



UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA LIBRARY

LIBRARY

news

Archive of crime: Arthur Upfield manuscripts acquired

Arthur Upfield (1890-1964) was one of Australia's most successful writers of crime fiction. Born in England, Upfield came to Australia in 1910 and spent the next 18 years travelling the outback, before publishing his first novel in 1928. He published 32 novels in all, and was the first foreign writer to be admitted as a full member of the Mystery Writers' Guild of America. His novels are characterized by their outback settings, and many of them feature the part-Aboriginal detective "Bony".



Arthur Upfield
(by permission of
the National Library
of Australia)

The Library has recently acquired three important Upfield manuscripts, written during his time in Western Australia in the late 1920s and early 1930s. They include two copies of the typescript of *Breakaway House*, a novel which was not published until 1987, after his death,

though a version was serialized in the *Daily News* in 1932. The typescripts contain various notes and alterations by Upfield himself.

Also included is a letter from Upfield written from Burracoppin in 1930, in which he asks for various details about the settlement at Cook on the Trans-Australia railway line. The information, which includes the number of wires in the telegraph line and the number of Aboriginal people "hanging about the place", was used in a subsequent novel, *The Royal Abduction*.

These manuscripts will be added to the Manuscript Collection in the Scholars' Centre. They were acquired with the help of the Friends of the UWA Library.

Western Australian botanical drawings

The Library has recently acquired a collection of uniquely valuable botanical drawings of Western Australian plants. The drawings were made by Sylvia Boyd Andrews, a British botanical artist, and record the native flora on two farms in the Kojonup and Boyup Brook area before they were cleared for farming and pastoral activities in the late 1970s. The drawings, 266 in all, were exhibited at the Royal Horticultural Society in 1978, and awarded the Lindley Medal for botanical illustration.

The collection has been donated to the Library by the Harrison family of Colchester, England – formerly of Anna Downs farm in Western Australia.





.... new on CygNET online



Facts from Factiva

Factiva, a new service from the Dow Jones & Reuters Company, offers improved access to many newspapers and magazines online. With the move from Dow Jones Interactive to Factiva the number of source publications has increased:

- 8,000 sources in 22 languages from 118 countries
- A much greater range of Australian newspaper titles, including *The Australian*, *The Advertiser* (Adelaide), and *The Courier-Mail* (Brisbane)
- Over 160 transcripts from the BBC, CNN, ABC and others
- More than 7,500 of the world's top news and business web sites
- Over 20,000 Company Reports

New literary manuscripts for the Scholars' Centre

The Library has recently acquired a collection of manuscripts and documents relating to the poet Peter Bladen. Born in Perth in 1922, Bladen served in the Royal Australian Navy in the Second World War. Returning to Perth, he studied English at the University of Western Australia. His first book of poetry, *The Old Ladies at Newington*, won a prize in the Commonwealth Jubilee Literary Competition in 1951.

In the 1960s he moved to the Eastern States and worked as a journalist and writer, including some time writing for the Mavis Bramston Show. In the 1980s he moved to Turkey and became a Muslim, assuming the name Yusuf Bladen-Pryor. In later years he concentrated on the sonnet, culminating in 2000 with his collection of a thousand sonnets, *Millefleurs*.

Peter Bladen died in 2001. The manuscript collection has come to the Library through the auspices of his literary executor, Professor Leslie Marchant.

Also recently acquired by the Library are the working materials for Dennis Haskell's new book on the eminent Australian poet Bruce Dawe. These include extensive correspondence with Dawe about his work. They join the existing collection of Professor Haskell's manuscripts in the Scholars' Centre.

Other features of the service include:

- Intelligent Indexing across all content types
- Exporting results via email
- Storing results to view in a future session

It is also possible to research a global company - type in a company name or the ASX code and receive a report providing a corporate overview, key executives, financial data, press release, current news and a list of competitors.

If you have any queries about this service or would like a demonstration of its features contact the Business Reference Librarians on 9380 1589 or email buslib@library.uwa.edu.au

To access Factiva.com:
Information Toolbox – keyword search for Factiva.

The future of the humanities

In a recent talk to the Friends of the UWA Library, Professor Tom Stannage explained his vision for the humanities in 21st-century Australia. Professor Stannage is Executive Dean of the Division of Humanities at Curtin University of Technology, and was previously a distinguished Professor of History at UWA.

Professor Stannage emphasised the importance of involvement with government, industry and the wider community. The knowledge produced by the humanities and social sciences will be vital as Australia endeavours to come to terms with major upheavals in social conditions. Scholars in the humanities should be actively seeking partnerships and strategic alliances to ensure that their intellectual capital can be used in shaping the future development of Australian society. As well as defending their traditions, the humanities should be prepared to make and embrace new traditions.

Professor Stannage spoke of "loving the Colorado School of Mines" – a thoroughly technological institution which has recently moved to include studies in the humanities and social sciences in the education of mining engineers and scientists. Fittingly, as a former footballer, he also spoke of involvement with the AFL's education and training programme for current and past players!

The Library farewells Shirley Oakley

Shirley Oakley, Associate Librarian, Corporate Services, is leaving the Library to take up the position of Executive Director, Library Services at Charles Sturt University in Bathurst, New South Wales. She will be responsible for library services across all campuses of CSU. Shirley takes with her our thanks and very best wishes for the future.

Shirley has held the position of Associate Librarian since 1994, but she has occupied several positions in the UWA Library over the years. As a senior member of the University's general staff, she has also participated in a number of UWA committees and working parties outside of the Library.

She is particularly interested in the application of Information and Communication Technologies to the provision of information services. She managed the selection and implementation of the INNOPAC system and the creation and implementation of CygNET Online, the Library's interface to networked resources.



Shirley Oakley, Associate Librarian
Corporate Services

Shirley has implemented significant changes to both the organisational structure and staffing of the Division. This was to meet the challenges imposed by a changing environment dominated by the growth in electronic resources. Her consultative style has ensured the success of these changes.

In private life, Shirley has a taste for adventure. She explored Europe, Scandinavia and North Africa by motorcycle and travelled by truck overland from London to Nepal via Central and South Asia. She has "poked her nose" into many corners of South East Asia and now explores in the "luxury" of 4WD and tent, enjoying the deserts of Western and central Australia.

Shirley was raised in Albany and is looking forward to her return to country life and a cold climate in Bathurst.

Library News survey 2002

How can we better meet your needs?

Library News has been published in this format since 1998. We aim to provide you with information about our services, new developments and resources, as well as topical Library issues.

We publish 3-4 issues during the months of March to October to coincide with the University year.

We welcome your suggestions.

Please help us to help you by returning the enclosed survey to:

The Editor, Library News,
University Library, The University of Western Australia
35 Stirling Highway
Crawley WA 6009

Issues from 2000 onwards are available online at:
<http://www.library.uwa.edu.au/publications/librarynews/>

Funding for expensive items

Now is the time to make your recommendations for purchases from the Expensive Items Fund. Each year the Library reserves a small part of its budget for the purchase of resources which cannot be easily funded from its departmental allocations. Such items may be large sets of books, reference works or research collections, with a cost of more than \$1,000. These special funds cannot normally be used for new subscriptions.

Recommendations accompanied by a brief statement explaining how the title can support the research priorities of the University should be sent to John Meyer, Manager, Information Resources Budget, by 31 July 2001.

Titles ordered in 2001 from the Expensive Items Fund included *Sylloge nummorum Graecorum: the royal collection of coins and medals*, *Danish National Museum*; *Encyclopedia of biodiversity*; and *The Netter collection of medical illustrations*.

Library musical chairs

Lisa Nixon, Biological Sciences Librarian, has been seconded to the Vice-Chancellery for two years. As Executive Officer in the Office of the Vice-Chancellor she provides high level support to the Vice-Chancellor and Deputy Vice-Chancellor. In this role Lisa works closely with members of the Executive and the wider University community, and is responsible for providing advice on a range of issues including those which may be politically sensitive.

Lisa's secondment has caused some rearrangement of Library personnel.

Jane Long has replaced Lisa as the Biological Sciences Librarian, transferring from the Business Library.

Helen Wallace is now the Business/Law Librarian, with her office located in the Business Library. In turn, Helen's move has led to the creation of a new position, the Associate Law Librarian.

Jean McKay has recently taken up this position, but she is no stranger to UWA. "I am looking forward to re-joining the Law Library team, where I worked on secondment at the end of 1997." Jean was the Senior Law & Business Librarian at Murdoch University for 7 years and the Library Manager at Challenger TAFE in Fremantle.

"My particular interest is tailoring resource delivery and training to best match client learning requirements," Jean says. She is looking forward to meeting staff and students from the Law School, and perhaps recognising a few faces from years past.

You can contact her on extension 2328 or email jmckay@library.uwa.edu.au



Jean McKay, Associate Law Librarian

Do the Canterbury Tales have DNA?

The Library recently hosted a visit by Dr Peter Robinson, director of the Centre for Technology and the Arts, at De Montfort University in Leicester, England.

Peter Robinson is a leading international figure in the field of humanities computing, and has published and lectured widely on topics relating to the use of information technology for teaching and research in the humanities and social sciences. He has also developed specialized software for analysing and publishing humanities texts.

Peter has particular expertise in Chaucer's Canterbury Tales and has co-directed a successful international project to produce a new electronic edition of this work. He is probably the only medievalist to have published a paper in *Nature* – in which he recounts how he applied computer software used for the study of evolutionary biology to the analysis of medieval manuscript traditions.

Dr Robinson's visit was supported by the Distinguished Visitors Fund.



Dr Peter Robinson, De Montfort University

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