

The History Hunter

Breathing Life into Legends

with Author Mark Greenwood



"...students and staff were so impressed with Mark Greenwood's performance... He enthralled Stages 2 & 3 for an hour"

- **Fay Prideaux, Yarrawarrah Public School, NSW**

"The children were spellbound - on the edge of their seats." - **Kate Anderson, St Columba's School, Kedron QLD**

"Fantastic... The whole school is just buzzing after Mark's show." - **Lynne West, Crestwood Public School, NSW**

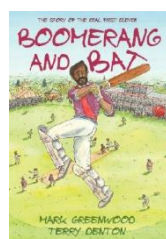
"Mark was a fabulous presenter... (after the show) we had some students follow me down to the Junior School Library so they could immediately borrow Mark's 'History Mystery' books and find the clues he referred to in his presentation" - **Gill Gratton, Trinity Grammar School, NSW**

THE PRESENTATION

- Take giant leaps and dream astronaut dreams
- Discover the secrets to happiness hidden in a wartime book
- Relive the story of the real First Eleven.
- Unravel the clues to one of the world's greatest lost treasures.
- Find Jandamarra in the cave of bats.
- Walk in the footsteps of an ANZAC legend.
- Meet the greatest escape artist of the convict era.
- Uncover the story of Ned Kelly's green sash.
- Sail back in time on a ghostly Dutch East India ship.
- Be entertained by the most remarkable story a man ever lived to tell.

Our past is full of adventures and curious, larger-than-life characters. It is a rich vein of material for writers and storytellers.

Mark enjoys presenting to students of all ages and backgrounds, inspiring them to develop their natural curiosity about books, writing and history. From simple text, through to the extensive research involved in creating historical fiction, the 'History Hunter' presentation provides ideas and strategies to enhance creative writing. Students become involved in the process of writing books, from initial idea and development of story line, through to the stages involved for publication.

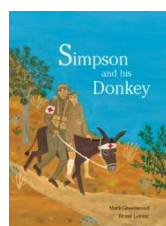
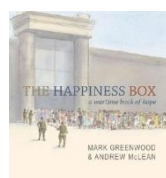


THE PERFORMER

Mark Greenwood is an author with a passion for history. His award winning books have been honoured internationally. He has twice received the West Australian Premier's Award for **The Legend of Lasseter's Reef** and **The Legend of Moondyne Joe**. Other titles include **Ned Kelly and the Green Sash**, **Midnight - the story of a light horse** and **Simpson and His Donkey**, a CBCA Honour Book and USBBY Outstanding International Book. **The Greatest Liar on Earth** was followed up by **The Mayflower** and **Jandamarra**, illustrated by Terry Denton, shortlisted for the CBCA Eve Pownall Award, the NSW Premier's Literary Award for Children's Literature and the *West Australian* Young Readers' Book Award. Mark's other books with Terry include **Boomerang and Bat**, a CBCA Notable Book and their new collaboration, **Moonwalkers** which celebrates the Apollo 11 moon landing – and Australia's role in one of humanity's greatest achievements.

Mark and his wife, illustrator Frané Lessac, make books focusing on Australian history and understanding diversity, such as **Drummer Boy of John John**, **Magic Boomerang**, **Outback Adventure** and **Our Big Island**.

Mark's chapter book series delves into Australia's most baffling **History Mysteries**. His recent picture book, **The Happiness Box**, is a tribute to the power of books to transcend circumstances and offer hope and happiness, and is shortlisted for the 2019 CBCA Eve Pownall Award. Mark's exciting presentations have been enjoyed by schools and libraries throughout the world. For more information refer to Mark's website: www.markgreenwood.com.au



Curriculum links: *English* – explores country, place, identity; *History* – explores the role of significant people; *HSIE* – importance of past and present people; *Drama* – watch and listen as an active participant.

DURATION: 50 minutes with Q&A **SUITABILITY:** Prep – Year 9 **COST:** \$6.00 per student +GST (MINIMUM 120 students)

Performance Requirements: A table, data projector or smartboard, and a cleared area to set up for all sessions



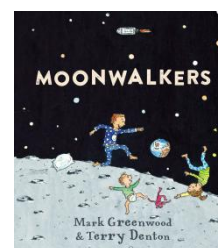
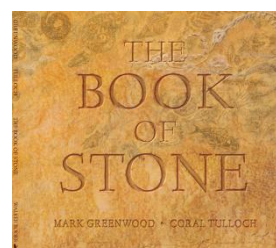
BOOKINGS & ENQUIRIES: Nexus Arts

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Email: nexusarts@nexusarts.com.au



Feedback for Mark Greenwood

"Mark Greenwood was the highlight... We're really pleased we flew him over from Perth. He had a great vibe and the pitch of the session was perfect." *Jeremy Green, Newington Festival 2025, Newington College NSW*

"After years as librarian, I believe that you are hands down, the most captivating and engaging author. We would absolutely love if you could please visit us again at Bondi Beach PS." *Claire Hayward, Bondi Beach NSW*

"You never fail to have everyone on the edge of their seats with your stories and treasures. Your ability to engage and captivate a small or large group of students is incredible and the feedback from students, parents and staff has been overwhelming! Your books have disappeared from the library shelves and I have received a number of emails from parents saying how their children have been talking about the experience. I cannot thank you enough for lighting the imagination fire in the students that were lucky to have the sessions with you and I look forward to making it a yearly event. Even our less able students have been inspired to write and that is what I was after." *Jo Morgan, Wesley College Perth*

"After teaching for many decades – I have never seen the boys so riveted and hanging on to EVERY word. I want Mark every 2nd year till I die." *Helen Gibson, St Patricks College Strathfield NSW*

"Mark has an absolute gift for engaging audiences of a wide age range. He has a unique way of evoking the students' senses, imaginations and emotions. Mark is able to provoke students into higher level thinking, outside the box. He is warm, amusing, approachable, entertaining and able to teach and evoke interest in a most unusual way. He instils in his listeners a desire to know more about our history; he presents history in an engaging way, creating a thirst for knowledge."

Anneliese Lucido, home school parent from after-school workshop at Literature Centre WA

"We dearly love Mark. We can't wait to see him again. He's the best." (This school has been booking Mark every year for many years) *Belinda Booth, Prep Teacher Librarian, Anglican Church Grammar ("Churchie") QLD*

"Mark was a fabulous presenter – Year 3-6 is quite a large age range and he presented on a Friday afternoon after a very busy day (and week) of Book Week activities, so not an easy session! I was so impressed at how he captured and held the students' attention, and have received feedback from several teachers on how engaging his session was and what a fabulous storyteller he is. In fact, we had some students follow me down to the Junior School Library so they could immediately borrow Mark's 'History Mystery' books and find the clues he referred to in his presentation." *Gill Gratton, Trinity Grammar School, Summer Hill NSW*

"The children (were) sitting spellbound on the edges of their seats. The Year 3 & 4 teachers confirmed it was 'the best literary performer' they had encountered in many years. No small feat, indeed!"

Kate Anderson, St Columba's School, Kedron QLD

"Fantastic show, he was really great with the kids, they just loved him. The whole school is just buzzing after Mark's show." *Lynne West, Crestwood Public School, NSW*

"Staff and students alike were very impressed. A very engaging talk and the students were very interested." *Josephine Simpson, Clayfield College, QLD*

Feedback for Mark Greenwood

“Mark was engaging right from the start through his storytelling, visual presentations, writing tips and crowd participation. He adapted his presentation to suit the different year levels and the students were engaged and interested the whole 55 minutes. There was such a buzz from students and teachers after the presentation and now most of his books in the library have long list of reserves on them. Thank you so much for allowing us to host Mark at our school.” *Michelle Guy, Woodcroft College SA*

“We are deeply grateful for your visit to our school and for sharing your engaging stories and insights with us. Your captivating presentation not only sparked curiosity but also inspired students and staff alike. Your words were truly valuable, leaving a lasting impact on our community, encouraging young minds to explore the power of storytelling and imagination. Your passion for literature and creativity is a gift that will continue to inspire long after your visit. Thank you for making a meaningful difference and for igniting a love for reading and writing in our students. All your books which we had in our library are now in children’s hands! And, we have received requests to purchase other titles too. You were able to capture both our junior and upper school cohorts. We had budding authors in Foundation publishing books year 6 students who headed to the book shop to purchase books with ‘The Vanishing’ being a popular choice, and students who went to the local library and borrowed your books. Staff and students alike are still talking about your visit, days after. We will be in touch regarding future bookings through the Nexus program.” *Karen Mellington AP, Grahamvale PS VIC*