A Guide to the

ANNA FIENBERG PAPERS

The Lu Rees Archives

The Library
University of Canberra

May 2001
Anna Fienberg Papers

Scope and content note

Anna Fienberg donated her collection to the Lu Rees Archives under the Cultural Gifts Program in February 2001. A previous deposit had been made in November 1989. There are two archive boxes (28cm) of material covering the period from 1989-2001. The papers comprise of manuscripts, notes of storylines, experiments and correspondence concerning Fienberg’s books and her donation to Lu Rees Archives.

The papers were arranged and described by Management of Archives student Jennie Norberry, under the supervision of Associate Professor Belle Alderman. This finding aid was then produced to assist researchers in locating items within the collection. The papers are arranged into series of Fienberg’s works, in chronological order of being published. Two miscellaneous series were included for correspondence and manuscripts that did not fit comfortably within the other series.

Fienberg’s papers when received were arranged into files or bundles, usually concerning a particular book. These were then organised into 10 series with 16 folders. The box list located on page 11 shows the location of the series and folders within the boxes. Some of Fienberg’s works do not have their own series but are contained within others. These papers were left in the other series to preserve the original order of the collection. There is a manuscript of Minton goes home located in series 5, folder 1 and notes of Ariel, Zed and the secret of life located in series 9, folder 1.

Related materials held at the Lu Rees Archives include files for Ann James and Kim Gamble. Kim Gamble’s papers include dummies and working manuscripts for The hottest boy who ever lived, also his artworks for the book. Lu Rees also hold Ann James’ artwork for Wiggy and Boa, including ink sketches showing the different techniques used in the illustrations.

Cover: Anna Fienberg, photographer Arunas
Biographical note

Anna Fienberg was born in Canterbury, England on the 23 November 1956, and moved to Australia when she was three years old. She spent 1976 to 1978 at Macquarie University, New South Wales, where she earned a BA in English and Psychology. While travelling around Europe Anna spent a year in Italy in 1984, where she learned to speak Italian fluently. Anna has held a variety of jobs including two years as a drug and alcohol counsellor and was editor for New South Wales’ School Magazine from 1980 to 1990. School Magazine is a literary magazine for children containing stories, plays, poetry and articles, and as editor Anna read ‘about 1000 books a year’. Her other jobs include working as consulting editor of Troll Book Club from 1990 to 1992 and a children’s book reviewer on the Midday Show in 1993.

Anna wrote her first story when she was eight. Barbara Fienberg, Anna’s mother, kept a literary record of Anna’s childhood as well as a medical record. When Barbara read to Anna at night they would change the endings and play with the words. Anna and her mother continued this practice talking Tashi, a children’s book character, into life and collaborating with seven Tashi books to present with Kim Gamble.

It was at School Magazine Anna started her writing career, when she wrote occasional pieces if there was not enough material. Her first book started as a series, Billy bear and the wild winter, that was later published by Angus & Robertson. Anna has also had stories published in Lucky magazine, the Victorian schools magazine, Cosmopolitan and in Women’s Day.

Anna is married with one son and lives in the Sydney suburb of North Balgowlah. She lists her interests as reading, travelling, speaking Italian and writing tall tales.

References

Anna Fienberg – Author Profile. Scholastic Australia Teacher Memo. 1996.


(These articles are held in the Anna Fienberg file at the Lu Rees Archives, University of Canberra Library.)

Allen & Unwin website, Anna Fienberg:
**Bibliography**

*Anna Paquin reads from ‘The magnificent nose’: a book for kids* (sound recording)
North Sydney, N.S.W.: Simple Entertainment, 1994

*Ariel, Zed and the secret of life* (Illustrated by Kim Gamble)
North Sydney: Allen & Unwin, c1992
Australian Braille edition
Burwood, Vic.: Royal Institute for the Blind Education Centre, 1994
**1993 - Winner**, Alan Marshall Award for Children’s Literature, the Victorian Premier’s Literary Awards

*Billy bear and the wild winter* (Illustrated by Astra Lacis)
North Ryde, N.S.W.: Angus & Robertson, c1988, 1990

*Borrowed light*
St Leonards, N.S.W.: Allen & Unwin, 1999
**1999 - Short List**, Ethel Turner Prize for Young People’s Literature, New South Wales Premier’s Literary Awards
**2001 – List**, American Library Association: Best Book for Young Adults

*Eddie*
Milton, Qld: Jacaranda Press, 1988

*Dead sailors don’t bite* (illustrated by Ann James)
St Leonards, N.S.W.: Allen & Unwin, 1996

*The doll’s secret*
Melbourne: Australia Post, 1997

*The hottest boy who ever lived* (Illustrated by Kim Gamble)
American edition
Morton Grove, ILL: A. Whitman, 1994
Sound recording
South Yarra, Vic.: Louis Braille Books, 1994

*Joseph* (Illustrated by Kim Gamble)
St Leonards, N.S.W.: Allen & Unwin, 2001

*Kids and traffic* (kit)
Sydney: The Traffic Authority, 1988

*Madeline the mermaid and other fishy tales* (Illustrated by Ann James)

_The magnificent nose and other marvels_ (Illustrated by Kim Gamble)
St Leonards, N.S.W.: Allen & Unwin, c1991
North Sydney: Allen & Unwin, 1992
Sound recording
South Yarra, Vic.: Louis Braille Books, 1993
_Australian Braille edition_
Burwood, Vic.: Royal Victorian Institute for the Blind Education Centre, 1993
_British edition_
Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1992
1992 - Winner, Children’s Book Council of Australia, Book of the Year: Younger Readers

_Minton goes sailing 1_ (Illustrated by Kim Gamble)
St Leonards, N.S.W.: Allen & Unwin, 1998

_Minton goes flying 2_ (Illustrated by Kim Gamble)
St Leonards, N.S.W.: Allen & Unwin, 1998
1999 – Finalist, Kids Own Australia Literature Award (KOALA), New South Wales

_Minton goes driving 3_ (Illustrated by Kim Gamble)
St Leonards, N.S.W.: Allen & Unwin, 1999

_Minton goes trucking 4_ (Illustrated by Kim Gamble)
St Leonards, N.S.W.: Allen & Unwin, 1999

_Minton goes under 5_ (Illustrated by Kim Gamble)
St Leonards, N.S.W.: Allen & Unwin, 2000

_Minton goes home 6_ (Illustrated by Kim Gamble)
St Leonards, N.S.W.: Allen & Unwin, 2000

_The nine lives of Balthazar_ (Illustrated by Donna Gynell)
Knoxfield, Vic.: Houghton Mifflin, 1989
_Australian Braille edition_
Enfield: N.S.W. Royal Blind Society, 1992
_Sound recording_
Enfield: N.S.W. Royal Blind Society, 1992

_Pirate trouble for Wiggy and Boa_ (Illustrated by Ann James)
St Leonards, N.S.W.: Allen & Unwin, 1996

_Power to burn_
1996 - Short List, Ethel Turner Prize for Children’s Writing, New South Wales
Premier’s Literary Awards

_Snugglepot and Cuddlepie_ (Retold by Anna Fienberg, illustrated by Vicki Kitanov)
Pymble, N.S.W.: Angus & Robertson, 1997

*Sugglepot and Cuddlepie at sea* (Retold by Anna Fienberg, illustrated by Vicki Kitanov)
Pymble, N.S.W.: Angus & Robertson, 1997

*Snugglepot and Cuddlepie go home* (Retold by Anna Fienberg, illustrated by Vicki Kitanov)
Pymble, N.S.W.: Angus & Robertson, 1997

*Tashi* (Other author Barbara Fienberg, illustrated by Kim Gamble)
St Leonards, N.S.W.: Allen & Unwin, 1995

1996 - *Short List*, Children’s Book Council of Australia, Book of the Year: Younger Readers

1998 – *Short List*, Primary Division, Australia Capital Territory, Canberra’s Own
Outstanding List (COOL) Awards

*Tashi and the giants* (Other author Barbara Fienberg, illustrated by Kim Gamble)
St Leonards, N.S.W.: Allen & Unwin, 1995

*Tashi and the ghosts* (Other author Barbara Fienberg, illustrated by Kim Gamble)
St Leonards, N.S.W.: Allen & Unwin, 1996

1998 – *Short List*, Primary Division, Australia Capital Territory, Canberra’s Own
Outstanding List (COOL) Awards

*Tashi and the genie* (Other author Barbara Fienberg, illustrated by Kim Gamble)
St Leonards, N.S.W.: Allen & Unwin, 1997

*Tashi and the Baba Yaga* (Other author Barbara Fienberg, illustrated by Kim Gamble)
St Leonards, N.S.W.: Allen & Unwin, 1998

*Tashi and the demons* (Other author Barbara Fienberg, illustrated by Kim Gamble)
St Leonards, N.S.W.: Allen & Unwin, 1999

*Tashi and the big stinker* (Other author Barbara Fienberg, illustrated by Kim Gamble)
St Leonards, N.S.W.: Allen & Unwin, 2000

*Vico y Boa* (Ilustraciones de Rafael Barajas “el fisgon”; traduccion de Tedi Lopez Mills
Mexico: Fondo de Cultura Economica, c1992

*Wiggy and Boa* (Illustrated by Ann James)
Melbourne: Dent, 1988
St Leonards, N.S.W.: Allen & Unwin, 1994
The witch in the lake
Crow’s Nest, N.S.W.: Allen & Unwin, 2001

The world of May Gibbs (Retold by Anna Fienberg, illustrated by Vicki Kitanov)

Sources

Allen & Unwin, Anna Fienberg:

Bibliography held in the Anna Fienberg file at the Lu Rees Archives, University of Canberra Library.


University of Canberra catalogue: http://library.canberra.edu.au - last accessed 8 May 2001
## Series list

<table>
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<th>Title</th>
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<td>1</td>
<td><em>Wiggy and Boa</em> books, 1988-</td>
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<td><em>The Nine lives of Balthazar</em>, 1989</td>
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<td><em>The hottest boy who ever lived</em>, 1993</td>
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<td><em>Tashi</em> books, 1995-</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td><em>Witch in the Lake</em>, 2001</td>
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<td>Manuscripts – miscellaneous, not dated</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>Correspondence – miscellaneous, 2001-</td>
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Series description

Series 1  *Wiggy and Boa* books, 1988-

Folder  
1  Covers *Dead sailors don’t bite, Pirate trouble for Wiggy and Boa* and *Wiggy and Boa.*
Manuscript *Dead sailors don’t bite* with corrections
2  Manuscript *Wiggy and Boa.* Donated 1989.

Series 2  *The nine lives of Balthazar, 1989*

Folder  
1  Manuscript *The nine lives of Balthazar* laid out for illustrations with notes on possible illustrations. Donated 1989.

Series 3  *The hottest boy who ever lived, 1993*

Folder  
1  Manuscript *Hector the heater,* with handwritten notes.

See also Series 9 folder 1, Manuscripts – miscellaneous, not dated

Series 4  *Power to burn, 1995*

Folder  
1  Notes and alternate titles and handwritten chapters
Manuscript *Power to burn,* with notes and corrections.

Series 5  *Tashi* books, 1995-

Folder  
1  Letter to Ros Price, Allen and Unwin, accompanying *Tashi* manuscripts.
Typewritten manuscript *Minton goes home.*
Handwritten notes on *Tashi.*
Typewritten manuscript *Tashi*
Typewritten manuscript *Dragon breath*
Typewritten manuscript *Tashi and the giants*

Series 6  *Madeline the mermaid and other fishy tales, 1998*

Folder  
1  Envelope ‘Early version of *Madeline* manuscript’
Manuscripts of stories from *Madeline the mermaid and other fishy tales*, *The mermaid with wild yellow hair*, *Horatio the jellyfish*, *The sea harpy* and *The sea witch war* with corrections.

**Series 7**

* Borrowed light, 1999

**Folder**

1 Typewritten manuscript *Borrowed light*, 1999.

2 First version *Borrowed light* plus notes and beginnings.

3 Notes and experiments

**Series 8**

* The witch in the lake, 2001

**Folder**

1 Manuscript *The witch in the lake* with corrections

2 Manuscript *The witch in the lake*, 2000, with corrections

3 Manuscript *The witch in the lake* second draft with corrections

4 Notes about *The witch in the lake*. Includes letter from Sue Flockhart with notes on story and characters

**Series 9**

* Manuscripts – miscellaneous, not dated

**Folder**

1 Notebook with handwritten chapters of *Ariel, Zed and the secret of life The hottest boy who ever lived* early typed manuscripts with notes and alternate titles ‘Hector the heater’ and ‘Peter the heater and the village of Hottentoast.

**Series 10**

* Correspondence – miscellaneous, 2001-

**Folder**

1 Letter to Belle Alderman about Lu Rees deposit, 28 February 2001.
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