



The English-Speaking Union (Victoria Branch)

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MEDIA RELEASE

C J Dennis Society wins sponsorship for its Poetry Festival & Poetry Competition in 2021

For immediate release, 30 May 2021

The English-Speaking Union Victoria Branch (ESU) is delighted to announce its sponsorship of the **C J Dennis Society**.

The C J Dennis Society is a not-for-profit membership association that aims to promote the writings of the Australian poet C J Dennis (1876-1938); to encourage the recognition and creation of bush poetry in the community; and to organise poetry performances, written competitions, concerts, festivals and other events that celebrate the poetry and literature of C J Dennis and other writers.

The ESU's sponsorship of \$3,000 will contribute to aspects of the C J Dennis Poetry Festival & Poetry Competition which is being planned for Sunday 17 October 2021. Subject to any health restrictions that may apply, the Festival will be hosted by The Singing Gardens of C J Dennis, Toolangi (to the north of Healesville).

This year's Poetry Competition has a special focus, commemorating the centenary of C J Dennis' *A Book for Kids* (1921).

Comments attributable to ESU Branch President, Robert Furlan, a member of the award judging panel:

“The ESU acknowledges the C J Dennis Society's commitment to promoting the the writings of C J Dennis and other Australians, and to encouraging the creation of bush poetry.”

“The ESU is pleased to support the C J Dennis Society's annual Poetry Festival & Poetry Competition, and its encouragement of excellence in a range of categories and media.”

“The ESU congratulates the C J Dennis Society and wishes all competitors and performers a successful Poetry Festival at The Singing Gardens of C J Dennis in Toolangi, later this year.”

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The Role of the English-Speaking Union (Victoria Branch)

The ESU's mission is to promote the heritage, culture, identity and fellowship of the English-speaking peoples. Via a range of competitive awards, the ESU provides funding for activities that align with this mission.

The ESU is a registered Australian charity.

The ESU has been active in supporting educational and cultural projects by Australians for over 100 years.

Further information

For information about the ESU, please contact the President, Robert Furlan, on 0419 559 608.

To arrange an interview with a representative of the C J Dennis Society, please contact awards@esuvic.org.au.

Details of the ESU Awards Program can be found at esuvic.org.au/content/awards.