

Norman Jorgensen



Norman, the eldest of four brothers, lived in several country towns throughout Western Australia during his childhood. He became an avid reader after discovering *The Secret Seven* by Enid Blyton. 'I became hooked on reading. I thought the Secret Seven had the most exciting lives imaginable and desperately wanted to be the eighth member. I soon moved on to Robert Louis Stevenson, Mark Twain, *Biggles* and all the usual books that were available for kids in the 1960s before discovering James Bond at far too young an age and never recovering from the romance of adventure.'

Norman enjoys writing for kids and meeting his readers and believes that they are generally much more aware and perceptive than many people give them credit for. And unlike a lot of their parents, many kids have a highly developed sense of the ridiculous.

Although Norman gets a great deal of satisfaction discovering real historical events that can be adapted and shared for his stories, his greatest delight is in turning ordinary, everyday events into catastrophic episodes for his comedy writing. 'If you ask "what can go wrong?" then you will never run short of material to write about.'

LATEST RELEASE

Another Fine Mess 002



Michael Hardy and Woody Decker have a serious knack for getting themselves into trouble. From blazing fire trucks to exploding cows, a sewage laden willy-willy, kidnapped gnomes, cattle prods and mortifying wardrobe malfunctions, there's nothing these boys can't stuff up.

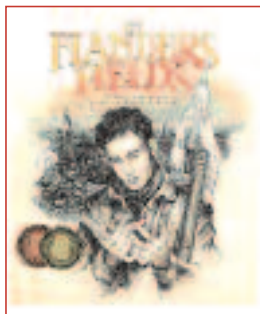
On the other hand, the uber-cool Dirk Fleming, Junior MI6 Agent, razor-sharp creation of Michael's fevered imagination, can do no wrong with his feats of danger, daring and high drama.

From dreadful delinquent to novice novelist to hesitant hero in just 192 pages — can Michael save the day, publish his book, win the girl and stay out of the poo? Not likely!

CRITICAL ACCLAIM

In Flanders Fields

illustrated by Brian Harrison-Lever



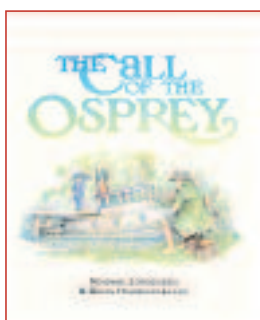
WINNER, CBC PICTURE BOOK OF THE YEAR 2003

Norman's first children's picture book, wonderfully illustrated by Brian Harrison-Lever, ***In Flanders Fields*** won the 2003 . The book tells the story of a homesick young soldier in the trenches who, during a lull in the fighting on Christmas morning, risks his life to rescue a robin trapped on barbed wire way out in no-man's land.

'Full of finely observed detail, this is an excellent introduction to the historical reality of life in the trenches and the meaning of compassion.' ***The Age***

The Call of the Osprey

illustrated by Brian Harrison-Lever



Norman again collaborated with Brian for ***The Call of the Osprey***, about the friendship between a boy and an old sailor who rebuild a boat together – a story loosely based on Norman's own experiences as a boy when he and his father built and sailed a wooden dinghy on the Swan River.

'... a timeless story of love and friendship that will be passed down from generation to generation.' ***The Sunday Times***

A Fine Mess!



SHORTLISTED WAYRBA 2006

or ***A Fine Mess!*** Norman returned to his love of over-the-top slapstick humour, setting the story in a country high school that very nearly gets burnt to the ground. 'It contains as many disasters as I could possibly cram in (and the editor would let me get away with),' he explains.

'Norman Jorgensen has written a cracking book, which is great for boys and girls who don't mind laughing out loud ...' ***The Sunday Times***

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