



# LU REES ARCHIVES

## A WORLD CLASS TREASURY OF AUSTRALIAN CHILDREN'S LITERATURE

When ALIA was looking for a permanent home for a framed signed 2006 National Simultaneous Storytime poster of the book *Goodnight Me* by Andrew Daddo, the Lu Rees Archives was the natural choice. The Archive graciously accepted.

The Lu Rees Archives, established in Canberra in 1974 by the Children's Book Council of Australia, has built an internationally renowned collection based on the generous donations of thousands of items. From the humble beginnings of Lu Rees's personal collection, housed in her own home, to its present location at the University of Canberra Library, the collection now includes over 20,000 books. A special feature of the collection is the 2400 translations of Australian children's books in over 53 languages.

Authors and illustrators generously give manuscripts and artworks, Australian publishers donate copies of their children's books when they are published, and volunteers continue to work for hours and hours to catalogue, preserve and provide access to this national treasure.

The mission of the Archive is to provide researchers and students, not only with access to published Australian

children's books, but also with as much context and as many resources as possible to enrich their research from the archives repository – including some very precious and rare items.

The ALIA poster *Goodnight me* promoting National Simultaneous Story time is an example of the wider context to Australian children's literature that the Archive provides through its extensive collecting. Researchers all over the world have benefited from the thousands of records indexed at the Archive for Austlit: the authoritative Australian literature and storytelling database.

The Archive includes the personal papers of many famous, and not so famous, Australian children's authors, including Shaun Tan, Pixie O'Harris, Bob Graham, Jackie French, Isobelle Carmody, Hesba Brinsmead, Hazel Edwards and the list goes on.

Emeritus Professor Belle Alderman, Honorary Director of the Lu Rees Archive since 1990, provides an excellent example of a dedicated career 'outside the library'; while teaching future library and information specialists as Head of the University of Canberra's School of Information Management, Belle inspired many people to pursue their passion for children's literature.





As part of the Canberra Centenary, the Lu Rees Archive is supporting Showcase: the Second annual Festival of Children's Literature in October and November. ALIA House is also a venue for this significant celebration of children's literature. (See below for more details.)

To learn more about the Lu Rees Archives visit the website: [www.canberra.edu.au/lurees](http://www.canberra.edu.au/lurees).

DIANA RICHARDS  
 Director Operations, ALIA  
[diana.richards@alia.org.au](mailto:diana.richards@alia.org.au)



Join your fellow fans of children's literature at Showcase: The Second Annual Festival of Children's Literature.

This event will run from 1 October to 15 November at a range of venues around Canberra, including ALIA House, the University of Canberra, the National Library of Canberra and ACT's public libraries. The program aims to explore and celebrate imaginative work for children created by Canberra and District writers, illustrators and publishers and includes sessions with Garth Nix, Morris Gleitzman, Jackie French, Nina Rycroft and Nick Bland.

For more information, visit [www.canberra.edu.au/showcase](http://www.canberra.edu.au/showcase).

# INCITE CALL OUT FOR 2014



We're already thinking about INCITE's January/February issue and we'd like to start 2014 with some of your New Year resolutions. What are you planning to give up or take up next year? We'd love to hear – [incite@alia.org.au](mailto:incite@alia.org.au)

And do you know a hipster librarian? We're looking for photos, stories, out of the box email addresses and zany Twitter hashtags, tattoos, ukuleles, and all that creative energy. We want to track it down and give it some profile – [incite@alia.org.au](mailto:incite@alia.org.au)

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