



## ***Sharing our nation's heritage of children's literature....***

We were delighted to welcome many, many visitors, researchers and donors to the Archives during the holiday period. We thought that you might enjoy reading what some of them had to say about our preeminent collection.

Steve Halbert thought it was "Motivational";

Linda Guthrie thought we were "A priceless collection of Australian writing" and

Ray Pincombe said that the collection was "Fascinating, breathtaking".

Meanwhile Mandy Scott, Secretary for the Association for Learning Mandarin in Australia come to discuss a future joint project with Emeritus Professor Belle Alderman AM; while Jane Brummitt from Nutcote thought that the Lu Rees Archives was "Continuously brilliant".

If you are following us on [Twitter](#) or [Facebook](#) you can see what other projects we have worked on. Why not join in the conversation today or make an appointment to visit us when you are next in Canberra.



(Left) The Honourable Deputy Chief Justice, Family Court of Australia, John Faulks accepting a cheque from Leanne Barrett, President of the Children's Book Council of Australia ACT Branch to support the work of the Lu Rees Archives.

(Right) Jenny and Shirley Stubbs visited the Lu Rees Archives 15-16 Jan (Qld). Jenny is producing a Travelling Suitcase about the work of Jackie French. The Archives holds Jackie's papers and manuscripts, and with Jackie's permission, many items were chosen to explore her creative work. All [Finding Aids](#), including Jackie's can be located on the Lu Rees Archives website.



(Left) Students from the University of Canberra researching author files for their course of studies. The Archives has played host to around 200 students so far this year.

(Right) Rowena Evans, granddaughter of Pixie O'Harris, brought additional artwork to the Archives to supplement that donated by her mother, Halcyon Evans. Rowena was accompanied by her daughter, Eleanor Evans.

## MAY GIBBS' MATERIAL DONATED

Jane Brummitt, pictured with Belle Alderman, visited the Archives twice between December and January. Jane, who is an expert on May Gibbs is a great supporter and friend of the Archives. Over the years Jane has donated many valuable items to the collection.



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### Jean Chapman's Legacy

We were delighted to welcome Geof and Louise Yeomans and Greg Chapman and Julie Herring (not pictured) to the Archives to celebrate Jean's birthdate (15 February) with a special viewing of her donated manuscripts and files. Jean Chapman's Finding Aid will be available shortly on the Archives' website.

### ***'Hippopotomusing' with Hazel Edwards***

**When:** 22<sup>nd</sup> May 5pm – 7.30pm

**Cost:** \$25 or \$20 for students, includes refreshments. Pay at the door.

**Where:** ALIA House 9 Napier Close, Deakin – parking available onsite

**RSVP:** By Monday 18<sup>th</sup> May to [trishmilne@gmail.com](mailto:trishmilne@gmail.com)

**Booking is essential**

Hazel Edwards, author of many greatly loved books, including *There's a Hippopotamus on our Roof Eating Cake*, will talk about her new memoir, *Not just a piece of cake – Being an Author*. Hazel tackles myths that writing for children is easier or of less significance.

In 2013 Hazel was awarded an OAM for Literature and, as a national literary

ambassador, supports various reading organisations. She is a director on the Australian Society of Authors' board and the recipient of the 2009 ASA Medal awarded by her writing peers. Hazel has been nominated three times for the Astrid Lindgren Award, the world's largest prize for children's and young people's literature. Her website [www.hazeledwards.com](http://www.hazeledwards.com) is a must for teachers, librarians, aspiring writers and anyone who loves her books.

There will be time to speak with Hazel over refreshments, ask questions and have books signed. We will also have a display of items from the Archives' research collection relating to Hazel and her work. Harry Hartog Bookseller, Westfield Shopping Centre Woden, will be selling books by Hazel at our event. Showcasing Treasures, written to celebrate the Archives' first 40 years and our etched glassware featuring Pixie O'Harris' characters from The Wind in the Willows will be available for purchase.

## **VALE JO GOODMAN**

We were saddened to hear of the sudden death of our good friend and benefactor, Jo Goodman.

Jo has played a very important part in the Archives contributing to many significant projects. We will miss her love of all things children's literature and great enthusiasm for sharing. An extended acknowledgement of Jo can be found in [ReadingTime](#)



## THE COLIN THIELE FESTIVAL

The Colin Thiele Festival is timed to coincide with the production of Storm Boy at the [Canberra Theatre](#), from 3 - 6 June

The Festival includes two events:

### Major Exhibition

The exhibition will feature items from the Archives' research collection relating to Colin Thiele's books as well as some items from the Thiele family.

When: 2-28 June 2015, during the library's normal opening hours  
Monday to Friday 10.00-5.30; Saturday 10.00-4.00; Sunday closed  
School Groups Welcome

Where: Civic Library, Mezzanine Floor, Civic Square, London Circuit

Cost: Free

### Colin Thiele His Work and Legacy

The Archives is presenting Colin Thiele His Work and Legacy at the Ann Harding Conference Centre, University of Canberra on 2 June. Three speakers will reveal unique insights of Colin Thiele, as a person and a writer. They are Janne Minge, Colin's daughter and the family spokesperson for his legacy, Walter McVitty publisher of 14 of Colin's books and Margaret Carmody, researcher who studied Colin Thiele's life and work for her thesis. The director of the Storm Boy production, John Sheedy, has accepted an invitation to attend.

When: Tuesday 2 June 5.00-7.30

Where: Ann Harding Conference Centre Building 24 on [Campus Map](#)

Cost: \$25 or \$20 for students. Pay at the door – includes refreshments

RSVP: By Friday 29<sup>th</sup> May to [trishmilne@gmail.com](mailto:trishmilne@gmail.com) Booking is essential.

## NAN CHAUNCY AND THE LU REES ARCHIVES

IF YOU HAVE AN INTEREST IN NAN CHAUNCY, ONE OF AUSTRALIA'S MOST RESPECTED AUTHORS OF THE 50'S AND 60'S WHY NOT HAVE A LOOK AT THE BLOG SITE THAT BELLE ALDERMAN HAS CREATED FOR THE THE CHILDREN'S BOOK COUNCIL OF AUSTRALIA TASMANIA BLOG. IT IS IN TWO PARTS, THE [first part](#) FEATURES NAN'S RESEARCH FILES AND HOLDINGS WHILE THE [second part](#) TALKS ABOUT THE LU REES ARCHIVES AND ITS TREASURES.



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