



Australian picture book tells Chinese story

By Wan Jianhui

The release ceremony for the fairy tale picture book *Dragon Moon*, authored by Graeme Base, and published by Yangtze River Children's Publishing House was held in Wuhan on November 21. The book features such notable Chinese images as the moon, the dragon, and the pond. Also incorporated in it are the Yellow Crane Tower, the Yangtze River Bridge as well as some ancient Chinese poems.

Dragon Moon tells the story of a brave little fish, who goes through hardships and

crosses many lakes and forests in China before eventually turning into a dragon to defeat the mighty enemy to protect his family.

Base said that *Dragon Moon* was his first Chinese picture book and the inspiration came from two trips to China with his wife during the past two years. While they were visiting Wuhan, passing under the Changjiang River Bridge by boat, walking along the bridge on foot and overlooking the city from atop Yellow Crane Tower, it occurred to him that he should

draw a new book telling Chinese stories to the world.

Base said he chose the story frame of Andersen's fairy tale "The Ugly Duckling," but the roles and the scenes were set in the Chinese culture and landscape. The book is a mixture of Chinese and Western cultures.

Base is a British-Australian author and artist of picture books. He has created many world famous works, such as *The Waterhole*, and *Jungle Drums and Animalia*. His works are frequently on the New York Times Best Seller List.

Two new bookstores in Optics Valley

By Wan Jianhui



Branches of Beyond Book Store and Dolphin Children's Bookstore were opened recently on Guanshan Avenue.

The two bookstores are located on the second floor of K11 Art Mall. The Optics Valley Branch of Beyond Book Store remains focused on literature and social science books while setting up a children's book and activity area. The branch of Dolphin Children's Bookstore also has allocated an experience area for children to play.

Both stores provides regular lectures or workshops for readers.

4th Wuhan Design Biennale closes

By Echo Xiong

An international forum on the Changjiang New Town was held at the James Jackson Museum in Tanhualin on November 24.

The event was organized by the Netherlands Business Support Office Wuhan and the Wuhan City of Design Promotion Center. It was the last forum of the fourth Wuhan Design Biennale which closed on the same day.

Representatives from three renowned Dutch companies in the fields of spatial planning and urban design shared their innovative ideas and insights on urban water management. Bert Smolders from the Dutch company Arcadis said, "I believe the key to accomplishing the Changjiang New Town project is to pay attention to water by combining nature with safe and attractive waterfronts."

Taking the transformation of the Hankou Riverside Park as an example, Smolders said that "Wuhan has been a front runner in incorporating sponge city technologies where we've been involved. Congratulations to Wuhan on becoming a UNESCO City of Design. It's well deserved!"

Wuhan dough modeling makes list of "Best Handicrafts"

By Ouyang Chunyan

The first "Best Handicrafts of China" exhibition was unveiled in Beijing on November 20, and *Four Heavenly Kings - Favorable Weather*, a Wuhan dough modeling artwork created by Liu Jie, was the only selected work from Hubei province.

"Best Handicrafts of China" is a project approved by the Ministry of Culture and sponsored by the China Academy of Art. The exhibition received more than 2,000 entries from all over the country and 100

pieces of art works were recognized as "Best Handicrafts."

Liu Jie had spent more than a month creating his work for the exhibition, which received great praise from judges of the exhibition. They commented that the four dough modelings of Heavenly Kings were "quite distinctive from each other. They all feature vivid facial expressions and dynamic body language. Their clothing is harmoniously-matched in color, making them solemn yet lively."

