

FDNW Librarian's Report 2020-2021

**Librarian's Report for FDNW Annual General Meeting,**

**May 2020 to April 2021**

**Prepared by Mary Skarott, Research Librarian, Children's Literature**

**Donations, Collection Usage and Research Enquiries, May 2020-April 2021:**

	2020-2021	2019-2020
<b>Donations accepted- DNW</b>	38 books 3 periodicals 465 Lambert donation 22 transfers from OPC	<b>51 books</b> <b>8 periodicals</b>
<b>Donations accepted- NCC</b>	53 books	20 books
<b>DNW items requested by researchers</b>	71 items 2 runs of periodicals	36 items 1 run of periodicals
<b>DNW &amp; NCC items used in displays, exhibitions and tours</b>	<u>Foyer display cabinet:</u> DNW 6 NCC 14  <u>General Reading Room displays:</u> NCC 36	<u>Foyer display cabinet</u> 5 DNW 22 NCC  <u>General Reading Room displays:</u> 84 NCC
<b>Children's literature research questions Answered by Research Librarian (online and in person)</b>	46	40

During the past year the collections have again been well used for research and displays. The DNW collection continues to be generously added to by incoming donations. Of special note this year was a donation by Ron Lambert (from New Plymouth) of some 465 books, many of which are adventure stories. I have noted them under the DNWC in the statistics, but a small proportion of them are in scope by date for the NCC and numbers won't be fully separated by collection until all the detailed cataloguing work has been done.

Display cabinet:

The displays, which draw on both the DNWC and NCC, are prominently placed at the entrance to the General Reading Room. Each display has a post on Facebook which includes photographs. This is a good way for people who may not be regular visitors to the Library to experience the displays, and for us to share our collections with the children's literature

community. Over the past year the collections have been showcased in the displays below. The current offering, featuring maps in children's literature, has been particularly popular with visitors:

- Cinderella stories (31 July 2020 - 7 Dec 2020)
- Prizewinning historical fiction (8 Dec 2020 – 25 March 2020)
- Mapping the imagination (26 Mar - )

#### NCC Displays in General Reading Room:

A small selection from the NCC (12-14 titles) continues to be available in the General Reading Room. The books are refreshed every three months, and they are a mixture of older and newer titles across a selection of genres. The display is intended to provide on the spot reading for visiting children, as well as raising the profile of the NCC.

#### New Children's Literature Collecting Plan

This was completed during the past year and will shortly be available on the website. In previous versions of the Collecting Plans the children's literature component was included as part of the plans for Overseas Published Collections and New Zealand and Pacific Published Collections. Having a separate Collecting Plan gives a much clearer overview of how children's literature, and material related to children's literature, is acquired by the National Library and Alexander Turnbull Library.

#### Dorothy Neal White Collection Preservation Assessment Survey

This was carried out by Laura Mirebeau (Conservator Books/Paper), and she completed her report in December 2020. The survey was done to gather data and understand conservation and preservation needs for the Collection. The findings of this survey and resulting recommendations, can support decisions to fund prioritised conservation or preservation projects and establish a preservation strategy for the collection.

#### FDNW Research Grant:

Our previous recipient (2018), Sarah Gholami, PhD candidate at Victoria University, continues to work on her research. Sarah's topic is *All written for children? An examination of readers as implied and actual in Margaret Mahy's picture books.*

Our most recent recipient (2020), Talia Crockett, is making good use of the collections. Talia is also a PhD researcher at Victoria University and her topic is *Ethical representations of trauma in young adult literature.*

The grant will be advertised again in 2022.