

## Scallywag Press celebrates 5th birthday

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*Illustrated children's publisher was launched by Sarah Pakenham in 2019*



Illustrated children's publisher Scallywag Press last night celebrated their 5th birthday at the Centre for Literacy in Primary Education in Southwark, South London.

Founded in 2019 by Sarah Pakenham, previously Rights Director at Andersen Press, the publisher now has some 60 titles in print, in genres ranging from fiction to narrative non-fiction, with illustrated poetry the latest category to be added.

Colleagues both past and present, including Janice Thomson of Scallywag, Robert Snuggs of Bounce, and the legendary Klaus Flugge of Andersen Press himself, together with authors and illustrators including Jeanne Willis, Simon Lamb, Rose Robbins, Inbal Leitner, Jeff Crosby and Elena Arevalo Melville, one of the first authors to be published by the Press, were there to help mark five years of brilliant children's publishing, with filmed greetings from those who couldn't make it, including Satoshi Kitamura who has a number of books on the list.

Thomson – who worked with Pakenham at Andersen Press, when "we really knew how to have fun at Bologna" – noted how Pakenham was a champion particularly of first-time authors and illustrators, as well as "brave, fierce, loyal and impeccable in her dealings with everyone", while Lamb thanked her "on behalf of everyone you've touched."

With a number of awards under their belts, including the Queen's Knickers Award, an English Association Award, and two Teach Early Years Awards, the latest accolade came in April when the English Association announced that *My Dad is a Tree* by Jon Agee had been shortlisted for the Fiction 4-7 category in the **2024 English 4-11 Picture Book Awards**.



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*Pictured: Sarah Pakenham with Klaus Flugge*

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