

Press Release: Five Mile and Sally Rippin announce new partnership
MELBOURNE, AUSTRALIA – 13 February 2017



Five Mile – the children’s imprint of Bonnier Publishing Australia – and Sally Rippin, Australia’s best-selling children’s author, today announce an exclusive new partnership to deliver a high-quality, accessible young readers list.

Under the new partnership, Rippin will once again work with Tash Besliev, Bonnier Publishing Australia CEO, after their close association on Rippin’s *Billie B Brown* and *Hey Jack!* series published by Hardie Grant Egmont.

“Sally’s immense experience, expertise and dedication to children’s books and literacy, particularly in junior fiction, have afforded her a rare and covetable place in Australian family homes, school libraries and bookstores. We are incredibly proud to be working with Sally: a creator and ambassador of great books for kids,” says Besliev.

“Rippin is well-known in the industry for her generous mentoring of other writers and her partnership with Five Mile will see her formalize this role. As editor-at-large at Five Mile, Rippin will bring with her a combination of emerging and established authors and illustrators, while also being responsible for the discovery of new voices from the wider creative industries” says Besliev.

All titles will be acquired by Five Mile and published under the new *Sally Rippin Presents* list.

“The books published by *Sally Rippin Presents* will be accessible and inclusive, without compromising on quality. The books will have humour and heart – the best way to grow a new generation of readers and book lovers,” says Rippin.

“I’m looking forward to working with Tash and the team at Five Mile to develop authors and collaborate on great books and making them available to as many children as possible,” says Rippin who will also continue to work with other publishers on her own writing.

The first books to be published under *Sally Rippin Presents* are the *Super Mooper* series by Fiona Harris and Scott Edgar in September 2017.

Sally Rippin Presents is currently not accepting unsolicited manuscripts or pitches. All inquiries should be directed by email to sally.rippin.presents@bonnierpublishing.com.au

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ABOUT SALLY RIPPIN:

Sally Rippin is Australia's highest-selling female author*. She has over sixty books published, many of them award-winning, with her biggest junior fiction series *Billie B Brown* having sold over 3 million copies since 2010. Sally is a popular presenter in schools and at literary festivals both in Australia and overseas. She is a proud ambassador of the 100 Story Building creative writing centre for young people and has mentored many emerging writers and illustrators. Sally also has a regular program on Australian radio interviewing children's authors and industry professionals.

*2015 Nielsen BookScan – total market data

ABOUT FIVE MILE:

The publishing at Five Mile is spurred by a single belief: it takes just one great book in childhood to awaken a lifelong love of reading. And Five Mile strives to make *that* book. By blending wonderful artwork, clever words and a playful format into every book we make, Five Mile creates very special books for every child and every family, at affordable prices, collaborating with some of the world's best brands, authors and illustrators. The ever-expanding list features board books, novelty, picture books and junior fiction.

ABOUT BONNIER PUBLISHING AUSTRALIA:

Bonnier Publishing Australia is a publishing house based in Melbourne. We're agile like a start-up, with the financial backing of a parent company with an international network. A division of Bonnier Publishing, we're ultimately owned by global media group, Bonnier AB, an independent, family-owned business with a 200-year heritage. We represent UK sister-company imprints, as well as creating a successful and exciting local publishing program under Five Mile, our children's books imprint, and Echo Publishing, our adult book imprint. Our business is driven by the belief that books have the power to transform and enrich the lives of all and strives to deliver this universally, without compromise.