

## ALEXANDER TURNBULL LIBRARY

Children's books held in the Turnbull Library collections include:

- Early 20th century illustrated books for children
- New Zealand children's books and books about publications for children that are collected and preserved as part of the Turnbull Library's commitment to preserve the documentary record of the New Zealand experience
- Children's books published by Pacific Island nations
- Children's books that have been donated, often as part of a larger collection.

These are available on-site from the Research Centre on the First Floor.

## GENERAL LENDING AND SERIALS COLLECTIONS

Both the General Lending and General Serials collections contain resources to support the study of children's literature. These include bibliographies and reviewing journals, subject guides, and some biographical works.

These collections are available for interlibrary loan and on-site from the Document Requests Desk on the Ground Floor.

## OPENING HOURS

Monday – Friday 9am to 5pm

Saturday 9am to 1pm

## GROUP VISITS

We welcome visits by groups, just let us know two weeks in advance.

## CONTACT US

DNW and NCC Research Librarian  
Reference Services  
National Library of New Zealand  
Te Puna Mātauranga o Aotearoa

T. 64-4-474 3084

F. 64-4-474 3070

E. [lynne.jackett@natlib.govt.nz](mailto:lynne.jackett@natlib.govt.nz)

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Thorndon, Wellington, New Zealand

# CHILDREN'S LITERATURE COLLECTIONS RESEARCHING CHILDREN'S LITERATURE?

We hold the most extensive and in-depth collections of children's literature in New Zealand.

## NATIONAL CHILDREN'S COLLECTION

The National Children's Collection (NCC) is our largest collection of books written for children and young people.

It's based on the collection built up by the School Library Service which, from its establishment in 1942 until 1993, selected a range of books from publishers in Great Britain, the United States, Canada, Australia, the Pacific and New Zealand. From mid-1993, additions to the NCC have focused on New Zealand and Pacific children's books and a smaller selection of overseas titles.

The NCC is mainly an English language collection but is also strong in books in Māori and Pacific Island languages.

The NCC contains approximately 95,000 books that are available for interlibrary loan.

## Highlights of the Collection

- Most English and Māori children's books published in New Zealand
- Significant number of Pacific Island language books published in New Zealand
- Strength in books from the United States published in the 1930s and 1940s.

**Purpose of the collection:**

- To support scholarly research on literary and historical topics
- To support the study of children's literature
- To support other New Zealand libraries' collections, through interlibrary loan.

**DOROTHY NEAL WHITE COLLECTION**

The Dorothy Neal White Collection (DNW) is a research collection of children's books that were enjoyed by young New Zealanders before 1940. The collection contains books from Britain, the United States, Australia and New Zealand that illustrate the overall development of children's literature during the period.

While fiction predominates, non-fiction of a recreational nature is also included. Many of the books in the collection were received as prizes from school or Sunday school and many others bear gift inscriptions.

The collection comprises approximately 8,000 books and these are not available for interlibrary loan.

Offers of donations to our collection are welcome. Please contact our staff to discuss your offer.

**Highlights of the collection**

- Strength in New Zealand and Australian books
- Examples of early and classic children's books
- Representative selection of children's annuals and serials
- A complete set (2,369 titles) of the Chadwyck-Healey 19th century children's books on microfiche (available for interlibrary loan).

**Purpose of the collection**

- To support scholarly research on literary or historical topics
- To support the study of children's literature.

**ACCESSING THE COLLECTIONS**

- Books from both the NCC and DNW collections are available on-site from Reference Services, located on the Ground Floor.
- Visits to the DNW and NCC collections can be arranged for Wednesdays, Thursdays or Fridays. Please make an appointment with the DNW and NCC Research Librarian.
- Records for all books in both the DNW and NCC collections are in the National Library Catalogue at <http://nlncat.natlib.govt.nz>.
- A small number of books from the DNW and NCC collections are accessible online in the International Children's Digital Library at <http://www.icdlbooks.org>.

**SUSAN PRICE COLLECTION**

The Susan Price Collection is a private collection gifted to the National Library in 1991.

At present it is curated by Susan Price in her home. At a future date it will be housed in the National Library as an example of an individual's collection.

Her collection of approximately 20,000 books concentrates on fiction for nine to 18 year olds. Most of it is published since World War II and reflects Susan's strong interest in history. It contains a non-fiction history section, children's poetry, chapter books for the under nines, picture books, and folk tales.

There are also works of literary criticism and biographies of children's writers.

Susan continues to add her choice of the best children's books written in English from around the world up to the present day.

For a comprehensive description of her collection, read her book *Books for life*, published by Gondwanaland Press in 1991.

**Highlights of the collection**

- Susan's choice of the best historical fiction for children
- Oxford University Press titles from the 1950s to the 1980s
- Puffin Story Books and Puffin Picture Books.

**Accessing the collection**

- Visitors are welcome to view the collection in Susan's home
- Please make an appointment with Susan Price, telephone 64-4-475 8092 or facsimile 64-4- 475 6194
- Work space is available for researchers.