

## ***MEDIA RELEASE***

Thursday 7 February 2019

### **Storytime is proving to be a magical experience**

Nearly 50 children gathered at Glenelg Libraries Portland for the Magic of Storytime as guest reader, Port of Portland Harbour Master, Jason Sweetman, took the children on a journey to the Antarctic through the eyes of nine-year old Sophie.

“Sophie Scott goes South” written by Australian author, Alison Lester, tells the story of Sophie who went on a month-long voyage to Antarctica, with her dad, the captain of an icebreaker.

Mr Sweetman, who has captained ships across the world for the last twenty years, was able to use the book to create interactive moments with the children such as the “rock and rolling” of a ship at sea, along with the quaint penguin strut.

For some children, this was a familiar story as “Sophie Scott goes South” is one of the books Dolly Parton’s Imagination Library is sending to participating families in the Glenelg Shire.

The Magic of Storytime is held on the first Friday of every month using books from the Dolly Parton Imagination Library with a special guest reader from the community.

Nicole Carr, United Way Glenelg Executive Officer said that literacy activities found to be effective in improving and developing literacy skills include regular shared reading, selection of appropriate books and the use of appropriate reading styles.

“Our guest readers are providing rich and meaningful experiences for children and it’s also a great way to spark the children’s imaginations at a time when they are most curious about the world.”

The Magic of Storytime is supported by United Way Glenelg, Portland Aluminium and Glenelg Libraries. The Storytime sessions are held on the first Friday of the month (except in school holidays) at Glenelg Libraries with a new guest story teller each month.

The Next Magic of Storytime will be held Friday 1 March 2019 at Glenelg Libraries with the book “Who sank the boat?” written by Pamela Allen. Guest reader will be Andrew “Flash” Welfare, Halliday’s Butcher Shop.

If you’re interested in receiving more information about the Dolly Parton Imagination Library please contact Nicole Carr on 0410 513305 [mail@unitedwayglenelg.com.au](mailto:mail@unitedwayglenelg.com.au)

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Media enquiries to Nicole Carr on 0410 513 305 or [mail@unitedwayglenelg.com.au](mailto:mail@unitedwayglenelg.com.au)

#### **Media Interview and Photo Opportunity**

**Where:**

**When:**

**Who:**

**What:**

**Why:**