Recent Acquisitions 6

An exhibition from the Rare Books Collection, 8 December 2011 – 5 March 2012
Introduction

Every two or three years we do an exhibition of “Recent Acquisitions.” This gives us the opportunity of showing material we have acquired during that time in subject areas which have already been featured in our regular series of exhibitions. Among the items on display are examples of ephemera, works of literature and Australian history, children’s books and games, some of our material on Indigenous Australians, women, tourism, the home, useful books, medical books, and sport.

Especially showcased are two significant recent donations. One is from the firm, Rock Posters which puts up the posters seen around Melbourne advertising pop concerts and dances; the other is probably the most comprehensive collection in Australia of the works of the poet and novelist Robert Graves. This was donated by retired antiquarian bookseller, Jack Bradstreet.

Thanks are due to the senior Library staff, in particular Sue Clarke and Cathrine Harboe-Ree for their continued support of the Rare Books Collection. The items on display form only a small fraction of the material acquired since “Recent Acquisitions 5” was shown in May 2009. The total number of books catalogued into our collection now exceeds 140,000. It is a fine collection and helps establish Monash University as one of the foremost research institutions in Australia.

Richard Overell
Rare Books Librarian
September 2011
LARGE UPRIGHT CASE


As part of our children’s collection, we collect games. This is a French board-game on the theme of roller skating, a sport which was enjoying a boom period world-wide in the 1880s and 90s.


A table horse racing game contained in a varnished wooden oblong box with a hinged lid. Six lead horses are attached to strings. The box has a rod inside and a handle outside which pulls the horses along the table.


These albums were sold to the tourist trade in Japan in the 1880s, ‘90s and early 1900s. They consist of hand-tinted albumen photographs. Yokohama was the centre for the trade. Among the notable photographers were an Italian living in Japan, Adolfo Farsari, Kusakabe Kimbei and Ogawa Kazumasa. The album on display is by Kimbei and shows, unusually, the ritual of hara-kiri. Monash has recently digitised the images from the four albums in our collection.

4. Boucaut, James Penn, Sir, 1831-1916

Born in Cornwall, James Boucaut migrated to South Australia in 1846. After doing his articles in Adelaide, he was admitted to the bar in 1855. First elected to Parliament in 1861, Boucaut was Premier three times (1866-67) (1875-77) (1877-78), and served as Attorney General for two terms. He left Parliament in September 1878 to become a Supreme Court Judge, a position he held for 27 years, also acting as Deputy-Governor on several occasions. This scrapbook is an important resource for understanding the social life of Adelaide during the final decades of the 19th century. It includes theatre and music concert programmes, fliers for lectures, invitations, dance cards, greetings cards, menus and assorted ephemera, along with some correspondence.

The album is open at a flier for the return of Williamson and Musgrove’s “Royal Comic Opera Co.” to Adelaide for the 1896 season. Below this is a programme for the Christmas pantomime, “Djin Djin, the Japanese bogie man,” at the Princess Theatre, Melbourne, 1895.

5. Children’s scrap books.

We recently purchased four scrap books from a Sydney book dealer; all dating from the late 19th, early 20th centuries. Scrap books were put together as a pastime by both children and adults, often over the Christmas holidays, as we can see by the numbers of Christmas and New Year cards pasted in to the books. They are a good source of colourful ephemera, such as current fashions,
advertisements, pictures cut from books or illustrated papers, and images especially produced for this market. One of the books is open to show children’s nursery rhymes and alphabet books, another shows cards produced by Liebig Meat Extract and Maggi soups.


This slim volume of verse was Robert Graves first publication. The colour illustration on the cover is by Claud Lovat Fraser. We were recently given a comprehensive collection of the works of the poet and novelist, Robert Graves, by the retired Melbourne antiquarian bookseller, Jack Bradstreet. As well as the books on display there is a signed photograph of Graves in old age.


*Good-bye to all that : an autobiography / by Robert Graves*. (London : Jonathan Cape, 1929)

Robert Graves was primarily a poet but is best known for his prose works, *Goodbye to all that* (1929) an account of his experiences in the trenches during World War I, and the historical novels, *I Claudius* (1934) and *Claudius the God* (1935), which were made into a BBC series in 1976.


*The shout / by Robert Graves*. (London : Mathews & Marrot, 1929)

The main character in this novella has returned to England after spending time with the Australian Aboriginals. While living with them he learns to shout loud enough to kill. The story was made into a film in 1978 starring Alan Bates and Susannah York.


This large format literary miscellany, *The Owl*, appeared in May and October 1919 and re-surfaced as *The Winter Owl*, in late 1923. It includes many of the major writers and illustrators of the day. The editor was the artist, William Nicholson, Graves’s father-in-law. Issue no. 2 is open at a poem by Graves, “Song-one hard look,” and “Vain Man,” a coloured illustration by his wife, Nancy Nicholson.


*Embalmer’s anatomical aid : a manikin of superimposed diagrammatic plates showing thoroughly the anatomy of the system and paying particular attention to the blood-circulation. Designed to assist in embalming operations, reference and demonstration / constructed under the supervision of Suydam Knox, D.W. Graham and J.E. Owens*. (Chicago ; New York : Published by the Western Publishing House, c1888, [patented 1889]). Purchased with funds from the Friends of the Monash University Library, from the estate of Theodore Alexander Scheps, in memory of Ida Scheps, May 2011.

This is an anatomical atlas, for use by embalmers. The opening on display shows the head, ear and eye. The illustrations have flaps which open to reveal the nerves and blood vessels.
11. Yaggy’s anatomical study: presenting the skeleton, muscles, arteries, veins and nerves: also four life-size manikins of the body, the head, the eye and ear / the whole constructed under the supervision of Henry M. Lyman, Christian Fenger, W.F. Smith; in addition there are plates illustrating blood formation, its purification and circulation supervised by Daniel Wilkins. (Chicago, Ill.: Published by Western Pub. House, [1886?])

A similar anatomical atlas from the same publisher as item no. 10. This includes illustrations of diseased organs, with descriptions emphasising the evils of drink. It is open at a colour illustration of a “Hob-nailed liver caused by the use of alcohol and opium.”

Digging a grave with a wine glass / By Mrs. S.C. Hall. (London: S.W. Partridge & Co., [1871])

We hold a considerable collection of temperance literature. This novel has a title-page vignette of a viper spitting poison into a wine glass. It was meant for children and has a Prize label from the Friends’ Band of Hope, to Walter Sutcliffe, “for attendance,” April 15th 1881.

WALL CASE 1

The Home: an Australian quarterly


Other title: Home: the Australian journal of quality

The Home was published by Sydney Ure Smith who also published Art in Australia. Both journals were aimed at the same readership, the comfortably-off who were seeking ideas in home furnishings and interior design. Covers, often by artists such as Thea Proctor, were in the contemporary art-deco style.

WALL CASE 2

Science and Fantasy Fiction


As part of our collection of science fiction pulp magazines we also have holdings of horror fantasy magazines. These played a key role in the moral panic which triggered calls in the United States, Britain and Australia for such material to be banned, as a contributing cause to the rise in juvenile delinquency.


The horror magazines included stories of the macabre and the supernatural. The cover story “Disturb not the dead,” by George Edson, deals with a series of abductions of young women who are found frozen in suspended animation.


Eerie stories is an example of the pulp genre with its “damsel in distress” cover.


Alfred Van Vogt was a Canadian author who made his reputation writing for pulp magazines. Slan, one of his best-know novels, first appeared in Astounding Science Fiction (September - December 1940). It was published in book-form in America in 1946. This is a revised English edition. “Slans” were a race of highly evolved humans who could read minds and had great physical strength. In Van Vogt’s novel they are being systematically killed by normal humans, the Slans’ hopes of survival rest with a nine year old boy.


An American fantasy tale involving the discovery of living puppets and a door to different lands.
The plot is a mixture of historical novel, fantasy and extra-terrestrial beings.

Jas Duke is best remembered as a performance poet. Here are some examples of his concrete poetry. These are hand-made using “Letraset.” They were acquired from the film-makers, Arthur and Corinne Cantrill, who were friends of the poet.

A specially-produced box-set of the entire output of the Melbourne small press poetry publisher “Rigmarole of the Hours,” which operated from 1974 to 1979. Kris Hemensley and Robert Kenny were among the writers involved. The set also includes the 1983 catalogue of the publications of “Rigmarole Books” the imprint which continued “Rigmarole of the Hours.” In the catalogue the earlier press was described as “publishing seventeen titles in a program based on the ‘new writing’ in Australia which was breaking away from the twin bonds of ‘realist’ fiction and Georgian poetics that had dominated Australian writing until the late sixties.”

One of the strengths of our Rare Books collection is the range of modern Australian poetry. Typically these publications appeared in short print runs. Modern Writing only went to three issues. Antoni Jach was the editor, Alison Croggan the poetry editor, and the designer was Peter Lyssiotis. It was broadsheet or poster size, and included poetry with colour illustrations by contemporary Australian artists.

23. Rock Posters (Melb.)
We have been given a selection of posters produced and distributed by the Melbourne firm, Rock Posters, run by John D’Aquino. The company holds contracts to paste the posters on walls around Melbourne.

24. Walding, Murray.
Plastered : the poster art of Australian popular music / Murray Walding and Nick Vukovic ; introductory essay by Roger Butler. (Carlton, Vic. : Miegunyah Press, 2005)
Nick Vukovic is one of the major collectors of popular posters and many featured in the book came from Rock Posters.

The problem of the Australian Aboriginal / by the Rev. E.R.B. Gribble. (Sydney : Angus & Robertson, 1932) [donor: Wallace Kirsop]
The Rev. Gribble was an Anglican missionary in North Queensland, and was a Protector of Aborigines for 16 years in Queensland and for 16 years in Western Australia. During the 1930s he was Chaplain on Palm Island. After witnessing a massacre of Aboriginal people by the police in the Kimberleys, Gribble exposed the incident; this led to a Royal Commission.

Teaching the Aborigines: data from Mount Margaret Mission, W.A. / notes by M.M. Bennett. ([Perth: s.n., 1935])

Mary Bennett was the daughter of Robert Christison of Lammermoor Station in North Queensland. She wrote her father’s biography in which she described his efforts on behalf of Aboriginal people. After the death of her husband she devoted her life to work on Aboriginal mission stations in Western Australia. Her revelations of maltreatment led to a Royal Commission in Western Australia in 1934.

27. Foxcroft, Edmund J. B. (Edmund John Buchanan)

Australian native policy: its history, especially in Victoria / by Edmund J.B. Foxcroft. (Melbourne: Melbourne University Press in association with Oxford University Press, 1941)

Edmund Foxcroft was a lecturer in Politics at the University of Melbourne. His book was the first to look in detail at the treatment of the Aborigines in the Port Phillip District in the early years of settlement. He deals with the attitudes of the different colonial governments and of the Commonwealth and advises that future policy should draw on the findings of anthropologists and halt the detribalisation of Indigenous peoples.

28. Souvenir of Palm Islands North Queensland: the Aboriginal village: real photo views. (Townsville, [Qld]: [W. J. Laurie, 192-?])

A folder of photos showing scenes at Palm Island Aboriginal Reserve off the coast of Townsville. Included are photographs showing ceremonial dance costumes, body decoration, fire making, and coconut gathering. Palm Island became a tourist destination during the period between the wars.

29. The Memoirs of George Barrington: containing every remarkable circumstance from his birth to the present time, including the following trials-- 1. For robbing Mrs. Dudman 2. Elizabeth Ironmonger 3. Returning from transportation 4. Robbing Sir G. Webster 5. Mr. Bagshaw 6. Mr. Le Mesurier 7. For outlawry 8. For robbing Mr. Townsend: with the whole of his celebrated speeches, taken from the records of the King’s Bench, Old Bailey, &c. (London: Printed for J. Bird ... and Simmonds ..., [1790])

George Barrington (1755?-1804) was one of the legendary figures in the early years of the colony. He was well-known in London as “the Prince of Pickpockets.” Arrested in 1790, he was sentenced to seven years transportation to Botany Bay, where he arrived in 1791. Barrington was well behaved and in 1796 was appointed Chief Constable in Parramatta. The frontispiece of his 1790 Memoirs shows him in action and includes illustrations of the pickpocket’s tools.

30. The root of the matter, and, A ray of reason brought to bear on Calvary and Mecca: reprinted from the “Stockwhip.” (Sydney: J.E. Kelly, 1875)

The two essays reprinted in this pamphlet first appeared in The Stockwhip, a free-thought newspaper published in Sydney from 1875 to 1876. The editor was John Edward Kelly. It included satirical squibs on political figures, as well as attacks on established religion. These essays put forward the case for “theism,” here seen as a form of intelligent design, and the benefits of Islam as compared to Christianity. The Rare Book Collection holds a set of The Stockwhip formerly owned by Henry L. White.

31. Wight, George.

Queensland, the field for British labour and enterprise: and the source of England’s cotton supply / by George Wight. 3rd ed. (London: G. Street, 1863)

This forms part of our collection of books and pamphlets published to encourage migration to the Australian colonies. Even though it was still predominantly a convict settlement, Queensland had become independent of New South Wales in 1859 and was looking to establish a cotton industry. Free colonists were eagerly sought.
Even after Federation in 1901 each state continued to work on attracting their own settlers and investors. The final chapter gives details of the cost of passage and schemes for assisted migration.

As with the New South Wales volume, this book includes a series of articles written by experts. “Viticulture in Victoria,” is by Francois De Castella of St Hubert’s vineyard, Yering. There is also a general chapter on “Victoria as a place to live in.”

Mountaineering was one of the most popular recreations among the middle classes in the 19th century. This booklet promotes both climbing and skiing and includes advertisements for the many guest houses in the Victorian Alps. A general chapter on “The Alpine regions in winter,” begins, “The majority of Australians are quite unaware of the fact that during five months of the year they may leave Melbourne on one day and be among the Alpine snows the following one.” (p. 69). There is a “Special note” at the beginning of the book, “The Alpine Club wishes to correct the prevailing error that the roads in the Bright tourist district are unsuitable for cycling. With the exception of the mountain roads, which are smooth enough, but too steep … the valley roads will be found very comfortable travelling for the wheelman.”

Produced in the shape of an artist’s palette, this small booklet was designed to be sent home as a gift from tourists. The illustrations show Prince’s Bridge in Melbourne and a range of Victorian rural scenes.
37. Panama-Pacific International Exposition (1915 : San Francisco, Calif.)

Glimpses of sunny Queensland : views depicting scenery, life, and industries of the state. Panama ed. (Brisbane : Queensland Government Intelligence and Tourist Bureau, [1915])

A brochure specially produced for the Panama-Pacific International Exposition held in San Francisco in 1915. The Australian states often exhibited at these international fairs with the object of attracting investors or visitors.

38. Surf Beach (Phillip Island) Pty. Ltd.

Photographic contour map of Phillip Island showing locations of principal beauty spots / Surf Beach (Phillip Island) Pty. Ltd. (Melbourne : Surf Beach (Phillip Island) Pty. Ltd., [192-])

This tourist brochure was produced by a company promoting Surf Beach Estate on Philip Island. The cover illustration, “Surf Beach Phillip Island the playground of Australia,” is by G. Litchfield.

39. Come to Tasmania the wonderland Nov. 6th to 30th 1926 : official illustrated souvenir programme of state-wide movement to attract tourists. (Hobart : Come to Tasmania State Executive Committee, [1926])

This comprehensive guide to Tasmania, its attractions and guest houses was part of a promotion aimed to attract tourists from the mainland. In the nineteenth century, Tasmania was the most popular resort for mainlanders escaping the heat of summer. With the development of other tourist destinations this attraction had begun to wane. The Governor, James O’Grady, in his introduction makes the case for the charms of his state, “Its climate is delightful, its scenery superb, and its people, well – are Britishers.” (p. 20)


Woman’s work / by Henrietta C. McGowan and Margaret G. Cuthbertson. (Melbourne : Thomas C. Lothian, 1913)

This was an Australian work so it has added importance as a summary of local information on jobs for women. There are chapters on the various lines of industrial work from bootmaking to weaving, including the printing and bookbinding trade, and photography. More general fields include teaching, waitressing, and the Commonwealth Public Service. There are also chapters on running your own business such as “Tea Rooms,” or pet breeding.

41. In the grip of the white slave trader / by the author of “The white slave traffic.” (London : C. Arthur Pearson, [1911])

The threat of women being lured into sex slavery caused a wave of moral panic in the late Victorian and Edwardian periods. The “white slave trade” was usually thought to be more of a threat to women on the Continent, and here we have chapters on, “The moral dangers of Paris,” and on Antwerp and Rotterdam as centres for the trade. But the perils of England are also described. An unusual account is included in a chapter on massage parlours. The author interviews a girl who had come to London from abroad and taken up work as a masseuse. She was disgusted to find that the customers “were mostly well educated men, what I suppose you would call gentlemen, and they practically one and all came for immoral purposes.” (p. 34)
42. Presland, John, 1885-1975.

Women in the civilized state / by John Presland [pseud.]. (London : George Routledge, 1934)

“John Presland” was the pseudonym of Melbourne-born Gladys Skeiton. Her book forms part of the “New World Series” published in the 1930s. She argues in favour of equal pay for women and for more access to education.

43. A Woman’s duty. ([Sydney] : Chamberlain’s Limited, [1934?])

This small booklet was issued to publicise Chamberlain’s Tablets, a patent tonic. As well as the advertisements it contains beauty tips, “How to attract,” and decorating tips, “Transform that shabby room.”

44. How to gain a man’s love. (Sydney : Alpha-Power Publications, [195-?])

This item consists of seven leaves of roneoed typescript giving advice to women on male psychology. There are many shrewd observations. “Fortunately few men have the ability to estimate the amount of money a woman spends on her clothes and as long as she is neat and clean and her frock is fresh they are proud of her.” (p. 3) The final few pages are lists of services such as dance lessons and products such as “The immaculate breath,” obtainable from Alpha Power Publications and Yogi Alpha Publications, GPO Box 3856, Sydney.


This short-lived Melbourne feminist periodical appeared twice in 1973, issued by the “As If Collective.” The introductory letter in issue 2 gives a detailed account of the group’s aims, “We have no desire to impose upon others (men) the kind of oppression that we have felt and still feel simply because we know what it feels like – shithouse. We want control over our own lives so that we can establish entirely non-coercive, non-manipulative relationships with each other.”

47. The infants’ magazine. (London : Seeley, Jackson & Halliday, 1866-)

This journal appeared monthly. As was common in children’s books of the period, its intention was to encourage good behaviour and admonish bad. It is open at an illustration of “Idle Ellen.” A poem drives home the moral. It begins, “Up in the corner, in disgrace, / With uncombed hair, and dirty face, / Stands Ellen, on a dunce’s stool, / For she has been too late for school.” (p. 26). The copy on display has hand-coloured plates.


Six months in the Fourth / by the author of The Austin prize, Through thick and thin, etc. [i.e. Andrew Home]. (London : Gardner, Darton, 1895)

This book was part of the Chatterbox Library Series. Each volume appeared in glazed paper boards, as here, and also in decorated cloth. This particular title is an example of the boarding school novel. The cover shows a boy vainly trying to hide in the chimney of his study, but he cannot avoid his thrashing.

About us / by May Gibbs. (London : Ernest Nister ; New York : E.P. Dutton, [1912])

This is the most beautiful of May Gibbs’s works. The story of Mamie and the creatures she meets among the London chimney-pots was originally set in Australia. It was her first book and was published in London where May Gibbs had gone to study art. She returned to Australia in 1913 and drew for Lone Hand, achieving fame as the author and illustrator of The Gumnut Babies and Snugglepot and Cuddlepie.

51. Lindsay, Norman, 1879-1969.

Norman Lindsay’s book / edited by Harold Burston. (Sydney : New South Wales Bookstall Co., 1912-1915) 2 v. [Nos. 1 and 2 only issues published.]

The NSW Bookstall Company was the most active promoter of Australian literature in the early 20th century. Norman Lindsay and his brothers were employed as artists to draw covers for the books. Norman Lindsay’s book no. 1 includes a note from the publisher stating, “that the widespread appreciation of this artist’s work warrants a publication which will give the public an opportunity of viewing in one book his wonderful versatility with pen and brush.” As well as his art-work, some of Lindsay’s stories are included. Among the other contributors are Edward Dyson and C. J. Dennis.


Peel me a lotus / Charmian Clift : with drawings by Nancy Dignan. (London : Hutchinson, 1959)

Charmian Clift was married to the novelist, George Johnston and the character, Cressida in My Brother Jack, was based on her. After the war she and George went London, then in 1954, moved to a Greek island. This book is an account of her life in the Aegean. As well as travel books Clift wrote novels, and after her return to Sydney was a columnist in the Sydney Morning Herald. The cover portrait is by Liselotte Strelow.

54. Dickens, Charles, 1812-1870.

Sketches of young couples, young ladies, young gentlemen / by Quiz [i.e. E. Caswall] ; illustrated by Phiz [i.e. H.K. Browne]. (London ; New York : Cassell, Petter, and Galpin, 1869)

The first and third of these sketches are by Dickens, the second is by Edward Caswall who assumed the pseudonym of Quiz.
55. Hutchinson, H. N. (Henry Neville), 1856-1927

Creatures of other days / by the Rev. H.N. Hutchinson; with numerous illustrations by J. Smit ... [et al.]. (London: Chapman & Hall, 1894)

This is a book on dinosaurs. The gilt vignette on the cover shows a "Pareiasaurus, from the Karoo formation, South Africa." (p. 85)

56. Allen, James Lane, 1849-1925.


The art nouveau style gilt decoration was the prevailing fashion on late Victorian and early Edwardian bindings. James Lane Allen was a local Kentucky colour writer; A Kentucky Cardinal (1894) was his best-known work. The illustrator, Hugh Thomson, was an Irish artist who came to London in 1883 where he became one of the most active book illustrators of the time, specialising in historical fiction.


The cardinal’s snuff-box / by Henry Harland; illustrated by G. C. Wilmshurst. 1st ed. (London: John Lane, 1903)

Another example of the art nouveau style. John Lane published The Yellow Book (1894-1897), which helped set this trend.

58. Gerbault, Alain, 1893-1941.

The gospel of the sun / by Alain Gerbault. (London: Hodder and Stoughton, [1933])

This is an example of a coloured cloth binding with art deco design, popular in the late 1920s and 1930s. It is a travel book set in the South Seas and the design represents the blue of the sea with a dark maroon sun and beams of sunlight.

60. Watson, Basil, d. 1917.

Souvenir released from Basil Watson’s biplane, using “Shell” Benzine, Tasmania 1917. ([Melbourne?] : Shell Company of Australia, 1917)

A piece of advertising ephemera to promote the Shell Oil Co. It is a paper parachute with a Union Jack design, attached to a cardboard weight shaped as a shell. It was meant to have been dropped from the plane during a fly-past. The location “Victoria 1917” has been crossed out and “Tasmania 1917” printed underneath. Basil Watson was a young Australian aviator who died when his plane crashed at Point Cook, Victoria, 28th March 1917, so the item was never used.


This catalogue introduced the FE Holden, a new shape after the FJ, which ceased production in 1956. The manuscript notes on the cover give details of the price, "£1232 on road, Special. £1160 Standard."

FLAT CASE 8

Ephemera

59. Alderbury Union.

Dietary of the union workhouse : Order of the poor-law commissioners, dated the 16th day of April, 1841. ([Britford : Alderbury Union, 1841])

This broadside lists the rations for the poor in the village of Alderbury, near Salisbury, in 1841. The plight of the inmates of work-houses was publicised by Dicken in Oliver Twist in 1838.

*Do you smoke pot? / Allen Ginsberg. (San Francisco : Chester Anderson, [1967])*

A two-page, mimeographed extract from Allen Ginsberg’s article, “First manifesto to end the bringdown”, from *The Marihuana papers*, with commentary by Chester Anderson, of the *Sunday Ramparts*. This handbill was circulated as part of a campaign for decriminalization of marijuana in the U.S. There is a form on the second page which Chester Anderson asked people to fill in and return. It reads, “Dear Chester: I have smoked marijuana for --- years. Signed… [or] I don’t use the stuff myself, but I think pot should be legalised. Signed….”

63. Trak Cinema.

*A souvenir of Trak. ([Toorak, Vic.] Trak Cinema, [1969])*

A souvenir programme for the opening on 2 October 1969, of the Trak Cinema, 445 Toorak Road Toorak. The first movie was *The April fools*, starring Jack Lemmon and Catherine Deneuve. The Trak was a very fashionable arthouse cinema in the 1970s which closed on 1 December 2000.

64. Workers’ Health Action Group


The Workers’ Health Action Group was one of the earliest to target James Hardie & Co. over the issue of asbestosis and mesothelioma in its workers.

65. State Savings Bank of Victoria


The State Savings Bank of Victoria published books of plans for various styles of houses, encouraging people to purchase the complete plans for the house of their choice. They would then secure a home loan and, either engage a builder, or do the work themselves. This model of a two-bedroom house comes with exhortations to thrift, “Only a penny … If a single penny were saved every day and deposited in the State Savings Bank once a year, the saver would have more than £200 at the age of 65.”

66. Thirty plates illustrative of natural phenomena, etc. : with a short description annexed to each plate / published under the direction of the Committee of General Literature and Education, appointed by the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge. (London : The Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge, 1846)

These hand-coloured wood engravings are by Elijah Whymper. The book is open at an illustration of “The Aurora Borealis,” where the descriptive text begins, “‘The Heavens declare the glory of God;’ (Ps. xix.i.) yet the more familiar appearances of the sky, beautiful as they are, scarcely awaken our attention, or lead our thoughts towards their first Great Author. But when such a spectacle as that presented by the Aurora Borealis first breaks upon the sight, the most indifferent person must be led to reflect upon the wonder-working power of the Divine Hand.”
FLAT CASE 10

Useful Books

69. The compleat English and French vermin-killer : being a companion for all families. ... With some directions for gardeners, and the prizes of workmen’s labour. ... Adorn’d with cuts. (London : printed for G. Conyers, [1710?]). [Purchased with Friends of the Library funds from the estate of Theodore Alexander Scheps, in memory of Ida Scheps]

As well as directions for building your own rat trap, this book includes many recipes for rat poison. It is open to show the diagram of a trap and the first of the recipes, headed, “Rats and Mice to Kill.” It reads, “Take a pennyworth of Treacle and mix with it Unslak’d Lime till it is pretty thick; then lay pieces as big as a Hazelnut on pieces of paper the breadth of a Shilling, and lay about their Holes, or where they come; they will tread on these Papers and the Stuff sticks to their Feet which they will lick off, and it burns out their Guts.” (p. 2)


Written in the early days of flying, the book reprints a series of articles which first appeared in the magazine, The Autocar, before its companion title, The Aero had begun. The articles explain how planes fly and what the technical terms mean.

71. Electricalities. (Birmingham, Eng. : Joseph Lucas Ltd., [1937])

This is a manual for maintenance of auto-electrics, showing how to repair the lights, the trafficators, the ignition and wiring.

72. Harding, C.

Upholstery for amateurs : the amateur’s guide to professional workmanship / by C. Harding. (London : W. Foulsham & Co., Ltd. [1928])

This manual was issued as part of the “Do it yourself” series.

73. What you can do to protect yourself and your family against the atomic bomb! ([Sydney] : Issued by the N.S.W. Civil Defense Organization, [195-?]) 1 folded sheet.

Such leaflets were circulated in the 1950s at the height of the “Cold War.” The map shows the areas of damage which could be expected around Sydney in the event of the detonation of a hydrogen bomb.

74. How to read teacups. (Sydney : Bushells Ltd., [1950?])

A pamphlet produced by Bushells Tea; it includes recipes for coffee drinks and cakes.
FLAT CASE 11

Sport

75. Mason, Finch. 
Sporting recollections of hunting, shooting, steeplechasing, racing, cricketing, etc., etc. / by Finch Mason ; with 102 illustrations by the author, including twenty-four highly-finished tinted full-page sketches. 4th ed. (London : Fores, 1885)

A typical sporting book of its period. The gilt pictorial cloth shows a woman riding sidesaddle as her mount jumps through a horseshoe. George Finch Mason’s book of sporting essays went through four editions in 1885.

The horrors of sport / by Lady Florence Dixie. Rev. ed. (London : A.C. Fifield, for the Humanitarian League, 1905)

This work was first published in 1892. Lady Dixie attacked in particular the various forms of hunting as “blood-sports.” Earlier in her life, she had been a keen traveller and big-game hunter, and wrote on South America and South Africa, where she had worked as the Morning Post correspondent during the Zulu War.

77. Stooke, Eleanora H. 
Prosperity’s child / by Eleanora H. Stooke ; with illustrations in colour by J. MacFarlane. (London : Religious Tract Society, [1910])

A girls’ boarding school novel with a pictorial cloth cover featuring a hockey scene. The frontispiece shows a girl playing tennis with the caption, “In her plain, blue serge skirt and white blouse, she made a very attractive picture.” Sport played an important role in the novels and magazines for young men and women of the period.

78. Olympic Games (10th : 1932 : Los Angeles, Calif.)
Official program, Xth Olympiad, Los Angeles, U.S.A. (Los Angeles : The Olympic Committee, 1932)

We have a good collection of material from various Olympic games. This is part of a set of daily programmes from the 1932 Los Angeles Olympics which belonged to Australian journalist, Harry Sutherland. It includes many of his pencilled notes and a typed sheet with part of his report on the progress of the Marathon, won by Juan Carlos Zabala of the Argentine.

79. Housing Commission, Victoria. 
A village is built : Olympic village, 16th Olympiad, Melbourne, Australia, 22 November to 8 December, 1956 / issued by Housing Commission, Victoria. (Melbourne : Housing Commission, Victoria, 1956)

The Olympic Village at West Heidelberg was built for the 1956 Melbourne Olympics by the Housing Commission and was used afterwards as permanent residences. “Not only has the Commission been responsible for the erection of 841 dwellings … but it has also provided for a permanent Community Hall, Post Office, shops, training areas and other facilities to be used first by Olympic athletes, and later by our citizens.”

CORRIDOR CASES

Magazines

On display is a selection of magazines we have recently added to our collection. As well as twentieth century titles, it includes a volume from 1869-1870 of The girl of the period miscellany and The girl of the period almanac, and some issues of L. T. Meade’s Atalanta (1891-92).
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The Rare Books Collection comprises material considered rare because of age, uniqueness or physical beauty. Housed in the Sir Louis Matheson Library on the Clayton campus, the collection provides a reading room for researchers and is supported by a team of rare books librarians. For more information visit www.lib.monash.edu/rare.

Have you considered becoming one of the Friends of the Monash University Library? In addition to helping the Rare Books Collection acquire new items with a small donation, Friends of the Library are included on a mailing list and invited to our exhibition openings and talks through the year. Please see www.lib.monash.edu.au/friends for more information.

Cover: Jeu du skating rink, a French board game featuring roller skating from about 1890. The Library collects games as part of the Rare Books children’s collection.