A message from the President

Once again, ANZAAB and Rare Books Melbourne (RBM) have organised a very successful Melbourne Rare Book Week (MRBW) and Melbourne Rare Book Fair, held in early July. On behalf of both ANZAAB and RBM, I thank all the 25 MRBW partners, and their speakers, for staging 45 wonderful events which included lectures, exhibitions, workshops, musical performances, presentations and discussions. It is very pleasing to see that MRBW is drawing interstate visitors and has become a noteworthy event in the Melbourne literary calendar.

I am also grateful to the many MRBW sponsors who have once again supported us by opening their premises and giving freely of their time and energy to assist in making MRBW so enjoyable. This Newsletter overviews the program, including the Book Fair. I give a special thank you to Professor Chris Browne and artist Alissa Duke who attended the vast majority of the events. Chris’s reports and Alissa’s sketches are included in this Newsletter.

The Book Fair was once again held in The University of Melbourne’s Wilson Hall, preceded by an opening cocktail party hosted by Ms Gwenda Thomas, the recently appointed University Librarian. To Gwenda, and The University, ANZAAB extends its gratitude for its ongoing support and sponsorship.

Finally, it is important to say that MRBW and the Book Fair do not appear out of the blue! Kay Craddock and her indefatigable team (particularly Chris Browne and Craig Wright) are to be recognised and thanked most sincerely for their hard work, long hours, superb organisation and attention to detail that has made this seventh MRBW so successful.

Jonathan Burdon AM
President, ANZAAB

NEWS & JOTTINGS

Congratulations to Mr Robert Johnston of Melbourne who has won the Lucky Door Prize of the 2018 Melbourne Rare Book Fair. The prize of $500 redeemable with any ANZAAB member. A full report of the Fair can be found starting on p. 21 inside.

On August 15 this year the National Library of Australia celebrated 50 years since opening its doors. Prime Minister John Gorton officially opened the Library building on the shores of Lake Burley Griffin and Question Time in the House was rescheduled to accommodate this significant occasion. The NLA will be celebrating in various ways. To find out more visit their website here.

Also this month Hamish Alcorn and Dawn Albinger are celebrating 10 years since acquiring Brisbane’s iconic bookstore Archives Fine Books. There will be a small inhouse celebration on August 25th. Enquiries welcome orders@archivesfinebooks.com.au
MELBOURNE RARE BOOK WEEK REPORT 2018

By Prof. Chris Browne, Programme Director of Melbourne Rare Book Week. Images by Alissa Duke.

The Seventh Melbourne Rare Book Week (MRBW), a celebration of the book and the importance of print on paper in this UNESCO City of Literature, was held from 29th June until 8th July 2018. It offered a rich and varied program of free lectures, events and exhibitions and an international antiquarian book fair, attracting local, national and international visitors.

The MRBW program is convened by Rare Books Melbourne Inc. and the Australian and New Zealand Association of Antiquarian Booksellers (ANZAAB), with events hosted by a range of partners, including institutional libraries, literary and historical societies and bookshops throughout Melbourne. Sponsorship is pivotal to the running of MRBW and we wish to acknowledge the ongoing support of the University of Melbourne, Ellikon, and Roy Morgan Research. We are particularly grateful to Roy Morgan Research for making Tonic House available to us as a venue. We also thank all who have supported us via advertisements in the printed program.

For the third year we wish to thank and congratulate Alissa Duke, an Urban Sketcher who used her considerable artistic talent to record the events she attended. This report is based mainly upon the notes taken by the Program Director, Chris Browne and the sketches created by Alissa Duke. Chris and Alissa have attended 30 of the more than 40 events between them. Several partners have also reported strong attendances at the other events that could not be explicitly covered in this report.

Free admission to all events ensures the participation of a wide and diverse section of the community, of all ages. This can make it difficult to provide exact attendance figures. However, based on bookings, venue capacity and front of house observations, we believe the program attracted more than 4,500 attendances, including more than 2,000 attendances to the Melbourne Rare Book Fair.

MRBW culminated in the Melbourne Rare Book Fair, properly The 46th Australian Antiquarian Book Fair, which was held at Wilson Hall at The University of Melbourne from Friday 6th July until Sunday 8th July 2018. This year, MRBW and the Book Fair were held during the Victorian School holidays; however, the organisers are pleased to report that the level of attendance was comparable with the previous few years.

Melbourne Rare Book Week 2018 Program Launch
Melbourne Rare Book Week 2018 was launched at Tonic House in Flinders Lane Melbourne on Monday 21st May 2018 by Ms. Heidi Victoria, the shadow minister for the Arts in the State of Victoria in the presence of more than 70 friends, partners and supporters of MRBW. The shadow minister was introduced by Jonathan Burdon, the president of ANZAAB. Ms Victoria, who admitted to a keen personal interest in photographs and photography, gave an entertaining and well-informed speech before formally launching MRBW for 2018. She was thanked for her speech and attendance by Mike O’Brien, the President of Rare Books Melbourne. The attendees were also privileged to hear a brief informal address by Ms Sally Capp, the new Mayor-elect of the City of Melbourne, in what she revealed was her first appearance at any event as the Mayor-elect. The organisers wish to thank the long-time friend and supporter of MRBW, Councillor Jackie Watts for facilitating the presence of the Mayor-elect. We also acknowledge Gary Morgan and Michelle Levine of Roy Morgan Research for hosting the event at Tonic House.

The Remarkable Library of Bishop Goold
The C. J. La Trobe Society
The events of MRBW 2018 were started off by this very entertaining presentation at Tonic House by Shane Carmody of The University of Melbourne, who was introduced by Dianne Reilly to an enthusiastic audience of 75. Shane introduced the audience to some of the research that he is engaged with on the Library of the first Catholic Archbishop of Melbourne. The collection was originally housed in a custom-built library annex to the original Episcopal Palace, built in 1857, which was organised into separate “sacred and profane” halves on each side of the library building. Sadly, the original buildings only survive in drawings and plans. The inventory of 1865 recorded a library of 889 titles included in 2,300 volumes. Many were fine publications in English, as well as good representations of works in French, Italian, Latin and Greek. Much of the library seems to have been purchased during Goold’s frequent visits to Europe. Shane amused the audience with many observations on the Anglican-Catholic episcopal rivalry that was apparent from some of the documents.

Surveying the Rare Book Collection
Museums Victoria
This talk at the Melbourne Museum was presented by Belinda Gourley, a conservator from the Rare Book Collection of the Museum. Belinda recounted the conservation survey that was completed on the Museum’s Rare Book Collection between 2012 and 2016; she explained how the findings from the survey will inform the work of the conservators in the preservation of the collection into the future. Belinda’s presentation led to a lively discussion after the talk.

Several notable, fine books from the collection were on display, including the very rare *Aurora Australis* (1908-1909) by Sir Ernest Shackleton, the first book ever written, printed, illustrated and bound in the Antarctic. Other fine books included the *Locupletissimi Rerum Naturalium Thesauri Accurata Descriptio* (1734) of Albertus Saba, often called Saba’s Thesaurus of Animal Specimens. Belinda was assisted by Gemma Steele and Olga Hionis, both from Museums Victoria, in the management of the viewing of the books on display.

**Rare Book Appraisals**

**ANZAAAB**

Three ANZAAAB members, Peter Arnold (Peter Arnold Books), Mike O’Brien (Bradstreet Books), and Daffyd Davies (Sebra Prints) conducted a book appraisal session at Tonic House from 12noon until 1.30pm on Saturday 30th June. Around 30 members of the public brought items along for consideration by the three experts. There was an eclectic range of items that were presented for appraisal. The experts reported that the outstanding item for the day was a four-volume set of first editions of the four Pooh books of A. A. Mine in a custom-made box. The session was facilitated by Kay Craddock and Jonathan Burdon of ANZAAAB.

**A glassful of wine words**

**Hince on Wine**

Wine writer, broadcaster and historian Michael Hince presented a fascinating overview of writing about wine in Australia, from the birth of the modern wine industry in this country to the present day. He described how local wine writers were initially heavily influenced by UK and American writers, but gradually developed their own voice. The talk encompassed books, magazines such as Epicurean and Australian Gourmet, pamphlets, wine clubs such as the Vintage Club and the Beefsteak and Burgundy Clubs, and noted how bloggers, Instagram
accounts etc have now made the field much more diverse. The hosts, Armadale Cellars, welcomed the attendees with delicious chicken sandwiches and a glass of one of their exclusive wines.

Fanfrolicana: collecting and collectors  
**Private Libraries Association**
Renowned expert on the Fanfrolico Press, John Arnold was introduced by Jonathan Burdon. John Arnold, author of *The Fanfrolico Press* published in 2009 by the Private Libraries Association, presented this absorbing account of the story of the Fanfrolico Press from its Australian beginnings to its heyday in London in the second half of the 1920s and early 1930s. John showed us many examples of his fine collection of Fanfrolico books, most featuring stunning illustrations by Norman Lindsay, set in a beautiful typographical environment. The talk was made particularly appealing by John’s recollections of many interactions that he has had with Jack Lindsay, the Press’s main creative force.
We were also taken through the stories of eight of the leading collectors of Fanfrolico books over the last eighty or so years, as well as other people important to Jack Lindsay, including the enigmatic Elza de Locre.
More than 40 people attended this event at Tonic House.

Curators’ tour of World of the Book  
**State Library Victoria**
Des Cowley and Anna Welch led the curators’ tours of the *World of the Book* exhibition, taking people on a journey from an ancient cuneiform tablet to sculptural contemporary artists’ books. The exhibition builds on the outstanding *World of the Book* published by Melbourne University Press for Des and the State Library in 2008. It was a joyful experience to see Des and Anna attract fellow bibliophiles to this exhibition dedicated to the history and culture of the book. This popular event, like most of the offerings from the State Library was run to capacity audiences on two occasions during MRBW.

Brief Encounters: Literary Travellers to Australia  
**Melbourne Library Service**
More than 70 patrons attended this talk at the East Melbourne branch of the Melbourne Library Service in George Street. Susannah Fullerton and Chris Browne presented a brief survey of some of the famous 19th century literary visitors to Australia, with Chris providing the linking narrative and Susannah presenting lively readings. Susannah read several pages on Anthony Trollope’s impressions of Melbourne from his *Australia and New Zealand* (1873), where Trollope sounds off about the ‘blowing’ of the people of Melbourne on how great
they are. This was followed by readings from Kipling, Mark Twain and Robert Louis Stevenson. The whole session was loosely based on Susannah’s book *Brief Encounters*. A display of several first editions of relevant books from Chris’ collection was also on show.

**The Australian Sketchbook. Colonial life and the art of S.T. Gill**

*Old Treasury Building*

This talk was presented by the former La Trobe Librarian, Dianne Reilly, to an appreciative audience of about 50 on a cold Sunday afternoon in the historic Old Treasury Building in Spring Street. Dianne covered the life and work of S.T. Gill, the famous illustrator of the Victorian Gold Rush from his beginnings in Plymouth in England to his establishment as an artist in Adelaide, through his famous recording of the everyday life of the miners in the gold rush, and his retrospective volumes of sketches and watercolours, through to his decline and rather tragic death. Many examples of Gill’s art were shown and the lively nature of his record of the events of the 1850s in Victoria were greatly appreciated by all of us present in the audience.

**The MV Anderson chess collection**

*State Library Victoria*

This talk was given by Jan Macdonald of the State Library Victoria about their collection on chess which was originally donated by Magnus V Anderson. The talk also covered the role of Ken Fraser, the original curator of the collection.

**Artist’s Books: What and Why**

*Ephemera Society of Australia Inc*

This presentation of a remarkable collection of artistic book creations by Mary Newsome, supported by her husband, Bernard, and daughter, Polly, was given to an audience of about 35 in the Officer’s Mess of the Royal Historical Society’s building in A’Beckett Street in Melbourne. Mary Newsome presented some of the many books that she has created over the past few decades and discussed the inspiration that led to the books and commented on aspects of the design and construction. Each book is created in an edition of 4 or 5 copies and
celebrates a personal aspect of Mary’s life, travels and experience. One interesting example was *The Art of the Cake*, celebrating Mary’s love of French patisserie. The text was by the well-known food writer Rita Ehrlich, and the images contained in the concertina shaped book reflected Mary’s memories of cakes she has enjoyed. The audience was highly entertained by this and other examples of specifically created ephemera in the form of highly imaginative and innovative books, covering diverse subjects such as Teddy Bears, Slippers, Objects Found by a Fisherman and a Tram Driver’s Commentary. Some of the many examples on display were passed around the audience for closer inspection.

“Oppy” The life of Sir Hubert Opperman
*Melbourne Cricket Club Library*

The author Daniel Oakman gave this interesting account of the life of Australia’s first great cyclist, which formed the basis of his recently published biography of Sir Hubert Opperman. The story of Opperman covered not only his life and career in cycling, including his two attempts at the Tour de France, but his interesting and important contribution to Australia in his later life in politics and as High Commissioner to Malta. Sir Hubert’s *Malvern Star* bicycle, on which he set the Un-paced Track record in Sydney in 1940 was on display during the event. The MCC library provided an appropriate and congenial setting for this interesting talk to a large and engaged audience.

Rare score an ode to music
*Royal Historical Society of Victoria*

No report available.

Dark Tales Gothic traditions in children’s books & fairy tales
*Melbourne Library Service*

Although the focus of this evening was gothic children’s literature, it was a session designed by Bernadine Nolen for adults to remember the gothic tales of their childhood. The session was held at the North Melbourne branch of the Melbourne Library service in Errol Street and comprised readings from a range of the most loved (and feared) stories that exercised the childhood imaginations of many of us.
The Music of War event was held at Cathedral Hall at the Australian Catholic University (ACU) in Fitzroy. This was the first participation of ACU and Cathedral Hall in Melbourne Rare Book Week. The audience was welcomed by John Ballard, Pro Vice-Chancellor of ACU, who explained the history of the beautifully restored Cathedral Hall. The session was coordinated by Mike O’Brien of the Royal United Services Institute of Victoria, who had several hundred copies of sheet music from the Institute’s collection on display in the hall and its foyer. Most of the printed music was from the first and or second world war, and most items had very evocative period artwork on the front cover. Mike showed several interesting examples of music from both sides of the two world wars. He also showed an extraordinary anti-Nazi version of a song, filmed by Walt Disney and featuring Donald Duck! Much of the music related back to times when people gathered around a piano to sing together. To illustrate this point, Mike had invited pianist Stuart Hamilton and retired opera singer John Lidgerwood to participate by entertaining the audience with performances of some of the songs. The audience was particularly entertained by “Got to Get up in the Morning”, “Road to Mandalay” and “Where are the boys of the Old Brigade?”. We were all moved by John’s expressive delivery of “Lili Marlene.” [Photo: Cathedral Hall at ACU, Melbourne Campus.]

The medieval art of dying
State Library Victoria

This session was presented by Anna Welch of the State Library, an expert in medieval books, who explained to the audience the almost obsessive interest in death that was a fact of life in the medieval world. The sense of that has come down to us in the form of illuminated manuscripts and early printed materials which contain many depictions of death and the afterlife and which remind us all that death is inevitable. Anna presented and explained the art of death and dying, *ars moriendi*, through some of the State Library’s fine collection in this area, which the audience was able to examine at close quarters.
Preservation of books, photographs and paper-based items

**Genealogical Society of Victoria**

Debra Parry presented this session on behalf of the Genealogical Society of Victoria (GSV) in the relatively new GSV establishment at 85 Queen Street in Melbourne. The upsurge of interest in family history research in recent years has led to many more ‘lay’ people taking an interest in the preservation and restoration of documents that inform their family history, particularly books, photographs, letters, artwork and official documents. Debra Parry, an experienced conservator from Melbourne Conservation Services explained the principles and practice of conservation of historic paper-based materials and gave advice on sensible preservation practices for the non-expert person and how and when to seek more professional help.

Dark Imaginings Curator’s Floor Talk

**University of Melbourne Library**

This curator’s talk was presented by Jen Hill of the University of Melbourne on behalf of herself and her co-curator Susan Thomas, former Rare Books Librarian at the Baillieu Library. The exhibition of books and prints, mainly from the University’s Rare Books Collection, covered many aspects of the Gothic from the mid-eighteenth century to the end of the nineteenth century. Jen Hill led us through the exhibition which was presented as a series of rooms; we started in the Drawing Room, where the emphasis was on Gothic literature and reading; we then proceeded to the Laboratory, where medical and anatomical books with extraordinary engravings of dissections were on display. Here, Jen discussed the phenomenon of the body snatchers or Resurrection Men, who supplied bodies to the medical schools. The third room featured the graveyard and especially graveyard poetry, with two terrific books illustrated by William Blake on display, while the final room illustrated the psychological aspects of the Gothic imagination, as expressed by place and our human reaction to the threat posed by some buildings and landscapes.

There were too many highlights to list all or any individual items, but this reviewer was particularly taken by an edition of *Wuthering Heights*, illustrated by the English-American wood engraver Clare Leighton. I was particularly pleased when a copy turned up on the stand of a leading Melbourne book dealer at the Book Fair, which I was able to purchase!

The Australia to come: Exploring nineteenth century visions of Australia’s future

**Monash University Library**

Zachary Kendal of the Rare Books department of the Matheson Library at Monash University presented this talk at the university’s city offices at 30 Collins Street to an audience of 45 people. Zach presented an exploration of utopian and dystopian literature, particularly from the later part of the nineteenth century. He started by showing an Australian first edition of the seminal American utopian book *Looking Backward 2000-1887*, written by Edward Bellamy (1888). Its narrator falls asleep in 1887 and wakes up in the year 2000 to find that society has greatly changed for the better. The first Australian book that Zach felt was perhaps inspired by this was *The Melbourne Riots* (1892) by David Andrade, a Melbourne bookseller who self-published this book on the emancipation of the working class. This was followed by *The Coming Terror* in 1894, republished as *The Australian Caesar* in 1895, which also describe a socialist utopia.

Among other now largely forgotten books that Zach introduced to the audience was the memorably titled *Melbourne and Mars* (1889), by a noted phrenologist Joseph Fraser, who told how the technologically advanced Martians would help Melbourne to advance. He also featured *Independence* (1891) by Charles Ashwood Bland, where the independent Republic of the United States of Australia fails, while a colonial New Zealand thrives!

Several times in his talk, Zach acknowledged the importance of the bibliography of Australian utopian literature by Lyman Tower Sargent.

Sappho of Lesbos

**Monash University Library**

This talk subtitled “Representations of women’s sexuality in Special Collections” from the Monash University Library was presented at Monash University’s city offices at 30 Collins Street by Mia Goodwin to an audience around 50 people. The talk was focussed on collectable lesbian fiction held at Monash and traversed the centuries from the second century *Ode to Aphrodite* by Sappho of Lesbos, through the landmark literary icon *The Well of Loneliness* (1928) by Radcliffe Hall, the influential and more explicitly lesbian *Nightwood* (1936) by Djuna Barnes to some publications more in the realm of pulp fiction, such as the many publications by Donna
Richards (e.g. *The Perfumed Flesh* (1964), *Brand of Shame* (1965) and *The Constant Urge* (1966)). Mia showed pictures of the covers of many of the pulp fiction books that are held in the “sealed section”, as it were, of Monash Special Collections. Mia had a representative range of these books on display for the audience to view. There was some interesting discussion on who the intended audience for much of this work might have been. It was also suggested that many of the by-lines were pseudonyms and that several may well be male authors in disguise.

**Collecting Cook Books**

*The Melbourne Athenaeum Library*

Richard Overell gave a lively presentation on Collecting Cook Books in Melbourne’s oldest subscription library, which has been operating since 1839. He started with the iconic and encyclopedic manuals of cookery and household management that became popular in the mid nineteenth century, epitomised by Mrs. Isabelle Beeton’s famous books, which first appeared in 1861. Richard discussed books by more recent authors such as the English journalist Francis Miller, who published many books on food and cooking from the 1930s to the 1960s under the pseudonym “Ambrose Heath”. Richard also discussed books by the equally prolific Scottish journalist and food writer Elizabeth Craig, who published around 100 titles on culinary and home economics matters over a sixty-year time span, from 1920 to 1980. Richard highlighted the effect of the wartime scarcity of food on the writing of Elizabeth Craig and other authors. Closer to home, Richard looked at the contribution of *Women’s Weekly* to Australian cooking and food appreciation. A capacity audience of 70 enjoyed Richard’s presentation and the talk was followed by some lively discussion by members of the audience.

**Vampires and Victorian Eroticism**

*Melbourne Library Service*

Chris Browne, suitably attired in a red-lined black cape, and positioned under a “stone castle”, presented the history of vampires in English literature at the City Library in Flinders Lane to an audience of 75 interested vampirologists, including Melbourne’s own Vampirologist. Chris started with the reports of vampiric activity in eastern Europe in the early eighteenth century. He described Calmet’s Treatise on vampires of 1746 and the initial appearance of vampires in English and German poetry in the late eighteenth and early nineteenth century, culminating in Byron’s *The Giaour* in 1813. The first prose fictional work of vampirism published in English was John Polidori’s *The Vampyre* (1818), although many people suspected that it was also by Byron.

The story then followed the “penny dreadful” *Varney the Vampire* in the 1840s and 1850s, Le Fanu’s *Carmilla* in the 1870s and the phenomenon of *Dracula*, which first appeared in 1897. The talk was illustrated by images of desirable editions of some of the books and by the inclusion of several film clips. It ended with an account of the modern incarnations of the vampire tradition as represented by the TV cult show *Buffy the Vampire Slayer* (1996-2003), *The Historian* (2005) by Elizabeth Kostova and the wonderful Terry Pratchett’s vampire satire *Carpe Jugulum* (1998).
Chris acknowledged the support and assistance of Linda Longley and Deb Tate of the Melbourne Library Service, and the ingenuity of Deb’s father who constructed “the castle”.

Discover William Blake
National Gallery of Victoria
(by Dawn Albinger)

John Windle opened his introduction to William Blake with a spectacular video sequence that spliced the 2012 London Olympics with the 2017 Last Night of the Proms and the 2012 Royal Wedding. What these events had in common was spirited singing of William Blake’s *Jerusalem*. Written by Blake in 1804 and set to music in 1916 during the darkest period of WWI, a century later it is known by heart and sung with fervour by thousands of English men and women at significant events, political gatherings (of every stripe), and religious and sporting events all over the English speaking world (except America). Internationally renowned antiquarian book dealer John Windle (San Francisco) specialises in *William Blake and His Circle*.

The NGV, which has the most significant institutional collection of Blake in Australia, was the perfect host for Windle’s talk. The William Blake that emerged from Windle’s presentation was a creature of fascination and contradiction: famous yet obscure; popular yet incomprehensible, conservative and radical. He is the most anthologised poet in the English language, yet more people today seem familiar with Blakean lines than with Blake himself: “The Doors of Perception”, “Exuberance is beauty”, “The road of excess leads to the palace of wisdom”, “all wholesome food is caught without net or trap”, “no bird soars too high if he soars with his own wings”, “opposition is true friendship”, are all from Blake’s “Marriage of Heaven and Hell”; and from the Auguries of Innocence, “To see the world in a grain of sand”, “Robin redbreast in a cage”, “the winners shout, the losers curse”, “some are born to sweet delight, some are born to endless night”.

Blake invented new print methods and his hand illuminated books (no two the same) are foundational to the Romantic movement and some of the earliest known examples of “artist’s books”. He has been referenced in popular culture throughout the twentieth century and continues to be invoked today (Aldous Huxley, The Doors, Patti Smith). The only English author to have had more books written about him and his work is William Shakespeare. According to Windle, the standard reference work on writings about Blake cites 17,139 titles (up to 2012) written in 44 languages, and he is the second most quoted English poet (again, after Shakespeare). These and other interesting facts and anecdotes about Blake’s life, work and legacy, coupled with the rich visual feast of Blake’s engravings, prints, and illuminations made for a deeply satisfying Rare Book Week experience. This well attended session (over 200 bookings according to the NGV Front of House staff) ended with a short Q&A and the question was posed of Blake’s possible connection to Mary Wollstonecraft given that he provided the illustrations for two of her books. While there is no concrete evidence that William and Mary ever met, Windle is prepared to entertain the possibility and left us with the tantalising thought: “Imagine the children those two would have created!” The prophet and the proto-feminist? A match made in heaven or hell? Impossible to tell. But we enjoyed the provocation. And the entire evening.

Moveable and pop-up books
State Library Victoria

Juliet O’Conor presented a fascinating talk and demonstration on how moveable and pop-up books literally can add an extra dimension to the printed page. She described and showed examples of the early development of Victorian era pop-up and moveable books, particularly those by the English publishers Ernest Nister and Raphael Tuck. Raphael Tuck in particular published a series of children’s books with a moveable pop-up “Come to life” panorama as the centrefold. Juliet then moved on to some examples of present day producers of
moveable and pop-up books, and showed some of their creations. This session was so popular that it was
presented twice on the same day, and on both occasions, the event was fully booked out.

Material as Metaphor

**RMIT Design Archives**
The organisers of MRBW were particularly pleased to have RMIT Design Archives as a partner for the first time
in 2018. For their inaugural event, they presented a conversation between two graphic designers, Jenny Grigg
and David Lancashire in their rooms at the corner of Swanston and Victoria Streets. The discussion was centred
on their joint interests in paper artefacts and designs which explore the materiality of paper. The audience was
also given a brief viewing of some of Jenny Grigg’s work held in the Design Archives.

Collecting Sporting Books

**Melbourne Cricket Club Library**
The Melbourne Cricket Club Library presented its now annual panel discussion on sporting books. This year, the
participants were two of Australia’s leading cricket writers and journalists, Gideon Haig and Russell Jackson,
Jenny Grigg and David Lancashire, together with the MCC librarian David Studham. Their focus this year was on sporting books that were recalled from sale and were supposed to be pulped or destroyed. This was generally for reasons of either factual inaccuracy or due to a serious legal problem or objection. The survival of such material is always problematic, and it is important that premier collections of sporting books, such as the MCC library, are the repository for such important historical documents. A full house audience was very appreciative of the animated and informed discussion that ensued in the very appropriate location of the library, high up in the Member’s stand of the Melbourne Cricket Ground.

A Gentleman’s Library: Behind the scenes of the Parliament of Victoria’s rare book collection.

**Parliament of Victoria**
This event provided a rare opportunity for members of the public to visit the Parliamentary Library at Parliament House, Melbourne. Members of the Library staff gave a brief introduction to the history of the Library and some of its holdings, which include donations and purchases, legislative publications, and scientific and technical works. The Library is still actively acquiring antiquarian books and journals.

Several of the Library’s treasures were on view, including the oldest book in the collection, *De re rustica Italia*
by Palladius (1538), a translation into Italian of a 4th century Latin treatise on agriculture, and another
agricultural classic, *The horse-hoing husbandry: Or, An Essay on the Principles of Tillage and Vegetation* by
Jethro Tull (1733), which includes drawings of Tull’s famous seed drill.

Three books which represent important early observations of Australia were also on view:

- Charles Darwin’s *Narrative of the surveying voyages of His Majesty’s ships Adventure and Beagle: Volume 3
  Journal and remarks 1832-35* (1839) contains Darwin’s initial record of his observations on the flora and fauna
  of Australia. A volume of John Gould’s *Birds of Australia* (1840-1848), featuring 84 lithographic plates by
  Elizabeth Gould, presents the best early images of Australia’s bird life.
- William Dampier’s *A new voyage round the world* (1729), which introduced many new terms into English.
The organisers were particularly pleased to welcome The Library of the State Parliament of Victoria as a partner for the first time in MRBW 2018. This event was very popular, and a second session had to be added due to demand from the public. Despite an initial problem with access, due to the Parliament House security processes, both sessions were held successfully and greatly enjoyed by the attendees.

**Multidisciplinary art making: Prints, paintings, limited edition books and zines**

*The Melbourne Athenaeum Library*

Deborah Klein, the artist-in-residence at The Melbourne Athenaeum Library gave a talk to an enthusiastic audience of 50 people, where she discussed her “personal mythology”, methods and approach to her artistic work. The theme of her work has been the absence of women from history. The Melbourne Athenaeum library held a concurrent exhibition of Deborah’s work which attracted just short of 1000 attendees in MRBW. Deborah has embraced the Gothic theme during this MRBW, and when the reviewer visited her “at work”, she was working on an illustration for Mary Shelley’s *Frankenstein*. The library had an impressive display of Deborah’s work distributed throughout the public area of the library. It was an interesting example of art integrated into a working environment. This reviewer particularly admired some of linocut work on display which used the medium to great effect to achieve dramatic images.

*The ABC of ABC: Any Body Can (be a) Antiquarian Book Collector*

*Book Collectors’ Society of Australia (Victorian Branch)*

This entertaining talk was presented by the eminent Anglo-American book dealer John Windle, who had demonstrated his undoubted expertise in all things William Blake earlier in the week. The event was kindly hosted by Gary Morgan and Michele Levine of Roy Morgan Research at Tonic House and was attended by around 80 people.

After a brief introduction by Mike O’Brien, John Windle started by relating the story of his entry into the antiquarian book world by working at the famous bookshop of Bernard Quaritch Ltd, now in South Audley Street, London, but in the 1960s in Golden Square. John described how he worked for Quaritch for one year for no salary. John must be gratified by the fact that Quaritch now runs a formal internship programme,
presumably inspired by their positive experience with him! John related how he maintained himself by working behind the bar in the famous pub The Angel, Islington at night, while he was at Quaritch during the day. John explained how he first became aware of The Blake Trust and how the influence of Sir Geoffrey Keynes and Charles Tunnecliffe awakened an interest in William Blake which has stayed with him throughout his life.

John moved to the USA and joined the firm of John Howell books in San Francisco in 1971, before setting up his own business of Randall and Windle with Ron Randall in 1975. The partnership broke up in 1980, and after a decade of travel and study, John told us how he eventually set up his own bookshop in San Francisco in 1989. John shared many amusing anecdotes with the audience, and although he rather strayed from the advertised topic, his personal stories of life in the book trade so captivated the audience, that several people asked whether John could return next year to continue his story.

**Criminals, coppers and columnists: The craft of collecting crime**

**State Library Victoria**

Daniel Wee presented material from the collection of the State Library Victoria that relates to violent crime in Victoria. The mixture of formal archival material and highly personal records such as letters, photographs and scrapbooks, combined to provide a very human face to some horrific crimes. The session was presented twice to engaged and responsive audiences. One of the highlights of a non-book and paper nature was the death mask and hand cast of 19th-century serial killer Frederick Deeming.
Guests of the Unspeakable

Genealogical Society of Victoria

The presenter Douglas Heywood told the story of Warrant Officer Class 1 William Scott Heywood during the second world war, through his letters and diary. His narrative was revealed through letters to his wife before his departure from Australia to Singapore, and from the journal of his journey to Singapore and Malacca. The letters then describe conditions in Malacca in Southern Malaysia in the early 1940s, while serving in the 2 Coy. Australian Army Service Corps, before Warrant Officer Heywood became a prisoner of war (POW), following the Fall of Singapore in February 1942. He was a POW on the infamous Burma railway from July 1942 until March 1944 and recorded his experiences in a secret diary. He survived the rigours of the Burma railway, but died still a prisoner in July 1945. Further correspondence from the Defence department and family friends to his widow tells of the aftermath of his death.

The moving story of the life and death of one man during the war have been remarkably preserved in this series of documents that tell of a life lost tragically young.

Ghastly Gothic reads for Kids

Melbourne Library Service

This session was designed to engage younger readers in the world of Gothic stories. It was presented by Jennifer Becklar at the East Melbourne Library in George Street, East Melbourne. Unfortunately, only a handful of children attended, but those fortunate enough to be there had a terrific time, of which the highlight was the opportunity for Gothic Dress-ups. Other activities involved creating their own Gothic stories and pictures. The small number of participants did have the bonus that everyone received ample attention and a lot of fun was had by all.

Kindertotenlieder by Bill Henson

Douglas Stewart Fine Books

Kindertotenlieder arise from the tragic death from scarlet fever in 1833 and 1834 of the two children of the poet Friedrich Ruchert. This led to Ruchert writing more than 400 poems on the death of children,
Kindertotenlieder. Between 1901 and 1904, the composer Gustav Mahler set five of Rucher’s poems as a song cycle, also called *Kindertotenlieder*. Mahler’s wife, the famously multiply-married Alma Maria Mahler Gropius Werfel, was against the project, as she feared for the fate of their two daughters, and in 1907, their eldest daughter contracted scarlet fever and died.

The photographer Bill Henson discovered the story as a teenager, and 40 years later, has produced a book of images inspired by the poems and the music, which focus on mortality. The book was launched in Australia at Douglas Stewart Fine Books in Armadale during MRBW2018, with Bill Henson in attendance to speak about his life long journey with this theme. Signed copies of the book were available for purchase during the launch.

The Gothic Novel: A grand tour through lurid worlds
Melbourne Library Service

Melbourne book collector Chris Browne presented his grand tour through Gothic Novels from *The Castle of Otranto* in 1765 to *Psycho* in 1959. The talk was illustrated by many images of old, rare and interesting copies of books from Chris’ personal collection. There were several readings from some of the key books by Vivien Santer and a clip from the classic 1931 film of *Frankenstein*. The readings had been particularly included to highlight the genesis of the texts, by focussing on the prefaces to *The Castle of Otranto*, *Frankenstein*, *Jane Eyre* and *Wuthering Heights*. Chris showed how the “pure” Gothic novels of the second half of the eighteenth century had entered the fringe of mainstream literature during the nineteenth century, before morphing into Horror stories in the twentieth century.

Chris commented that rare first editions of two of the books he discussed, *Jane Eyre* and *The Picture of Dorian Gray* were available for purchase at the Book Fair this week, with the *Dorian Gray* signed by the author, Oscar Wilde.

Chris acknowledged the sketches of Alissa Duke, and the assistance of Linda Longley and Emily O’Leary of the Melbourne Library Service.

The Story of J. P. Quaine
*PMI Victorian History Library*

The rare book trade and its history are integral elements of Melbourne Rare Book Week. This year, the PMI Victorian History Library invited noted Australian book trade historian, Professor Wallace Kirsop, to give a talk on J. P. Quaine, who opened a second-hand and antiquarian bookshop in Prahran, Victoria, during the First World War. This bookshop, through various iterations, still operates today as Grant’s Bookshop, under the ownership of Nicholas and Jenny Dawes.

The story of J. P. Quaine is elusive. He was a noted collector and seller of 'bloods'. He was active as a journalist and contributor of articles on collecting to newspapers and magazines. He was obviously a dedicated bookman.
He is relatively unknown in the history of the book trade in Australia. Professor Kirsop presented a series of fascinating and interesting ‘facts’ about Quaine, at the same time highlighting the need for a serious research project to be undertaken to flesh out the full story of this important trailblazer in Melbourne's bookselling history. The talk made more than one in the audience wish that they had the ability to undertake this research.

**Australian Artists' books: recent acquisitions**
*State Library Victoria*
*No report available.*

**Legal Luminaries and their books**
*Law Library of Victoria*
The now traditional presentation of the importance of books to three legal luminaries was once again held in the Law Library of Victoria in the Supreme Court building. Anyone who has ever visited will probably agree with the famous observation that this is “the most beautiful room in Melbourne”. This year the three luminaries who shared their lives with books with the audience were Justice Emmerton, Mr. Bill Gillies and, due to a late cancellation, Sue Reynolds. The capacity audience was once more informed and entertained by three lively and varied presentations on the importance of books to three legal luminaries.

**The Malcolm Fraser personal library**
*Melbourne Law School Library*
*No report available.*

**School Holiday Workshop: Pop-ups and paper mechanics**
*State Library Victoria*
These children’s paper engineering workshops, developed and presented by the Learning Services team, including Emma Baker and Cobie Spencer, were held on each weekday of Melbourne Rare Book Week and were hugely popular. Children and their carers spent time looking at pop-up books in *World of the Book* exhibition, and then made a pop-up book of their own to take home. It was very gratifying to see the SLV run a successful event specifically for children in their program for the second year running. Among the comments from happy attendees were “I loved seeing the books and I loved making the pop-up book with Emma and Kobe (sic)” and “Kids want to go home and make more. Really sparked interest.”

**Workshop: Make your own rare Life Book**
*Monash Public Library Service*
*No report available.*
Exhibitions
World of the Book
State Library Victoria

Synthesizers: sound of the future
Grainger Museum
*No report available.*

Multidisciplinary art making
*The Melbourne Athenaeum Library*
The Melbourne Athenaeum library held an exhibition of artist-in-residence Deborah Klien’s work which attracted just short of 1000 attendees in MRBW. The theme of her work has been the absence of women from history. The library had an impressive display of Deborah’s work distributed throughout the public area of the library, concentrated around the main counter where staff and visitors to the library interact, but also around some of the book shelves. It was an interesting example of art integrated into a working environment.

Dark Imaginings
*University of Melbourne Library*
This exhibition was curated by Jen Hill and Susan Thomas in the Baillieu Library at The University of Melbourne. It was dedicated to the Gothic Novel, and was open to visitors from March to July, including MRBW 2018. It was organised as a series of four rooms; a Drawing Room, where the emphasis was on Gothic literature and reading; a Laboratory, where medical and anatomical books were on display; a graveyard room featuring graveyard poetry, and a final room dedicated to psychological aspects of the Gothic imagination.

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**RARE BOOKS MELBOURNE**

Rare Books Melbourne (RBM) is taking over the responsibility for staging Melbourne Rare Book Week. To date MRBW has been well supported by sponsorship in kind. Grant and cash support is now being sought to ensure that this event will continue in the future. RBM has already received a small number of cash (tax deductible) donations but many more are needed to fund a part-time secretariat.

Please consider making a donation for this worthwhile cause.

Donations can be made to: Dr Jonathan Burdon, Treasurer, RBM.
C/- Dr Jonathan Burdon, Suite 68, 166 Gipps St, East Melbourne 3002
Email: jburdon@bigpond.net.au
Kate Treloar, along with husband Nick Patrick, runs Adelaide's Pop-up Bookshop - a gimmicky name for a serious bookshop. Featuring the full spectrum of general second-hand books, new books and antiquarian/collectible items, the shop features a small, eclectic and ever-changing selection of books deemed worthy by its owners. Being a pop-up, the shop has moved location numerous times in its six-year history but has settled into a comfortable semi-permanent home in the iconic Adelaide Central Market.

Many punters will recognise Kate's surname as also belonging to long-standing ANZAAB member Michael Treloar. As father and long-time mentor, Michael's influence and support has been immeasurable. But, since Kate started bookselling herself she has pursued her own bookselling interests and nurtured a bookshop that is one-of-a-kind.

1. As a child, what did you want to be when you grew up?
I clearly remember answering this in primary school with "teacher or princess". Over the years I added "medical scientist" (find cancer cure) and "environmental scientist" (save world). The only thing I knew I didn't want to do was run a bookshop because that was what my parents did.

2. What was your first job?
Exploration geologist. Wrong choice and it didn't last.

3. What is your earliest memory of visiting a bookshop?
Coming downstairs each morning and there it was! (In my early years we lived above the "Sunday Bookshop" on Payneham Road; many Adelaideans remember this shop and love to reminisce).

4. Why did you become a bookseller?
Dissatisfaction with working for others intersected with a life-crossroad (children!) and a realisation that working with books felt completely right. So then when a little bookshop came up for sale...

5. What is one piece of advice that you would give to:

a. A budding bookseller?
Modern customer needs and wants are fast-changing so work out what your customers are actually looking for in terms of service and experience rather than just focusing on stock.

b. A beginner book collector?
Pick an area you enjoy and go from there, learning as you collect, but accepting there's always more to learn.
The Melbourne Rare Book Fair, properly the 46th Australian Antiquarian Book Fair, was held at Wilson Hall at The University of Melbourne from Friday 6th July until Sunday 8th July 2018. There were thirty-two exhibitors this year, of whom twelve were from Victoria, fourteen were from interstate and six were from overseas. Our best estimate is that approximately 2000 attendances occurred over the weekend, although we realise that quite a few keen individual collectors may well have attended on two or even all three days. As the Book Fair was held during the Victorian School holidays, with that fact taking some families out of Melbourne, the organisers are pleased that the level of attendance was comparable with that of recent years.

The Book Fair was launched in the Baillieu Library of The University of Melbourne. A welcome address was given by Gwenda Thomas, the recently appointed Director of Scholarly Services and University Librarian for the University of Melbourne. In his reply, Jonathan Burdon, the President of ANZAAB, thanked The University of Melbourne for making Wilson Hall available once more for the book fair, and commented that this was the seventh year that the fair had been held in Wilson Hall.

The six overseas exhibitors comprised three from the USA, two from the UK and one from Japan. Special mention must be made of Adam Gorfin of Ursus Rare Books, New York, who has now attended all seven of the ANZAAB book fairs in Wilson Hall.

Starting on Friday evening, Wilson Hall was fairly busy and trade seemed to be quite brisk for much of the weekend. There were many highlights at the book fair from a book collector’s perspective, and an
interesting range of books and prints was on display. It was good to see the wide range of offerings catering to the full range of patrons, from the large institutions to the beginning collector. Personally, this reporter always looks forward to seeing what Peter Harrington has on show, as his stock tends to map well to my particular interests. I was particularly taken by the set of Dickens *A Tale of Two Cities* in parts (July-December 1859), which he had on offer. This is quite a difficult item to find in good condition or better, particularly as not a huge number were sold, due to the novel’s prior serialisation in *All The Year Round*.

Peter Arnold had a copy of the first English edition in book form of Oscar Wilde’s *The Picture of Dorian Gray* (1891), signed by the author, which sold on the first day. Another highlight was the first English edition of Charlotte Bronte’s *Jane Eyre* (1847), which was offered by John Windle. Hamish Alcorn and Dawn Albinger of Archives Fine Books had some stunning books of William Blake on display. Kangerou Bunko from Japan had a particularly attractive stand, with several examples of fine prints of cassowaries on display. Sally Burdon of Asia Bookroom matched these with a splendid print of a wombat. One nice find by a lucky collector was a book bearing the bookplate of the husband of Alice Liddell, of Alice in Wonderland fame.

At the other end of the scale, there were many interesting and varied books on offer by many exhibitors that could be purchased for less than $50. There was an interesting assortment of printed ephemera, of which, Grant’s Bookshop, Sainsbury’s Books, Louella Kerr Books and Mark’s Book Barn had particularly rich supplies. This included some reprints from medical journals which contained speculation on the nature of the final illness of Jane Austen.

I was also very taken by the photographs by Lewis Morley of Barry Humphries as Dame Edna in the iconic “Christine Keeler” pose with the Arne Jacobsen-style chair. (Morley had taken the original photograph of Christine Keeler.) There were several of these on offer from Sainsbury’s Books, both in black and white and in colour, showing off Dane Edna’s violently coloured hair.

There were also several exhibitors who had older Penguins on display, which always offer an inexpensive and interesting entry to collecting for beginners, although the most interesting Penguin that I spotted was a very scarce “Baby Puffin” that was on offer by Nick Dawes of Grant’s Bookshop.
Another interesting paperback on offer, by Mark Burgess of Mark’s Book Barn, was a Swedish unexpurgated edition of *Lady Chatterley’s Lover* by DH Lawrence, which was published in English in Stockholm in 1946, predating the famous Penguin edition by some twenty years.

There were examples of books illustrated by Kate Greenaway at several stands: John and Prue Sainsbury had a very attractively boxed and bound copy of the standard work on Kate Greenaway by Marian Spielman and George Layard, and Kay Craddock had several of the Kate Greenaway almanacks that had been beautifully preserved in lovely cases that had been custom made by an enthusiastic collector. Peter Tinslay (The Antique Bookshop and Curios) had several very attractive copies of the adventure books of G. A. Henty in their characteristic late nineteenth century colour-block printed bindings.

It always is interesting to see several copies of the same book or sets of books at the Fair. Both Louella Kerr and Barbara Hince, of Kenneth Hince Old and Fine Books, had the six-volume set of the letters of Virginia Woolf, edited by Nigel Nicholson (1975–1980). Both sets were nicely presented in dust wrappers, and both sets sold during the fair. There were several exhibitors of prints, including Dafydd Davies of Sebra Prints, Josef and Jeanne Lebovic of Joseph Lebovic Gallery and Louis and Susie Kissajukian of Antique Print Map Room, all of whom had very impressive displays of printed materials, including old maps, music manuscripts and photographs.
Many visitors to the fair were very taken by this early painting exhibited by Hordern House.

“Sandridge Railway Jetty and Pier, Melbourne, Victoria 1858” shows a lively scene of the main entry into Melbourne at the time of massive immigration into the Port Phillip District, following the gold rush. The artist was given as “Mr. Cust”, and research has revealed that there were two “Mr. Custs” who arrived in Melbourne in the 1850s; it is not known if one of these was the artist of this very early painting of Melbourne’s main port. “Railway Jetty and Pier” is now known as Station Pier, Port Melbourne, much rebuilt in the intervening years.

(Thanks to Rachel Robarts of Hordern House for the image and the information).

It is only fitting to mention the remarkable efforts of Kay Craddock in organising the Book Fair, including all seven years at Wilson Hall, as well as Melbourne Rare Book Week for the past seven years. The success of both ventures is largely due to Kay’s inspiration and perspiration, and her great attention to detail. Kay has given notice that this will be the last ANZAAB Book Fair that she will organise, and all of us, exhibitors and customers, buyers and sellers, should be very grateful for her many years of dedication to ANZAAB and the Melbourne Book Fair. It is up to all of us now to pick up the baton from Kay and ensure that the ANZAAB Book Fair and Melbourne Rare Book Week continue to go from strength to strength.

SANDRA JOSEPH, A FIRST TIME VISITOR TO THE MELBOURNE RARE BOOK FAIR*, WRITES:

‘The majestic Wilson Hall situated in the University of Melbourne opened its doors at 6.00pm on Friday 6 July for the 2018 Melbourne Rare Book Fair. Thirty-two rare and antiquarian book dealers from Australia and around the world took part with an estimated 2,000 people expected to attend. As a first-time attendee (of an antiquarian book fair of this calibre) I was amazed with the selection of books, ephemera, maps art graphics and other objects of historical interest for sale to visitors.

From the time I was warmly greeted by front of house staff and presented with a quality programme, it was obvious that a great experience lay ahead. Although the books on sale were perhaps targeted at the seasoned collector, there were opportunities for a novice collector to make a start. There was a wide range of prices from a modest $10 to $2.7 million and everything in between. Some incredibly old books from the 16th
century, beautiful Japanese wood block illustrations, ancient maps, lithographs from World War 1, first edition Origin of Species by Darwin (with one copy inscribed to his daughter), AA Milne, Tolkien, Bibles, Egyptian history . . . a massive variety too numerous to mention. Where else can a member of the public get to view (and potentially purchase) such historical and fantastic items under one roof? The dealers were clearly very knowledgeable and passionate about their stock, this added to the experience as they were very willing to answer any questions and to elaborate fully on the snippets of information positioned beside each item on view.

It was impossible to leave the fair without a purchase, perhaps not the antique manuscript so longed for, but even so modest a purchase gave a certain satisfaction of being part of something pretty special, and a desire to repeat the experience again in the future.'

* 'First published in Sheppard’s Confidential’

NATIONAL & INTERNATIONAL NEWS

We are sorry to report that one of the biggest international stories of the past two months has been the large theft from the Oliver Room at the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh which was covered extensively by the press in the United States and the United Kingdom. If you haven’t read the story follow this link to the New York Times article that appeared 21 July 2018.

In light of the seriousness of the situation the International League of Antiquarian Booksellers (ILAB) has made the following statement:

“This is a very unfortunate situation for our profession but in no way reflects the ethics of our trade...ILAB affiliated booksellers are expected to adhere to a strict Code of Usages and Customs to which deviations are not tolerated. John Schulman of Caliban Books has resigned his membership and therefore is no longer a member of the ABAA or an ILAB affiliate. Please contact the ILAB or ABAA offices for any queries or further information: Contact details ILAB: secretariat@ilab.org Contact details ABAA: sbenne@abaa.org

ILAB will circulate a further update in due course.

Sally Burdon (ILAB President)
Oscar Graves-Johnston (ILAB Security Chair).”

ILAB has appraised all affiliated booksellers of the list of items stolen and urged them to immediately contact the offices of either ILAB or the Antiquarian Booksellers Association of America (ABAA) if able to help in any way to recover the stolen books.

BSANZ CONFERENCE 2018
Registrations are now open for this year’s Bibliographical Society of Australia and New Zealand conference Marginalia: Bibliography at the Margins, to be held in Brisbane 28-30 November. Follow this link and click on Register Now to go to the Eventbrite conference registration page.

The BSANZ members early bird rate is available until 1 November; general registrations will remain open until 17 November. The main conference venue will be the Terrace Room, Sir Llew Edwards Building at the University of Queensland, St Lucia Campus. Due to the number of speakers parallel sessions will run on Thursday 29 and move to single sessions on Friday 30 November. The conference will open with a welcome reception in the Fryer
THE ROBERT BURNS FELLOWSHIP
‘...for it is only through imaginative thinking that society grows, materially and intellectually...’

This year, 2018, is the 60th anniversary of the establishment of the Robert Burns Fellowship at the University of Otago. It is the oldest and most prestigious literary art award in New Zealand. There is some mystery surrounding the people who helped set it up, but Dunedin’s own Charles Brasch certainly had a hand in it; it is thus fitting that many of the books on display come from his own collection, which is housed in Special Collections.

On the 7th September the exhibition, *Auld Acquaintances: Celebrating the Robert Burns Fellowship*, will begin in the de Beer Gallery, Special Collections at the University of Otago. It will run through until the 7th December.

The Robert Burns Fellowship was established as a way to foster nascent or already established New Zealand writing talent. Poets, novelists, short story writers, historians, scriptwriters, playwrights, essayists – no genre is excluded. Many of New Zealand’s most well-known writers have been Robert Burns Fellows – Maurice Gee, Janet Frame, James K. Baxter, Hone Tuwhare, Witi Ihimaera, Roger Hall, Cilla McQueen, Michael King, Laurence Fearnley...the list goes on.

All of the Robert Burns Fellows will feature in the exhibition. Many of them have written their own paragraphs on how the Fellowship has impacted their lives, making the exhibition a very personal one. In addition and where possible, the publication that resulted from the Fellow’s tenure is on display. From the novelist Ian Cross – first ever Fellow in 1959 – to the Robert Burns Fellow in 2018, poet Rhian Gallagher, this exhibition is a piece of New Zealand’s literary history that everyone needs to see.

For further information, please contact the curator Romilly Smith (*romilly.smith@otago.ac.nz*); Dr Donald Kerr, Special Collections Librarian (*donald.kerr@otago.ac.nz*)

**IN OTHER DESPATCHES....**
The Sacramento Bee (USA) ran a story on July 29 about a 2014 dumpster find that turned out to have a surprising provenance. In 2014 while on a community service project Max Harris found 15 worn books that later turned out to have belonged to President Thomas Jefferson. [Read more here...](#)

"Even when reading is impossible, the presence of books acquired produces such an ecstasy that the buying of more books than one can read is nothing less than the soul reaching towards infinity." – A. Edward Newton, author, publisher, and collector of 10,000 books. We came across this quote when reading about the Japanese word *Tsundoku: the practice of collecting more books than you can possibly read*..."**

**STAFF NEWS From Douglas Stewart Fine Books**
On Saturday 11th August 2018 Mark James married his long term partner Tim Matthews in the Friends Room of the State Library of New South Wales, the first same sex wedding performed in the Library, which all the team at DSFB as well as the grooms’ families and friends were proud to attend. After 9 years of loyal service Mark and his husband Tim are relocating to London and we wish them the best for the future.
ANZAAB
The Australian and New Zealand Association of Antiquarian Booksellers
www.anzaab.com
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ANZAAB is affiliated with the International League of Antiquarian Booksellers

www.ilab.org

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