



The Lu Rees Archives

A Guide to the papers of **MEM FOX**



The Library
University of Canberra

Created by Dianne Smith

June 2000

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MEM FOX (1946 -)

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

Mem Fox was born Merrion Partridge, daughter of Nancy and Wilfred Gordon McDonald Partridge on 5 March, 1946 in Melbourne. She moved to Zimbabwe the same year where her parents became missionaries. She grew up on Hope Fountain Mission just outside Bulawayo attending the local mission school and then the all white primary and secondary schools in Bulawayo.

The years 1965-1968 were spent in London studying drama at the Rose Bruford College where she met Malcolm Fox who she married in 1969. The couple migrated to Australia in 1970. Their only child Chloe was born in 1971.

Her first book *Possum magic* (1983) is considered a classic of recent Australian children's literature and has sold more than any other Australian children's book. *Possum magic* won the New South Wales State Literary Award.

Often considered Australia's most popular contemporary writer for children, Fox has published over 20 children's books, several textbooks and an autobiography. Her books have been translated into many languages including Indonesian, Japanese, Chinese, German and Hebrew as well as braille.

For 24 years, until the end of 1996, Fox lectured at Flinders University¹ in Adelaide, South Australia, where she taught language arts to teacher education students. She is now a highly regarded international consultant in literacy education and a full time writer.

Mem Fox has received numerous awards including the 1990 Dromkeen Medal, and was made a member of the order of Australia in 1993.

¹ Formerly the South Australian College of Advanced Education.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The collection of papers generously donated to the Lu Rees Archives in 1995 consists of a job application for a senior lectureship at South Australian College of Advanced Education (SACAE) in 1986 and supporting documentation, various drafts and rewrites of *Mem's the word*, and associated correspondence with staff at Penguin.

Papers cover the period 1986 - 1990. Other material held includes 4 video cassettes, 4 audio cassettes, poster and computer disc.

Mem Fox kept her papers in very good order and the original order has been preserved by the archive.

The collection has been divided into three series and is housed in two archival boxes².

These papers are complemented by the extensive collection of the author's works held in the Lu Rees Archives. The archives also maintains a comprehensive file on Mem Fox which includes:

- Articles by the author
- Articles relating to publications
- Autobiographical notes
- Awards information
- Book reviews
- Correspondence
- Photographs
- Promotional material.

² Linear area 65 cm.

AWARDS

- * **1996** Doctorate of Letters (Honoris Causa) from the University of Wollongong.
- * **1994** The Alice Award: presented to a woman writer, for long-term contribution to the profession and in recognition of an outstanding body of work.
- * **1994** The Flinders University Chancellor's Medal in commemoration of the Centenary of Women's Suffrage.
- * **1993** Australia Day Honours: Member of the General Division of The Order of Australia: AM. For Services to Children's Literature.
- * **1993** Child Magazine (New York) cited *Radical Reflections: Passionate Opinions on Language, Learning and Living* as one of the ten best parenting books of 1993. Winner of the education category.
- * **1991** Advance Australia Award for an outstanding contribution to the advancement and enrichment of Australia, its people and its way of life.
- * **1990** Dromkeen Medal for outstanding services to Children's Literature.
- * **1989** Parent Magazine, USA, cited *Koala Lou* as one of the ten best books of the Year.
- * **1989** The Red Book, USA, cited *Night Noises* as one of the ten best picture books of the year as well as a Notable Children's Book in *Language Arts* and a 1990 *Horn Book* Fanfare selection.
- * **1987** The New York Times One Hundred Best Books for Children, cited *Wilfrid Gordon MacDonald Partridge*.
- * **1987** American Libraries Association awarded *Wilfrid Gordon MacDonald Partridge* 'Notable Book' status.
- * **1984** *Possum Magic* highly commended by the Children's Book Council of Australia and Best Children's Book in the 1984 New South Wales Premier's Literary Awards.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

An endeavour has been made to prepare a comprehensive listing of all Mem Fox's works including children's books, textbooks autobiography and professional articles. Her books have been translated into many languages including Indonesian, Japanese, Chinese, German and Hebrew. Not all editions of each title have been included in this bibliography. Works held by the Lu Rees Archives are marked with a star (★).

Picture Books

★ *A ton avis?* illustrations de Vivienne Goodman; traduit de l'anglais par Elisabeth Duval. [France] : Kaleidoscope, 1990.

★ *Arabella : the smallest girl in the world*; illustrated by Vicky Kitanov. Sydney ; New York : Ashton Scholastic, 1986.

A bedtime story; illustrated by Elivia Savadier. Greenvale N.Y. : Mondo Publishing, 1996.

A bedtime story; illustrated by Sisca Verwoert. [Sydney] : Martin Educational, 1986.

Boo to a goose; illustrated by David Miller. Rydalmere, NSW : Hodder Children's Books Australia, 1996.

★ *A cat called Kite*; illustrated by K. Hawley. Auckland, N.Z. : Ashton Scholastic, 1985.

Feathers and fools; illustrated by Lorraine Ellis. Ashburton, Vic. : Ashwood House, 1989.

Feathers and fools; illustrated by Nick Wilton. San Diego : Harcourt Brace, 1996.

Goodnight sleep tight; illustrated by Helen Semmler. Melbourne : Hutchinson Australia, 1988.

★ *Guess what?* illustrated by Vivienne Goodman. 1st U.S. ed. San Diego : Harcourt Brace Jovanovich, 1990.

★ *Guess what?* illustrated by Vivienne Goodman. Adelaide : Omnibus Books, 1988.

★ *Guilherme Augusto Araujo Fernandes*; ilustrado por Julie Vivas ; [traducao de Gilda de Aquinol]. [Sao Paulo, Brazil] : Brinque Book, 1995]

✿ *Guillermo Jorge Manuel Jose*; ilustrado por Julie Vivas ; traducción Gabriela Uribe.

Caracas, Venezuela : Ekare-Banco del Libro, 1988.

Harriet, you'll drive me wild; illustrated by Marla Frazee.

London : Harcourt ; San Diego : Harcourt Brace, 2000.

✿ *Hattie and the fox*; illustrated by Patricia Mullins.

London : Hodder and Stoughton, 1988, c1986.

✿ *Hattie and the fox*; illustrated by Patricia Mullins.

1st US ed. New York : Bradbury Press, 1987, c1986.

✿ *Hattie and the fox*, illustrated by Patricia Mullins.

Sydney : Ashton Scholastic, 1986.

✿ *Just like that*; illustrated by Kilmeny Niland.

Sydney : Hodder and Stoughton, 1986.

✿ *Just like that*; illustrated by Kilmeny Niland.

Kent : Knight, 1988.

✿ *Koala Lou*; illustrated by Pamela Lofts.

1st US ed. San Diego : Harcourt Brace Jovanovich, [1989], c1988.

✿ *Koala Lou*; illustrated by Pamela Lofts.

Bayswater, Vic. : Ian Drakeford Publishing, 1988.

Morten Storbjorn Alexander Hansen; illustrated by Julie Vivas.

Copenhagen : Carlsen Forlag, 1986.

✿ *Night noises*; illustrated by Terry Denton.

1st US ed. San Diego : Harcourt Brace Jovanovich, 1989.

✿ *Night noises*; illustrated by Terry Denton.

Adelaide : Omnibus Books, 1989.

✿ *Oma possums zauber-schau*; bilder Julie Vivas ; aus dem Englishman ubersetzt von Doris und Michael Mailander.

Stuttgart, Germany : Franckhsche Verlagshandlung, 1987.

✿ *Possum magic*; illustrated by Julie Vivas.

Adelaide : Omnibus Books, 1983.

Possum magic; illustrated by Julie Vivas.

Adelaide : Omnibus Books, 1987 (1993 printing)

Possum magic frieze with illustrated by Julie Vivas.

Norwood, S. Aust. : Omnibus Books, 1990, c1983.

- ✿ *Sail away : the ballad of Skip and Nell*; illustrated by Pamela Lofts.
Sydney : Ashton Scholastic, 1986.
- ✿ *Shoes from Grandpa*; illustrated by Patricia Mullins.
1st US ed. New York : Orchard Books, 1990.
- ✿ *Shoes from Grandpa*; illustrated by Patricia Mullins.
Sydney : Ashton Scholastic, 1989.
- Sleepy bears*; illustrated by Kerry Argent.
Sydney : Pan Macmillan ; San Diego : Harcourt Brace, 1999.
- ✿ *Sophie*; illustrated by Aminah Brenda Lynn Robinson.
1st Voyager Books ed. San Diego : Voyager Books, Harcourt Brace, 1997.
- ✿ *Sophie*; illustrated by Craig Smith.
Melbourne : Drakeford : Franklin Watts, 1989.
- ✿ *The straight line wonder*; pictures by Marc Rosenthal.
Greenvale, N.Y. : Mondo, 1996.
- The straight line wonder*; illustrated by Meredith Thomas.
Sydney : Martin Educational, 1987.
- ✿ *Time for bed*; illustrated by Jane Dyer.
Norwood, S. A. : Omnibus Books, 1993.
- ✿ *Time for bed*; illustrated by Jane Dyer.[Board book ed.]
Norwood, S. A. : Omnibus Books, 1997.
- ✿ *Tough Boris*; illustrated by Kathryn Brown.
1st US ed. San Diego : Harcourt Brace, 1994.
- ✿ *Was meinst du?* Vivienne Goodman ; ubersetzung Susanne Parlmeyer.
Oldengurg, Germany : Lappan, 1991.
- ✿ *Whoever you are*; illustrated by Leslie Staub.
Sydney : Hodder Headline, 1998.
- Wilfrid Alexander Graham Johnson*; illustrated by Julie Vivas.
Stockham : Carlsen, 1987.
- ✿ *Wilfrid Gordon McDonald Partridge*; illustrated by Julie Vivas.
Adelaide : Omnibus Books, 1984.
- ✿ *Wilfrid Gordon McDonald Partridge*; illustrated by Julie Vivas.
Adelaide : Omnibus Books, 1985.

✪ *Wilfrid Gordon McDonald Partridge*; illustrated by Julie Vivas.
Adelaide : Omnibus Puffin, 1987.

✪ *Wilfrid Gordon McDonald Partridge*; illustrated by Julie Vivas.
Norwood, S. Aust.: Omnibus Books, 1997.

With love at Christmas; illustrated by Fay Plamka.
Adelaide : The Lutheran Press, 1992

✪ *With love at Christmas*; illustrated by Gary Lippincott.
Nashville : Abington Press, c1988.

✪ *Wombat divine*; illustrated by Kerry Argent.
Norwood, S. A. : Omnibus Books, 1995.

✪ *Wombat divine*; illustrated by Kerry Argent.
1st US ed. SanDiego, Calif. : Harcourt Brace, 1996.

✪ *Wombat divine*; illustrated by Kerry Argent.
Norwood, S. Aust. : Omnibus Books, 1997.

Zoo-looking; illustrated by Candace Whitman.
Greenvale, N.Y. : Mondo Pub., 1996.

✪ *Zoo looking*; illustrated by Rodney McRae.
Cammeray, NSW ; Martin Educational ; Gosford, NSW. : Ashton Scholastic, 1986.

Sound recordings

✪ *Mem Fox reads Possum Magic, Hattie and the Fox, Goodnight, sleep tight, and Shoes from Grandpa* [sound recording]
Crows Nest, N.S.W. : Australian Broadcasting Corporation, 1990.

✪ *Mem Fox reads Possum magic, Night noises, Guess what?, Koala Lou, Feathers and fools, Tough Boris* [sound recording]
San Diego : Harcourt Brace Jovanovich, [1992]

✪ *Mem Fox* [sound recording] / The Trumpet Club.
Holmes, Pa. : The Trumpet Club, c1992.

✪ *Mem Fox reads* [sound recording]. 2
[Sydney?: Australian Broadcasting Corporation, 1991?].

Professional papers & non-fiction works

Britton, Heather. 'Mem Fox -interview'. *Australian writer*, Feb/Mar, 1995, p. 32-35.

✿ *Children talking about books* / by Sarah G. Borders and Alice Phoebe Naylor. Phoenix, Ariz : Oryx Press, 1993.

'Conveying the inexplicit: the problem of teaching what can't be taught'. *Australian Journal of Language and Literacy*. 16:1, February 1993, p. 39-46.

✿ 'Drama: a frill or one of the basics?' *Unicorn : Bulletin of the Australian College of Education*. Vol. 8, November 1982, p. 336-340.

✿ Fox, Mem and Wilkinson, Lyn. *English essentials : the wouldn't-be-without-it guide to writing well*. South Melbourne : Macmillan Education Australia, 1993.

✿ 'A fox in possum's clothing: the teacher disguised as a writer in hot pursuit of literacy' *Language arts*. 64:1, January 1987, p. 18-32.

'Growing up in public school [How a state education can provide the means for a private learning experience]'. *Bulletin(Sydney)*, 24 May, 1999, p. 56-57.

✿ *How to teach drama to infants without really crying : drama classes for fives to eights*; illustrated by Bob Graeme. Sydney : Ashton Scholastic, 1984.

✿ 'In the teeth of creation'. *The National Times*, July 19-25 1985, p. 34.

✿ 'Integrated language arts : what it means to me'. *Reading around : a digest for teachers*. 10:3, September 1982, p.73-74.

'Journal writing: the bridge between panic and action in the improvement of teaching'. In *Empowering Teachers* edited by B. Comber, and J. Hancock, Brisbane: Methuen, 1987, p. 58-65.

✿ *Lazy bones : a drama teachers notebook on the teaching of improvisation*. [Adelaide] : SACAE, 1983.

'Like fireworks, not mud: passion in the development of literacy'. *Educating young children* 2:3, Spring 1996, p. 5-11.

'Men who weep, boys who dance : the geneda agenda between the lines in children's literature'. *Language Arts*, Vol. 70, September 1993, p. 84-86.

'Notes from the battlefield : towards a theory of why people write' *Language Arts*, 65:2, February 1988.

✿ ‘The paths of story lead but to the graves’. *Primary education*, May/June 1984 p. 9-11.

‘The place of passion in the development of literacy’. In *Keys to life: conference proceedings, 1996 Early Years of Schooling Conference, Sunday 26 & Monday 27 May 1996, World Congress Centre, Melbourne*. Melbourne : Directorate of School Education, 1996, p. 2-8.

‘Politics and literature ; chasing the ‘isms’ from children’s books’. *The reading teacher*, 46:8, May 1993, p. 654-658.

✿ *Possums’ questions answered*. [Adelaide] : SACAE, 1986.

‘A profitable possum’. *The Australian Way*, April 1998, p. 48-51.

✿ *Radical reflections : passionate opinions on teaching, learning, and living*. Sydney ; Fort Worth : Harcourt Brace, c1993.

✿ ‘The rewarding agony : writing picture books’. *Primary education*, July/August, 1985, p. 18-20.

‘Self portrait’. *Australian Book Review*, No. 75, October, 1985, p. 14-16.

‘So who are we writing for?’ *Australian Journal of Language and Literacy*. 22:3, October 1999, p. 192-199.

‘Story telling’. In *National seminar on children’s literature (2 nd: 1978 : Frankston State College)*. *Readings in children’s literature: Proceedings*. p. 241-244.

✿ ‘A surprise symphony : reviewing the grand art of choral speaking’. *Classroom : the magazine for teachers*, 2:5, September/October, 1982, p. 11-12.

✿ ‘Thereby hangs a tale’. *Classroom : the magazine for teachers*. 1:3, June/July 1981, p. 21-24.

✿ *Thereby hangs a tale : story telling how to*. [Adelaide] : SACAE, 1980.

‘There’s a coffin in my office’. *Language Arts*. Vol.67, September 1990, p. 468-472.

‘Towards a personal theory of whole language : a teacher-researcher -writer reflects’. *Australian Journal of language and literacy*. 20:2 May 1997, p. 122-130.

‘Towards a personal theory of whole language : a teacher-researcher -writer reflects’. In *The changing face of whole language*, edited by Jan Turbill and Brian Cambourne. Newark, Delaware : International Reading Association, 1998, p. 33-42.

‘We want real books written for children’. *The Dragon Lode*. 13:2, 1995, p. 3-8.

‘What is a multicultural book?’ *Viewpoint*, 3:1, Autumn 1995, p. 22-24.

'Why have one? Literary agents'. *Australian Book Review*, no.102, July 1988, p. 26.

✪ 'Writers as human beings'. In *On writing for children : nine papers from the annual lectures in children's literature* edited by Kerry Mallan ; with a foreward by Joan Zahnleiter. Brisbane : Queensland University of Technology, School of Language and Literacy Education, c1991.

✪ 'Writing picture books : a love/hate relationship'. *The Horn Book*, 66:3, May/June 1990, p. 288-296.

✪ 'Writing Possum Magic'. *Reading Time*, July, 1984.

'Written anything good lately?' *Voices from the middle*, 2:4, 1995.

Autobiographical works

Dear Mem Fox, I have read all your books, even the pathetic ones, and other incidents in the life of a children's book author. 1st US ed. San Diego : Harcourt Brace Jovanovich, 1992.

✿ *Memories : an autobiography*
Flinders Park, S. Aust. : Era Publications, 1992.

✿ *Mem's the word*
Ringwood, Vic. : Penguin, 1990.

BOX, SERIES AND FOLDERS LIST

- Box 1 Series 1, Folders 1-4
 Series 2, Folders 1-8
- Box 2 Series 2, Folders 9-14.
 Series 3, Audio and Audio visual material.

SERIES AND FOLDERS LIST

SERIES 1 : 1980-1986

Series 1 consists of four folders which form part of Fox's application for a Senior Lectureship at the South Australian College of Advanced Education(SACAE) in June 1986. The material is in the order provided by Fox for the application and includes letters, student handbooks, conference papers, monographs, journal articles and professional activities undertaken between 1984 and 1986. Some of the journal articles were published prior to this date.

FOLDER 1 & 2

- ◇ Application, references and evaluations. 1982-1986.
- ◇ Student handbooks, monographs and letters to students 1980-1986.

FOLDER 3 & 4

- ◇ Copies of conference papers presented at national and international conferences 1984-1986.
- ◇ Copies of published articles in journals and educational magazines.1981-1987.
- ◇ Professional Activities 1984-1986.

SERIES 2 : 1986-1989

FOLDERS 1-6

- ◇ Consists of the first handwritten drafts of *Mem's the word* with corrections and rewrites, correspondence, typed and corrected versions of the manuscript and first full copy of the manuscript all completed by the end of 1988.

FOLDERS 7-12

- ◇ Various drafts and rewrites.

FOLDER 13

- ◇ Correspondence relating to publication of *Mem's the word* including editorial comments by Julie Watts (Penguin Australia)

FOLDER 14

- ◇ original manuscript prior to condensing of final chapters edited by Moira Robinson.

SERIES 3 : 1986-1990

Series 3 consists of audio visual material, namely 4 videos, and 4 sound cassettes, 1 computer disk and 1 poster.

SERIES 1 : FOLDER 1 : 1982-1986

Application for Senior Lectureship at SACAE Sturt site (10 pages covering teaching content, style, evaluation, attitude to teaching and professional development). 26 June 1986.

- Letter of thanks from Ken Elford (SACAE). 10 June 1986.
- Letters from children in 4P at Eagleby South Primary School Brisbane. May 1986.
- Letter of appreciation from Keith Grundy, Principal, Pulteney Grammar School. 26 March 1986.
- Letter of thanks from Sandra Gapper, Education Department of South Australia, Children's literature summer school conference planning committee. 20 February 1986.
- Letter of congratulations from J.R. Giles Assistant Director General of Education (Curriculum) South Australia about Children's Literature Summer School. 10 February 1986.
- Handwritten note from Joyce Steinle (wife of Director General of Education South Australia). 2 [February] 1986.
- 1985 List of women nominated for Awards to women for meritorious contribution in tertiary education.
- Letter from Rosanne DeBats re nomination in the above award. 11 November 1985.
- Letter of thanks from Pamela [?], Blackwood Primary School, Seymour Street, Eden Hills. 2 October 1985.
- Letter of appreciation Tony Fawcus (ex student) 4 July 1985.
- Letter of thanks, appreciation, praise from Rachel Ruthven, English Mistress, Seymour College. 24 June 1985.
- Letter of praise and appreciation student Julie Wurm. 14 August 1984.

- 2 copies Student evaluation sheet for subject PR141 Self as learner.
- Note from Bronte Bunney. 18 May 1982.
- Graduate Diploma in Teaching (Language Arts), Performance statement, year of graduation 1981 signed by Dr Mike Dilena, Assistant director : Course development, formerly head : Centre for Language Reading and Communication Studies. [undated]
- Letter of support re application for Senior Lectureship from Barbara Comber, Lecturer in Reading and Language, School of Advanced Studies in Education, SACAE, Underdale site. Describes Fox as “committed teacher, scholar and writer...energetic and exciting...selfless dedication... never ending energy”. [undated]
- Letter from Trish Gibbon (student) describing Fox as “talented, dedicated imaginative, empathetic and enthusiastic teacher”. 21 June 1986.
- Systematic and formal evaluation forms for subjects taught by Mem Fox.

SERIES 1 : FOLDER 2 : 1980-1986

- *Messages : a handbook for student writers*. 1986 Student handbook.
- *Write now : a handbook for student writers*. 1985 Student handbook.
- *Becoming a writer*. 1984 Student handbook.
- Introductory letter to students, signed copy. 16 February 1986.
- Letter providing information, expectations, assessment for course PR141 (Self as learner), signed copy. 19 February 1986.
- Copy of student handout regarding subject PR142 (Self as teacher) in Term 2, 1986. [Week 10 Term 1 1986].
- *Thereby hangs a tale : story telling how to*. [Adelaide] : SACAE, 1980.
- *Lazy bones : a drama teachers notebook on the teaching of improvisation*. [Adelaide] : SACAE, 1983.
- *Possums' questions answered*. Individually signed booklet given to children attending creative writing sessions at Sturt in June 1986.
- Memo to David Wyatt, from Ken Elford. 8 April, 1986. Copy Mem Fox re school visits and creative writing classes.

SERIES 1 : FOLDER 3 : 1984-1986.

- *Literacy: text and context*. 12th Australian Reading Association Conference, 2-5 July 1986, Sheraton Perth.
- *The fox in possums' clothing : the teacher disguised as a writer in hot pursuit of literacy*. Plenary paper : length one hour. [undated]
- Letter from Alwyn Reilly Program Committee Convenor requesting Mem Fox to speak at 12th Australian Reading Association Conference. 25 August, 1985
- Letter from Barbara Bosich acknowledging receipt of registration and draft copy of conference program. [undated]
- *Journal writing : the bridge between panic and action in the improvement of teaching*. Keynote paper : length one hour. 13 February 1986.
- *Writers as human beings*. Annual children's literature lecture : Brisbane College of Advanced Education : length one hour. 10 September, 1985.
- Letter from Joan Zahnleiter (lecturer Dept. of Librarianship and Teaching Studies) confirming details of paper to be presented. 19 April, 1985.
- *The paths of story lead but to the graves*. A paper for the International Writing Convention at the University of East Anglia, Norwich, UK, April 1985. This is an updated version of a paper published in *Primary Education*. 15:3, May/June, 1984, p. 9-11. Length 30 minutes.
- Letter from Andrew M. Wilkinson (Prof. of Education). 20 February, 1985.
- Formal invitation to speak at International Writing Convention from Andrew M Wilkinson. 26 February, 1985.
- *How can we make books more attractive than television*. Paper for the International Reading Association Annual Conference in Hong Kong 31 July, 1984. Length 30 minutes. Corrected copy of paper dated 26 July 1984.
- *Learning to love one another : the social benefits of the 'process approach' to teaching writing, particularly at tertiary level*. Paper for the Melbourne Reading Association Conference Melbourne : length one hour : 30 August 1984.
- Letter from David Dillon (Dept of Elementary Education, University of Alberta, Edmonton.) inviting submission of paper to journal *Language Arts : official journal of the elementary section of the National Council of Teachers of Education*. 24 February, 1986.
- Handwritten letter from David Dillon accepting of article for January 1987 issue of *Language Arts*. 24 April 1986.

- Copy of the article *A fox in possum's clothing : the teacher disguised as a writer, in hot pursuit of literacy*. [undated]
- *Wombat : the book club for pre-school children* with an introduction by Mem Fox. Issues November 1985, February 1986, April 1986, June 1986 and July 1987.
- 'Self portrait'. *Australian Book Review*, No. 75, October, 1985, p.14-16.
- 'The rewarding agony : writing picture books'. *Primary education*, July/August, 1985, p. 18-20. (photocopy)
- 'In the teeth of creation'. *The National Times*, July 19-25 1985, p. 34. (photocopy)
- 'The paths of story lead but to the graves'. *Primary education*, May/June 1984 p. 9-11. (photocopy)
- 'A surprise symphony : reviewing the grand art of choral speaking'. *Classroom : the magazine for teachers*, 2:5, September/October, 1982, p. 11-12.
- 'Integrated language arts : what it means to me'. *Reading around : a digest for teachers*. 10:3, September 1982, p.73-74.
- 'Drama : a frill or one of the basics'. *Unicorn : Bulletin of the Australian College of Education*. 8:4, November 1982, p 336-340.
- 'Thereby hangs a tale'. *Classroom : the magazine for teachers*. 1:3, June/July 1981, p. 21-24.

SERIES 1 : FOLDER 4 : 1984-1986.

- International writing convention 31 March - 4 April, 1985 programme.
- Conference report to faculty board. 17 February, 1986.
- Letter from Agneta Rawlinson (Head of English Centre) Folkuniversitetet, Kursverksamheten vid Goteborgs universitet inviting Mem Fox to talk on "Art of story telling" on 27 October 1985. 22 May 1985.
- List of venues for the reading of *Wilfrid Gordon McDonald Partridge*, in New York, October 1985.
- Page of *New York Times* [?] October, 1985 promoting story hour with Mem Fox.
- Programme from *Reaching for new horizons*. Florida Council of Teachers of English Fall Conference, 17-19 October, 1985.

- Letter from Nana E. Hilsenbeck (Florida Council of Teachers of English) confirming conference and presentation details. 15 July 1985
- 'Fox phenomena sells 130,000 copies'. *Centralian Advocate*, 22 May 1985. Press clipping.
- 'Mem Fox makes her fairy tales come true'. *The Courier Mail*, 25 May 1986. Press clipping.
- 'Mem gets audience of rapt pupils'. *The Albert and Logan News*, 30 May 1986. Photocopy of press clipping.
- Promotional flyer for *Come and listen to the story telling magic of Mem Fox at the Singing Tree, Victoria Park, Perth*. 5 July 1986.
- Letter from Freeda Davis, Shailer Park Primary School inviting Mem to visit August/September 1986. 5 November 1985.
- Registration form for a Mem Fox Seminar on 24 May 1986, Mt Gravatt College of Advanced Education.
- Seminar program - 24 May 1986, Mt Gravatt College of Advanced Education.
- Programme from the Australian and New Zealand Conference on the First Years of School. Sydney, May 12-15, 1986.
- Invitation from Robyn Green, Convenor of Australian Reading Association Inc. Melbourne to deliver the plenary lecture. 7 February 1984.
- *Connections : literature and literacy program*. State Conference, Melbourne Council, Australian Reading Association Inc., 9-11 August, 1985. Programme.
- School Library Association of New South Wales promotional flier for a book banquet with Mem Fox and Julie Vivas on 20 July 1985.
- Letter from Margaret White (Chairman) of International Toastmistress Clubs Australia, Flinders Region requesting travel arrangements for appearing as the lunch time speaker for ITC 7th Annual Conference. 10 March 1985.
- Brochure with background information on International Toast Mistress.
- Invitation from Jennifer Fink (Children's Librarian for the Alice Springs Library Promotion Committee) to speak at Northern Territory Library Week. 13 March 1985.
- Itinerary details for Alice Springs visit 13-16 May 1985.

- Letter of confirmation from Brian Carter (Convention Chairman) City of Adelaide Lions. 18 March 1986.
- Subscription brochure *The Adelaide Symphony Orchestra plays possum*.
- Programme for *Adelaide Symphony Orchestra Family Concert, Adelaide Festival Theatre 6 June 1986*.
- 'Short, sweet captivation' review by Diane Beer *Adelaide News*, 10 June 1986. Photocopy of press clipping.
- 'Concert for all tastes' by Stephen Whittington, *Advertiser*, 9 June 1986. Photocopy of press clipping.
- Invitation from Dr Beate Josephi (Chairperson) Writers' Week to speak in Children's Literature session of Adelaide Festival 1986. 12 July 1985.
- Writer's Week 2-8 March 1986 program.
- Letter of confirmation from Anne Hazell (Library Resource Development Unit) to speak at the Children's Literature Summer School. 3 December 1985.
- Letter of thanks from John Crawford (President) Amnesty International South Australia. 16 January 1986.
- Programme for *Self-defence for the drama teacher* Annual Conference South Australia Association for Drama in Education 16-18 August, 1985.
- Letter from Merilyn Webb of Australian Association of Early Childhood Educators, South Australian Chapter of thanks and commiserations. 31 July 1985.
- Letter of thanks from Libby [?] National Early Literacy Inservice Course Project. 7 March 1985.
- Letter from Helen Campagna (Reading /Language Education) SACAE confirming presentation to students. 8 March 1985.
- Letter from Merrilyn Smith (Come Out Coordinator) Hackham East Junior Primary School confirming school visits. 6 March 1985.
- Letter of confirmation from Kashka Lantis (All Write Coordinator) 24 April 1985.
- Invitation to visit from Angela Cormack (Teacher Librarian) Alberton Primary School. 18 February 1985.

SERIES 2 : 1986-1988

FOLDER 1 : 1981-1988.

- The first handwritten drafts of *Mem's the word* and other extraneous material and correspondence.
- Note to Kerry Tyler about drafts. 21 January 1988.
- Letter to editor [?] 6 April 1988.
- Letter from mother [Nancy Walkden] about Mem's birth. 5 March 1988.
- Letter to Kerry [Tyler] with instructions on changes to manuscript. 28 March 1988.
- Letter from Kim Black, Permissions Secretary for the National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE) granting permission to reprint the article 'Notes from the battlefield : towards a theory of why people write' which appeared in the February 1988 issue of *Language Arts*. 9 May 1988.
- 2 pages of rough calculations of typing cost.
- Poem *The queen of farts*. 1987.
- Short story *Growing up : life in Africa* for writing group. 18 October 1981.
- Copy of the paper *Writers as human beings*. 19 September 1985.
- Copy of 400 word interview with Mem by Joanne [Trzcinski] 28 July 1987.
- Copy of letter to [newspaper editor] about lack of women in page 2 feature on successful people. [undated]
- Copy of story titled *What I did in my holidays*. 13 May 1981.
- Carbon copy of letter to Helen Judd, Aria Park Central School thanking children for their letters. 19 July 1987.
- Copy of piece [Why wasn't I wombat] written for last week for subject PR142 (Self as teacher), term II 1986.

FOLDER 2, 3 & 4

- Various typed drafts and corrections and comments.

FOLDER 5 & 6 : 1988

- First full copies of the manuscript. December 1988.

FOLDERS 7-12.

- Various drafts handwritten and typed for each chapter. Includes comments and suggestions to and from Rick Hoskins, Lyn Wilkinson and Sue [R?]

FOLDER : 13 1988-1992

Correspondence relating to *Mem's the word*, mainly with staff at Penguin Australia. Correspondence includes editorial comment by Julie Watts and marketing/launch discussions with Suzanne Wilson

- Letter from Julie Watts acknowledging receipt of first manuscript. 11 May 1988.
- Letter from Julie Watts plus detailed analysis of original manuscript and suggestions for change. 28 June 1988.
- Letter from Julie Watts with suggestions for restructuring book. 29 August 1988.
- Letter from Julie Watts with comments and suggestions on the first draft. 19 January 1989.
- 'Palace of wisdom' Mem Fox workshop notes. 1 September 1989.
- Letter from Julie Watts re meeting. 10 November 1989.
- Letters to Julie [Watts] re corrections. 7 and 13 February 1990.
- Letter from Moira [Robinson] with editing corrections. 6 February [1990?]
- Introductory letter from Suzanne Wilson. 19 February 1990.
- Copy of letter to Suzanne [Wilson] re author biography. 22 February 1990.
- Letter from Suzanne [Wilson] with final chapters for comment. 20 March 1990.
- Letter from Suzanne Wilson with last few pages for interest/correction. 27 April 1990
- Letter from Suzanne Wilson re marketing and co-edition with Harcourt Brace Jovanovich. 3 May 1990.
- Letter from Suzanne Wilson with suggestion re blurb. 10 May 1990.

- Letter to Suzanne [Wilson] re blurb and launch plans. 21 May 1990.
- Letter from Suzanne Wilson re blurb. 28 May 1990.
- Letter to Joeline, Lyn & Carmen with ideas and thoughts on teaching EES101 Self as learner.
- Copy of final version of back cover blurb from Suzanne Wilson. 12 June 1990.
- B&W copy of cover from Suzanne Wilson. 25 June 1990.
- Letter from Suzanne Wilson on receipt of completed book. 23 July 1990.
- Letter from Sue Caton with complimentary copies. 27 July 1990.
- Letter to Sandi [Thorogood] re catering and launch arrangements. 9 August 1990.
- Letter from Sandy Thorogood re book launch. 4 September 1990.
- Best wishes letter from Julie Watts. 5 September 1990.
- Letter to Suzanne [Wilson] re corrections. 27 September 1990.
- Letter from Suzanne Wilson re corrections and launch. 5 October 1990.
- Copy of publicity interview program following launch.
- Various drafts of launch speech. 3-4 October 1990.
- Copy of letter to Chloe re launch of *Mem's the word*. 6 October 1990.
- Copy of letter to parents re launch of *Mem's the word*. 6 October 1990.
- Photocopy and original of book review by Derek Whitelock *The Advertiser* [Adelaide]. 6 October 1990.
- Copy of speech by Rick [Hoskin] at launch of *Mem's the word*. 10 October 1990.
- Copy of speech notes to Red Cross 15 October 1990.
- First letter about book from Ken Roberts (stranger). 15 October 1990.
- Letter from Patricia Adam re publicity. 16 October 1990.
- Letter from Julie Watts re reprint. 24 October 1990.
- Letter from Peg McColl book adapted for print handicapped. 7 December 1990.

- Royalty statement 1 July-31 December 1990.
- Letter to Caroline Lurie from Julie Watts with promotional details, copies of reviews, sales and return figures. 15 February 1991
- Fax to Julie Watts from Caroline Lurie. 20 February 1991.
- Copy of review in *The Australian*, 23-24 February 1991.
- Letter from Janet Raunjak advising book nominated in the Variety Club Children's Talking Book of the year Award. 14 March 1991.
- Letter from Suzanne Wilson re amendments. 18 March 1991.
- Fax from Caroline Lurie. 13 August 1991.
- Letter from Allyn Johnston re changes for the American edition. 11 October 1991.
- Faxes and letter to Allyn Johnston re changes. 20 October 1991.
- Letter from Rod [?] Martin International. 31 January 1992.
- Addresses from launch invitations.
- Launch invitation and mock-up.
- Photocopy of rough pencil sketch for cover drawn by Vivienne Goodman 1990.
- Cover of dust jacket
- *Dear Mem Fox, I have read all your books even the pathetic ones and other incidents in the life of a children's book author.* New York : Harcourt Brace Jovanovich , 1992. (A Harvest/HBJ original). Uncorrected proof
- Copy of review by Beatrice Fincher in *Reading Time* 35:1, 1991, p. 40.

FOLDER 14 : 1989

Original manuscript prior condensing of final chapters edited by Moira Robinson. 12 December 1989.

SERIES 3 : 1986-1990

- Cassette 1: Mem Fox reads *Feather and fools* on Radio National's Science Show for the International Day of Peace in 1986.

- Cassette 2: Message to Adam [Goodburn?] about an essay and his response to Mem Fox. May 1988.
- Cassette 3: A Celebration of Reading. Mem Fox talks to children at [?] library and reads *Hattie and the fox*, *Feathers and fools* and *Night noises*.
- Cassette 4: Mem Fox stories
 - Side A: *Possum Magic*
 Sail away
 Shoes from Grandpa
 Hattie and the fox
 Goodnight sleep tight
 - Side B *Wilfred Gordon McDonald Partridge*
 Just like that
 Harriett you drive me wild
 Koala Lou
 Night noises.
- Video cassette 1 : *Wilfrids special Christmas*. (25 minutes) Starring June Allyson and Matthew Lawrence. Written by Elizabeth Swados. Produced by WBZ-TV4, Boston, 1989.
- Video cassette 2 : Mem Fox welcomes EES 101classes 1990. (11:42 minutes) Sturt Media Production, February 1990.
- Video cassette 3 : Mem Fox visits Parramatta North Primary School on 8 November, 1991. (95 minutes) She reads her books and answers questions.
- Video cassette 4 : Student presentations for N251 on Tuesday 13 [?].
- Macintosh 3 ½ inch computer disk with manuscript saved in Word 5.1A. Labelled new work from February 1989.
- Promotional poster for *Wilfrid Gordon McDonald Partridge* adapted by Sheryn Dee. 27 July-15 August 1987. (42.5 x 59 cm)

References

Fox, Mem. 'Mem Fox.' [online] <http://www.memfox.net/> (15 May, 2000)

Gale Research Company. *Children's literature review, Volume 23*. Detroit, Mich. : Gale Research, 1989, p.109-117.

Gale Research Company. *Something about the author, Volume 51*. Detroit, Mich. : Gale Research, 1988, p. 65-70.