



Kimberley Society

Book Note

***The Adventure of Erin the Turtle* by Bessie Daylight, Glenys Peters, Tara Denise Evans and Mary Rose Balacky. Broome, 2014. A4, spiral bound, 14 pages, full colour.**

This appealing children's book was launched at Broome Public Library on 4 February 2015. It is aimed at local children but would be a hit in other places too.

While it was written and illustrated by the women named above, the book also has illustrations contributed by Patrick Gallagher and Daniel Kyle. Other input came from volunteer graphic designer Cameron Taylor, and from Broome's Read Write Now volunteer tutors. Broome is one of 19 West Australian regions in which people can overcome obstacles they face in reading and writing by participating in a Read Write Now program.

In the book, Erin, a green sea turtle, tells of her birth and how she survived living in the sea. The four authors, from the Kimberley Girls Writers Club, chose her story. Knowing that turtles fascinate children, they thought it would be good a way to share their knowledge with the younger ones. At least half of each page is filled with an attractive drawing. Up to four lines of large text, packed with a surprising amount of information, accompanies each drawing.

The book's production—from the concept through to printing and sales—shows what can be achieved by a small group of people working selflessly together. The local Read Write Now tutors had been giving lessons at Milliya Rumurra Aboriginal Corporation, and they helped to put the women's knowledge into an easy to read format. Nancy Kennedy, the local co-ordinator, knew of the Kimberley Society and secured a grant for a print run of 100 copies. The sale of those books provided funding for a second print run, which is selling well. What a great result!

Cathie Clement