


The National Centre for Australian Children's Literature Artwork Project					
Person completing form	Ann Martin				
Date	May-26		Artist	Anne Spudvilas	

Note: The following artworks were donated by the Fremantle Literature Centre in October 2025 when it was preparing to move to the Western Australia State Library. The pieces, along with letters, research material and explanatory notes have been mounted on large format card and placed in twenty plastic sleeves (panels). All of these elements are described below.

The explanatory notes have been written by Anne Spudvilas and unpack her methodology, research, thoughts and feelings as she worked through the project. The panels formed part of a travelling display.

Stored with the artwork is a collection of photographs used by Anne as inspiration for her art, a storyboard, book dummy, letters, preliminary designs and the Travelling Exhibition Inventory.

The material is described in the order that the Panels were displayed and reflect the order that the pictures appear in the publication.

TITLE/AUTHOR/DATE	FORMAT	MEDIA	ARTWORK (hwxw)	DESCRIPTION	ITEM ID	COMMENTS
Bright Star Author: Gary Crew Illus: Anne Spudvilas 1996	Preliminary work/research	Letters and photos		<b>Panel 1</b> 4 letters between Gary, Anne and the editor, Helen dated 16 Jan 1995, 6 Feb 1995, 7 Mar 1995 and 10 Mar 1995 discussing financial arrangements, tone, voice and audience for the proposed book, along with discussion about the model for the lead character, Alicia. Three photos of Sarah, the proposed model.		Helen Chamberlin, Editor, Lothian Books  Good condition. Materials have been glued to card
Bright Star Author: Gary Crew Illus: Anne Spudvilas 1996	Research material			<b>Panel 2</b> Background information by Anne describing her research and some decisions, her choice of models for the book characters. Preliminary draft of the book dedication and a short biography of John Tebbutt. Research material - photocopies of the covers of three books about John Tebbutt and a photocopy of a photo of him.		Good condition. Materials have been glued to card
Bright Star Author: Gary Crew Illus: Anne Spudvilas 1996	Story boards			<b>Panel 3</b> Several storyboards		Good condition. Materials have been glued to card

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Bright Star Author: Gary Crew Illus: Anne Spudvilas 1996	Copies of Preliminary drawings and reasons for designs			<b>Panel 4</b> Three photocopies of preliminary sketches of early cover designs. Anne has written her design thoughts and suggestions on each. A letter from Anne dated 23 Jan to the Editor (Helen) and Gary explaining the options. Four coloured photos of Sarah that were the basis of the drawings.		Good condition. Materials have been glued to card
Bright Star Author: Gary Crew Illus: Anne Spudvilas 1996	Options for book cover			<b>Panel 5</b> Four optional covers for the book (2 black and white, 2 colour) The option bottom right was used.		Good condition. Materials have been glued to card
Bright Star Author: Gary Crew Illus: Anne Spudvilas 1996	Original Artwork		248 X 310 mm	<b>Panel 6</b> Oil on canvas. Alicia is in her nightdress gazing out the window at the stars. Illustration p 5. Photo of similar painting, different expression and arm posture. Explanatory note from Anne about the composition. Three photos of model Sarah in similar poses.	AS 41	Good condition, however canvas has been stapled to card. Materials have been glued to card
Bright Star Author: Gary Crew Illus: Anne Spudvilas 1996	Original Artwork		1.560 X 420 mm  2. 210 X310 mm	<b>Panel 7</b> 2 X Oil on canvas. <b>1.</b> Alicia is sitting on a stool milking a cow. Only a small amount of the cow is visible Illustration p 7. <b>2.</b> Rural scene, five cows in a paddock, leafless saplings on the LHS, a windmill centre left, swallows in the sky, some clouds flushed pink. Illustration p 6. Photo of preliminary oil p 6, photo of preliminary oil p 7, two photos of model seated for milking	AS 42  AS 43	Good condition, however canvas has been stapled to card. Materials have been glued to card

TITLE/AUTHOR/DATE	FORMAT	MEDIA	ARTWORK (hwx)	DESCRIPTION	ITEM ID	COMMENTS
Bright Star Author: Gary Crew Illus: Anne Spudvilas 1996	Original Artwork		475 X705 mm	<b>Panel 8</b> Oil on canvas. This is an irregular shaped piece designed to leave free space for text. Alica RHS is holding an old hat with eggs in it and looking over her right shoulder at her brothers LHS walking around the end of a post and rail fence. Her mother, who is holding two buckets and with four hens, is right of Centre. A branch of apples overhangs the top LHS of the picture. There are two swallows flying over the barn behind Alicia. Illustration DPS pp 8,9. There are also three photos and an explanation by Anne on the panel. Two are of Sarah and one of two male models for Alicia's brothers.	AS 44	Good condition, however canvas has been cut in half and stapled to card. Materials have been glued to card
Bright Star Author: Gary Crew Illus: Anne Spudvilas 1996	Original Artwork		1. 525 X 390 mm  2. 180 X263 mm	<b>Panel 9</b> Oil on canvas <b>1.</b> Alicia is in a classroom at a desk looking over her left shoulder and up at her teacher. His hand is resting on a large globe. Illustration p 11 <b>2.</b> Wooden rule, protractor, ink pen with nib and inkwell in a desk Illustration p10. Also photo of unfinished artwork and photo of models for picture and tools for picture 2. Explanation by Anne.	AS 45  AS 46	Good condition, the picture was painted across two pieces of canvas and is stapled to card. Materials have been glued to card

TITLE/AUTHOR/DATE	FORMAT	MEDIA	ARTWORK (h x w)	DESCRIPTION	ITEM ID	COMMENTS
Bright Star Author: Gary Crew Illus: Anne Spudvilas 1996	Original Artwork		1. 520 X 390 mm	<b>Panel 10</b> Oil on Canvas 1. Dormer window, metal roof and wooden cladding on house. Alicia's face is seen in the bottom 1/4 of the window. She is looking out and down. Illustration p12	AS 47	Good condition, however canvas has been stapled to card. Materials have been glued to card
			2. 193 X300 mm	2. Two boys and a girl are walking left to right through long grass .The girl is in front (bottom RHS).Some buildings can be seen either side in the distance. Illustration p13. <b>This picture is signed and dated.</b> Also three photos of house upper stories, roof angles and a dormer window, explanation by Anne.	AS 48	
Bright Star Author: Gary Crew Illus: Anne Spudvilas 1996	Original Artwork		530 X 397 mm	<b>Panel 11</b> Oil on canvas. Scene through a window (upper RHS) of a man wearing a hat and using a walking stick walking towards the house. There is a white picket fence. Inside the room there is a bunch of flowers in a tall glass vase, a bible and a newspaper article titled "Comet of the Century" on a desk. On the windowsill there are two framed photos; an elaborate round frame with a photo of a couple and a rectangular one with a picture of three young children. Illustration p 15. There are also three photos; the preliminary artwork, two of arrangements of book, photos and flowers and one of a man in a hat with a walking stick coming in a gate. Also an explanation by Anne of who is in the photos and how she uses them.	AS 49	Good condition, however canvas has been stapled to card. Materials have been glued to card

TITLE/AUTHOR/DATE	FORMAT	MEDIA	ARTWORK (hwx)	DESCRIPTION	ITEM ID	COMMENTS
Bright Star Author: Gary Crew Illus: Anne Spudvilas 1996	Original Artwork		510 X 388 mm	<b>Panel 12</b> Oil on canvas. Alicia LHS with her hand raised, two boys mid frame centre, Mr Tebbutt at the blackboard with chalk in hand drawing a solar system diagram on the board. A telescope is on his desk and a planetary model can be seen behind him. Illustration p 16. Also there are four photos of models for the artwork and two photos of preliminary work. Anne's comment note relates to her interest in the astronomical books and equipment.	AS 50	Good condition, however canvas has been stapled to card. Materials have been glued to card
Bright Star Author: Gary Crew Illus: Anne Spudvilas 1996	Original Artwork		415 X 745 mm	<b>Panel 13</b> Oil on canvas. Church scene from the interior rear of the church. Alicia's family are seated towards the front, Alicia has turned around and is looking at Mr Tebbutt who is seated at the back of the church and gazing out the window. Illustration DPS pp 18,19. Two photos of the artwork in progress, one photo of the model. Explanatory note by Anne is about the churches in Windsor.	AS 51	Good condition, the picture was painted across two pieces of canvas and is stapled to card. Materials have been glued to card
Bright Star Author: Gary Crew Illus: Anne Spudvilas 1996	Original Artwork		505 X 385 mm	<b>Panel 14</b> Oil on canvas. Alicia and her parents talk with Mr Tebbutt after church. The top of the church bell tower can be seen behind them. All are wearing hats, Alicia and her mother are holding books. Mr Tebbutt is holding a walking stick. Illustration p 21. Also, two photos of models and one of the St Matthews bell tower. Anne's explanatory note says who is in the photos.	AS 52	Good condition, however canvas has been stapled to card. Materials have been glued to card

TITLE/AUTHOR/DATE	FORMAT	MEDIA	ARTWORK (hwx)	DESCRIPTION	ITEM ID	COMMENTS
Bright Star Author: Gary Crew Illus: Anne Spudvilas 1996	Original Artwork		540 X 800 mm	<b>Panel 15</b> Oil on canvas. This picture was painted across two pieces of canvas that have been overlapped to form the picture. It depicts Alicia and her mother walking to Mr Tebbutt's house to look at the night sky. Alicia and her mother are RHS, Alicia is holding a lantern. A full moon has risen and is upper LHS. Illustration DPS pp 22,23 One model photo, explanation piece talks about the effect of soft lights.	AS 53	Good condition, the picture was painted across two pieces of canvas and is stapled to card. Materials have been glued to card
Bright Star Author: Gary Crew Illus: Anne Spudvilas 1996	Original Artwork		1. 240 X205 mm  2. 505 X380 mm	<b>Panel 16</b> Oil on canvas. 1. A surprised Alicia is looking inside through a doorway, the night sky is behind her. Illustration p 24 2. Mr Tebutt is standing in his observatory, he is smiling. Both hands are in his waistcoat pockets. In the foreground are two telescopes, maps of the sky are on the wall behind him. The night sky can be seen through the open part of the observatory roof. Illustration p 25. Four photos of a surprised model, two photos of preliminary artwork.	AS 54  AS 55	Good condition, however canvas has been stapled to card. Materials have been glued to card
Bright Star Author: Gary Crew Illus: Anne Spudvilas 1996	Original Artwork		520 X 390 mm	<b>Panel 17</b> Oil on canvas. This picture shows an excited looking Alicia looking up through a telescope. Mr Tebbutt is leaning on a chair behind her. The roof of the observatory is visible. Illustration p 26 Three photos of John Tebbutt's observatory, one outside, one interior and one of a display case with telescopes and equipment in it. One photo of the model posed as if looking through a telescope.	AS 56	Good condition, however canvas has been stapled to card. Materials have been glued to card

TITLE/AUTHOR/DATE	FORMAT	MEDIA	ARTWORK (hwx)	DESCRIPTION	ITEM ID	COMMENTS
Bright Star Author: Gary Crew Illus: Anne Spudvilas 1996	Original Artwork		460 X 770 mm	<b>Panel 18</b> Oil on canvas. This picture was painted across two pieces of canvas that have been overlapped to form the picture. It depicts a comet moving from left to right, its tail and a very starry sky. Illustration DPS pp 28,29. Photo of the two pieces of completed canvas.	AS 57	Good condition, the picture was painted across two pieces of canvas and is stapled to card. Materials have been glued to card
Bright Star Author: Gary Crew Illus: Anne Spudvilas 1996	Original Artwork		1. 515 X395 mm  2. 180 X 325 mm	<b>Panel 19</b> Oil on canvas. <b>1.</b> This piece depicts Alicia and her mother leaving Mr Tebbutt's house. Her mother is holding the lamp high as Alicia talks with Mr Tebbutt who is holding the door open RHS. <b>2.</b> Night setting showing a large sloping paddock. On the upper RHS there is a clump of trees, a house and the observatory with the lights on. The sky is full of stars. Three photos of models and one of the near finished work.	AS 58  AS 59	Good condition, however canvas has been stapled to card. Materials have been glued to card
Bright Star Author: Gary Crew Illus: Anne Spudvilas 1996	Original Artwork		1. 280 X 327 mm  2.157 X190 mm	<b>Panel 20</b> Oil on canvas. <b>1.</b> Alicia is leaning out of her dormer window in the early morning light. There are swallows in the sky. Illustration p 32 <b>2.</b> A swallow in flight. There are apricot coloured clouds in the sky. Unused in the book. One photo of the model leaning out a window.	AS 60  AS 61	Good condition, however canvas has been stapled to card. Materials have been glued to card
<b>Other Materials</b>						
Bright Star Author: Gary Crew Illus: Anne Spudvilas 1996	Photographs 1			48 photographs of John Tebbutt's home and observatory, St Matthews Anglican Church and St Matthew's Catholic Church Windsor NSW, models posing for inspiration for artwork, pictures of artwork.	1	Good condition

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Bright Star Author: Gary Crew Illus: Anne Spudvilas 1996	Photographs 2			Letter from Anne Spudvilas to Helen Chamberlin (Lothian Books Editor) dated October 23 (? 1995 -no year stated). 19 photographs are of a number of pieces of artwork for the book.	2	Good condition
Bright Star Author: Gary Crew Illus: Anne Spudvilas 1996	Book dummy		21 X 15 cm	A4 size pages folded in half and stuck together to form the dummy. Includes text and sketches of proposed artwork. When assembled, the ink was still wet and can be seen on opposite page in mirror image. One page has stuck badly and torn the surface off the opposite page. There are notes and Texta marks for markup.	3	Fragile
Bright Star Author: Gary Crew Illus: Anne Spudvilas 1996	Storyboard			Two pages 50 X 41 cm have been stuck together with sticky tape, Velcro strips are on the back (?display ) Photocopies of sketches of proposed page layouts have been stuck onto the two pages. Also one A4 page	4	Fragile
Bright Star Author: Gary Crew Illus: Anne Spudvilas 1996	Travelling Exhibition Inventory		A4	Ring bound folder contains 12 pages, Title page, page listing Teaching Resources, 10 pages of photos of the exhibition panels	5	Good condition
Bright Star Author: Gary Crew Illus: Anne Spudvilas 1996	Signage		A4 & A3	Two laminated notices for the Exhibition stating its name and acknowledgement that the material had been purchased with funds from the Lotteries Commission of WA.	6	Good condition

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