

NEWSLETTER

Number 61
2020

December

Welcome to the final Friends' newsletter for 2020 and apologies for the lateness in it being published. This year sure has been one to remember. This newsletter looks back at what we successfully achieved through the year. If you have any suggestions for articles that can feature in future newsletters please contact us friendsdnw@gmail.com

A WORD FROM THE PRESIDENT

What a year we've had. Who could have imagined this? I must admit, I really felt at times like climbing into a wardrobe and heading for Narnia. Lockdown feels a long time ago now, at least in Wellington, and it's easy to forget that the world outside New Zealand is a very different place. I really feel though for my friends and family across the oceans – I'm sure we all have people we wish we had closer.

Our reading can go different ways at times like this. I do often lean towards escapism – *Phantom Tollbooth*, *Harry Potter*, *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory* top my list. But there are other ways to find comfort – perhaps more along the lines of *The Secret Garden*, where people create their own havens in times of trouble, or *What Katy Did*, where people learn to overcome a change of circumstance and become more resilient as a result.

This year has tested our resilience and sanity to huge degrees for some people. It's brought out the best and worst in people. I wish everyone a peaceful Christmas and holiday break. I hope you can all find time for yourself and loved ones.

We have been very lucky to have 2 events this year either side of lockdown, and a very challenging Zoom AGM. Here's hoping the future brings kinder and wiser times. Kia kaha.

Corrina Gordon
FDNW President

REFLECTIONS ON BEING A FULLBRIGHT NEW ZEALAND SCHOLAR WITH NICOLA DALY

After a dearth of events over lockdown we were so pleased to welcome Nicola Daly to speak for us on August 11. Nicola was lucky enough to have completed her Fulbright scholarship before Covid hit the world seriously.

Nicola's passion and enthusiasm when talking about her experience captivated the audience. It was clear this had an incredible impact on her life, and we were honoured that she shared this with us.

The Fulbright scholarship was established by Senator J. William Fulbright, who founded the Fulbright Foundation after WWII, to be an international exchange and promote international



understanding in over 60 countries. There are several scholarships in New Zealand, Nicola had won the Fulbright New Zealand Scholar Awards.



This award is for 3-5 months teaching or researching in another country. Nicola was based at the University of Arizona, in Tucson, Arizona. She spent her time at the Worlds of Words Center, where their chief objective is to build bridges across global cultures through children's and adolescent literature.

Nicola had a couple of projects to focus on over this time - to give presentations and guest lectures and to conduct research with her colleague, Professor Kathy Short, about the use of bilingual picturebooks with children and pre-service teachers.

As well as these projects Nicola was able to do a few other things that weren't planned. She spoke of how she had the opportunity to attend a couple of conferences (US IBBY Congress in Austin Texas, October 2019; NCTE Conference in Baltimore, Maryland, November 2019), the amazing Guadalajara Book Fair December 2019 and participates in four postgraduate papers:

- The Art of the Picturebook
- Anthropology of Childhood
- Critical Visual Analysis of Children's Books
- Gender Diversity in Children's Literature



I must admit to being more than a little jealous by the end of her account. There was so much colour and expression in Nicola's account, with a real flavour of the community. Mexican culture is so much a part of Tucson culture, I learnt, because Tucson used to be part of Mexico. The indigenous culture is a huge part of the border community. Of course, as well as taking so much in, Nicola also contributed a huge amount. She was a Guest lecturer in 400 and 500 level classes, gave public lectures in Worlds of Words, Workshops in Worlds of Words and University of Georgia, created displays in Worlds of Words for International Year of Indigenous Languages and Waitangi Day, wrote articles in WOW journals and did interviews for campus publications. We wondered when she actually slept!

Nicola also delighted us with readings of several indigenous books that really caught her. I'm sure I speak for the rest of the audience when I say they were enthusiastically received. We heard *Fry Bread* and *We are grateful* among many others.

At a time when we are not really able to travel, it felt like we'd all taken a wonderful trip to Arizona – the sunshine, the stimulating culture, the wonderful literature. A very uplifting experience altogether.

Corrina Gordon
FDNW President

DOROTHY ON SOCIAL MEDIA



Unfortunately, due to the crazy year that has been 2020, I have been unable to post regularly on the Facebook page. However, I have ensured to post about the regular FDNW events and any display changes. If you use Facebook, please share these posts yourself so that your friends and family are aware of what we are up to. The more people share our events and FDNW content, the more people will learn about us.

The post with the most interactions this year was advertising that the scholarship was now open for applications. As this was shared by several interested groups and organisations on their Facebook pages, we were able to reach an audience of over 1000 views. The other post which gathered a larger than normal audience was about celebrating the fact that the Alexander Turnbull Library had been open to the public for 100 years on 28 June 2020.

If you haven't already, please like us: <https://www.facebook.com/dnwfriends>

Chantalle Smith
FDNW Newsletter Editor and Facebook Administrator

FROM THE RESEARCH LIBRARIAN

In July and August, I was involved in writing a new Children's Literature Collecting Plan (working with Content Services staff in National Library). This is a welcome development, as children's literature collecting has previously been incorporated into the large collecting plans for overseas material and New Zealand and Pacific material. What we collect hasn't changed, but policy for all collections that have a children's literature component is now all together in one place.

On 5 August, the Prime Minister, Jacinda Ardern, and then Minister of Internal Affairs, Tracey Martin, visited the library and announced the establishment of a Reading Ambassador, to be funded by the Te Puna Foundation. The first ambassador will be appointed in early 2021. You can hear Kate de Goldi (Te Puna Foundation trustee and member of the organizing panel) talk about the role here: <https://www.rnz.co.nz/national/programmes/standing-room-only/audio/2018759710/kate-di-goldi-creating-our-first-reading-ambassador> The event included a number of book displays, and Julie Wright (Services to Schools) and I selected some prize winning New Zealand children's books to be shown in cabinets. Given the work involved, it was nice that the cabinets remained on the ground floor for some weeks after the event.

I am currently working on the documentation for a very large donation, to come from New Plymouth, of over 400 books. Most of these will be going to the DNW collection, and many of them are adventure books for boys. Content Services staff will be organising the physical transfer of the books. Donations of this size are a rare occurrence, more details to come in due course.

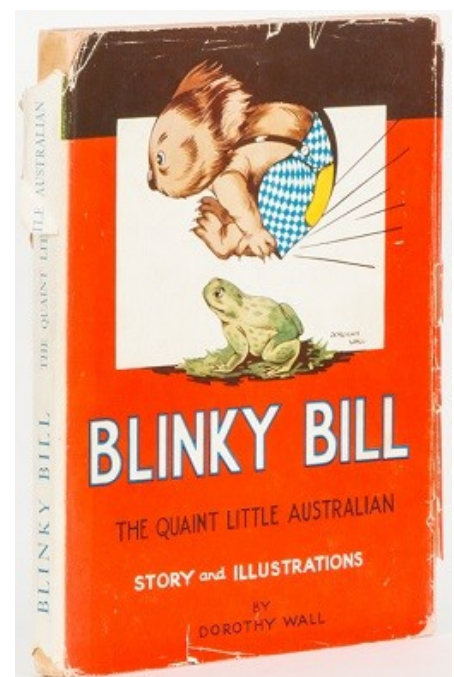
14 December 2020 is the centenary of the birth of one of my favourite authors, Rosemary Sutcliff. To mark the occasion some of her books will be included in the next Level 1 foyer display cabinet, together with a selection of prizewinning historical fiction by other authors.

Mary Skarott
Research Librarian, Children's Literature

BLINKY BILL AT THE STATE LIBRARY OF VICTORIA

A recent blog published on the State Library of Victoria's website highlights some conservation work taking place to one of their collections. This collection is of 36 drawings by Dorothy Wall, the author and illustrator of the children's books about *Blinky Bill*. It contains hand-painted illustrations, designs and sketches of Blinky Bill and his friends.

Wall was born in Wellington in 1894. She won a scholarship to the Christchurch School of Art when she was 12 years old. She completed her studies at Wellington Technical College. In 1914 she moved to Sydney where she pursued a career as an artist. Although she published a number of children's books, including her book *Blinky Bill: a quaint little Australian*, she struggled to become a professional. After her health started to deteriorate in 1937 she moved back to New Zealand. Although she was able to establish herself here as an illustrator for newspapers, she missed Australia and moved back there in 1941. Sadly she passed away six months later of pneumonia.



The work that is taking place on the collection in the Library is on the tracing paper. As early 20th Century tracing paper is made of poor-quality fibres, it deteriorates easily. Wall used this paper for ease of tracing the same designs over and over again.

Once the work has been completed on the collection, the Library will digitise them for ease of access, and to ensure there is not further damage done to the brittle collection.

This information has been taken from the blog published on the State Library of Victoria's website, on the 9 October 2020. I encourage everyone to have a read: <https://blogs.slv.vic.gov.au/our-stories/collection-care/blinky-bill-in-the-conservation-lab/>

Chantalle Smith
FDNW Newsletter Editor

IN THE DISPLAY CABINET

#22 Faithful friends: dogs in children's literature

(On display from 21 February 2020 – 31 July 2020. These dates span the library's closure during Covid lockdown)

People and dogs have lived together for thousands of years. As the domestic dog gradually emerged from the wild wolf a unique human-animal relationship developed.

The special bond that we now share with dogs has been explored in many children's books. On display were stories about working dogs, rescuing heroes and treasured family members, showing the canine traits we all recognize: courage, obedience, willingness to please, playfulness, tenacity, loyalty and companionship.

Collection items from the display:

Machetanz, Frederick. *Panuck, Eskimo sled dog*.
New York: Scribner, c1939.

The first book by Alaskan artist Frederick Machetanz. Andy's father gives him the responsibility of training Panuck to be a lead sled dog, and together they prove their worth when they survive 20 hours in a blizzard to lead the team home to their village.

Cottrell, Dorothy. *Winks: his book*. Illustrated by J. Nicolson and Paul Bransom.
London: Jarrolds, 1934.

Australian terrier 'Winks (short for Tiddleywinks the Fifth) narrates the story of his daily adventures and misdeeds.

Blyton, Enid. *Five have a wonderful time*. Illustrated by Eileen Soper.
London: Hodder & Stoughton, c1952.

Timmy is a clever, loyal and protective member of the *Famous Five*. In this, the 11th book in the series, he discovers a secret passage in the walls of Faynights Castle.

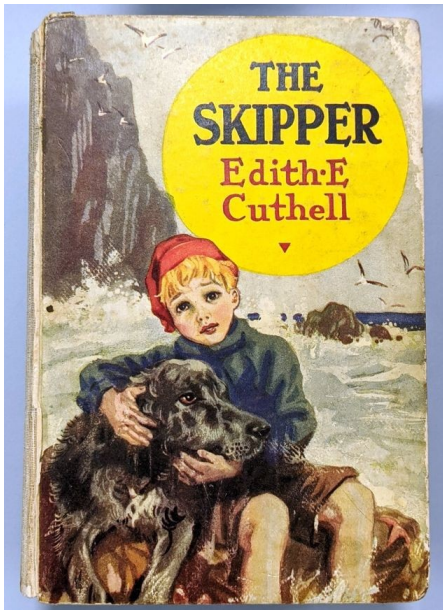
Haworth, Dianne. *Paddy the wanderer: the true story of a dog who captured the heart of a city*.

Auckland: HarperCollins, 2007.

Airedale terrier Paddy started life named Dash and was given to three-year old Bubby. The dog was heartbroken when Bubby died from pneumonia in 1928, and he roamed the streets of Wellington looking for her. From then on Paddy belonged to nobody, but he became a much-loved personality of the Wellington wharves, embarking on a series of newsworthy adventures. The city came to a standstill for his funeral in 1939 and a monument to Paddy can be found on Queen's Wharf, opposite the Wellington Museum.

Cuthell, Edith E. *The skipper: the story of an old sea-dog*. Illustrated by Harold Copping.
London: Blackie & Son, 1929.

Old dog Skipper becomes a hero when he bravely helps to save a crew of shipwrecked sailors.



The skipper / Edith E. Cuthell.
Dianne Haworth.



Paddy the wanderer /

Brown, Ruth. *Greyfriars Bobby*.
London: Andersen Press, 1995.

After the death of his beloved owner in 1858, Bobby followed the funeral to Greyfriar's churchyard in Edinburgh. He faithfully watched over Old Jock's grave for fourteen years until his own death in 1872. During this time the local people fed and cared for Bobby, and he received official permission to live in the churchyard.

Wells, Rosemary. *Lassie come-home: in a new picture book edition written for young readers*. Illustrated by Susan Jeffers.
New York: Henry Holt, 1995.

An adaptation of the 1938 book by Eric Knight in which prize collie, Lassie, is sold and taken to the remote North of Scotland. Lassie is determined to return to her home and family in Yorkshire and, taking nearly a year, makes the long journey alone.

#22 Cinderella stories
(On display from 31 July 2020 –)

Cinderella is a timeless tale of triumph over adversity, independently springing up in different cultures the world over. The individual stories vary, but at their core is a persecuted heroine whose fortunes are turned around with the help of a magical donor such as a fish, bird, tree, fairy godmother or genie.

The versions by Perrault (*Cendrillon*) and the Brothers Grimm (*Aschenputtel*) are perhaps the most familiar to many of us, but the earliest known Cinderella story (*Yeh-Hsien*) originated in China around 850 A.D. and well over 300 forms of the story have been documented.

Cinderella continues to provide inspiration for contemporary authors. Some retell the tale but add a new twist, for example a modern setting or a feminist viewpoint. Others use it as a

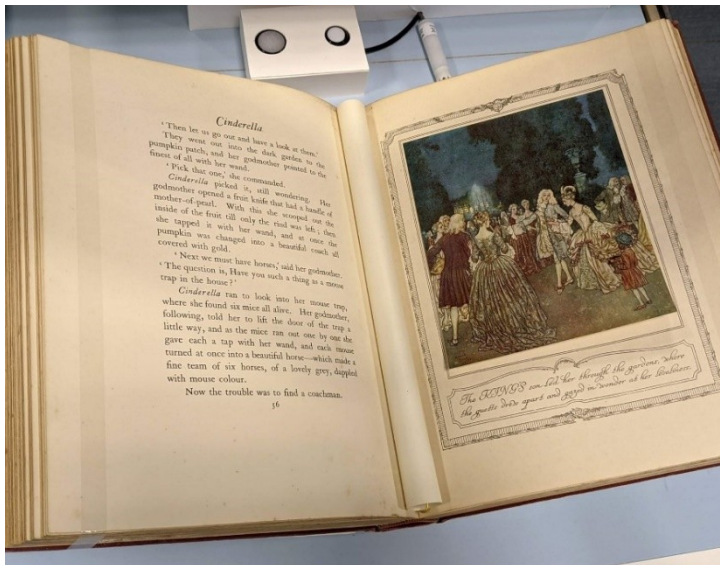
starting point to create new stories in genres as diverse as historical fiction, fantasy and dystopian fiction.

Collection items from the display:

The sleeping beauty and other fairy tales from the old French. Retold by Arthur Quiller-Couch ; illustrated by Edmund Dulac.

London: Hodder & Stoughton, 1910.

This version is based on the story by Charles Perrault, originally published in Paris in 1697 as part of his collection of fairy tales, *Histoires ou contes du temps passé*. It includes the fairy godmother and pumpkin coach, and creatures are transformed into horses and servants. This Cinderella is kind and she forgives her sisters and arranges marriages for them at the end of the story. In contrast, the Grimm version, first recorded in 1812, is much more violent than Perrault's tale. In that story the step-sisters slice off pieces of their feet to get the slipper to fit, and their eyes are pecked out by doves at Cinderella's wedding. There is no fairy godmother and the magical helpers are an enchanted hazel tree on her mother's grave and a little white bird.



Page from: *The sleeping beauty and other fairy tales from the old French* /

retold by Arthur Quiller-Couch ; illustrated by Edmund Dulac.

Cinderella / Rosa C. Petherick.



Petherick, Rosa C. *Cinderella*.

London: Henry Frowde, Hodder & Stoughton, (undated, ca. early 1900s)

Sullivan, Deirdre. *Tangleweed and brine*. Illustrated by Karen Vaughan.

Dublin: Little Island Books, 2017.

Children's Books Ireland (CBI) Book of the Year Award, 2018

A collection of reimagined feminist fairy tales. The Cinderella story is titled *Slippershod* and the heroine, rather than waiting for help, takes control and charts her own future.

The beggar in the blanket & other Vietnamese tales. Retold by Gail B. Graham ; illustrated by Brigitte Bryan.

New York: Dial Press, 1970.

In this Vietnamese Cinderella story, *The jeweled slipper*, a genie helps Cam by turning the bones of her beloved pet fish into a pair of jeweled slippers. When one of the slippers is dropped by a crow into the royal gardens, the King's son vows to marry the owner.

Jungman, Anne. *Cinderella and the hot air balloon*. Illustrated by Russell Ayto.

London: Frances Lincoln Children's, 2007

In this humorous update Cinderella and Prince Charming (a.k.a. Bill) run away together in a hot air balloon.

Meyer, Marissa. *Cinder*.

New York: Feiwel and Friends, 2012.

(Lunar chronicles, bk. 1)

A post-apocalyptic take on the Cinderella story centered on sixteen-year-old Cinder, a cyborg and the best mechanic in New Beijing. Cinder must uncover her secret past to help save the Earth from a deadly plague and the ruthless Lunars.

Napoli, Donna Jo. *Bound*.

New York: Atheneum Books for Young Readers, c2004.

A story set during the Ming Dynasty that incorporates elements of Chinese Cinderella stories, including a benevolent fish, tiny golden shoes and a cloak of kingfisher feathers.

Mary Skarott

Research Librarian, Children's Literature

A DIFFERENT KIND OF AGM



2020 will definitely be remembered as a year where everyone had to learn a new normal way of living. While the message of making sure everyone washed their hands, coughed and sneezed into their elbow and cleaned surfaces made its way around the country, technology started becoming a larger part of many peoples lives. For those who are had to continue with work, school, clubs, or sport, this normally meant adapting the way you worked to do it virtually. This meant that the Friends of the Dorothy Neal White Collection had to adapt a new way of conducting our AGM and we moved onto the online video conferencing service, Zoom.

The meeting began with some quick help trying to talk people through how to turn their sound up and be able to turn their microphones on and off. The talk then delved into how interesting the lockdown had been for people.

As the minute taker for the meeting, I found it an interesting experience. It is hard to explain, but doing a meeting online does not have the same feel as when we are all together in a room. A positive was I always knew who was speaking, as Zoom highlights who is speaking at any one time, so I could be accurate on who said what.

Doing the meeting showed us that, if need be, the committee can adapt to work in a different way. I think that some lessons learned, in case we every have to do this again, are that we may need to work out a way for members who are not confident with technology to be able to still take part, have some etiquette established on how the meeting will run online, and give ourselves plenty of time at the beginning of the meeting to ensure everyone is all set up and ready to go.

Chantalle Smith

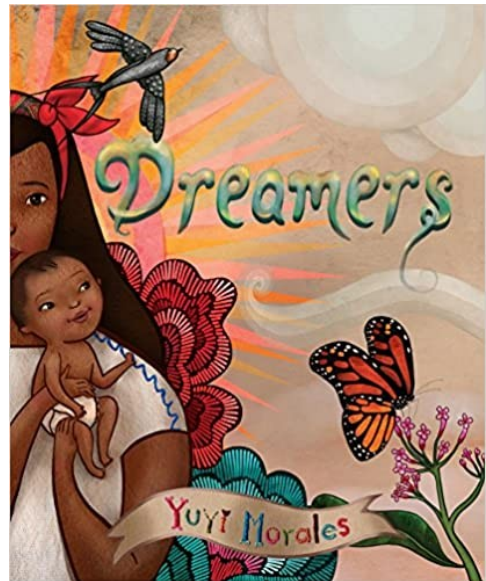
FDNW Newsletter Editor

FROM THE NATIONAL CHILDREN'S COLLECTION

Dreamers / Yuyi Morales

New York: Neal Porter Books/Holiday House, 2018.
For age 4 and up

This is one of the picture books that Nicola Daly showed at her talk to the Friends in August this year, *Meeting Worlds of Words*. It was awarded the Pura Belpré Award for Illustration 2019 and, as a major award winner, was purchased for the National Children's Collection. The Pura Belpré Award was established in 1996 and is presented annually to a Latino/Latina writer and illustrator whose work best portrays, affirms, and celebrates the Latino cultural experience in an outstanding work of literature for children and youth. Morales has won the illustration award on five previous occasions.



Morales says she “wanted to celebrate what immigrants bring to a new country when they arrive. They bring their strength, they bring their abilities, their talents, their passion.”¹ The story draws on her own experiences as an immigrant (she and her son moved to the United States from Mexico in 1994), and it especially brings out the difficulties of being immersed in an unfamiliar way of life, and being surrounded by an unfamiliar language. At the heart of the story is the discovery by mother and son of the public library: “*Books became our language. Books became our home. Books became our lives. We learned to read, to speak, to write, and to make our voices heard.*”

The ideas expressed in the thoughtful, poetic text are explored and expanded in the bright and dynamic illustrations. In a style which could perhaps best be described as a digital collage, the artist has used Photoshop to combine her original artwork with scans and photographs of numerous objects – including her studio floor, traditional Mexican fabrics and clothing, childhood drawings, handwritten text, and garden plants and leaves. The text and illustrations meld seamlessly to tell the story on both narrative and emotional levels. In further layers of meaning, numerous symbols are incorporated. Some of these are monarch butterflies and swallows, both of which make long migrations of their own, and the inclusion of snakes symbolizes overcoming the obstacles in one's path.

A beautiful, multilayered book, which rewards each reading with new discoveries.

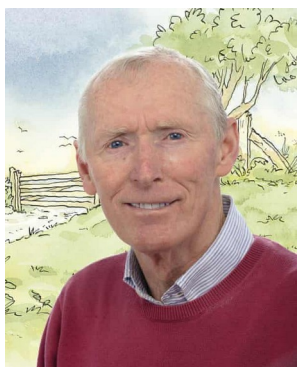
Notes

1 Yuyi Morales: Dreamers. An exhibition organized by Norman Rockwell Museum. Exhibition video: Finding home: Yuyi Morales - Dreamers
<https://www.nrm.org/2020/02/yuyi-morales-dreamers/>

Mary Skarott
Research Librarian, Children's Literature

OBITUARIES

It is with sadness we note the following death, who was a significant contributors to children's literature. If members do come across any obituaries of other contributors that we may have missed, please contact us and let us know.



Sam McBratney (1 March 1943 – 18 September 2020)

Sam McBratney was a writer from Northern Ireland who is best known for writing the children's book *Guess How Much I Love You*. However he was the author of more than 50 books and manuscripts.

McBratney earned a history degree and worked as a primary and secondary school teacher before he took early retirement to focus on his writing.

He won a number of honours awards for his writing including, Irish Children's Book Trust, 1993-1993, Children's Books Association of Holland, 1995 and the Notable Children's Books, American Library Association, 1996.

Chantalle Smith
FDNW Newsletter Editor

NEW PO BOX

As many of us use online methods of communication more often now, than using the post, the Friends of the Dorothy Neal White Collection is using a new PO Box. The National Library of New Zealand has given us permission to use their PO Box for any correspondence we receive.

If you are posting anything in the mail, please use the following address:

Friends of the Dorothy Neal White Collection
C/O National Library of New Zealand
PO Box 1467 Thorndon,
Wellington, 6140



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.dnw-friends.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
C/O National Library of New Zealand
PO Box 1467 Thorndon
WELLINGTON 6140

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
2021-2022 Membership

I would like to join / renew my subscription to the Friends of the Dorothy Neal White Collection for
1 April 2021 to 31 March 2022.

- 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:	
Address:	
Telephone:	

Email address:

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

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

