:**

[1] <http://typo3.booksforkeeps.co.uk/issue/223/childrens-books/reviews/we-come-apart>

[2] <http://typo3.booksforkeeps.co.uk/issue/222/childrens-books/reviews/welcome-to-nowhere>

[3] <http://typo3.booksforkeeps.co.uk/issue/212/childrens-books/articles/authorgraph/authorgraph-212-frances-hardinge>

[4] <http://typo3.booksforkeeps.co.uk/issue/186/childrens-books/articles/featured-author/jason-wallacewinner-of-the-costa-childrens-book->

[5] <http://typo3.booksforkeeps.co.uk/issue/210/childrens-books/articles/authorgraph/authorgraph-210-gill-lewis>

[6] <http://typo3.booksforkeeps.co.uk/issue/226/childrens-books/articles/culture-class-and-j-g-ballard-an-interview-with-philip-reeve>

[7] <http://typo3.booksforkeeps.co.uk/issue/224/childrens-books/reviews/where-the-world-ends>

[8] <http://typo3.booksforkeeps.co.uk/issue/221/childrens-books/reviews/odd-dog-out>

[9] <https://www.lovereadings4kids.co.uk/>