

Multi-sensory Virtual Gifts



We've updated our range of Virtual Gifts to reflect some of our newer titles. You can now send the Jewelled Cymbals from "Aladdin", the Ghost Train Doors from "The Fairground", the Vibrating Fairy Wings from "The Invitation" and Jesus in a Manger from "The Christmas Story". This is in addition to many of the previous items ranging from a Grunting Pig to an Elephant's Trunk. Our Virtual Gifts work in a similar way to "Send a Cow" and make unusual and thoughtful presents.



There are seven different Virtual Gift labels with prices ranging from £2 to £4 per label. Each design is available as a sheet of seven labels or you can buy one of each design on a single sheet as shown above left. There are also five Virtual Gift cards with envelopes as shown above right which are available individually. Prices range from £10 to £30. To order please visit www.bagbooks.org/gifts.html

Win a Kia Picanto

We are once again taking part in the raffle organised by The Foundation for Social Improvement (FSI). The FSI Great Big Small Charity Car Draw is giving small charities like Bag Books a no-risk way to raise money and it's offering you a chance to win a fabulous brand new Kia Picanto, kindly supported by Kia Romford and the FSI Trustees.



Tickets cost £2 each and we will receive 92% of every ticket sold of our behalf (the FSI take 8% for

their printing, distribution and administrative costs). You can buy tickets online through our Great Big Small Charity Car Draw page at tinyurl.com/bbcar12 or get in touch with Camilla John at the address below if you would like to buy some paper tickets or get some books to sell tickets to your family and friends.

Good luck.



Storyline is published three times a year and is available in email and print versions. If you would like to change the format you receive in future please contact us. Similarly, please let us know if you'd rather not receive future editions.



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Storyline

September 2012

Multi-sensory stories for people with learning disabilities



Two new books

The Little Seed. *The little seed is blown underground and rained on. A shoot appears and the sun shines. Something is growing – what will it be?* This story by our Senior Craft Artist, Magdalene Tsirkas, includes a windchime, a grass pot with a seed, a water spray, a plant pot with a shoot, a windmill, a xylophone, a fabric shoot, a plant pot with roots and a rainbow tube with a pop-up tree. The book is now available for UK customers at a subsidised price of £45. To order please see www.bagbooks.org/books.html#49



Band Rehearsal. *The Multi-Tones are in the studio recording their next single. They stay up all night perfecting it but how will their fans react when they perform it live for the first time?* This story by our Workshop Manager, Sophie Baker, includes a gold record, a violin, a drum and stick, a maraca, a coffee aroma, a microphone, a mixing console, a tie and a hand clapper. The book is now available for UK customers at a subsidised price of £50 from www.bagbooks.org/books.html#48



Thanks Tanni

Many thanks to former Paralympian and Bag Books supporter Baroness Tanni Grey-Thompson who recorded a Radio 4 Appeal for us. The Appeal was broadcast in May and we'd also like to thank the 270 people who donated a total of £8,931.85 in response to it. You can still listen to it at tinyurl.com/bbtanni and it's never too late to donate!



Feedback

It's always nice to receive positive feedback and we wanted to share the following response from Jayne Lowry, a Teacher at St Mary's Hospital School, Westminster.

"The children you worked with really did appreciate the stories and have a great time listening to and joining in with them. I also learnt a lot and now feel more confident myself in delivering such a session."



Volunteers

Thanks to a two year grant from The John Ellerman Foundation we have now been able to employ a Volunteer Co-ordinator who joins the Workshop Team with a remit to recruit and support the growing number of craft volunteers. Below, we feature just a few of the varied volunteers and the tasks they do. We are always looking for skilled, practical craftspeople to help out. If you would like to lend us your time, please do get in touch with our Volunteer Co-ordinator, Rosie Martin, email: rosie@bagbooks.org

Tony Robertson. Tony is a skilled woodworker who first heard of Bag Books through the Radio 4 Appeal. He found the concept of hand crafted multi-sensory stories inspiring, and wanted to contribute his talents and tools to helping Bag Books. Since he started volunteering for Bag Books, Tony has made 60 drum beater handles, 60 disks for an Oyster card reader, 200 beautiful wooden seeds and 200 plant pot lids in his garden shed workshop. He then delivers them in person and is seen below with some of the workshop team.



Yewande Ogunnaiké. Yewande is a mother of three children. Her youngest, Olugbenga, has Down Syndrome, Autism and Attention Deficit Disorder. Yewande started volunteering at Bag Books as she felt grateful for all the support she has received whilst caring for Olugbenga, and decided she wanted to give something back. Since she started volunteering in our craft workshop, Yewande has eyeletted 60 pirate hats, stuffed ten pairs of rubber gloves and eight baby Jesus's with cotton wool, cleaned 30 bottles of sunscreen and punched holes in 40 Oyster cards.

Chantelle Bell. Chantelle Bell is an illustration student at Westminster University, who prefers hand painting to digital processes. In the summer break between her second and third year, Chantelle has been spending a day a week at the Bag Books workshop and has made 25 wooden oars, bagged and packed 20 "Captain's Hat" stories, assembled 15 pairs of clapping horses' hooves and created 11 rainbow sticks for our new story, "The Little Seed".



Barbara Thornes. A special mention must also go to home-knitting volunteer Barbara, who knitted eight stripy jumpers for our story "The Match" whilst on a cruise to Lisbon... Thanks also to her husband Steve for his patience!



New Scotland Storyteller

We have recruited our first Storyteller-Trainer for Scotland. Diane Thornton trained as an actor at Queen Margaret University College, Edinburgh and at Ecole Philippe Gaulier, London. As well as



being a professional performer, Diane is an experienced theatre maker and facilitator. She worked for several years on the international exchange project "Contacting the World" and has directed theatre projects with young people living in areas of conflict. Diane works regularly as a Clowndoctor and Elderflower for Hearts&Minds, creating performed interventions with children in hospitals and hospices, and with ladies and gentleman with dementia. She lives in Argyll where she runs a forest and beach adventure group for the under 5s and performs interactive forest theatre for families.

Parent Trustee needed

We currently have eight volunteer Trustees who meet quarterly and who are responsible for the strategic management of the charity. They come from a wide variety of backgrounds including a Headteacher of a Special School for SLD/PMLD pupils and a former Senior Officer of a Day Centre for adults with learning disabilities. We are now looking to appoint a parent/carer of someone with SLD/PMLD. For more information about this position please see www.bagbooks.org/jobs.html

Happy 90th Gwen

Many thanks to Gwen Wesley from Bourne in Lincolnshire who decided to raise money for Bag Books in lieu of presents at her 90th Birthday Party in the Darby & Joan Hall. The fantastic sum of £576.10 was raised.

Running for Bag Books

We would like to say a big thank you to Gaby Ellis, Karen Davies, Zara Dempsey, Mamta Gupta (one of our Trustees) and Tony McDaid for taking part in the British 10k race and for raising over £2,850. A fantastic effort and much appreciated by all at Bag Books. If you would like to take part next year please email: camilla@bagbooks.org

Cycling for Bag Books

Were you inspired by the Team GB Olympic cycling team? Do you fancy the chance to cycle a modified version of the London 2012 Olympic road race? The inaugural RideLondon 100 takes place on 4th August 2013 starting at the Olympic Park and taking in 100 miles of closed roads in the capital and the Surrey countryside.

The demand for places is likely to be very high and the ballot is now open at www.ridelondon.co.uk Please consider registering and riding to raise funds for Bag Books. If you would like to take part but do not secure a ballot place, please email: camilla@bagbooks.org as we are hoping to secure some guaranteed charity places.



Thanks

We would like to thank a number of key supporters who have donated generously to our work in the last few months:

Lloyds TSB Foundation for England and Wales

Yorkshire & Clydesdale Bank Foundation

The Freemasons' Grand Charity

MK Community Foundation