

Feeling a building in your bones

Profile: Award-winning designer Donna Monaghan doesn't just look at buildings, she really sees them.

Sprinkling some literary fairy dust



Paul Jennings will be one of the star attractions at the Children's Book Festival this week. Image:

www.moke.com.au

[dropcap style="color: #dc943c;"] W [/dropcap]arrnambool's own **Paul Jennings** will lead a trio of award-winning children's authors and illustrators at the Warrnambool Books Children's Festival this week.

The festival runs from Thursday, May 15 to Saturday May 17 at 169 Fairy St and features a different author each day, starting with young adult author **Sue Lawson**.

Sue is the author of three highly acclaimed books – *Finding Darcy*, *After* and *Pan's Whisper* – and will be signing books in-store on Thursday from 4pm-5pm.

Illustrator **Judy Watson** will be in the chair from 4pm-5pm Friday and signing copies of some of the more than 20 children's books she has illustrated, including *Goodnight Mice!* which won the Prime Minister's Literary Award for children's fiction.

The festival will come to a colourful end on Saturday with Paul Jennings in-store from 11am-1pm, together with live music and a transformation of Fairy St into fairy street, featuring fairies, free lollipops and giveaways. Paul is one of Australia's most successful authors, having sold more than nine million copies of his books worldwide.

The festival coincides with [Warrnambool Books](#) celebrating its 30th birthday, which is no small feat in itself: we hope they are around for another 30.



Young adult author Sue Lawson will appear at the festival on Thursday.



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Jumping into Jennings' book



Paul Jennings. Image:
Monash University.

WE DON'T NEED TO TELL you that **Paul Jennings** has come a long way since lecturing primary school teaching students in the 1980s at what was then the Warrnambool Institute of Advanced Education.

(Actually, I can remember Paul reading us bleary eyed third years the draft of his very first book and asking us for feedback. 'Not bad,' we said. Hell, what did we know? – Carol).

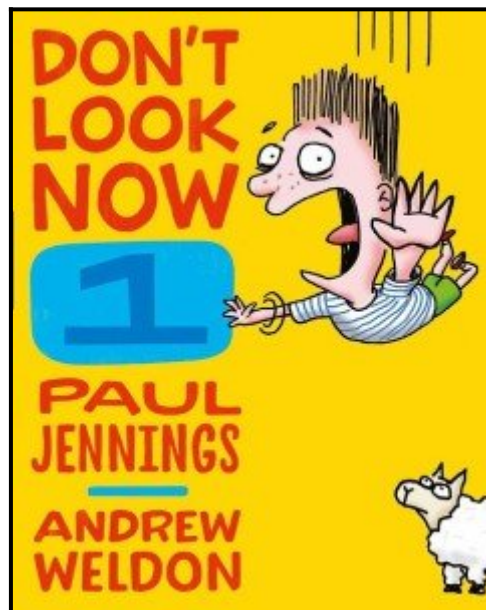
We have invited **Michaelie Clark** from Warrnambool Books to each week choose a reading highlight for people who love books and, where possible, to pick a work by a local author. Michaelie has this week chosen Paul's new series for young adults:

“The imagination of award-winning Warrnambool author Paul Jennings has soared to new heights with his latest series, *Don't Look Now*. The four book series, illustrated by Melbourne cartoonist **Andrew Weldon**, tells the story of Ricky, a boy who desperately wants to be famous – and has the means to be.

You see, Ricky can fly.

The only problem is, Ricky can't stay airborne if there's anybody around to witness it. If anyone were to see him flying, he would promptly fall out of the sky and surely plummet to his death, leading Ricky to quite a conundrum...”

(Does anybody see an analogy here between Ricky's problem and the fears that hold all of us back if we know somebody is watching us? I like it already – Carol).



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