



THE ANZAAB NEWSLETTER

The occasional newsletter of The Australian & New Zealand Association of Antiquarian Booksellers

A message from the ANZAAB President

In February this year the International League of Antiquarian Booksellers (ILAB) held their biennial Congress in Pasadena, USA. This very successful three day event attracted a large gathering of antiquarian booksellers from around the world. It was preceded by an ILAB Committee meeting and, separately, by a meeting of ILAB's national Presidents. I attended the latter meeting representing ANZAAB and it was a good opportunity to hear of the issues confronting other national bodies and to collectively advise the ILAB Committee on matters of international importance.

It was lovely to see a large Australian contingent attending the Congress, particularly as ANZAAB's Sally Burdon, of Asia Bookroom in Canberra, was elected ILAB President. Her acceptance speech as ILAB President at the Congress's Gala Dinner was acclaimed by all. In the short time since her election, she has shown outstanding leadership as several difficult international issues, potentially adversely affecting the antiquarian book trade, have arisen. It is also important to mention, in relation to the Congress, that Dawn Albinger, of Archives Fine Books, Brisbane, attended as one of the four international young antiquarian booksellers awarded an ABAA Woodburn Foundation Scholarship to support attendance at the Congress. Dawn's wonderful report is included in this edition of our newsletter and is a 'must read'.

Dawn reviews the program in full, but I would like to add that I was particularly impressed by the 'Reverse Book Fair' staged by specialist librarians at The Huntington Library, where they showed us (not for purchase!) many of their treasures—fascinating from the historical, academic and collectible points of view. It was also wonderful to view a Gutenberg Bible and a first edition of Chaucer's *Canterbury Tales*. I had seen them both in past years but it was an enormous thrill to see them again and only twenty centimetres away (through the glass!). I also enjoyed the Petersen Motor Museum where the 70th Anniversary of Porsche was being celebrated with a special collection of Porsches—for car buffs this was really special. The Congress was very well organised, everything was thought of in advance, and no-one was left behind at the end of the numerous visits. It was a credit to the organising team at the ABAA.

Jonathan Burdon AM

NEWS & JOTTINGS



Melbourne Rare Book Week
29 June–8 July 2018

Events for Melbourne Rare Book Week 2018 are being finalised and the program will be launched on 21 May

Melbourne Rare Book Fair
6–8 July 2018

Exhibitors

Adelaide's Pop-up Bookshop
Ankh Antiquarian Books
Antique Print Map Room
The Antique Bookshop & Curios
Archives Fine Books
Peter Arnold Pty Ltd
Asia Bookroom
Astrolabe Booksellers
Books for Cooks
Books on Dean
Bradstreet's Books
Kay Craddock – Antiquarian Bookseller
Grants Bookshop
Harbeck Rare Books
Peter Harrington
Jonathan A. Hill, Bookseller Inc.
Kenneth Hince Old & Fine Books
Hordern House Rare Books
Andrew Isles
Kagerou Bunko
Louella Kerr Books
Josef Lebovic Gallery
Littera Scripta
Mark's Book Barn
Sainsbury's Books
Sebra Prints
Shapero Rare Books
Somerset House Books
Douglas Stewart Fine Books
Michael Treloar Antiquarian Booksellers
Ursus Rare Books Ltd
John Windle Antiquarian Bookseller

The 43rd ILAB Congress

A report by Dawn Albinger, Archives Rare Books



This February I had the very good fortune to be supported to attend the 43rd ILAB Congress held in Pasadena, California. My thanks go to the trustees of the Woodburn Foundation, who made it possible for the ABAA to support four booksellers new to the trade to be in attendance. I was joined by Laura Massey (Alembic Rare Books, UK), Aimee Peake (Bison Books, Canada) and Simon Ström (Sweden). I am also grateful to ANZAAB for supporting my travel to and from the Congress, and look forward to ‘giving back’ to the association that has offered me so much support in my first years of membership. The following article documents my impressions of the San Francisco Antiquarian Book, Print & Paper Fair, the 43rd ILAB Congress, and the 51st California Rare Book Fair held in Pasadena. I hope it gives a sense of what it was like to be there.

San Francisco

As I stood—bleary and jet-lagged—flipping through the well-ordered and reasonably priced boxes of ephemera on the Antipodean Rare Books’ stand, the ever-gracious David Lilburne enthused about the role of paper and photographs in the future of rare collections. The way he sees it, most of the major collectors have completed their collections in terms of rare books—what they are looking for now are ephemeral items that complement or ‘fill in the gaps’. Of course, eventually everyone shuffles off this mortal coil and when collectors die their collections—so painstakingly gathered over decades—are often broken up and dispersed, giving younger collectors the opportunities to add to their own unique collections. But in the foreseeable future David is predicting the continued rise in

collecting popularity of paper, photography and ephemera.



Cathy and David Lilburne

Looking around the San Francisco Antiquarian Book, Print & Paper Fair it was hard to disagree. A large portion of stands were completely devoted to ephemeral items, photographs, stereoscopes, glass slides, photo albums, friendship books, autograph books and scrap books. I wondered if my interest in nineteenth and early twentieth century postmortem images would be satisfied here but after a long search I found only one item—a deceased American outlaw. Interesting but not exciting enough for me to pay the four figures being asked. More exciting was a four album set of picture postcards and photographs collected by Captain Occlestone and his wife during their 1910 ‘round the world’ tour. This collection was complimented by four holograph journals. Imagine my delight on opening the first one to discover a record of arriving in Brisbane, Australia, followed immediately by my disappointment that Brisbane did not make a good first impression. But civic pride aside this item is truly unique. As Pablo Butcher explained when I returned to his stand the following day, many if not most ‘round the world’ photo albums may have captions and even be annotated within the album itself. However it is rare to find a trip with journals that precisely match and elaborate on each album. Who will want it? Any number of collectors might be interested in one or another of the albums depending on their geographic location and collecting interests, but it seems a crime to break the set. It is more likely that an institution might acquire it for the information relating to travel in 1910, the detailed notes on what everything cost, the observations of places and peoples. Or a collector who specialises in material from ‘round the world’

tours. If that is your interest, let me introduce you to Pablo...



Pablo Butcher with the Occlestone albums and journals

I spent most of the first day orienting and immersing myself, saying hello to the Australian book dealers who had come all this way to exhibit or to browse, and meeting some of the American dealers.

I enjoyed a brief chat with Miranda Garno Nesler of Whitmore Rare Books and absolutely loved her catalogue titled 'The Pursuit of Equality—Rare books from Women and their Allies'. This is a beautifully curated catalogue with well-known and important works by women and their champions in history. When I asked Miranda to show me one of her favourite items she chose Angelina E Grimke's *Letters To Catherine E. Beecher In Reply To An Essay On Slavery And Abolitionism* (1838). As she points out in the catalogue, "[i]n direct response to Beecher's argument that women's naturally subordinate role should prohibit their public activism, Grimke published a text that laid critical groundwork for the intersectional feminism of today." A humble little tome, but rich in content and historical significance.

Saturday morning found me back at the Fair, a little less bleary and ready for business. I picked up a

signed copy of Emma Goldman's 1911 *Anarchism and Other Essays* and two delightful Edward Gorey books, had several more bookish conversations, and before I knew it the time had come to catch my flight back to LA and arrive in Pasadena for the ILAB Congress.

The 43rd ILAB Congress, Pasadena

Congratulations to Jen and Brad Johnson of Johnson Rare Books and Archives for curating a fascinating itinerary and for the detailed and thoughtful organisation of this four day event. I'm aware that a couple of things didn't go quite to plan, but on the whole things went rather swimmingly and, being new to the ILAB Congress experience, I had my mind seriously blown each day.

Day #1—Registration, The ILAB Book Fair Symposium, Welcome Reception

After putting my name down on various lists for tours to come in the following days, and delighting in contents of my Congress book bag (the box of Sees Candy and the ILAB sunglasses were particularly appreciated—California light is very bright), I shyly made my way towards the room for the ILAB Book Fair Symposium. I was sorry to miss the walking tour of Old Pasadena, but I knew I had made the right choice for me even before I learned that the guide for the walking tour neglected to turn up. The Book Fair Symposium was like attending ILAB 101—through the speakers in Part 1 of the program I was treated to a history of the Book Fair and its challenges and successes in countries as diverse as Australia, England, France, Italy and the Netherlands. ILAB's press officer Angelika Elstner spoke about the benefits of utilising social media as part of any marketing campaign and suggested anyone feeling a little pessimistic about the future of book collecting read *The Revenge of Analog*. On the whole Part 1 was educational and thought provoking.

After a short break we were treated to two short presentations about book fairs by non dealers. The first was *The Shape of the Fair* by Claudia Funke (Chief Curator and Associate Director of Library Collections; The Huntington Library) who rather encouragingly stated, "What I want from a fair is to look at material that matters by a welcoming host." Ms Funke also pointed out that curators (at least in America) are now subject based rather than media

based, and so librarians will collect across a variety of media, AND many librarians are collecting in the recent past. Ms Funke was followed by Ms Susan Benne, Executive Director of the ABAA, who spoke about change and innovation in Rare Book Fairs in the United States. I wish I could say more about Ms Benne's presentation, but it coincided with a wave of jetlag (I'm so sorry Susan!). What I do recall is that she was bright and engaging, had a snappy powerpoint presentation, and was enthusiastically received.

On reflection what I appreciated most about this first symposium was the historical contextualising of the topic, the views presented from inside and outside the trade, and the wide variety of opinions expressed during the Q&A that followed. Perhaps the question that surprised me the most was whether Book Fairs should be for the trade only—a place where dealer-to-dealer deals are made. This kind of dealing occurs informally during the set up of most fairs anyway and can be perceived to be disadvantageous to the general collecting public. In my limited experience I would not expect to do very well financially if I were relying on selling my wares just to other dealers. Additionally trade-only fairs would seem to work against the one imperative that everyone shares—the need to reach potential customers. Book Fairs open to the public present a terrific opportunity to expose people to the wonder of books, each one “teeming with life” as Rare Book School Director Michael Suarez recently described them in a TedX talk. And at the same time we dealers are exposed to the most wonderful people—people who are passionate about a particular subject, historical period, type of typography or binding or printing. In Australia, the Melbourne Rare Book Week culminating in the Melbourne Rare Book Fair successfully cultivates awareness and appreciation of rare and antiquarian books and printed works on paper. I came away from the symposium feeling some national pride in the Rare Book Week innovation and determined to find ways to support the development of young collectors in my home state of Queensland. Watch this space for the Archives Fine Books Book Collecting Prize.

The Welcome Reception that followed at the Pacific Asia Museum was a little like speed dating for book dealers. I met two of my fellow scholarship recipients—the impressive Aimee Peake and the

delightful Simon Ström—and spoke with many established dealers and their equally interesting partners. A little dazzled I must admit I don't remember a word of those first conversations, but the wine was very good, and I tumbled into bed that night with a wonderful sense of anticipation for the days to come.

Days #2, #3 and #4—The Highlights



The days that followed were rich in opportunities to ogle important and beautiful books and printed material, and to meet many expert librarians, specialist dealers and extraordinary collectors.



At the Huntington Library we were treated to a ‘Reverse Book Fair’. Each special collections librarian had chosen two of three of their favourite items—books and printed works that are not usually on display—and we were invited to move amongst each table and ask questions. I was impressed by the passion of each person for the works they had chosen and felt privileged to be able to engage one on one and at such close range with the librarians and their unique and fascinating material. After I finally left the room—and I lingered—the experience “landed in me” in a visceral way and I sought a quiet spot to clear my throat and dash the surprising tears from my eyes. I spent the remaining time quietly moving through the public displays, feeling full beyond measure.



Dr. J. Mario Molina collection



David Rips collection

On the first day we were also invited to view two world class private collections, which were each outstanding in their own way: The medical collection of Dr J. Mario Molina and the science collection of David Rips. I loved Rips' story of how he came to collect books: In 2002 his father was given a lifetime achievement award (he invented the invisible bifocal lens in the glasses we wear) and for his thank you speech he thanked Copernicus, Newton, Darwin but sadly not David's mother, and so the son thought his father started to lose his mind. Later, two weeks before he died, Rip senior gave his son a rare book which is now David Rip's most treasured item. Rip junior started to collect because through that gift he came to understand that every book in his father's library was about science and every single author was in their way giving the same message: *be an independent thinker, learn what science teaches but don't be bound by dogma. Learn to think for yourself.* In the 10 years since he started, David Rips has collected every first edition in the history of science, in great condition, contemporary bindings and usually with an outstanding provenance. He has paid up to six figures for a single book.

The collection he showed us is staggering and he regularly opens his house and shows it to interested groups—from school kids to executives. His punchy message about honouring progress while retaining the capacity for independent thought was no less inspiring for being well-rehearsed.



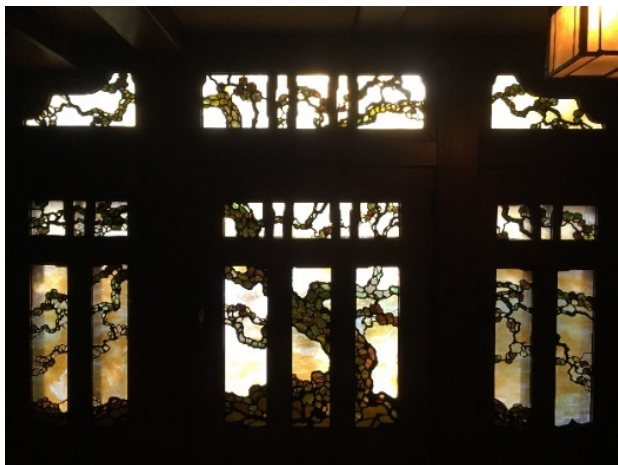
The rare books tour at the Getty Museum was made all the more memorable by the beautiful location and architecture. We arrived on a hilltop to find a luminous white structure against a deep blue sky.

Bright orange 'birds-of-paradise' bloomed in the gardens. 'Colour' is a collecting principle of the Getty rare books curator David Brafman and I enjoyed learning about his discovery that the symbolic language in a medieval alchemical text was



actually a recipe for creating paint. While he spoke my eye was consistently drawn to a large book open to an illustration of the life cycle of a moth. As I circled round the table to take a closer look I discovered it was from *Metamorphosis insectorum Surinamensium* by Maria Sibylla Merian (1647-1717). Those more educated than me in natural history will already know that Maria is famous as a naturalist and scientific illustrator. The book I was looking at was her major work published in 1705 and for which she became quite famous. For me she was a delightful new discovery and I was

impressed to learn that she documented the metamorphosis of moths and butterflies when she was just a girl of thirteen. Hers are among the earliest documentation of the life-cycles of insects, and helped in their time to dispel the widespread belief that bugs spontaneously emerged from mud.



Gamble House front door



William Andrew Clark Library

There was so much more: the tour of Gamble House, one of the most outstanding examples of American Arts and Craft style architecture; the William Andrews Clark Museum, home to the most comprehensive collection of Oscar Wilde material ever assembled; The Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences Margaret Herrick Library and the Petersen Automobile Museum. There are also two spaces worth mentioning for their social function during the Congress: the buses where one could sit next to and converse with numerous colleagues (and where I met the fourth scholarship recipient—the delightful Laura Massey); and the Presidential Suite at the Westin Pasadena that was open to all early in the morning and late at night. For those familiar with the theatre it functioned as a ‘green room’—the place where cast and crew can gather, relax and interact. And that is exactly how it was utilised—one evening it was like the ‘after-party’ party room, another night you might find a team of industrious booksellers folding dust-jackets and slipping them onto Nevine Marchiset’s historical index of ILAB that was to be distributed at the Gala Dinner. In the mornings in the Presidential Suite bleary eyed book

dealers poured coffee and regaled each other with recent and ancient tales of joy and woe as they reassembled themselves for another day of touring. In her maiden speech as the new ILAB president on the Gala Night Australia’s Sally Burdon also acknowledged the role this space played in making the entire Congress a success and congratulated Jen and Brad on the innovation.



*The Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences
Margaret Herrick Library*

The ILAB General Assembly & the California Rare Book Fair

Sadly my notes on these last two events are sketchy as I succumbed to a rather debilitating chest infection and virus. I attended the General Assembly in a foggy daze and ‘hung in’ because I was genuinely interested to hear about the things that the committee is focusing on. I spoke briefly and enthusiastically about the ILAB mentorship program (I have been participating as a mentee since April 2017), and the committee’s youngest member Pavel Chepyzhov (Bookvica) made an impression by speaking about the ILAB internship program. Last to speak was Frank Rutten (Antiquariaat Brinkman) who presented a video promoting the 44th ILAB Congress which will be held in Amsterdam in 2020. Frank promises it will be fun and instead of travelling by bus congress delegates will be ferried about by boat!

The 51st California International Antiquarian Book Fair was situated in the Pasadena Centre. One of the largest and most prestigious of international fairs it was a wonderful showcase for some of the most beautiful and important books and works on paper

available on the market today. Here as in San Francisco there were photographs, letters, journals and ephemera, but the emphasis was firmly on books and printing. I would have loved to have spent every moment it was open visiting each and every book seller but was only able to make it in for short ‘bursts’ of exploration. In spite of (or perhaps because of) my feverish state I managed to have some wonderful conversations and I would particularly like to thank John Howell, John Windle, Heather O’Donnell, Kay Craddock, Jonathan Burdon, Rob Shepherd and Stuart Bennett for engaging with me. David and Cathy Lilburne who I mentioned meeting in San Francisco also attended the Congress and Fair and were always there for me with advice, camaraderie and introductions to new people. Likewise Sally Burdon, Martin Nagle, Jennifer Jaeger, Douglas Stewart and Tira Lewis. I am aware it is dangerous to start naming people—there simply isn’t room to acknowledge every single wonderful acquaintance made. I will however go right ahead and mention a few more: Nicholas and Jenny Dawes, Derek McDonnell and Rachel Robarts who completed the Australian contingent, Kate Mitas who I had the pleasure of first meeting at CABS in 2015, Angelika Elstner and Paul and Janet Mills who travelled further than anyone else to join us from Capetown, South Africa, and Lisa Unger Baskin, collector extraordinaire of works by women (authors, binders, printers) and who I have been following on Instagram for the past year or more.



Laura Massey and Lisa Unger Baskin

Yes, it was a fan girl moment (thanks Laura Massey for the introduction) and I KNOW Lisa will remember me because of the spectacular coughing fit that overtook me as we were saying goodbye. Would it have been better to stay in bed? Commonsense says yes, but then I wouldn’t have met Ms Unger Baskin!

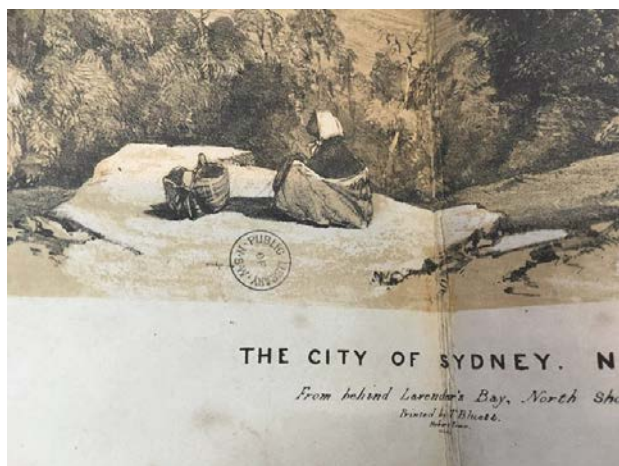
Overall the experience of attending the 43rd ILAB Congress was enriching beyond measure. I am convinced that the role of the rare book dealer is as important as it ever was in helping private collectors and public institutions build collections that foster independent thought and contribute to our understanding of human progress. I continue to be in awe of rare book and specialist collection librarians. I know that all I do not know could fill an ocean of books, but I am comfortable with that because learning anything in this profession is a lifelong endeavour. More importantly what I do not know may well fall within the expertise of a colleague and all I need do is reach out to find answers to my questions and the questions posed by my customers. However I am not complacent and in my opinion there is much work to be done to foster young collectors at home and abroad. In the end I have come home with a couple of modest purchases, a head full of ideas and plans, and a new passion for William Blake (John Windle’s catalogue has not been far from my hands for the past few weeks). Not as hung-over as planned, but definitely intoxicated with new knowledge, new relationships, and new possibilities. The 44th ILAB Congress will be held in Amsterdam in 2020 and is optimistically in my diary. If you are a rare book dealer I hope to see you there. If you are a collector perhaps we will meet at the Amsterdam International Antiquarian Book and Map Fair that will open as the Congress concludes. As Frank Rutten delighted in telling us, all we have to remember is “44/2020”. See you there.



*Dawn Albinger at Clark Library
(Photo by Angelika Elstner)*

The Other Side of the Story

In the June 2017 edition of The ANZAAB Newsletter we reported 'Two Cautionary Tales' about the loss and eventual recovery of rare books by ILAB booksellers. The second tale, 'Taking our book sleuthing to a new level in 2017... or, How we cracked the cold case of a book missing from the rare books department of a major institution' was an account of Dawn Albinger and Hamish Alcorn, of Archives Fine Books, Brisbane, reuniting a copy of John Skinner Prout's *Sydney Illustrated*, 1843 with the Library of New South Wales. Now the Library's Zoe Melling, Specialist Librarian, Published Collections, gives the other side of the story.



The mystery of the missing books - part 2

I was just settling into my new job at the State Library of New South Wales at the beginning of last year when a message from Dawn Albinger of Archives Fine Books landed in my inbox. As revealed in her article in the June 2017 issue of the ANZAAB newsletter, Dawn's email concerned the mysterious appearance of a number of books bearing the Library's stamp and call numbers in her shop, including *Sydney illustrated* by John Skinner Prout and two volumes each of James Cook's *A voyage towards the South Pole* and *A voyage to the Pacific Ocean*. I've dealt with a wide range of queries in my career as a librarian, many of which have required advanced investigative skills, but as Dawn said this case involved a whole new level of sleuthing. The librarian detective is alive and well in crime fiction, and there is even a special genre for stories featuring those involved in the world of books and libraries. Thrilled at the opportunity to

be a protagonist in a real life "bibliomystery", I donned my detective hat and started searching for clues.

My first task was finding evidence of ownership. Dawn had provided photographs of the books showing the "Sydney Free Library" and "Public Library of NSW" stamps and the call number for each of the five volumes in the "handful of old books" presented to her. As the items weren't listed on the Library's online catalogue, the investigation involved trawling through a number of historic card catalogues and shelf lists buried in the depths of the Library's underground stacks. For this I needed to enlist the help of colleagues, including one staff member with decades of institutional knowledge and an intimate familiarity with the different systems used over the years to record holdings. I have only seen one other active card catalogue in the nearly 30 years I've worked in the library profession, during a visit to the National Library of Greece a few years ago. I initially assumed this was for display purposes to convey an image of antiquity, until the Director pointed out that it was still in use.

After consulting the card catalogues we were able to establish that the books most likely went missing from the collection between 1982 and 1990 - both years in which stock takes were held. The entry for Prout's *Sydney illustrated* showed that the item was recorded as missing and withdrawn from the collection on 21 May 1990, and volumes 1 and 2 of Cook's *A voyage towards the South Pole* on 26 May 1990. The two volumes of *A voyage to the Pacific Ocean* were recorded as held in the Library but not marked as missing, although there were gaps on the shelf in the rare books room where the other copies were kept. We discovered that Volume 1, which wasn't among the books presented to Dawn, was also missing. As well as the card catalogues we consulted a number of bibliographies, including Beddie's *Bibliography of Captain James Cook*, which showed State Library holdings for the two Cook works and listed the call numbers for each volume.

Once ownership was established I sent a letter to Dawn requesting that she put the prospective seller in touch with me and hold on to the books until the matter was resolved. From this point the drama in Dawn and Hamish's shop unfolded quickly. Shortly after the showdown in Charlotte Street, I received a

phone call from the Queensland police who advised that they had the books in their possession and asked me to provide them with proof of ownership. I put together a “book of evidence” including photos, copies of card catalogue entries and bibliographic listings, and sent it off along with a letter of claim. The books were promptly released from police custody, and were subsequently returned to the Library by a courier specialising in fine arts material. Meanwhile, I received a phone call from the potential seller, who had calmed down considerably and indicated that he was happy for the books to be returned to the Library. I tried to find out how they had come into his possession, in the hope that this might lead to recovery of additional material missing from the collection, but he was reluctant to disclose his source, other than stating that he got the books from a junk seller who found them under his house. He did offer to go back to the seller to see if there was any more material, but his enthusiasm waned somewhat when he discovered there was no reward on offer. I sent a follow-up letter thanking him for his co-operation and encouraging him to get in touch if any further information came to light. I have yet to receive a response but the gentleman did mention that he would drop in to say hi next time he was in Sydney, so the case is not completely closed...

Since coming back to the Library, the copy of Prout’s *Sydney illustrated* has undergone preservation work by book conservators, and is now catalogued and available for viewing in the special collections area of the Mitchell Library Reading Room. Unfortunately the Cook volumes were beyond repair, and missing much of their content. And as an aside, I should add that for those interested in detective and mystery fiction the Library has a large and under-utilised collection of works from leading crime writers.

We are grateful to Dawn and Hamish for their assistance, their quick thinking and their commitment to upholding the ANZAAB code of ethics. This adventure has provided a valuable lesson to us all on the importance of provenance, the benefits of collegiality and the inherent sleuthing skills of librarians and booksellers!

Zoe Melling
Specialist Librarian, Published Collections
State Library of New South Wales

The ILAB Mentoring Program Two Testimonials



ILAB has recently launched its International Mentoring Programme. This program was established in recognition that the traditional pathways of informal apprenticeship between a dealer and someone wanting to enter the trade are disappearing. As book stores close and many dealers move online, there are fewer and fewer opportunities for apprenticeships to organically arise. In Australia we also face the *tyranny of distance*—it is not easy when new to the trade and running an open shop to duck off to other cities to meet fellow book dealers. The ILAB mentoring program has stepped in to provide introductions. It carefully pairs someone new to the trade with someone far more experienced who is willing to offer support and advice. In Australia we currently have three mentees and four mentors (two currently active), but with cheap and efficient technology mentors and mentees do not need to live in the same city, state or even country. In fact one of the Australian mentees, originally from Sydney, is living in Japan and being mentored by both Sally Burdon and Kagerou Bunko. As ILAB President Sally Burdon explains

We can now envisage such situations as a Dutch mentor supporting a young American bookseller, an American mentor helping a young Russian bookseller or an Australian mentor chatting regularly with their mentee in Malaysia. It is also just as likely that the mentor and mentee might be within the same country or city—there are far fewer limitations than there have ever been.

Communication between dealers across the world now is easy and inexpensive. This has created an opportunity for our trade to work together helping less experienced booksellers wherever they may be located to develop their businesses and become better, more confident and effective members of our trade within a much shorter time than they might otherwise be able to without a mentor.

Sufficient time has now elapsed for there to be some feedback from those who have entered the program as mentees. We include an international and Australian example here:

The first testimonial is from Milly Hughes, Blueberry Books, Bradford on Avon



Milly is being mentored by is Tom Lintern-Mole, Antiquates Fine and Rare Books in Dorset, England. Milly has provided the following feedback.:

“I started trading in June 2016. Having been absent from the book trade for a few years I was heartened to see the changes that have occurred in the meantime. Changes that now make it easier for people to start their careers in antiquarian books, as well as the support now available to new dealers, such as the ILAB mentorship programme.

I expressed my interest to take part in May 2017 and it was not long before I was put in touch with Tom Lintern-Mole from Antiquates. His help and support have been invaluable to me. It was at Tom’s suggestion that I applied for the PBFA scholarship and subsequently attended the York Antiquarian Book Seminar. I have also recently become a member of the PBFA and will be manning my first book fair stand in 2018. In due course I plan to apply to join the ABA.

This may feel like an obvious progression to people well established in the trade, but back in May it felt unattainable to me. Not only has the ILAB mentorship programme been very informative, as Tom has generously shared his time with me and answered all my many questions, it has also given me a confidence in my own abilities and sense of place within the trade that was somewhat lacking before.”

The second testimonial is from our main contributor to this edition of The ANZAAB Newsletter, Dawn Albinger of Archive Fine Books, Brisbane. Dawn is being mentored by Sally Burdon, Asia Bookroom, Canberra.

*When you get to the top of the mountain
Pull the next one up—Mark Kelly Smith*

Studies have demonstrated the importance of mentorship in supporting both women and men to reach their potential and to achieving the greatest possible success in their field. Mentors are ideally colleagues and role models: someone who has been there before you and with whom you can talk through challenges, ask questions of pathways, protocol, strategy, and more. A mentor is someone willing and able to help *pull the next one up*. At Archives Fine Books I have benefitted over the past six years from informal and now formal mentoring. And all I had to do was ask.

A few years ago I recall asking Jörn Harbeck, who was then President of ANZAAB, how one learns to become an antiquarian book dealer. Jörn became my first (unofficial) mentor, answering questions, drawing my attention to opportunities (Colorado Antiquarian Book Seminar, 2015) and patiently reading my first catalogue entries and gently offering corrections and advice. I am grateful for his time and encouragement and in February 2016 my ANZAAB membership application was approved. It felt like a great achievement, but really I had only scaled the foothills. Before me stood a grand mountain of knowledge that I knew I did not possess and I wasn’t sure how to continue the climb. This is when I became aware of the ILAB mentoring program and immediately applied.

I specifically asked for someone in Australia to better understand the context in which I am operating. I was fortunate to be paired with Sally

Burdon of Canberra's Asia Bookroom. We meet once a month on Skype and talk for 60–90 minutes. I ask questions, she tells stories, I get inspired, and she encourages me and suggests ways forward. Because it is a formal relationship I have found that I am quick to act on her suggestions because I want to be able to report back in the next month what happened, and discuss any challenges or successes that have come my way. I truly feel I have learned more in the past ten months than I could have learned in ten years of trial and error by myself. I have increased clarity and focus and have been able to foster new and profitable relationships with institutions and other dealers, both in Australia and overseas. Sally has definitely helped *pull me up* and although our formal mentoring relationship is drawing to a close—it's a 12-month program—I will be ever grateful for her camaraderie, advice, and collegial support.

I would wholeheartedly recommend the [ILAB mentoring program](#) to anyone new to the trade or to anyone seriously wanting to enter it and genuinely seeking support and advice. It has made an enormously positive impact on our business and our capacity to not only survive but thrive, and I look forward to the next chapter with renewed energy and anticipation.



melbourne RARE BOOK WEEK

29 June–8 July 2018

will be available from that date on line at www.rarebookweek.com.

The 2018 partners joining ANZAAB to present this year's program are:

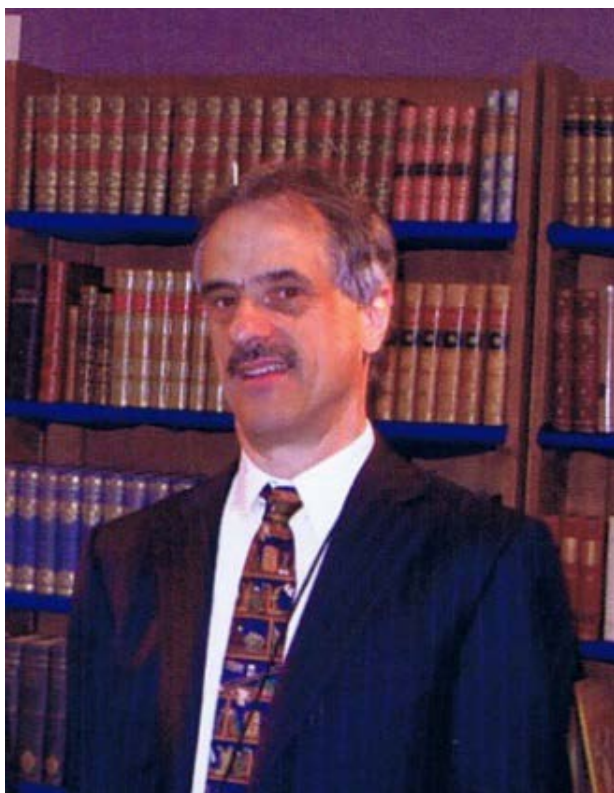
Book Collectors' Society of Australia (Vic.)
The C. J. La Trobe Society
Douglas Stewart Fine Books
Ephemera Society of Victoria
Genealogical Society of Victoria
Hince on Wine
The Law Library of Victoria
The Melbourne Athenaeum Library
Melbourne Cricket Club Library
Melbourne Law School
Melbourne Library Service
Monash Public Library Service
Monash University Library
Museums Victoria
National Gallery of Victoria
Old Treasury Building
Parliament of Victoria Library
Private Libraries Association
PMI Victorian History Library
Royal Historical Society of Victoria
RMIT Design Archives
Royal United Services Institute of Victoria
State Library Victoria
University of Melbourne Library

Together, they are presenting over 40 free events, including behind the scenes visits to libraries, exhibitions, curators' floor talks, lectures, talks and panel discussions on book collecting, artists' books, the music of war, the mediaeval art of dying, Sappho of Lesbos and representations of Women's Sexuality, the Fanfrolico Press and its collectors, preservation of photographs and paper-based items, cook books, William Blake, rare book appraisals, and theft from collecting institutions.

This year there is emphasis on the Gothic theme—marking some important gothic anniversaries, including the bicentenary of the first publication of *Frankenstein* by Mary Shelley and the 200th birthday of Emily Bronte, author of *Wuthering Heights*. These include the exhibition *Dark Imaginings* at the University of Melbourne Library, and talks and readings with evocative titles such as *Vampires and Victorian eroticism*, *The Gothic Novel*, *Ghastly Gothic Reads*, and *Dark Tales*.

The program also includes a school holiday workshop for children—*Pop-ups and paper mechanics*, held at the State Library Victoria, and an opportunity to *Make your own rare Life Book* under the guidance of library staff at the Mount Waverley Library. Rare Book Week culminates in the Rare Book Fair, Wilson Hall, University of Melbourne, from 6–8 July (www.rarebookfair.com).

Enquire Within: Peter Arnold



Peter Arnold established his rare book business in Melbourne in 1969, having started as a 'book runner' for John Holroyd, then manager of the secondhand department at Robertson and Mullens.

He has been in his current High Street, Prahran premises since 1990, where he deals in fine and rare books of most descriptions, but with an emphasis on Australiana, including photographs, colonial prints, and early maps. He also runs occasional auctions. His shop is open Monday to Friday.

He is a foundation member of ANZAAB, and was its sixth President, from 1992 to 1995. Peter has exhibited at most Australian Antiquarian Book Fairs since their inception and, in the past he has organised a number of Melbourne Book Fairs.

Peter Arnold Pty Ltd, 606 High street, Prahran
Victoria, 3181. www.peterarnold.com.au

Five Questions for Peter Arnold

1. As a child, what did you want to be when you grew up?

An entomologist.

2. What was your first job?

I was variously employed during university holidays, including, believe it or not, a builder's labourer.

3. What is your earliest memory of visiting a bookshop?

The first secondhand shop I discovered was Penn's Bookshop in Little Collins Street behind the Southern Cross Hotel, then a Melbourne landmark.

4. Why did you become a bookseller?

The alternatives would have been teacher or librarian but being self-employed in this fascinating business soon appealed much more.

5. What is one piece of advice that you have for

a. a budding bookseller?

The rare book trade has changed so much in the last twenty years that I hesitate to offer advice: but you should always be striving to enhance your knowledge. The internet is a wonderful source though some bibliographical information is still to be found only in reference books

b. a beginner book collector?

The usual advice: visit bookshops and book fairs and talk to the dealers, who will be happy to answer your questions.



Peter is exhibiting at this year's
Melbourne Rare Book Fair
Wilson Hall
University of Melbourne
6-8 July

Obituary: Muriel Rose Craddock

13.04.1912–06.12.2017



Muriel Craddock was a ‘remarkable woman’. This is the constant message that has been communicated to her family since her death, at the age of 105 years and 8 months, on 6 December last year.

Muriel was born in Bordertown, South Australia, on April 13, 1912, on the eve of the fateful collision of the Titanic. She grew up in Wallaroo, on the Yorke Peninsula, and her first experience in the workforce was as a manual exchange telephonist at the Wallaroo Post Office. Through her brother, Tom, Muriel met and married Leslie Craddock, who came from nearby Kadina. She and Les lived in Adelaide, where they had three daughters, Patricia, Kay and Julie. In 1956 Les was transferred to Melbourne, via Perth, by his employer, Massey Ferguson, and the family settled in Essendon.

Muriel’s second experience in the workforce was some thirty years after her job at the Wallaroo Post Office. A spontaneous purchase at a local auction room led to her becoming a business woman at 53 years of age. In the mid-1960s Muriel went each week to the auction rooms at Kirk’s Bazaar on Mount Alexander Road in North Essendon where she bought whatever took her fancy—a box of books, kerosene lamps or small pieces of bric-à-brac. One day at the Bazaar, the owner and auctioneer John Kirk offered a consignment of several hundred books in many boxes. Struggling to find a buyer in the room, he pleaded, ‘Won’t somebody give me a pound for the lot?’ Muriel raised her hand and the consignment was knocked down to her. This enormous influx of books created storage problems at the Craddocks’ home in Locke

Street, Essendon. There were two choices—stop buying so many books, or turn the purchases into stock.

Muriel, her husband Les, and daughter Kay, opened ‘The Essendon Treasure Chest’ on May 28, 1965, selling a combination of secondhand books, bric-a-brac, old furniture, and handicrafts that Muriel and Kay made. Les died two months later, and Muriel and Kay continued on their journey from secondhand dealers to antiquarian booksellers which, in 1990, led them to establish Kay Craddock – Antiquarian Bookseller at their current address at The Assembly Hall Building, 156 Collins Street, Melbourne.

On her 90th birthday in 2002, Muriel was made a Life Member of the Australian and New Zealand Association of Antiquarian Booksellers. The citation included the following:

The decision was unanimously agreed in recognition of your long years in the trade, the magnificent premises that you have established, your delightful attitude towards customers and in general your acceptance of the code of ethics that the Association holds dear.

In 2006 Muriel was a Gold recipient in the Lord Mayor’s Commendations program, which recognises longevity amongst Melbourne’s small business community.

Muriel remained a partner in the family bookshop well into her nineties. Sadly, advanced macular degeneration forced her eventual retirement. In July 2012, just after her 100th birthday, Muriel was a guest of honour at the fourth Graeme Clark Oration. The Oration, *Forever Young?* was delivered by Professor Dame Linda Partridge, Weldon Professor of Biometry and Director of the Institute of Health Aging, University College London. The highlight of the Oration dinner, attended by 410 guests, was a video interview with Muriel on being 100.

Muriel was a beloved wife, dearly loved mother, grandmother and great-grandmother, a good friend to those who knew her, and an intrepid business woman. She will be missed.

Obituary: Kenneth Hince OAM

28.07.1926–19.02.2018



Kenneth Hince, who died in February 2018, had written at various times of his own history, including this account of how he started in the trade.

Aged thirteen I moved to senior secondary school, and discovered in one of the early classes just one boy among about forty-five others who was, like myself, uninterested in sport. There was immediate affinity, and the start of a friendship that proved life-long. From him I learned several useful techniques for avoiding compulsory football. Better still, he taught me to read – not how to read, because I was already a constant if indiscriminate reader, but what.

We worked our way through Fielding and Smollett, looking forward with great delight to the irregular release of new titles in the Oxford World's Classics series, which cost at that time a fraction under two shillings. They were in short supply, almost rationed, like most pleasant things during the war. Nor did either of us have many spare florins: but in less than a year we found that there were second-hand

bookshops in which you could generally buy more than one book for two shillings.

I soon discovered all the second-hand booksellers in Melbourne and in the suburbs that were in bicycle range, about a dozen in all. It was not long before I developed the habit of visiting a bookshop with my mind already made up to spend whatever was in my pocket on the best available books, whatever they might be. As my reading had been, the choice of books on this plan was random and indiscriminate, but certain patterns began to form; a preference for English classics, poetry, for books on music, classical scores, and sheet music. A growing interest in the book as an object emerged, in printing and paper, handsome cloth binding from publishers, ornamental and leather binding. And after a while another factor was added: the profit motive. I discovered that each bookshop had a degree of specialisation, and that you could sell in one what you had bought in another, and make money from it.

Eventually I became a runner as well as a collector or accumulator, although of course I did not know it was called running. It was a fairly easy skill to develop, because at this time the booksellers never visited each other, and they never went to auctions. Specific book auctions were rare, almost unknown, but the regular auction marts usually had consignments of books, and it was not long before I had trusty storemen in each auction house to let me know when interesting lots came up and to bid for me if I could not be there myself.

Studying at the University of Melbourne, medicine at first, later shifting to arts and music, Ken met and married (in 1949) Patricia Morrissey. This union was a long and happy one, producing seven children and lasting until Pat's death in January 2013.

By 1956 he was teaching at his former school, Xavier College, where he remained full-time until 1964. Early catalogues and lists were issued from the family home in East Hawthorn in 1959, and the following year in January he opened his first bookshop in Melbourne's Metropole Arcade. A period at 123 Little Collins Street preceded the move

to a three-storey building at 77 Bourke Street, Melbourne. Famous Melbourne collectors such as Rollo and Ivo Hammet, Ian McLaren, John Chapman, Eric Cook, and Rodney Davidson became regular customers.

Ken followed his own interests for several decades by collecting books on music, and sheet music itself. This collection of books, music and manuscripts was acquired by the National Library of Australia in 1969, and has been added to several times since. His first full-time job had been as librarian at the University Conservatorium of Music 1948-1952. During his music studies he reviewed university concerts, and wrote a column for *Farago*, as well as writing for the Arts Faculty magazine, *Melbourne University Magazine*, and other journals. By 1950 he was reviewing for the Sydney musical monthly *The Canon*, and then for the *Radio Times*. His name gradually became better known, and he contributed several times to the quarterly *Quadrant* while Jim McAuley was editor, to *The Observer* under Peter Coleman, and then to *The Bulletin*. This is the path that led to his appointment as national music critic of Rupert Murdoch's *The Australian* when it was launched in 1964, and then to his reviewing for *The Age* from 1977 to 1994. His music reviews were literate, accessible, and elegant, but uncompromising in their search for perfection in musical performance and expression.

In 1972 Ken moved his bookshop to 138-140 Greville Street, Prahran, a location where he remained until early 1987. This is the shop in which he would be best-known to most of us today. Two former ANZAAB members, Elizabeth Campbell and Fiona McIlreavy, also came into the trade after working for Ken. 1972 was the year in which he organised Australia's first antiquarian booksellers' fair, held in August in the Robert Blackwood Hall at Monash University. Wallace Kirsop, then secretary of the Friends of the Monash University Library, wrote in the handout: "This fair marks an important stage in the growth of a trade that has an almost unique cultural significance. To bring together under one roof selections from the stock of leading booksellers in a number of Australian cities and of two dealers from overseas is an event worthy of note well beyond bibliophilic circles... It will be interesting to follow, through the many fairs that are bound to come after this year's pioneering effort,

the evolution of an antiquarian trade that has now finally achieved federal co-operation".

The steps that led from this fair to the ultimate formation of a local bookselling association in 1978 are covered by Ken in his *The Founding of the Australian and New Zealand Association of Antiquarian Booksellers; Personal Memoir (1997)*. He was the association's inaugural president.

After Christie's London decided to discontinue their regular Australian sales in July 1978, Ken added an auction arm to his activities, forming Kenneth Hince Book Auctions and holding his first sale in November 1978. A further twenty-one sales were held, generally two per annum, some at Prahran Town Hall, others at The Age Gallery in Spencer Street, Ormond Hall, or the Caulfield Arts Centre. The final sale was held in conjunction with Leonard Joel in November 1991. Libraries and collections from which he catalogued for these sales include those of Margareta Webber, Ivo Hammet, Sir Irving Benson, Eric Glenie Bonython, Sir Thomas Ramsay, Peter Benson Walker, J. O. Randell, E. Graeme Robertson, and Gordon Hughes. On separate occasions he was approached by Sotheby's and by Christie's Australia with proposals to run a book department, but since this was incompatible with operating his own retail bookshop he chose to continue in the shop, something he in fact did (and enjoyed) until weeks before his death.

We've been touched by hearing from a great many of Ken's colleagues of their gratitude for his kindness and generosity to them in the trade. He was a respected and agreeable bookseller, a literate and discriminating man of modest ambition, someone who personified the very best traditions of the bookman. A conservative man with a respect for tradition, he valued the written word as a source of wisdom and as an art.

As he said in a speech at the 2004 ILAB Congress in Melbourne, there is a special value (something almost holy) in actually handling or creating one thread in the transmission of a culture and a civilisation, a culture with a written language, and therefore with books.

Barbara, and the Hince family, April 2018.

This is part of a longer tribute now in preparation.



ANZAAB

The Australian and New Zealand Association of Antiquarian Booksellers

www.anzaab.com

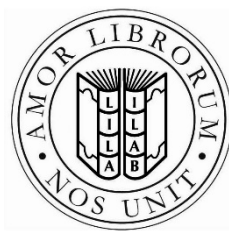
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