

## Paul Geraghty



Paul Geraghty, born in South Africa in 1959, grew up among wild animals and began drawing from an early age. In spite of the idyllic surroundings, he chose to spend his childhood fighting the Second World War alongside his best friend.

At school he took requests and drew aeroplanes for his classmates. He wrote and illustrated stories about the war. When peace returned he completed a degree in Fine Art and English with Higher Diploma in Education at the University of Natal. He funded his student life by playing keyboards in a band on weekends. Later original recordings got airplay, achieving minimal fame and no fortune. He painted for a year, taught English and Art for two, then worked as a copywriter for a year, winning awards in the U.K. and U.S.A.

Since moving to England in 1986 he has been an author/illustrator of children's picture books and teenage fiction, often visiting schools, libraries and colleges as well as conducting the occasional writers' workshop.

He is very fond of words, and travels extensively in search of them. His picture book *The Hunter* was short listed for the Kate Greenaway Medal for illustration, and won the Earthworm Award (sponsored by Friends of the Earth), while *Solo* won the Children's Book Award - out of 392 books, judged by 70 000 children nationwide. His first novel, *Pig*, won the Longmans Young Africa Award, and more recently,

*Tortuga and Rotten & Rascal* have both won awards in France.

Other interests include music, photography, scuba diving and travel.

### EVENTS

School and library visits: big, loud, physical, audio and visual performances to audiences of up to 150 at a time.

### AUDIENCE

Two inspirational 60-minute presentations (three, if pupil numbers exceed 300) in a day, to audiences of 100 - 150 at a time (ages 4 - 12 & adults) on the subject of picture books, encouraging children to read, write, draw and think creatively. He will also leave behind two or three signed, coloured felt-tip sketches done on the day. (Usually schools keep and frame these, but they fetch around £150/£200 each if auctioned.)

### FORMAT

Every presentation is different, but will contain elements of the following:

An introductory drawing, TV cartoon style- 'How it is not done.' 'Readings' from his books, whilst drawing and showing slides simultaneously.

Storytelling whilst drawing (if no projection facilities are available)

An interactive talk on ideas for stories.

The stories behind some ideas that became books (as well as some that didn't!).

Drawing in front of the group (showing how a picture is built up, starting with a mess and gradually developing form).

Demonstration of a variety of facial expressions through quick sketches during the telling of a story.

All illustrated with actual examples of idea doodle-sheets, presentation thumbnails (a kind of cartoon strip miniature of the story used to show to editors), rough drawings, finished illustrations, proof prints, the book as a large running sheet -

prior to cutting - bound proofs and finally the finished book, which is then read to the group, all followed by questions from the group.

### COSTS

Paul charges a fixed fee of £420 plus travel expenses at 40p per mile from New Malden, Surrey.

### CONTACTS

If you would like to book an event with Paul please e mail him on

**paul@paulgeraghty.net**



### PUBLICITY MATERIAL

The following material is available for events:

-Posters

-Author Packs

To request this material please contact:

[childrenspublicity@randomhouse.co.uk](mailto:childrenspublicity@randomhouse.co.uk)

### BOOKS FOR SALE

Paul Geraghty will bring along a large stock of his books for a signing session at the end of the day. If you can give advance notice to parents, please, that would be most helpful.

### LINKS

To find out more about Paul Geraghty and his books you can visit his website:

[www.paulgeraghty.net](http://www.paulgeraghty.net)

To find out more about Paul's books please visit the kids website: [www.kidsatrandomhouse.co.uk](http://www.kidsatrandomhouse.co.uk)

Other useful links:

[www.classagency.co.uk](http://www.classagency.co.uk)

<http://www.childrensdiscovery.org.uk>

<http://www.societyofauthors.org/>

[www.rbooks.co.uk](http://www.rbooks.co.uk)

<http://www.fcbg.org.uk/>

[www.contactanauthor.co.uk](http://www.contactanauthor.co.uk)

[www.booktrust.org.uk](http://www.booktrust.org.uk)

[www.scatteredauthors.org](http://www.scatteredauthors.org)