

<http://www.dnwfriends.nzl.org/>

NEWSLETTER

Number 56

November 2017

Welcome to the final Friends' newsletter for 2017. In the lead up to this issue Corrina put out a call for articles and to our great joy we received two substantial articles from members David Retter and Rowan Gibbs. Both take a close look at authors and books represented in the Dorothy Neal White Collection. You will find David's article in this issue on page 11. Rowan's article will appear in the first issue of 2018. Thank you also to Tania Connelly, Mary Skarott and Corinna Gordon for their contributions. Best wishes for the Festive Season to all our readers.

END-OF-YEAR EVENT 2017



At the end of the year event, on Wednesday 29 November, we were delighted to welcome Sarah Forster and Thalia Kehoe Rowden from The Sapling website. They talked about

the genesis of The Sapling, a site that "celebrates the excellence and diversity of children's books in Aotearoa and abroad", why they think it was needed and how they have chosen the voices that are represented each month. They looked at the gender and racial diversity of those who are reviewed or interviewed, and highlighted some of their favourite pieces.

Sarah and Thalia are editors of The Sapling. Thalia is working with Sarah while co-founding editor, Jane Arthur, is on maternity leave.

If you haven't explored The Sapling yet we do recommend it highly
www.thesapling.co.nz

A WORD FROM THE PRESIDENT

'The world is so full of a number of things, I'm sure we should all be as happy as kings' – Robert Louis Stevenson.

Sometimes it does seem as if the number of things in the world are too many, or simply that we haven't come across the right 'things' – yet there are still a number of delights which may be found if we look at the world through a child's eyes. Sometimes we just get too caught up in the adult world. Perhaps this is what draws us all towards children's books – to keep our perspective in a busy world.

Just a very brief word from me this time – I'm looking forward to our Christmas event from Sapling, and the impending festive season. We are all lovers of children's books, expressive of magic, quick sorrows and joys and a different view of the world – time to re-capture our inner child. I find returning to old

favourites like 'The Secret Garden' and the Chronicles of Narnia is very grounding for me but also look forward to a whole new generation of children's books.

A joyous season to you all.

Warmest wishes from

Corrina Gordon
President, and the FDNW Committee
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2017

The 2017 Annual General Meeting of the Society of Friends of the Dorothy Neal White Collection was held on Tuesday 20 June 2016 at 5:30pm on level 1 of the National Library. Following drinks and nibbles Research Librarian, Children's Literature, Mary Skarott, talked about some new donations to the collection, and Kay Hancock, research grant recipient, introduced her research project. For her PhD in English Literature Kay is looking at the NZ Department of Education *Ready to read* series. As part of her research she has been comparing the series with picture books of the same period, and was able to use all the National Library's children's collections to do this.

At the AGM Tania Connelly's resignation from the committee was been reluctantly accepted. Thanks were given to Tania for her many contributions to the society, and we are delighted she is continuing her involvement with the Friends (including an article in this newsletter – see p.9). We were very pleased to welcome two new committee members both of whom will be well known to many members–

- Margaret Hurst was the Family History specialist at the Alexander Turnbull Library until her retirement in 2016
- Lynne Jackett served on the FDNW committee for many years before resigning at the 2013 AGM. She held the position of Research Librarian, Children's Literature, at the Turnbull Library until she retired in July 2009.

The 2017-2018 committee members

Patron:	President: Corrina Gordon
Treasurer & webmaster: Jeff Hunt	Newsletter: Joan McCracken
Secretary: shared	Research Librarian: Mary Skarott
Committee: Barbara Robertson, Chantalle Smith, Kathryn Walls, Lynne Jackett, Margaret Hurst	

Full minutes and reports from the 2017 meeting can be found on the Friends' website <http://www.dnwfriends.nzl.org/index.php/home/agm/>

BARBARA ROBERTSON'S TALK



Members will remember that for the first meeting of 2017 our speaker was committee member Barbara Robertson. She talked about *Clare Mallory: the person behind the pseudonym*. I found the presentation fascinating, and there was a direct connection to the Turnbull Library - two unpublished stories are part of the Library's manuscript collections, and all Mallory's books are held in both the Turnbull and Dorothy Neal White collections – so, as the organiser of the Turnbull's weekly staff meeting, I asked Barbara if she would

Barbara with Clare Mallory
books
at her talk to the Friends on
15 March 2017

repeat her talk. She kindly agreed and her presentation was very well received when given to Turnbull staff on 13 October.

So that Barbara's research can be shared even more widely we are planning to publish her talk in the *Notes-Books-Authors* series. This would be particularly fitting as *N-B-A 2* (1989) was a personal memoir of Clare Mallory by her friend Janet Maconie. This is available in digital form on the Friends' website <http://www.dnw-friends.nzl.org/index.php/2015/05/24/nba2/>

Joan McCracken
FDNW Newsletter Editor

STORYLINES BETTY GILDERDALE AWARD 2017

We were delighted to hear that Wellington teacher, author and literary blogger Maureen Crisp has been announced as the winner of the 2017 Storylines Betty Gilderdale award for outstanding service to children's literature. As part of the awards ceremony in Wellington on 27 November 2017, Maureen gave the Storylines Spring Lecture.

Among her contributions to children's literature Maureen organised two "Tinderbox" conferences, in 2009 and 2015. Barbara Murison wrote about the 2015 event in her *Around the bookshops* column recording that it was "...one of the most successful and enjoyable conferences..." and enthusing about "...the wonderful atmosphere of friendship and equality created by Maureen and her team..."

Maureen is the author of two books for children, *Bones* (2008) and *Craic* (2011), and maintains a website that shares writing tips and comments on children's books <http://www.maureencrisp.com/>

FROM THE RESEARCH LIBRARIAN

As well as "business as usual" I have had two opportunities in recent months to showcase the children's collections to visiting school groups (from Evans Bay Intermediate School and Ngaio School). I explained how the way that books are made has changed throughout history, and the children enjoyed looking at examples of leather and cloth bindings, which are so different from the paper and cardboard they are used to seeing. Beautiful marbled endpapers and gold-edged pages got a very enthusiastic response. Another interesting aspect of the collections to talk about is the way that a story can be adapted and presented differently to readers over time. The many versions of *Alice's adventures in Wonderland* and *Gulliver's travels* that are held in the DNW and NCC are two examples that work very well to illustrate this concept.

A variety of donations continues to be offered and accepted (see *From the Dorothy Neal White Collection* later in this issue for a recent example).

Mary Skarott
Research Librarian, Children's Literature

IN THE DISPLAY CABINET

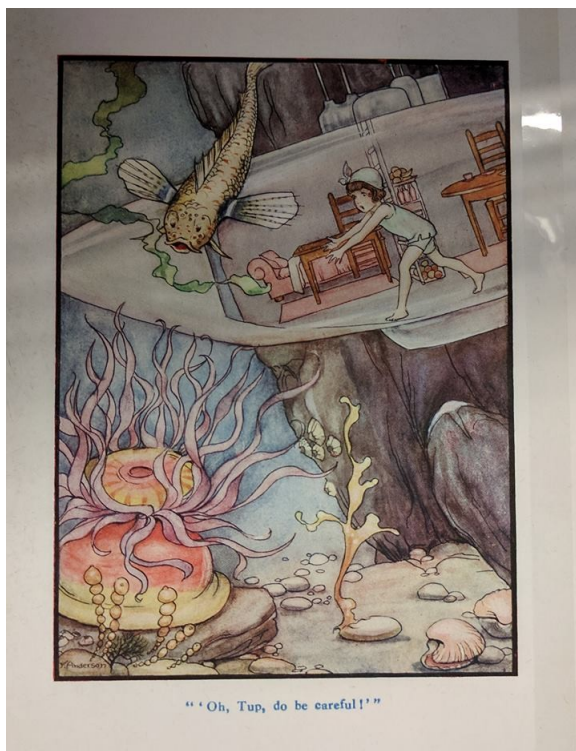
#13 Where bell-birds chime: nature books for children by Edith Howes

This display began on 28 August 2017 and will run until approximately the end of November.

Edith Howes was born in England in August 1872 and her family emigrated to New Zealand when she was a child. After completing her education at Kaiapoi Borough School, Edith trained to be a teacher. She spent most of her career at Gore School, starting there in 1899, and was headmistress from 1914 to 1917. She finished teaching in 1919 after two years at Wellington Girls' College where she was head of the junior department.

Edith was an innovative teacher, and during her time at Gore School she introduced Montessori teaching methods, reduced class sizes, and replaced the old fashioned desks in her classrooms with specially made tables and chairs. Noting the lack of books for children about scientific subjects, Edith began to write and her first book, *The sun's babies*, was published in 1910. This book established the format for much of her writing, in which she imparted facts about the natural world by containing them within stories, often including fantasy elements such as fairies and magical transformations.

Edith wrote about 30 books for children, as well as poetry, songs and plays, and by the mid-1920s she was among the most popular children's authors in New Zealand. She also wrote for an adult audience, including articles about her educational philosophy. In recognition of her literary work she received an MBE in 1935 and the George VI Coronation Medal in 1937. She died in Dunedin in July 1954.



"Oh, Tup, do be careful!"

Illustration by Florence Mary Anderson from
The singing fish by Edith Howes (Cassell,
1921)



High above the Town

Illustration by Florence Mary Anderson
from
The cradle ship by Edith Howes (Cassell,
1916)

Books and captions from the display:



Howes, Edith. *The lovely lady and other stories*. Auckland: Whitcombe & Tombs, 1925?

Howes, Edith. *Where bell-birds chime*. Christchurch: Whitcombe & Tombs, 1912

Howes, Edith. *Lizzie Limpet and other stories*. Auckland: Whitcombe & Tombs, 1928

Howes, Edith. *Out in the night*. Auckland: Whitcombe & Tombs, 1928

Howes, Edith. *Out in the night*. Auckland: Whitcombe & Tombs, 1928

Whitcombe and Tombs was the dominant publisher in the New Zealand educational market in the late 19th and early 20th century. Estimated sales of their very popular *Whitcombe's story books* series, published between 1908 and 1962, were in excess of 12 million copies. Edith Howes wrote 15 *Whitcombes story books* in all, issued in numerous printings between 1921 and 1957. *Where bell-birds chime* was part of the *Dainty booklet* series.

Howes, Edith. *Sandals of pearl*. With illustrations by Audrey Chalmers. London: J.M. Dent & Sons, 1929

Two children turn into sea fairies after they are given magical sandals of pearl. Under the guidance of Hide, the hermit crab, they meet many sea creatures on their underwater journey.

Howes, Edith. *The singing fish*. With illustrations by Florence Mary Anderson. London: Cassell & Co., 1921 (1922 reprint)

Nonie and Tup are exploring rock pools when the Mischief Fairy turns Tup into a fish. Nonie is turned into a fairy and guards Tup from her fairy submarine. When completing research for this story, Edith spent months observing the plants and creatures of beaches and rock pools around Wellington and Stewart Island.

Howes, Edith. *The sun's babies*. With illustrations by Frank Watkins. London: Cassell & Co., 1910

A collection of short stories about plants, animals and fairies through the seasons. This was Edith's first book, and was so well received that it led to her being made an honorary member of the New Zealand Institute (which later became the Royal Society).

Howes, Edith. *The cradle ship*. With illustrations by Florence Mary Anderson. London: Cassell & Co., 1916

Twins Win and Twin are siblings to a new baby and want to know where it came from. They do not believe their grandmother's tale that it was found under the gooseberry bush. Their parents are more forthcoming and turn a cradle into a ship, and the family sails to babyland to find the answer. Somewhat sentimental and naïve in style when read today, The cradle ship was nonetheless a groundbreaking attempt to introduce children to the facts of life. It was reprinted 18 times and translated into French, Italian and Danish.

Mary Skarott
Research Librarian, Children's Literature

Editor's note:

How names became people, an essay by Celia Dunlop, in which she outlines how she researched the life and literary development of Edith Howes was published by the Friends of the Dorothy Neal White Collection as *Notes-Books-Authors 4* in 1991. It can be read on the FDNW [website](#).

NICOLA DALY PRESENTATION

At the Friends' event on 21 September 2017 Dr Nicola Daly gave a presentation about her research at the Marantz Picturebook Collection at Kent State University, Ohio. Nicola was awarded a fellowship that enabled her to spend two weeks studying over 200 dual-language picturebooks in the Marantz Collection. In her talk Nicola explained that there are several ways in which books using more than one language can be presented

- Interlingual – where there is one primary language with “loan” words from another language
- Parallel – where the story is told twice in more than one language within one book
- Synchronous – where versions of the story in different languages are published in separate books at the same time.

For her research Nicola focussed on parallel publications with English and Spanish texts.

Having selected the books she wished to study Nicola analysed each of them by looking at various aspects of the publication

- Cover – back, front, dustcover, flaps. Style and font. Placement of text – which language comes first? How are the author and illustrator acknowledged? Translator?
- Inner – front matter, dedication, title-page etc
- Content – Story – placement of text – which language is on the right / left? Top / bottom of page? Which side is dominant for the reader? How does text relate to pictures?
- Content – other material such as glossaries

Nicola reported on some of her findings and showed examples of successful (and not so successful) designs of dual-language books.

- Covers – on 93 of the 211 books titles were in both languages in the same size font; 22 had Spanish titles in a larger font; the English title was larger on 80; and 16 had the title in just one language. Only 13 acknowledged the translator on the front cover.
- Content – English was the dominant language in 156 of the books; Spanish was dominant in 48; and 7 mixed the way the languages were presented. Most used the same font and colour but in 12 the languages were differentiated by colour and 17 used different fonts (eg Spanish in italics or bold).
- Other content – English was the most commonly used language where the picturebook included other information. Just 16 books included a glossary.

Nicola questioned what need dual-language publications were meeting. People who are bi-lingual are on a continuum from having just a few works in another language to those who can use either language in all situations. In communities “translanguaging” is common – where multi-lingual people do not keep

languages separate, they mix and mingle all their linguistic resources depending on context. The lively discussion that followed Nicola's talk explored her findings and the effectiveness of dual-language books, including those published in New Zealand in English and Te Reo Māori.

Nicola is a senior lecturer in Te Hononga, the School of Curriculum and Pedagogy in the Faculty of Education at the University of Waikato where she teaches in the Learning Languages learning area in both the primary and secondary teaching programmes, and in children's literature. She was the recipient of the Dorothy Neal White Fellowship in 2014.



Since giving her presentation in Wellington Nicola has spent time at the International Youth Library / Internationale Jugendbibliothek in Munich where she had a Fellowship to examine picturebooks featuring three or more languages. During her Fellowship at Blutenburg Castle, Nicola kept a blog to share her experiences. You can read it at

<http://nicolaiyl.blogspot.co.nz/2017/10/welcome-to-this-blog.html>

Joan McCracken
FDNW Newsletter Editor

6,000 HISTORICAL CHILDREN'S BOOKS, ALL DIGITIZED AND FREE TO READ ONLINE

The University of Florida's Baldwin Library of Historical Children's Literature has a huge collection going back to the mid-19th century, and they've put a big chunk of it online—more than 6,000 books from the Victorian era, from American and British authors, digitised in full.

Read the article in [OpenCulture](#), 30 August 2016

Baldwin Library of Historical Children's Literature <http://ufdc.ufl.edu/baldwin>

2017 NEW ZEALAND BOOK AWARDS FOR CHILDREN & YOUNG ADULTS



The 2017 New Zealand Book Awards for Children and Young Adults were presented at an event in Wellington on 14 August 2017.

The judging panel for the 2017 New Zealand Book Awards for Children and Young Adults was children and young adults' librarian, Pam Jones (convenor); education lecturer, Trish Brooking; author Ben Brown; reviewer and promoter of New Zealand children's literature, Sarah Forster; and WORD

Christchurch programme director and author, Rachael King.

For the second year, the panel is joined by English academic, Professor Martin Salisbury, who is the advisor for the Russell Clark Award for Illustration.

The winners were

- **Margaret Mahy Book of the Year and winner of the Russell Clark Award for Illustration**
Snark: being a true history of the expedition that discovered the Snark and the Jabberwock... and its tragic aftermath illustrated and written (after Lewis Carroll) by David Elliot (Otago University Press)
- **Picture Book Award: Prize**
That's not a hippopotamus! by Juliette MacIver and illustrated by Sarah Davis (Gecko Press)
- **Esther Glen Award for Junior Fiction: Prize**
My New Zealand story: Bastion Point by Tania Roxborough (Scholastic New Zealand)
- **Copyright Licensing NZ Award for Young Adult Fiction**
The severed land by Maurice Gee (Penguin)
- **Elsie Locke Award for Non-Fiction**
Jack and Charlie: boys of the bush by Jack Marcotte and Josh James Marcotte (Puffin)
- **Te Kura Pounamu Award for the best book in Te Reo Māori**
Te Kaihanga Māpere by Sacha Cotter, translated by Kawata Teepa and illustrated by Josh Morgan (Huia Publishers)
- **Best First Book Award**
The discombobulated life of Summer Rain by Julie Lamb (Mākarō Press) (Submarine)

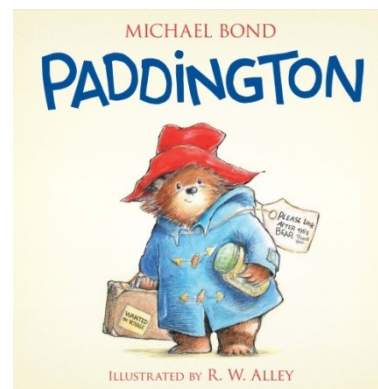
More details of the awards ceremony and the winning books can be found on the New Zealand Society of Authors (PEN NZ Inc) Te Puni Kaituhi o Aotearoa website.
<https://authors.org.nz/winners-of-the-2017-new-zealand-book-awards-for-children-and-young-adults-announced/>

OBITUARIES

It is with sadness we note the recent deaths of three significant contributors to children's literature.

Michael Bond

The author of the famous Paddington Bear series died on 27 June 2017. Thomas Michael Bond was born on 13 January 1926, and started writing during WWII. In 1958 his first book *A bear called Paddington* was published. The series was very popular, but it was after Graham Clutterbuck and Ivor Wood created a BBC series using an animatronic bear that Paddington found international, lasting fame. In 2014 the movie *Paddington* was released, and a sequel will be in NZ cinemas in December 2017.



Other books include the tales of Olga da Polga for children and the Monsieur Pamplemousse series for adults. Michael Bond's memoir *Bears and forbears* was published in 1997.

For a full obituary see *The Guardian* 28 June 2017 \ <https://www.theguardian.com/books/2017/jun/28/michael-bond-obituary>

Iona Opie

Researcher, writer and authority on children's rhymes, street and playground games died on 23 October 2017, aged 94. With her husband Peter (1918-1982)

she started researching nursery rhymes in the 1940s, later extending their interest to many other areas of children's culture. The Opies published more than 20 books – anthologies of traditional nursery rhymes, songs and fairy tales, as well as observations and analysis of children's play and games in the street and in the playground, and the lore and language of schoolchildren. Their major works include *The Oxford dictionary of nursery rhymes* (1951 and later editions) and *The lore and language of schoolchildren* (1959).

The Opie Collection of Children's Literature – over 20,000 pieces – was donated to the Bodleian Library, Oxford University, in 1988. A blog talking about the history of this collection, and work to make it accessible, to researchers was published on 7 March 2017.

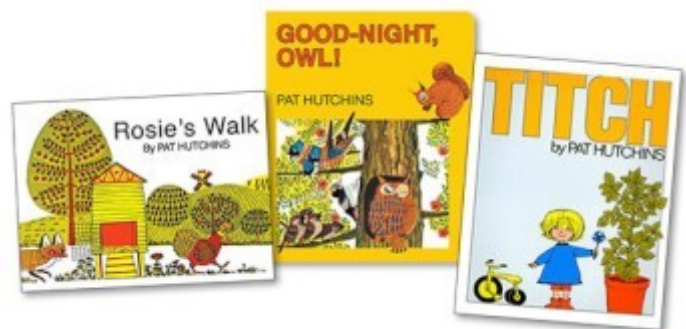
<http://blogs.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/archivesandmanuscripts/2017/03/07/opie-archive/>

For a full obituary see *The Guardian* 25 October 2017

<https://www.theguardian.com/books/2017/oct/25/iona-opie-obituary>

Pat Hutchins

Popular writer and illustrator Pat Hutchins died on 7 November 2017, aged 75. Her first book, *Rosie's walk*, was published in 1968, and her last, *Where, oh where, is Rosie's chick*, in 2015. In between there were over 40 picture and children's stories. Favourites included *Titch*, *The wind blew*, *Follow that bus!*, and *Good-night owl!*



As *The Guardian* records her books show her storytelling skills, her tremendous sense of humour and her warmth for children.

Pat Hutchins website is a lot of fun <http://pathutchins.com/>

For a full obituary see *The Guardian* 15 November 2017

<https://www.theguardian.com/books/2017/nov/15/pat-hutchins-obituary>

DOROTHY ON SOCIAL MEDIA



While the website remains the main platform for information about the Friends events, copies of the newsletters, minutes, and news about the collection, we also have a Facebook page. Committee member Chantalle Smith promotes the collection and our publications to a wider audience though the page. We also follow a number of other organisations with interests similar to the Friends. If you are a Facebook user please follow us and share our posts.

<https://www.facebook.com/dnwfriends>

FROM THE DOROTHY NEAL WHITE COLLECTION

***Our animals friends.* London : Frederick Warne & Co., 1905.**



This charming picture book was recently donated to the Collection by David Retter, a past-President and longstanding member of the Friends. Now well over 100 years old, it is a typical example of an “untearable” picture book.

From the mid-1800s onward, various materials were used to create untearable pages within books for children, including linen blend paper, linen on its own, and paper mounted on linen. Completely washable books, with both covers and pages made

entirely of cloth, became popular with the introduction of Dean’s rag books in 1902.

Cover of *Our animal friends*.

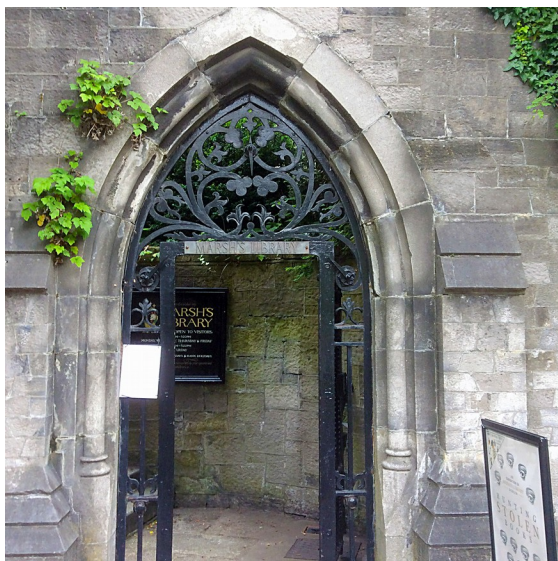
This particular book was made by mounting the printed paper pages on each side of a piece of linen. As such, the pages still have a degree of flexibility, but they are very sturdy and have stood up well to the rigours of many years of use. The covers, which are paper mounted on cardboard, with no linen interior, are showing more wear and tear than the internal pages.



Illustration from *Our animal friends*

Mary Skarott
Research Librarian, Children’s Literature

MARSH’S LIBRARY - ANTIQUITY MADE ‘SEXY’



Marsh’s Library is one of Dublin’s cultural treasures. Founded in 1707 by the Anglican Archbishop of Dublin, Narcissus Marsh, the collection contains over 25,000 rare books and manuscripts dating from the Renaissance and the early enlightenment. In the intervening 310 years, the Library has remained relatively unchanged. There have been few new accessions to the collections since the late 18th century and the appearance of the interior is much as it was. The chairs and splendidly carved dark oak shelves are original and even the wire cages, erected to protect precious items from book thieves, were installed in the 1770s. Situated in an

elegant, custom-built, early Georgian building beside St Patrick’s Cathedral, this

'microcosm of time' has for long been the haunt of scholars, authors and serious minded readers, eager to experience the delights of working or browsing in what was, at the time of opening, Ireland's first public library.

Unfortunately, the authenticity of Marsh's Library had its down side. While fascinating to a certain sector of the population, the Library had nothing whatsoever to offer children. Like many similar repositories and places of historic interest, it is maintained by a charitable trust and relies heavily on a flow of fee paying visitors for its survival. In contemporary Dublin, with families and school parties queuing up to view alternative educational attractions, the absence of such groups from the Library's visitor tally became a concern to the trustees. Something had to be done and an educational officer was recruited. One of her suggestions was to obtain a selection of tiny plastic Lego figures and place them in the Library's display cases alongside related items from the collections. With the permission of the Lego Groups of Companies, these tiny people were re-costumed to represent famous characters associated with the Library and its history such as Cicero, Jonathan Swift, Bram Stoker and James Joyce. Despite the incongruity of pairing 21st Century toys with antique items, children were entranced by the adapted figures and enthusiastically accepted their new personas. Various games, puzzles and things to make and do, based on the Lego figures, have also proved very popular with young visitors, not to mention their mums and dads!

I am **Narcissus** and I founded this library in 1707. I was a keen astronomer and was apparently the first person to ever use the word 'microphone'.

I am the author **James Joyce**. I came here in 1902 to read. I used Marsh's Library in my .

I am **Esther Johnson** (or **Stella** to my friends). I came to Marsh's with my good friend Jonathan Swift. You can see a copy of my in one of the cages.

I am the novelist and **Emily Lawless**. I visited Marsh's Library and my letters and scrapbooks are kept here.

I am **Bram Stoker** the author of *Dracula*. I visited the library in the 1860s and read books about .

I am **Jonathan Swift**, author of *Gulliver's* . I was Dean of St. Patrick's Cathedral next door and so became the governor of the library.

I am **Cicero** a politician and writer. My letters are contained in the oldest printed book here in the library. The book was printed in 1472.

Did you find me?

I am **Maurice** the Egyptian mummy found in the library in 1888. I am 3500 years old. My is missing. Can you help me find it?

I am **Grace Marsh** and I came to live with my **Narcissus**. I ran away and got married. I wrote him a letter of apology and left it in one of his books.

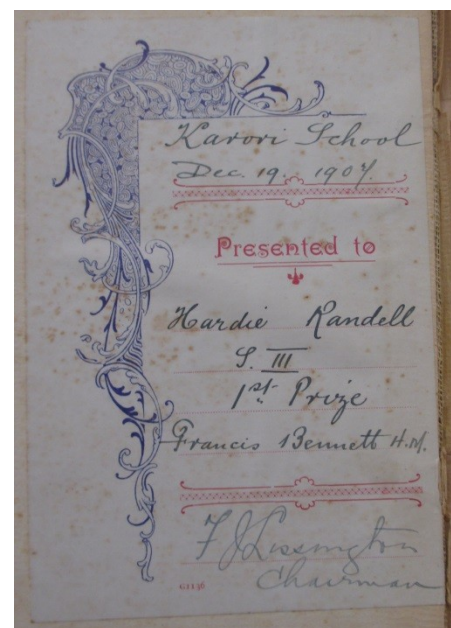
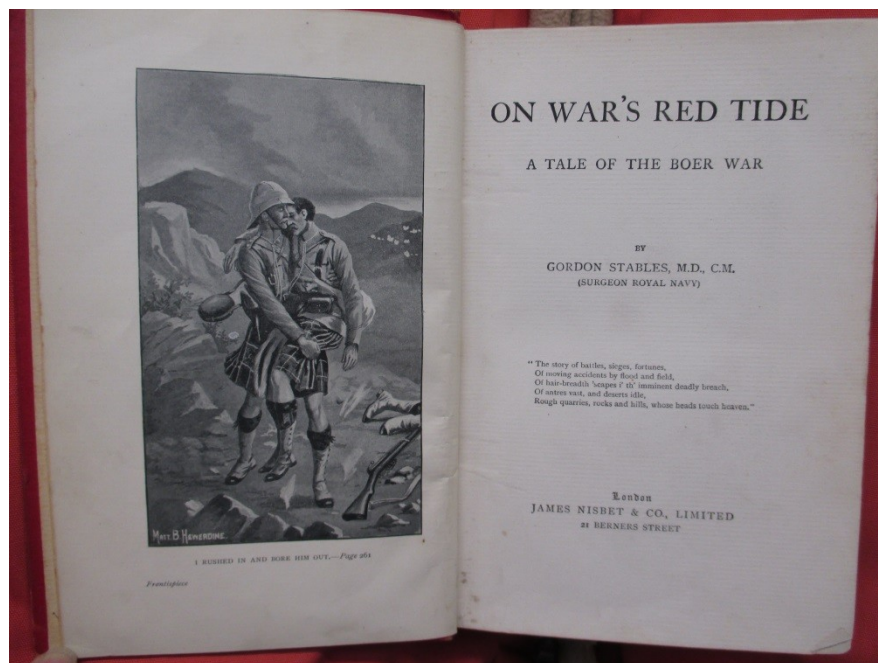
Find and fill in the missing words for each character

stories head skull Travels poet Uncle Marsh Roman witches Rising saint bats

Tania Connelly
FDNW member

OVER BY CHRISTMAS? - A Ripping Yarn of the South African War

William Gordon Stables *On War's Red Tide: a Tale of the Boer War* ... with colour frontispiece and five further colour plates by **Matt B Hewerdine**, London: James Nisbet & Co, [1900], viii, 328pp + 8pp adverts (or 32pp in some issues). Later re-issued by the same publisher in the Boy's Holiday Library series, with b/w plates, viii, 328pp + 8pp adverts, c1907; [DNW copy has presentation label to Hardie Randell, Karori School, Dec 19, 1907].



The story opens with a Scottish flavour, introducing clan Chief McArthur and his son and heir, 21-year-old Arthur McArthur, of Castle Bruer. Also in the household is Arthur's second cousin Jack Murray, a Royal Navy midshipman, who has previously seen action off the African coast, and been wounded. Jack's father had been drowned at sea. Arthur has also seen military service in India as an officer with the Gordon Highlanders. Other characters include crusty General Grahame, an old 'India hand' and advisor to Mr McArthur, senior; there is also Katie O'Mara (Lady Kathleen O'Mara) for whom Jack has developed a fondness.

Mr McArthur receives a letter from his brother in Johannesburg, South Africa, saying that he expects war will break out very soon. Jack is perturbed to receive his papers from the Admiralty requesting him to report for service as a supernumerary midshipman on HMS *Thunderbolt*. "Never mind, my boy," said General Grahame kindly, as he saw the boy's look of sadness; "it is the future of war, lad. But buck up, I'll lay odds - 20 to 1 - you'll be among the grouse with us on the glorious twelfth after all." (p14). Jack learns that he is being sent to the Royal Navy's China Station and may miss the events in South Africa altogether. The other middies on the steamship, which is taking him to join his ship, rag him thinking he is a 'new boy' but the Captain soon puts them right. "Well, you're a smart and plucky young fellow, and I'll read your future for you: You'll be sub-lieutenant before you're nine months older and you may get the V.C. later on. There!" (p24). The middies apologise and they become firm friends. The handsome young man in uniform is also popular among the female passengers and he meets Ethel, as they 'cross the line'.

In the meantime, Arthur has visited Edinburgh and expresses a fondness for Lydia Murray, Jack's sister (p35). Arthur receives news that he is to re-join his regiment and sail for South Africa. Jack arrives there on the *Thunderbolt* at about the same time (p47). They meet by accident in a hotel and catch up on the news (pp59-60). We are also introduced to Jack's friend, Reginald Cox, another middie from North Devon.

Meanwhile, Kathleen O'Mara has decided to travel to the Cape to nurse the wounded. "She was a spirited girl. All Irish ladies are spirited and nearly all are good. Kathleen was both." (p140).

After numerous actions, Arthur is wounded in the hand, surrounded and taken prisoner by the Boers (p175).

Jack, now a member of the Ladysmith Naval Brigade, comes down with enteric fever (ie typhoid). In hospital, at death's door, he rallies when he is visited by Kathleen, who stays at his side to nurse him back to health (pp181-189).

Arthur escapes from the Boers (p195) and during a close shave with searchers, is given despatches by a dying Boer who thinks he is on their side. He is later aided by a Boer woman, Gretchen, whom he first met when she gave him fruit while he was on the prison train. She dresses his wound and gives him food and shelter. Arthur, who is fluent in German, and, rather helpfully, knows some Dutch, soon proposes to 'Grettie' (p216). But the war still rages, and he sets off and reaches British lines, at first being taken for a spy (he is dressed as a Boer) but manages to meet with Lord Methuen and hands over the secret Boer plans (p224). As a result, Arthur is promoted to Captain. He receives a letter from Jack at Ladysmith who tells him that Kathleen has been killed by a shell and that Arthur's sister, Yonish, who was with her, is inconsolable. Arthur had not known they were at Ladysmith (p232).

Lieutenant Littlejohn, aged 16½ is introduced and nicknamed 'Toddles' (pp233-234).

On patrol out on the veldt, Arthur gives the alarm of a Boer attack and they hold their position for three days in trying circumstances, until the relief column arrives, brought by a native guide. "Saved! Saved! cried the soldiers." (p246). Arthur says "Surely for such a service as this even a Kaffir deserves the V.C. But that honest fellow will live and die, unnoticed and unrewarded." (p247). Poor 'Toddles' is wounded and dies (p261). "Poor Lieutenant Littlejohn -our 'Toddles'- lives in a soldier's grave. War must have its victims, and it often takes the best." (p325).

Jack has now joined Arthur who tells him about Grettie (pp267-268). Arthur is now scouting as a 'rough-rider' with his Scottish ghillies, also with Jack, now a sub-



McArthur was stunned with a blow - page 174. Illustration by Matt B. Hewerdine

lieutenant, and Reginald Cox. In a fierce battle, Arthur has two horses shot from under him and Jack saves Reginald's life. Mafeking is 'relieved'.

Arthur tells Jack that after the war he will return to the Boer farm and "make my dear Grettie, my wife" (p312). However, Arthur learns from a scout that Grettie and her family are in danger, the Boers having burnt their house and threatened the family, whom they believe to be traitors. (p315). Arthur and his men arrive too late to save Grettie's mother but save Grettie and her brother Paul. Sadly, Grettie has been driven mad by these events and her mother's death and dies." (pp322-324).



Jack is awarded the V.C. but gallantly refuses it and he and Reginald go to China to fight in the war there, the Boxer Rebellion (pp326-327). Arthur returns to Edinburgh and proposes to Lydia Murray. Apparently, she has (conveniently for Arthur) never received his letter telling her about Grettie. The story ends with talk about the upcoming wedding and the coming "Christmas season of 1900" (p328).

"We have had a sufficiency of true stories of the war, and are likely, to say the least, to have plenty of romances about it. Dr. Gordon Stables is early in the field, and deservedly favoured as he is by young readers, will doubtless have a welcome. He gives us the customary compounding of love and war, done in that cheery way with which we are familiar."

Spectator, 3 November 1900, p8.

The mêlée - page 322
Illustration by Matt B.
Hewerdine

Dr William Gordon Stables (1840-1910), first went to sea when he was 19 years old. During that first trip to the Arctic, his vessel became stuck in pack ice and was reported lost. He returned home to be met by his father and sister dressed in deep mourning. "Which of the family is dead?", he asked apprehensively. "You are!" was the reply.

After deciding that a life in the Church was not for him and qualifying as a medical doctor, Stables was appointed a ship's surgeon in the Royal Navy (1863-1870), serving on vessels involved in anti-slavery and anti-smuggling voyages around the South Seas, the Americas, and the Indian Ocean. He afterwards saw service on merchant ships, in South American and Australian waters. When he finally 'came ashore' in 1875, due to chronic ill-health, he made use of his maritime adventures and observations to enliven a large number of books, written specifically for boys. His literary output averaged over four books a year

for thirty years (around 130 in all) and his stories, which inculcated manliness, plucky courage and self-reliance, were popular with more than one generation of boys. He was a regular contributor of short stories to the *Boy's Own Paper* and also wrote articles on health and fitness, natural history and wildlife protection. He designed and had built the first horse-drawn caravan, travelling the length of Great Britain in 1885. He wrote about this experience in his book *The Cruise of the Land-Yacht "Wanderer"* (1886).

On War's Red Tide was a topical story (at the time) and is very much in favour of the war and the bonds of Empire, as it was portrayed to children. It was one of the few such juvenile works to be written while the war was actually in progress. In many places the story reads like a series of news reports from the front, obviously garnered from newspapers, with a few British reverses but mostly gallant victories by plucky British soldiers against tricky Boer farmers, who didn't always 'play the game'.

As is common for the period, the local indigenous population are rudely treated and harshly portrayed in print, and generally referred to in racist or disparaging terms. The Boers, being European in origin, are viewed rather more favourably but are still often portrayed as courageous idiots, daring to challenge the might of the British Empire. The women appear, typically for the time, as the prospective 'child-bride' (Grettie) and the older woman (Katie); both regarded by Stables as unsuitable mates. The boys eventually marry each other's sisters.



However, the war would not be 'over by the Glorious Twelfth', nor even by Christmas. Little did Stables realise that it would eventually take nearly three long years and some 450,000 British and Colonial troops (including those from New Zealand, Australia and Canada) to subdue around 50,000 Boers, before peace was finally signed in May 1902.

Dr William Gordon Stables -
illustration from his book *The Cruise
of the Land-Yacht "Wanderer"*
(1886)

David Retter
FDNW member (and former President of the Society)

Afterword

After I read David's article I was struck by the illustrations in *The red tide* and I asked David about them. Here is his reply – it is a sad story.

The artist is Matthew Bede Hewardine who was born in Hull in 1868. Some sources say 1871-1909. As well as book illustrations he created advertisements (including for Dewar's whiskey) and caricatures and cartoons.

https://creators.vice.com/en_us/article/d37mbk/archiving-vintage-liquor-ads-dewars-martini-bacardi See second image
http://digital.library.yale.edu/cdm/ref/collection/1026_1/id/1938

In 1893 he married Edith Mary Rosenthal and they had two children.

However his life and career were to be cut tragically short.

Evening Star, 13 May 1909, page 8.

The mutilated body of a man who had apparently fallen from a train was found on the Great Central Railway at Corworth, Northants, on March 27. A first class pass bearing the name "Matt. B. Hewerdine," was found on the body, with a substantial sum of money, and letters which showed that Mr Hewerdine was travelling from Manchester to London to keep an appointment on that day. In the first class compartment of the train were subsequently found his hat and bag. It is supposed that Mr Hewerdine awoke from sleep and, thinking he was going into the corridor, opened the wrong door and fell to the ground. Mr Hewerdine was a cartoonist "Pig," of *Vanity Fair*. He had been attending the dog show at Manchester with the object of doing work for 'Our Dogs.' He was about thirty-eight years of age, and leaves a widow and two children.

The contents of this newsletter will be published on the Friends of the Dorothy Neal White website where you will be able to see the images in colour <http://www.dnwfriends.nzl.org/>

SUBSCRIPTIONS / MEMBERS ADDRESSES

The annual membership subscription for the Friends of the Dorothy Neal White Collection is \$20:00.

Whether you want to be active in a friendly group supporting the promotion of children's literature, or just want the satisfaction of being associated with a valuable community group, we value you. Members might also like to make a contribution to a special Research Grant fund that will allow us to continue and / or increase the amount we are able to offer a student doing research based on the collections supported by the Friends. A separate line has been included on the form for those Friends who would like to make such a donation.

The Treasurer will be delighted to receive your subscription payment at the next meeting, or by post to:

The Friends of the Dorothy Neal White Collection
PO Box 12499
WELLINGTON 6144

If you prefer to pay by **internet banking** then this is encouraged. Please include your name as reference.

Bank details are Society of Friends D N White BNZ 02-0585-0045879-000

Please indicate any changes to your address details when you complete the form. We are now able to send notification of meetings by email. If you would like to receive information in this way please include your email address.

Friends of the Dorothy Neal White Collection 2017-2018 Membership

I would like to join / renew my subscription to the Friends of the Dorothy Neal White Collection for
1 April 2018 to 31 March 2019.

- ☐ My cheque / cash for \$20:00 is enclosed
- ☐ My donation of \$_____ to the DNW Scholarship Fund
is enclosed
- ☐ I would like to receive receipts, notification of meetings and
other Friends' events by email

Name:	
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Telephone:	
Email address:	

OLD ST PAUL'S, MULGRAVE STREET, WELLINGTON
TUESDAY, 23 MAY 2017 AT 1.30 PM

OFFICIATING: Mr John McBeth
ORGANIST: Mr Michael Fletcher

WELCOME
Mr John McBeth

BARBARA IN HER OWN WORDS

MUSIC

SKYE BOAT SONG – Trad. Scottish

Speed bonnie boat, like a bird on the wing,
Onward the sailors cry,
Carry the lad that's born to be king
Over the sea to Skye.

Loud the winds howl, loud the waves roar,
Thunder clouds rend the air;
Baffled our foes stand by the shore,
Follow they will not dare.

Speed bonnie boat ...

Though the waves leap, soft shall ye sleep,
Ocean's a royal bed
Rocked in the deep, Flora will keep
Watch by your weary head.

Speed bonnie boat ...

EULOGIES

Bea Hamer
Cynthia Petersen and Lynne Jackett
Barbara Else
John Daniels

TIME OF REFLECTION

Be Thou My Vision – Trad. Irish

EULOGIES

Fleur Beale and Maureen Crisp
Anne Carpenter
Rosemary Wildblood and Robyn Cooper
Jim Milburn

MUSIC

WHO WOULD TRUE VALOUR SEE – Bunyan Trad. English

Who would true valour see
Let him come hither;
One here will constant be,
Come wind, come weather;
There's no discouragement
Shall make him once relent
His first avow'd intent
To be a pilgrim.

Who so beset him round
With dismal stories,
Do not themselves confound;
His strength the more is.
No lion can him fright;
He'll with a giant fight,
But he will have the right
To be a pilgrim.

No goblin or foul fiend
Can daunt his spirit;
He knows he at the end
Shall life inherit.
Then, fancies fly away;
He'll not fear what men say;
He'll labour night and day
To be a pilgrim.

COMMITTAL

POEM

A Poem of Farewell – Adrienne Jansen
Read by Dorothy Mitchell

RECESSIONAL MUSIC

Fugue, Sonata No. 2 in C Major – Mendelssohn