



**Dimity in a Nutshell (she's also quite nutty):**

Dimity Powell loves filling every spare moment with words. She's the Managing Editor for [Kids' Book Review](#) and writes and reviews exclusively for children with over 28 published stories including *Pippa* (2019), critically acclaimed, *The Fix-It Man* (2018) and *At The End of Holyrood Lane*, winner of the 2019 SCBWI Crystal Kite Award.

She is an accredited [Write Like An Author facilitator](#) and [Books in Homes Australia Volunteer Role Model](#) and is an experienced presenter, panel host and moderator at writing festivals and conferences both in Australia and overseas who enjoys sharing her love of story in front of crowds of very small and tall people. It says on her website, [www.dimitypowell.com](http://www.dimitypowell.com), so it must be true.

She loves eating cake with ice cream, sailing on the beam and writing in her diary although combining all three makes her nauseous. Dimity lives around the corner from *Bat Man on the Gold Coast*, although they rarely hang out. Such are the lives of authors and superheroes.

**Dimity's Presentation Ethos:**

Encouraging little kids and big kids to challenge their imaginations and unleash the writer within whilst illustrating the significance of the art of story lies at the heart of all of Dimity's presentations. Dimity combines humour and heart to illustrate the essence of great storytelling ensuring participants walk away entertained and inspired.

**Preferred target audience:**

- 5 – 13 years Pre-school, K – Year 8
- Adults

**Audience Size:**

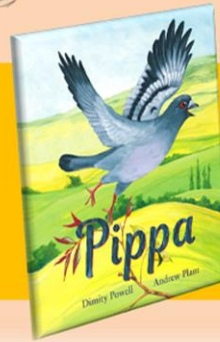
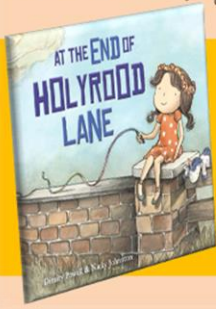
- 15 – 30 writing workshops
- 30+ seminars / presentations
- Up to 700+ for larger school talk gatherings

**Availability:** Throughout the school year and school holidays – Book Week 2020

**Locations:**

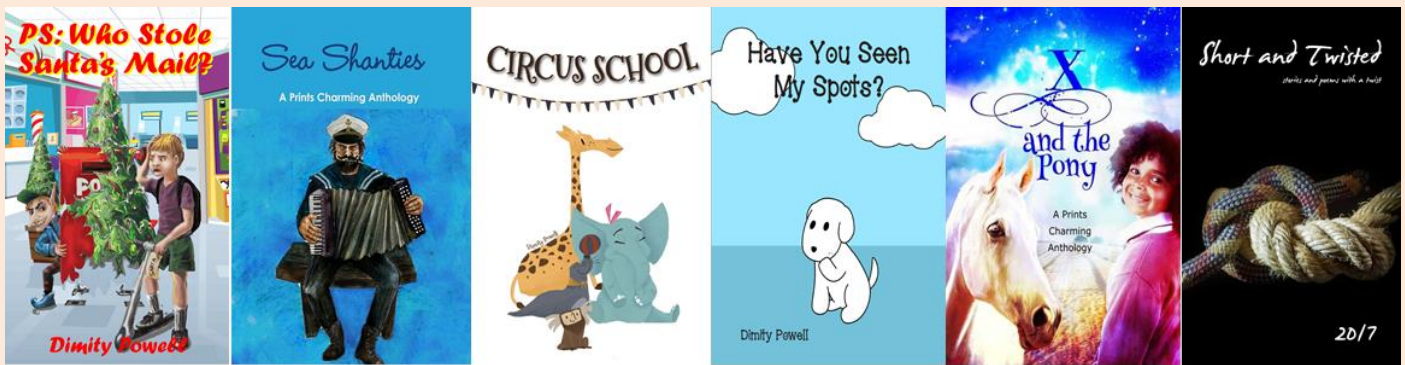
- Queensland, regional and SE quarter including Gold Coast, Sunshine Coast, Toowoomba, Ipswich
- Interstate Australia
- Overseas – New Zealand, Singapore (minimum two days' presentations to cover travel costs)

**Author Talk Sheet:** Visit [Dimity's website](#) for full details of Workshops and Session breakdowns, Testimonials and Agency contacts or peruse her [Author Talk Sheet \(ATS\)](#).



## Workshop / Presentation Proposals:

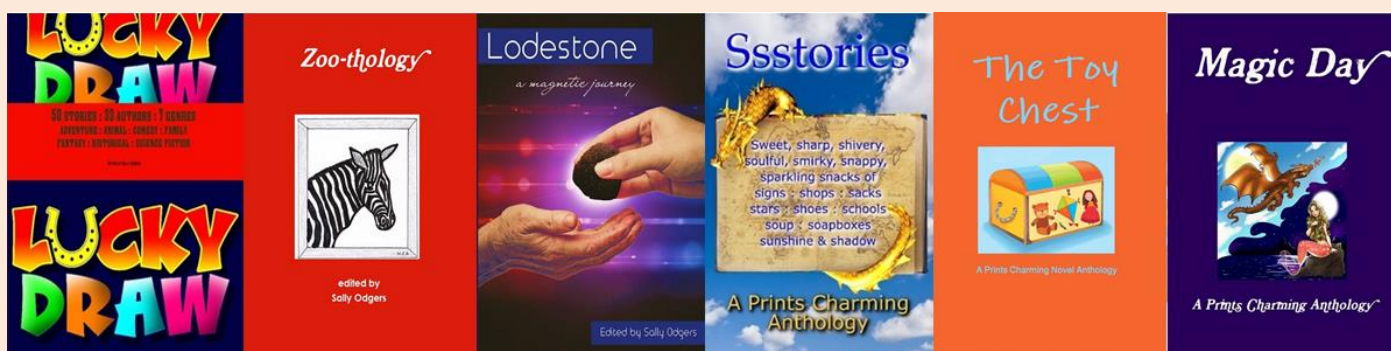
- **Moderating / Hosting panel sessions:** On topic of choice to suit festival or conference theme
- **All aspects of writing for children, including flash fiction, short story, and choose-your-own-adventure style genres:** Conducted as writing workshops for 9 – 13-year-olds or adults
- **Getting kids to read and write – the benefit of picture books – keeping them hooked:** Using extensive knowledge of picture book creation to develop a better appreciation for all writing genres and how to translate that to your own writing
- **Metamorphosis – transforming ideas into stories, connecting characters with readers, discovering dialogue, and creating worlds:** Delivered in masterclasses or as individual focus writing workshops for 9 – 13-year-olds and adults
- **Paths to publication – revealing truths and myths – Getting real with dreams:** Seminar sessions on why I do what I do, how I do it and why
- **Cross platform multi-media content – benefits of diversity – Exploring Digital narratives:** Interactive sessions tailored to young or old writers keen to explore alternative ways of story-telling.



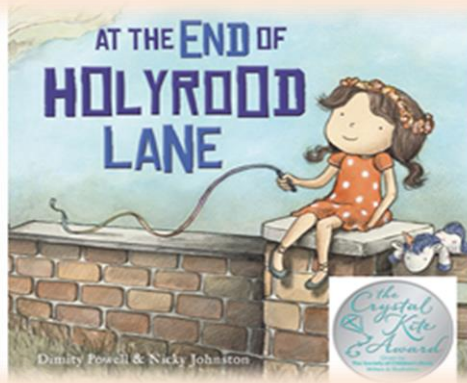
**Session outline examples:** (These are but a few of the sessions I can deliver. Presentations may be tailored to suit a requested theme or topic.)

- **Book Week Presentation: *What Do Authors Smell Like? (Curious Creatures and Wild Minds theme)***
  - TA: K – Year 3 / 4
  - Duration: 60 minutes
  - Children's authors are curious creatures. Do they really live in onesies? Can they exist on nothing but chocolate? Will becoming their friend guarantee you a role in their next book? A wild and revealing, behind-the-scenes journey through the whacky mind of a children's author that will help children learn about the many different ways to tell and share stories
- **Story telling + interactive presentation: *Having Fun and Being Brave!***
  - TA: younger audiences and parents (K – Year 3)
  - Duration: 45 – 60 minutes

- An upbeat yet sensitive introduction to the characters of Dimity's latest picture books, *Pippa* (*Pippa*, 2019) and *Flick* (*At The End of Holyrood Lane*, 2018), exploring their similarities and differences (one's a pigeon!) whilst inviting interactive discussion about fears and anxieties and how to overcome them to encourage emotional awareness and resilience. Includes book reading and puppet play.
- Australian Curricula: Grades One and Two Character Studies + Story Outcomes
- **Writing Workshop: *Picture This! The Art of Writing***
  - TA: 8 – 13-year-olds Also presented as an adults' writing workshop
  - Duration: 60 minutes – may be extended to half day masterclass
  - Allow a picture book addict to escort you through the mechanics of picture books and discover how this will enhance your own creativity, no matter what you're writing. Be prepared to flex your writing muscles with this interactive writing workshop.
- **Seminar on Bibliotherapy: *Bibliotherapy: Its Place in Children's Literature***
  - TA: parents, librarians, health providers, teachers, early childhood professionals, and individuals working with children from 0 to 5.
  - Duration: 60 – 75 minutes
  - Thought provoking session exploring the value of creating biblio-therapy themed diverse picture books and debates their usefulness in combating various social issues affecting children. Discussion of what works, what doesn't and why
  - Based on issued-based pbs publications, *The Fix-It Man*, *At The End of Holyrood Lane* and *Oswald* (due out 2021).
- **Writing Workshop / presentation: *Writing and Selling the Tough Stuff: Creating Tales about Difficult Topics***
  - TA: Writers for children, illustrators
  - Duration: 60 – 75 minutes
  - Demonstration of getting the balance between integrity and saleability just right when writing about sensitive subject matter for children.
- **Seminar on Creating Digital Narratives: *Story City – Getting Real with Digital Narrative***
  - TA: Authors, Illustrators, Creative Content makers, Parents, young writers 10 years+
  - Duration: 60 – 180 minutes
  - A fascinating, real-life look at the unique nuances required to produce a successful immersive locative storytelling experience; the relevance of digital interactive storytelling for today's young readers; and the positive impacts multiplatform storytelling can provide for our communities, tourism industries, and physical and social interaction.
  - Using her own [Shortlisted digital narrative, \*The Chapel of Unlove\*](#) as a living example, Dimity will divulge the exacting process of producing an immersive, interactive 'choose-your-own-adventure' styled locative fiction.



scbwi  
CRYSTALkite  
Member Choice Awards



- **Keynote Speech** on Winning the 2019 SCBWI Crystal Kite Members' Choice Award for *At the End of Holyrood Lane: Taking the Plunge: Finding Solace in the Face of Fear*
  - TA: writers, illustrators, parents, librarians, health providers, teachers, early childhood professionals, and individuals working with children
  - Duration: 8 – 10 minutes or tailored to suit requirements
  - To learn how to laugh in the face of fear and by doing so thus find the courage to acknowledge, overpower and resist it by understanding how, when and where to ask for help to enable you to rise above it and ultimately, triumph. By:
    - Describing the peculiarities and fears associated with children's story book writing and how they relate to facing fears in general. (With the subtle use of an ocean / storm metaphor to emphasise this)
    - Defining fear vs. courage and their relationship with my initial reservations about writing a picture book about domestic violence.
    - Describing my reactions on hearing the CKA2019 announcement and feelings about winning the CKA2019 and why it's an important and telling win globally for kids' lit – what it represents / measures or proves.
    - Concluding with a tie-in to worth of SCBWI membership (and other similar writing associations: CKT, QWC, CBCA etc.) as a valuable, nurturing haven for creators.
    - With a final invitation to take the leap into the feared unknown, as Flick and I did.