



This month, we've been talking to . . . Peter Millett

Peter Millett is a full-time children's author living on Auckland's North Shore. *The Anzac Puppy* is Peter's first book published with Scholastic NZ, based on the story of Freda, a Harlequin Great Dane and mascot of the NZ Rifle Brigade during World War 1. Freda's studded collar is now in the Army Museum at Waikouaiti, New Zealand, and her headstone will also be there in 2014. Peter has written a number of other picture books, as well as the Boy Zero Wannabe Hero series.

We asked Peter some questions about himself and his writing, and here's what he said ...

Where were you born? In a hospital. Okay ... *Where do you live now?* In a house. Yeah, but what city, smartypants? Oh! Auckland.

Where did you go to school?
Hauraki Primary School, North Shore, Auckland.

Did you have a nickname?
No. I've never had one. Where do you get them?

What were you like in school?
I was very well behaved.

What is the naughtiest thing you did?
I shoved a button up my nose and had to go to hospital to get it removed.

What was your favourite book growing up?
Charlie and the Chocolate Factory.

Who is your favourite children's author?
Roald Dahl.

What is your favourite food? Kumara.
Colour? Blue. *Movie?* Star Wars.

Who inspired you to write?
My wife Ruth.

How did you get started?
I wrote some poems for Ruth's Year 3 class.

How old were you?
28.

Why did you want to be a writer?
Because normal jobs are way too boring.

How do you think up ideas?

After eating biscuits I get a sugar high and then the ideas start flowing.

Do you have a special place where you write?
I used to have a small desk inside a hot water cupboard. Now I've upgraded to a bedroom.

What is the best thing about being a children's author?

Having people congratulate you on being professionally immature.

Have you had a funny or embarrassing moment as an author?

I autographed a piece of rubbish once by mistake.

What do you do when you are not writing?

Thinking about writing my next story.
Or watching cricket.

What would you have chosen to be if you were not an author?

A soccer player or a Jedi.

Which famous person from the past would you like to talk to?

Jerry Lewis. Okay, he's still alive - but nearly 90, so chances are he soon will be in the past.

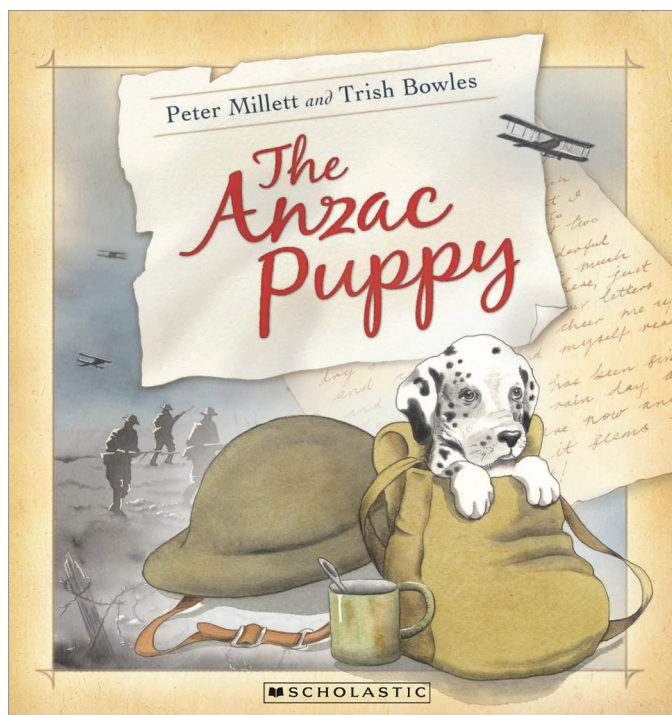
Is there anything else you would like to tell us about yourself?

I'm too tall to go on the Fear Fall ride at Rainbow's End!

PETER MILLETT'S FIRST SCHOLASTIC NZ PICTURE BOOK

The Anzac Puppy

Publication	March 2014
ISBN	978-1-77543-097-1
Print RRP	\$19.50
Format	250 x 240 mm
Extent	32 pp
Age	4+ years



In the middle of the night,
in the middle of winter,
in the middle of a war,
a puppy was born.

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