

FDNW Librarian's Report 2021-2022

Librarian's Report for FDNW Annual General Meeting,

May 2021 to April 2022

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Donations, Collection Usage and Research Enquiries, May 2021-April 2022:

	2021-2022	2020-2021
Donations accepted- DNW	13 books 5 periodicals	38 books 3 periodicals 465 Lambert donation 22 transfers from OPC
Donations accepted- NCC	8 books	53 books
DNW items requested by researchers	31 items 1 run of periodicals	71 items 2 runs of periodicals
DNW & NCC items used in displays, exhibitions and tours	<u>Foyer display cabinet:</u> DNW 11 NCC 14 <u>General Reading Room displays:</u> NCC 48	<u>Foyer display cabinet:</u> DNW 6 NCC 14 <u>General Reading Room displays:</u> NCC 36
Children's literature research questions Answered by Research Librarian (online and in person)	48	46

During the past year the collections have again been well used for research and displays. The DNW collection continues to be added to by incoming donations, although this year has been quiet on that front. It is too early to say whether this is the start of a continuing trend; it is likely to be due in part to Covid, with some people being less keen to visit public places at present.

Display cabinet:

The displays, which draw on both the DNWC and NCC, continue to be prominently placed at the entrance to the General Reading Room where they can be enjoyed by our visitors as they pass by. 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. While the planned rotation is every three months,

circumstances beyond our control (e.g. this year Covid and Parliamentary protests) mean that sometimes there are delays in refreshing the display:

- Mapping the imagination (26 Mar – 29 June 2021)
- Stories for winter (30 June 2021 – 16 Nov 2021)
- Artist lithography in children's books (17 Nov 2021 – 12 April 2022)
- Stories of Wellington (13 April 2022 -

NCC Displays in General Reading Room:

A small selection of books from the NCC (around 12) continues to be available in the General Reading Room. The books are refreshed every three months or so, 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.

Dorothy Neal White Collection Conservation Treatment Priorities

As reported last year, in December 2020 the Dorothy Neal White Collection Preservation Assessment Survey was completed. The survey identified conservation and preservation needs for the Collection and included recommendations for some prioritized conservation or preservation projects. Consequently, a one-off sum of \$5,000.00 has been made available by the Turnbull Endowment Trust to complete some remedial work on selected DNWC items. The project will be managed by Conservation and an external conservator will be employed. Based on the Preservation Assessment Survey, the Research Librarian, Children's Literature has prepared a list of priority items and met with Conservation staff to discuss them and decide which to include in the project. The money available only allows time for a small number of items to be treated, so we decided to focus on pop-up and movable books. Subsequently, an external conservator has been engaged and the project should be completed by the end of June this year. The Friends' application for funds from the Endowment Trust arose from the bequest made by our former patron, Barbara Murison, which included a request for some money to go to the Dorothy Neal White Collection if possible.

FDNW Research Grant:

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

The grant will be advertised again later this year, 2022.