

New Australian Author Children Book Release

Billycan's tail of two crocodiles

Alistair Pirie

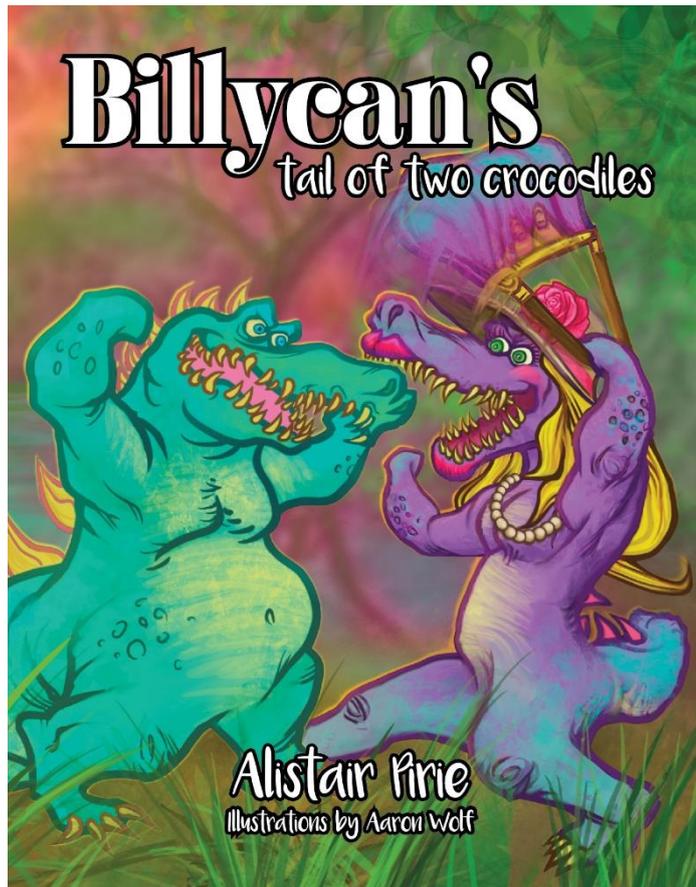
Five children meet a mysterious stranger named Peter Billycan, who directs them into a tunnel to discover an underground river system. And this is where the adventures begin...

Descending the tunnel, the group board a ferry boat, captained by a salty old sea dog, where they are swept away on a wild ride. The children witness two crocodiles having a fight. They are afraid at first, but the crocodiles turn out to be friendly and carry them to an Aboriginal camp on the seashore where they meet a small Aboriginal boy fishing from a bark canoe.

The boy's tribe welcomes the children, and they learn how the Aboriginals live. A series of thrilling adventures follow where they become aware of the environmental damage caused to coastal wetlands.

You are invited to join the adventures of Billycan's five heroes who find adventures of learning, understanding and compassion for the world they had visited with Billycan's help...

and never would it be forgotten.



RRP: \$19.95

ISBN: 9781922594198

Genre: Fiction/ Children's Adventure

Format: Paperback

Audience: Children's

Location: St Kilda

About the Author:

Alistair Pirie



Alistair Pirie is a Melbourne based writer and sculptor who grew up in the then-unfashionable, working class western suburbs of Melbourne. He takes inspiration from his childhood growing up in a time when children had a stronger connection to their environment.

He aims to encourage the next generation to care for the land as the original people cared for it, to try and restore it to something like its original condition.

This book is the first in a series which follows the adventures of the children and other people and animals which they encounter on their way.

“A marvellous adventure for learning and fun...what a great book for Australian kids to love and the world to learn about this great country and culture...well done Alistair for a thoughtful and enjoyable tale of young adventure...” **Craig, Indie Book reviewer**

The writer acknowledges the traditional owners of the land on which this story is based the Yalukit-Willam people members of the Kulin nation and wishes to pay his respects to their elders' past, present and future and apologises for any factual inaccuracies which may inadvertently be contained in this story.

Thank you for supporting a new young children book author from the local community of St Kilda. If you require any further communication or information, please contact us directly to organise and confirm as requested and within reasonable timing to help you meet your goals also.

Publisher Contact: Jodie Kellett
Email: jodie@shawlinepublishing.com.au

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A Conversation with Alistair

What was one of the most surprising things you learned in creating your books?

I realized how different it was for a child growing up in earlier times and how much more hands on and uncomplicated it was and also rougher.

What were your inspirations? Why did you write this book?

I started the book for initially two reasons.

- 1. To bring to readers attentions the environmental destruction which had taken place in the area in which I lived as a child and some of the reasons it had taken place.*
- 2. To give my grandchildren some insight into family history.*

How did you decide on the characters for your book?

I inserted the Grandchildren into the book then it just developed as it went along.

Do you like to create books for adults, kids or a cause? Why?

I'm a bit of a crusader. I would like to make a contribution towards changing society.

What would you say is your interesting writing quirk?

I write a mix of imaginative scenes with some historical reference.

Where do you get your information or ideas for your books?

I reference back to my own previous life events.

What do you like to do when you're not writing?

I like to work on my old clinker boat.

When did you write your first book and how old were you?

I first wrote back in 2015 when I was 70.

What are your plans for your future book/s?

I would like to continue the adventures of the current characters in future books.

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