Children’s Books
The Lindsay Shaw Collection

An exhibition of material from the Monash University Library Rare Books Collection

13 April – 30 June 2010
Level 1, ISB Wing
Sir Louis Matheson Library
Clayton campus, Monash University
Wellington Road, Clayton
Introduction

The Monash University Library Rare Books Collection has extensive holdings of children’s material, over 12,000 items. These form the Lindsay Shaw Collection. Lindsay Shaw was the Secretary of the Monash Faculty of Education when he began to donate books to the Library in 1979. Lindsay is a major collector of Australian children’s books and began his gift to Monash by donating sets of Ethel Turner and Mary Grant Bruce. At that time Brenda Niall from the Monash English Department was researching these two writers for her book, *Seven little billabongs* (1979). She also used the collection for her 1984 book, *Australia through the looking-glass: children’s fiction 1830-1980*.

Lindsay continues to donate books for the collection and we supplement his gifts by purchase of English, American and other Australian children’s books.

Richard Overell
Rare Books Librarian
March 2010

13 April – 30 June 2010
Level 1, ISB Wing
Sir Louis Matheson Library
Clayton campus
Monash University
Wellington Road, Clayton

Curator: Richard Overell

Thanks to Dr Rebecca Do Rozario, School of English, Communications and Performance Studies, Faculty of Arts for opening the exhibition.

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LARGE UPRIGHT CASE


Ida Rentoul Outhwaite is usually considered the best Australian children’s book illustrator, and these are her two most ambitious works. Also on display are some of her “Elves and fairies” postcards from the 1930s.

3. Friendship album from the Kawakami Junior Red Cross, Japan to the Australian Junior Red Cross, 1937.
   An album created by Japanese students. It was sent as a gift to Australia to encourage attendance at a meeting of the Junior Red Cross in Japan, and includes examples of haiku, art, calligraphy, origami and miniature kimonos.

   This is an example of a paper doll book, with seven hand-coloured sets of clothes, four hats and “Little Fanny’s” head.

   This is a concertina-folding peepshow with hand-coloured illustrations, popular in the 1840s and 1850s. The Thames Tunnel, between Rotherhithe and Wapping, was begun in 1825 and opened as a pedestrian walk-way in 1843. In 1868 it became part of the London underground rail network.

6. Tuer, Andrew White, 1838-1900.

Horn-books were paddle-shaped pieces of wood or leather with a card showing the alphabet and the Lord’s Prayer; the printed card is protected by a flattened piece of transparent cow’s horn. They are extremely rare and Tuer’s book with its secret compartments and sample facsimiles is usually the only way we can see them. They were meant to be a child’s first introduction to reading.

7. The British battledore, or, First lessons. ([England]: Published by W. Davison, [1810?])

8. The “Prince Arthur” battledore. (Eastwood, [England]: G.R. Barber, [1810?])

9. A Present for a good child: the infant’s battledore. (Castle Cary, [England]: Printed and sold by S. Moore, [1810?])

By the turn of the 19th century the wood and leather horn-books had given way to equivalents made from card, called “battledores”. They served the same purpose, with an alphabet, a prayer and also a wood-cut illustration.
Chapbooks

10. *The death and burial of Cock Robin as taken from the original manuscript, in the possession of Master Meanwell.* (Lichfield: printed and sold by M. Morgan, and A. Morgan, Stafford, [1800?])


Chapbooks were small booklets commonly sold by chapmen in the 18th and early 19th centuries. Children’s chapbooks were often nursery rhymes and fairy tales, but the chapbooks for adults were typically tales of murder and execution. In the late 18th century religious groups began to print and circulate uplifting and admonitory works in series such as the “Cheap Repository Tracts”; *The gamester* is an example.

The *Cock Robin* chapbook shows how the sheets of chapbooks came from the printer. We can see on each side of the unfolded sheet, eight pages, each with their wood-cut and verse.

Chapbooks were usually available plain or coloured. *Natural History* is an example of the crude hand-colouring typical of the time. It is also of interest as the publication details include both London and Melbourne publishers. Melbourne had been founded only in 1834.

Butterfly’s Ball

13. Roscoe, William, 1753-1831. *The butterfly’s ball, and the grasshopper’s feast/ by Mr. Roscoe; to which is added, an original poem entitled, A winter’s day, by Mr. Smith, of Stand.* (London: Printed for J. Harris, 1816)

14. Dorset, Catherine Ann, 1750?-1817? *The peacock “at home”/by a lady. To which is added The butterfly’s ball; an original poem, by Mr. Roscoe.* (London: John Harris, Corner of St. Paul’s Churchyard, [1810?])

The *Butterfly’s ball* was an early 19th century publishing phenomenon. It first appeared in *The Gentleman’s magazine* (Nov. 1806, p. 1052). The prominent children’s publisher, John Harris, produced it as a booklet and it went through many editions. On display is a chapbook version, part of “Harris’s cabinet of amusement and instruction.” There were many sequels, the best known being *The peacock at home* (1807) by Mrs. Dorset. Here we see a coloured version from 1810.

Fairy Tales


17. La Fontaine, Jean de, 1621-1695. *The fables of La Fontaine/translated into English verse by Walter Thornbury; with illustrations by Gustave Doré.* (London: Cassell Petter & Galpin, [1871])


Fairy tales were originally folk-tales collected by enthusiasts such as Charles Perrault and his son in France, and the Brothers Grimm in Germany. The stories would then be polished and published. The frontispiece to the first edition of Perrault’s tales, published in 1697,
incorporated a plaque on the wall which read, “Contes de ma mère l’oye,” which translates into English as “Tales of Mother Goose.”

There have been many authors who have written their own fairy tales. Perhaps the most famous is Hans Christian Andersen. The collections on display are notable for their illustrations by such artists as Gustave Doré and Arthur Rackham.

**Nursery Rhymes**

20. **Aliquis.**

_The flight of the old woman who was tossed up in a basket/sketched and edited by Aliquis. (David Bogue, [1844?])_ 1 folded sheet, 10 col. plates: col.ill.; 11 x 228 cm., folded to 11 x 19 cm.

Hand-coloured continuous panorama, in a pictorial folder with the verse printed on the front cover.

21. **All the prettiest nursery rhymes and some new ones.** (London: Sunday School Union, [1896])

The term, “nursery rhyme” dates from the early 19th century; they were previously referred to as “Mother Goose rhymes.” Their role is to amuse or soothe children and they remain part of our oral tradition, being passed from parent to child.

**A Modern pop-up**

22. **Carroll, Lewis, 1832-1898.**

_Alice’s adventures in Wonderland/illustrated by Robert Sabuda. 1st ed. (New York, NY: Little Simon, c2003)_

Lewis Carroll’s _Adventures in Wonderland_, first published in 1865, has been illustrated by each new generation of artists, although Tenniel’s originals are still considered the standard. Robert Sabuda is an American artist and paper engineer who has also produced a pop-up version of _The Wizard of Oz_ (2000).

**Australian Books**

23. **Parker, K. Langloh (Katie Langloh), 1856-1940.**

_Australian legendary tales: folk-lore of the Noongahburrahs as told to the piccaninnies/collected by Mrs. K. Langloh Parker; with an introduction by Andrew Lang; illustrations by a native artist [Tommy Macrae]. 2nd ed._ (Melbourne: Melville, Mullen & Slade, 1897)

Mrs. Langloh Parker lived on a cattle station on the Queensland/South Australian border. She spoke the local Aboriginal language and was able to collect many of their Dreamtime legends.

24. **Westbury, Atha, 1843-1901.**

_Australian fairy tales/Atha Westbury; illustrated by A.J. Johnson. (London: Ward, Lock, 1897)_

25. **Whitfeld, J. M. (Jessie M.), 1861-1964.**

_The spirit of the bush fire: and other Australian fairy tales/by J. M. Whitfield; with 32 illustrations by G. W. Lambert. (Sydney: Angus & Robertson, 1898)_

26. **Gaze, Harold, 1885-1962.**

_War in Fairyland/written and pictured by Harold Gaze._ (Melbourne: Gordon & Gotch, [1921])

Australian fairy tales are generally a blend of Aboriginal legends and an attempt to populate the Australian bush with the antipodean equivalents of sprites, goblins and fairies. So, Jessie Whitfield has her bush fire spirit quenched by the “raindrop elves.” Ida Rentoul Outhwaite’s books are full of beautiful fairy-like creatures, but Harold Gaze, working at the same time, brought an altogether more bizarre vision to the bush.

**Australian nursery rhymes**

27. **Kute little rhymes for kute little Australians.** ([Australia] [s.n.] [194-?])
May Gibbs

*Flannel flowers and other bush babies/*May Gibbs. (Sydney, N.S.W.: Angus & Robertson, 1917). Accompanied by postcards of “Christmas Bell Babies,” and “Flannel Flower Babies,” as well as postcards from “The Gumnut Series,” issued during World War I.

*Gum blossom babies/*words and pictures by May Gibbs. (Sydney: Angus & Robertson, [1917?]). Includes, loosely inserted, a May Gibbs “Gum blossom baby” book-mark.

*Boronia babies*/May Gibbs. (Sydney: Angus & Robertson, [1917])

*Wattle babies/*/by May Gibbs. (Sydney: Angus and Robertson, [1918])

May Gibbs is perhaps the most successful of the Australian children’s writers at populating the bush with cute but naturalistic fairies and other creatures. Her gumnuts, Snugglepot and Cuddlepie and their enemies, the “Big, Bad Banksia Men” are fun and their settings are convincing.

Ethel Turner

*Seven little Australians/*by Ethel Turner; illustrated by A.J. Johnson. [5th ed.] (London; Melbourne: Ward, Lock, [1900?])

*Seven little Australians/*Ethel Turner; illustrated by J. MacFarlane. (London; Melbourne; Ward, Lock, [192-?])

34. Turner, Ethel, 1870-1958.
*Seven little Australians/*by Ethel Turner; illustrated by J. F. Campbell. (London; Melbourne: Ward, Lock, 1954)

Mary Grant Bruce

35. Bruce, Mary Grant, 1878-1958.
*Back to Billabong/*by Mary Grant Bruce; illustrated by J. Macfarlane. (London; Melbourne; Ward, Lock, [1929?])

36. Bruce, Mary Grant, 1878-1958.
*Back to Billabong/*by Mary Grant Bruce; illustrated by J. Macfarlane. (London; Melbourne; Ward, Lock, [1942?])

37. Bruce, Mary Grant, 1878-1958.
*Back to Billabong/*Mary Grant Bruce; illustrated by J. F. Campbell. (London; Melbourne: Ward, Lock, [1956?])

On display we see Ethel Turner’s most famous work, *Seven Little Australians*, first published 1894, and one of Mary Grant Bruce’s Billabong series, *Back to Billabong*, first published in 1921. The copies chosen here show the different styles in cover art, which show the publisher re-packaging the works to maintain reader appeal.

Dorothy Wall

38. Wall, Dorothy, 1894-1942.
*Blinky Bill : the quaint little Australian/*story and decorations by Dorothy Wall. (Sydney: Angus & Robertson, 1940)

39. Wall, Dorothy, 1894-1942.
*Blinky Bill/[Dorothy Wall]. (Racine, Wisconsin: Whitman Publishing Co., 1935)
40. Wall, Dorothy, 1894-1942.  
Blinky Bill joins the army/story and decorations by Dorothy Wall. (Sydney: Angus & Robertson, 1940)
Dorothy Wall is best known for her Blinky Bill character, which first appeared in her Blinky Bill: the quaint little Australian, in 1933.

The Blinky Bill pop-up, “Magic-action” book, is an American piracy, published without Dorothy Wall’s permission, and containing no mention of the author’s name.

Blinky Bill joins the Army was part of the war effort.

Animals

41. The zoo book merry go round: a world of education and fun. (Sydney: John Sands, [1943?])
This Australian novelty book folds out into a circle showing scenes from a zoo.

This was one of Lindsay Shaw’s earliest books. Lindsay received it as a school prize from St. Peter’s Preparatory School, Neutral Bay, at Christmas 1930, “for improvement in Geography.”

Games

Early board games tended to be very earnest, aiming to impart knowledge rather than entertain.

44. Loto geographique. (Paris: H. Rousseau, [1855?])
Geographical board game with cards showing colour illustrations of different parts of the world.

A set of twelve numbered playing boards, each with onlaid chromolithographed sheet maps featuring national flags, costumes and wildlife. Each board has eight numbered tiles inset, which when removed reveal an image of local inhabitants, features or natural history. The New York scene features the famous Flatiron Building, one of the world’s first skyscrapers.

Geographical board games were educational, and brightly packaged.

46. Lotto. (New York: McLoughlin Bros., 1895)
This version of “Lotto,” or “Housie” has an attractive chromolithograph lid.

47. National Games Co.
[Specimen book of 23 board games]/National Games Co. ([Melbourne]: National Games Co., 1929)
This commercial traveller’s sample book of children’s board games includes examples of all the games the company had available in 1929, though many dated from much earlier. Some are from the period of the Boer War and World War I.

The book is open at “Courtship and Marriage” [1900?] and “Around the Commonwealth by Aeroplane” [1910?]

WALL CASE 1

Health

Hygiene jingles/by Dr. R.C. Everitt Atkinson. (Melbourne: Brown, Prior, 1926)
On display are two editions from 1926, the large-paper hardback and the smaller paperback. The hardback is open at the poem, “Bowel waste”, which begins,

We must dispose of bowel waste  
Most carefully, with utmost haste,  
For if it’s kept about the home,  
From it much filth disease may come.

The illustration shows the flies on the milk and the jam, and swarming around the baby, who is eating in his high-chair.
49. Bamford, Emma Josephine
Jingles for juniors: healthy and happy/written by E. Josephine Bamford; illustrated by C. Kingsley-Smith. (Melbourne: S. John Bacon, 1944)

The rhymes encourage children to use their handkerchiefs, wash their hands and brush their teeth. Some of the poems and their illustrations are on display in the back of the case.

50. Guy, Anne Welsh.
Good-bye, tonsils/by Anne Welsh Guy; illustrated by Frank Vaughn. (Gladesville, N.S.W.: Numbat Press, 1979)

This is a large-format, Australian version of a “Little Golden Book,” which was first published by Golden Press in America in 1958. During the 1950s and 1960s it was common for children to have their tonsils removed as a precaution against tonsillitis.

51. Crane, Walter, 1845-1915.

Walter Crane, Randolph Caldecott and Kate Greenaway were three of the most popular children’s book illustrators in the later Victorian period. Crane was influenced by early Italian illustrations and by Japanese prints.

52. Caldecott, Randolph, 1846-1886.
The house that Jack built: one of R. Caldecott’s picture books. (London: George Routledge, 1878)

Randolph Caldecott and Walter Crane both produced series of brightly coloured “toy books”, printed by Edmund Evans for George Routledge. These were typically based on fairy tales, nursery rhymes or popular ballads.

The pied piper of Hamelin by Robert Browning; with 35 illustrations by Kate Greenaway, engraved and printed in colours by Edmund Evans. (London: George Routledge, [1888])

Kate Greenaway (1846-1901) is best known for her own books such as Under the window (1879), and Language of flowers (1884), and for her annual almanacs. She also illustrated popular works by others such as William Mavor’s English spelling book (1884).

54. Parker, B.
The history of the hoppers: verses/by B. Parker; illustrated by N. Parker. (London: W. & R. Chambers; New York: Frederick A. Stokes, [1912])

A much sought after book, History of the hoppers is notable for its charming brown and sepia, full-page illustrations showing kangaroos and other bush folk in their local general store.


Ada Holman was the wife of William Holman, Premier of New South Wales. Nelle Rodd, who provided the beautifully coloured illustrations, was a young Australian artist who died shortly after the book’s publication.
56. Marie, Queen, consort of Ferdinand I, King of Romania, 1875-1938. 
Peeping Pansy/ by Marie, Queen of Rumania; illustrated by Mabel Lucie Attwell. (London: Hodder and Stoughton, [1919])

Lucie Attwell was the Kate Greenaway of her time, producing illustrations for countless books, greeting cards and her own Annual, which ran from 1922 to 1974.

WALL CASE 4

Penny dreadfuls

57. Hemyng, Bracebridge, 1841-1901.
Jack Harkaway and his son’s adventures in Australia/ by Bracebridge Hemyng. (London, Boys of England Office, [187-?])

58. Hemyng, Bracebridge, 1841-1901.
Jack Harkaway on the prairie/ by Bracebridge Hemyng. (London, Hogarth House [187-?])

59. Hemyng, Bracebridge 1841-1901.
Jack Harkaway among the Malay Pirates/ by Bracebridge Hemyng. (London, Hogarth House, [c.1885])

The Jack Harkaway stories began to appear in the magazine, Boys of England in 1871. By 1900, when he had completed his final adventure, at the Boer War, there had been 18 titles.


A series of boy’s adventure stories centred round Frank Reade Jr., a young inventor-genius who created a robot, “Steam Man,” and a succession of creatures including “Steam Horse”, “Electric Dolphin” and innumerable flying and swimming wonders, such as an electric airship, the “Eclipse”. Frank Reade travelled the world with his creations, visiting Australia in “Frank Reade in the Golden City,” and “Frank Reade’s Electric man in Australia”.

The water babies/ by Charles Kingsley; illustrated by A. E. Jackson. (London: Humphrey Milford, Oxford University Press, 1931)

63. Harris, Joel Chandler, 1848-1908.
Uncle Remus, or, Mr. Fox, Mr. Rabbit, and Mr. Terrapin/ by Joel Chandler Harris; with illustrations by J.A. Shepherd. (London: Chatto & Windus, 1927)

64. Hughes, Thomas (Thomas Aloysius), 1849-1939.
Tom Brown’s school-days/ by an old boy. (London: Partridge, 1903)

These are examples of children’s books which became popular in the Victorian period and have remained in print. The editions on display have been chosen for their pictorial cloth covers.

65. Baum, L. Frank (Lyman Frank), 1856-1919.

The classic American children’s book is L. Frank Baum’s Wizard of Oz, originally published in 1900 under the title, The wonderful Wizard of Oz.
66. Lindsay, Norman, 1879-1969.
The magic pudding: being the adventures of Bunyip Bluegum and his friends Bill Barnacle and Sam Sawnoff/ by Norman Lindsay. 1st ed. (Sydney: Angus & Robertson, 1918)
The best example of an Australian classic, which has remained in print, is Norman Lindsay’s Magic Pudding.

FLAT CASE 2
Boy’s Books

67. Borlase, James Skipp, 1839-?
Daring deeds and tales of peril and adventure/ by James S. Borlase ; with illustrations. (London: Frederick Warne, 1887)

From squire to squatter: a tale of the old land and the new/ by Gordon Stables. (New York: James Pott, [1888])

A chapter of adventures, or through the bombardment of Alexandria/ by G.A. Henty; illustrated by W.H. Overend. (London: Blackie, [1899?])

70. Rhoades, Walter C.
In the scrum/ by Walter Rhoades. (London: Humphrey Milford, Oxford University Press, [1932])

71. Southall, Ivan, 1921-
Simon Black in peril/ by Ivan Southall; illustrations by I. Maher. (Sydney: Angus and Robertson, 1951)

72. Morgan, W. Ingram, 189?-?
Books for boys tend to be adventure stories, set in exotic places, where the characters show the virtues of duty, and courage. Such books were most popular in the late 19th and early 20th century. The dustwrapper of the Colossal Corcoran book posed the question in 1952, “What has become of the old writers who could tell a bang-up, virile yarn?”

73. Meade, L. T., 1854-1914.
Polly: a new-fashioned girl/ by L.T. Meade; with eight original illustrations by M.E. Edwards. (London; Melbourne : Cassell, 1895)

Girl’s Books

74. Baldwin, May.
Moll Meredyth, madcap/ by May Baldwin; with 6 coloured ill. by W.H.C. Groome. (London: W. & R. Chambers, 1913)

75. Dwyer, Vera, 1889-1967.
The Kayles of Bushy Lodge: an Australian story/ by Vera G. Dwyer. (London; Melbourne: Humphrey Milford, Oxford University Press, [1922])

76. Bruce, Dorita Fairlie, 1885-1970.
Dimsie goes back/Dorita Fairlie Bruce. (London: humphrey Milford, Oxford University Press, 1935)
First published 1927.

77. Brazil, Angela, 1869-1947
The school on the cliff/ by Angela Brazil; illustrated by Francis E. Hiley. (London: Blackie, 1938)
78. Spence, Eleanor, 1928-
*Patterson’s track* / Eleanor Spence; illustrated by Alison Forbes. (Melbourne: Oxford University Press, 1958)

Girls’ books often centre on a mystery or an adventure, or are set in a boarding school. As with the books for boys, they project strong role models, but tend to emphasise the importance of interpersonal relationships rather than action or feats of daring.

**FLAT CASE 4**

**Enid Blyton**


*The magic faraway tree* / by Enid Blyton; illustrated by Dorothy M. Wheeler. 5th Australian ed. (Sydney: Angus and Robertson; London: Newnes, 1955) First published 1943.


Enid Blyton was the most successful children’s writer of the 20th century and many of her titles remain popular, especially with pre-teens. On display are titles from some of her most popular series. Noddy was the character which made her a household name, partly because it became a TV programme. Here also are the Secret Seven and the Famous Five, both of which series were made into television programmes.

**FLAT CASE 5**

**Meccano**

84. Meccano Limited.
*Meccano* [toy]: engineering in miniature. (New York: Meccano Co., [ca. 1914]) 1 construction set: metal; various sizes in box 20 x 30 x 2 cm.

85. Meccano Limited.

86. Meccano Limited.
*Dick’s visit to Meccanoland*. (Liverpool: Meccano Limited, [1950])

The metal construction set, “Meccano” was invented by Frank Hornby in 1901 and was in production by his firm, Meccano Ltd., from 1908 to 1980. *Dick’s visit to Meccanoland* tells of Dick and his father visiting Frank Hornby at the Liverpool head office where they are shown over the model display. The booklet begins with the heading, “A wonderful new country”. Most people by now have heard of the wonderful country where nearly all the inhabitants are boys – millions of them; the land where all is sunshine and joy; where no strife or dissension comes to mar the happy hours; where harmony and good-fellowship reign supreme…

This happy country is called Meccanoland and boys from every part of the world live there. Meccano language is the universal boy-language and all the inhabitants understand and speak it. (p.1)

**FLAT CASE 6**

**Swap card albums**

88. W.D. & H.O. Wills (Firm)
Safety first: an album to contain a series of cigarette cards of national importance/issued by W.D. & H.O. Wills branch of the Imperial Tobacco Company (of Great Britain and Ireland), Limited. ([Bristol?]: W.D. & H.O. Wills, [1934])

89. National Safety Council of Australia
Safety always: an album to contain a series of cigarette cards of national importance/issued by Hoadleys Chocolates Ltd., in conjunction with the National Safety Council of Australia. ([Melbourne]: Hoadleys Chocolates Ltd., [1934?])

Album of 144 cards. Includes sections on Locomotives, Ships, Dogs, Rough riders, Aeroplanes, and Self defence.

91. Sanitarium Health Food Co.
The age of speed: in three sections, land, sea and air: a series of 52 plates/published by the Sanitarium Health Food Co. (Wahroonga, N.S.W.: Sanitarium Health Food Co., [1955])

92. W.D. & H.O. Wills (Firm)
Radio celebrities: an album to contain the portraits of radio celebrities now being issued with Wills’s cigarettes/issued by W.D. & H.O. Wills branch of the Imperial Tobacco Company (of Great Britain and Ireland), Limited. ([Bristol?]: W.D. & H.O. Wills, [1934])
Children have always collected swap cards. They have been issued with a range of products. On display are some from Boys magazines, cigarette packs, sweets, and Weet-Bix.

Translated and adapted by B.H. Chamberlain, Mrs. T.H. James, and others.
Printed on one side of double leaves of crepe paper, folded once in Japanese style.
Takejiro Hasegawa (1853-1938) was the publisher of this series of Japanese fairy tales printed, with colour wood-blocks on crepe paper, and bound Japanese-style. There were 28 titles in the first and second series and another series of Ainu Fairy tales. The London publisher Griffith, Farran & Co. published them under licence.

94. Walt Disney’s Annette cut out doll. (Racine, Wis.: Whitman, c1964.)
Paper doll set featuring Annette Funicello, star of the Mouseketeers.

Australian edition of Walt Disney comic featuring Annette Funicello, star of the Mouseketeers.

96. Schroeder, Doris.
Walt Disney’s Annette : Sierra summer/ by Doris Schroeder; illustrated by Adam Szwejkowski. (Racine, Wis.: Whitman, c1960)

97. Schroeder, Doris.
Walt Disney’s Annette and the mystery at Smugglers’ Cove/ by Doris Schroeder; Illustrated by Nathalee Mode. (Racine, Wis.: Whitman, c1963)
Annette Funicello (1942-) was the most popular of Walt Disney’s Mousketeers in the late 1950s. As well as appearing in the TV series, Annette also had hit records, such as, “Tall Paul” (1959) and “Pineapple Princess” (1960). In the early 1960s she starred with Frankie Avalon in the “Beach Party” movies.

The sunbeams book: more adventures of Ginger Meggs (Sydney: Sun Newspapers, 1924-1950)
Ginger Meggs is the most successful Australian comic strip. The mischievous “Ginge” with his girlfriend, Min, his monkey, and his enemy Tiger Kelly were known by all Australian children from the 1920s to the 1960s. The Ginger Meggs items on display include a 1928 New Year’s card for 3LO, as well as birthday cards and ephemera from the Sunbeam Army, a children’s club run by The Sun newspaper.
John Mystery

John Mystery presents his little dog: the cranky pranks of Puppy Smut: Puppy smut at the pool/ John Mystery (Sydney: Publicity Press, [194-])

John Mystery's Girls' story time. (Sydney: Publicity Press, [1946?])

John Mystery’s boy’s story time. (Sydney: Publicity Press, [1946?])

John Mystery presents Gipsy boy in torture town. (Sydney: Publicity Press, 1945?)

John Mystery, whose real name was Lester Sinclair, lived in “Adventure Castle” in Sydney. A sketch of the castle appeared on the back cover of the hundreds of books from the 1940s and early 1950s. Although he obviously had an accurate grasp of what children liked, some of his titles, such as Gipsy boy in torture town, may not appeal to today’s parents.

The Ahlbergs


The jolly postman, or, Other people's letters/ Janet and Allan Ahlberg. (London: Heinemann, 1986)


106. Ahlberg, Allan, 1938-

Alan and Janet Ahlberg were a husband and wife team; Alan wrote the books and Janet illustrated them. They produced forty titles from 1975 to 1994, when Janet died of cancer. Their books were extremely popular. Janet won the Kate Greenaway Award for Each peach pear plum (1978) and for the innovative Jolly Postman (1986).

Alan has continued to produce books, with different illustrators.

Walt Disney

107. Mickey Mouse annual. (London: Dean & Son, 1930-1965)

108. Walt Disney’s Donald Duck to salvage depot: young people’s jigsaw.
Sydney: John Sands, [1940?]
1 jigsaw puzzle (120 pieces), in original envelope with illustration of Donald Duck going to the Salvage Depot carrying papers, a sword and an old tyre, dragging a billy-cart loaded with books and scrap metal. Marketed to promote the World War II salvage drives.

Walt Disney is the most widely-respected brand in children’s entertainment. On display is the first Mickey Mouse Annual and some early Mickey Mouse and Donald Duck “Big Little Books”; a popular American series from the 1930s and 1940s. The jigsaw puzzle was produced in Australia as part of the wartime salvage drives for waste paper and scrap metal. The Sydney firm, John Sands, was licensed to publish Disney titles in Australia during World War II.
**Story Papers**

110. *Australian Boys’ Adventure Library*  
(Melbourne: Alexander McCubbin, 191-?)

111. *Nelson Lee library of school stories.*  
(London: Amalgamated Press, 1929-1930)  
Continues: Nelson Lee school story library.  
Continued by: Nelson Lee Library.

112. *The schoolboys’ own library.*  
[Written largely by Charles Hamilton under the pseudonyms of Frank Richards, Martin Clifford and Owen Conquest.]  
(London: Amalgamated Press, 1925-40.)

113. *The schoolgirls’ own library.*  
The story papers were usually issued monthly, and offered boarding school and adventure stories. Charles Hamilton was best known as Frank Richards, the creator of Billy Bunter who is in some of *The Schoolboys own series.

**CORRIDOR CASES**

**Annuals and Gift Books**

We hold large collections of these and some of the best-known are on display, including *The Boys own, The girls own, Chums,* and the Australian annual, *Pals.* As well, there are various *Empire* annuals, and the Communist *Red corner book* from around 1930.

Colour images of some of the covers can be seen on the screens in the main exhibition area.
About Monash University Library

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**Cover image:** *Jingles for juniors: healthy and happy.* written by E Josephine Bamford; illustrated by C Kingsley-Smith. (Melbourne: S John Bacon, 1944)