



THE UNIVERSITY OF  
MELBOURNE

Cultural Collections Reading Room  
Information Sheet

## *Special Collections*

# *Australian Literature Resources*

Please contact us on:

### Special Collections:

Tel: 8344 5380  
[reading-room@unimelb.edu.au](mailto:reading-room@unimelb.edu.au)  
<http://library.unimelb.edu.au/collections/special-collections>

### The University of Melbourne Archives:

Tel: 8344 6848  
[archives@archives.unimelb.edu.au](mailto:archives@archives.unimelb.edu.au)  
<http://archives.unimelb.edu.au/>

### Grainger Collection:

Tel: 8344 5270  
[grainger@unimelb.edu.au](mailto:grainger@unimelb.edu.au)  
<http://grainger.unimelb.edu.au/>

Special Collections contains a number of important collections of printed and primary source (archival) material facilitating study and research in Australian literature.

Special Collections material may not be borrowed but is available for use in the **Cultural Collections Reading Room on the 3rd Floor, Baillieu Library.**

### Printed Collections

**The AX Collection** includes extensive holdings of 19th century and 20th century Australian fiction, drama and poetry. *Catalogued online.*

**The Joyce Thorpe Nicholson Collection** of books by and about Australian women, contains many rare, early literary works, including *The Guardian* by Amelia Bunn (Sydney, 1838), and the first novel published on the Australian mainland. *Catalogued online. You can use Nicholson in the Special Collections Donor field.*

**The McLaren Collection** has an exceptionally wide coverage of 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> century Australian fiction, including much popular fiction. It also has comprehensive holdings of Australian poetry, drama, children's literature and literary journals. *Catalogued online*

**The Meanjin Collection** (not to be confused with the Meanjin Archive, *qv.*) includes Australian fiction and poetry as well as critical works and is especially strong in its coverage of the period 1940-1975. *Partially catalogued online; otherwise on the card catalogue only.*

**The Romance Fiction Collection** is a comprehensive collection of paperback fiction by Australian and New Zealand romance novelists published from the 1960s up until the present, by publishers such as Mills and Boon, Silhouette and the Women's Weekly Library. *Catalogued online*

**The Taylor Collection** is a collection of nearly 5,000 Australian 'pulp' (popular fiction and sensationalised non-fiction), ranging across all genres, published in Australia from the 1940s to the 1980s. *Not catalogued online; a list is available for consultation.*

**The Thesis Collection**, which holds Masters' and PhD theses completed at the University of Melbourne, includes many theses about Australian literature, as well as theses from the creative writing program. *Theses are identified by the prefix 'T' under the 'LOCATION' entry in the online catalogue. You can use the word thesis and keywords of your topic to find them*

**The Chris Wallace Crabbe collection**, which hold poetry and plays collected by poet and academic Chris Wallace-Crabbe  
*Catalogued online*

## Archival Collections

*A database of Archives can be searched on the Web:*

<http://archives.unimelb.edu.au/>

**The Meanjin Archive** is an exceptionally rich collection that includes authors' correspondence and manuscripts from the journal *Meanjin*, covering the years 1940-1975, under the editorship of the journal's founder, C.B. Christesen. Virtually every Australian writer active in the period is represented in the Archive, as well as very many other cultural figures from the fields of media, academia, politics and the arts. Installments of the Archive under subsequent Meanjin editors will be available in the future.

**The Scripsi Archive** holds the records of the Melbourne literary journal that flourished from 1981 - 1994. It includes correspondence and manuscripts from the Australian and overseas' authors who contributed to *Scripsi*.

**W.G. Hay Papers** contains the personal papers, including correspondence, journals and manuscripts, from the popular turn-of-the-century novelist William Gosse Hay.

**The McPhee Gribble Archive** holds the complete records of the independent Australian publishing house that flourished between 1975-1989 and published the early works of such authors as Helen Garner and Tim Winton. It includes correspondence and manuscripts from all its authors.

*Note: Access is currently restricted.*

The archive of **Sisters Publishing and Book Club** holds the records of the feminist publishing collective and book club that was active in Melbourne from the mid 1970s until the early 1980s.

The University Archives also holds collections of personal papers of writers and poets such as:

Chris Wallace-Crabbe

Evan Jones

John Morrison

Search the University Archives' collections on their website:

<http://www.lib.unimelb.edu.au/collections/archives/archgen.html>

A proportion of Archives and Special Collections material does not appear in the Library's online catalogue. Staff are always happy to assist readers in identifying and locating material in any of the collections. You can contact us on 8344-5380 (Special Collections) or 8344-6848 (Archives).