



The National Centre for Australian Children's Literature

As you can see our name and banner have changed. For the last two years, the Board has been working towards positioning the Lu Rees Archives as the premier collection of Australian Children's Literature. Our tag line is "Sharing our nation's heritage". We have our vision for the future, "Our literary past, present and future are preserved in the Centre, through the stories that touched our hearts and stirred our imaginations as children. It documents and shares the creative process, and inspires the next generation of readers with research collections, exhibitions and outreach activities."

At our Annual General Meeting held on 23 September, our Board and Members unanimously agreed to change our name from the Lu Rees Archives of Australian Children's Literature Inc to the National Centre for Australian Children's Literature Inc. We are doing this because the new name succinctly states what we are, clearly conveys our intent and embodies our vision for the future. We will continue to honour Lu Rees, as our founder, in our history, through a long-established award in her name, and in other ways.

We will soon arrange small group meetings with authors, illustrators and publishers who are immediately concerned with the Centre, to share our vision for the future and to seek their support in spreading the word about our exciting plans.

If you are following us on Twitter or Facebook you can see our progress in implementing this very exciting change. Why not join in the conversation today or make an appointment to visit us when you are next in Canberra to celebrate with us.

Below Left Lu Rees, Dr Waterhouse and Victor Crittenden College Librarian, announcing the agreement between the then Canberra College of Advanced Education and the Lu Rees Archives in 1979.

Below Right Jenny Jeffery, niece of Lu Rees with Dr Belle Alderman AM. Jenny marked the occasion of her visit by donating books her Aunt Lu had given her as a child.

"The new name will certainly make an appropriate statement in this great city of many other national institutions. I imagine Aunty Lu would be very pleased. I am thrilled that her crucial role will continue to be recognised." Jenny Jeffery



On learning of our name change Ann Haddon and Ann James of Books Illustrated said:

"We believe this change is so essential for taking the intention of the Archives into the future. The creation of a National Centre for Australian Children's Literature will open many opportunities for partnerships that can only advance and enrich the development of Australian Children's Literature on a national level."

Special visitors

Bottom Left Students from the University of Canberra Ginninderra College spent several hours using Centre resources to complete a writing assessment.

Bottom Right Dee Huxley, signing the Visitor's Book, with her daughter Tiffany and Belinda Gamlen. Dee's art work is currently being described by Max Brown.



On learning of our name change Robyn Sheahan- Bright said:

"Thank-you so much for this message regarding the change to the name of the Lu Rees Archives. I congratulate you and all involved on what has been achieved since 1974 and am sure that these achievements will be further consolidated by your careful planning for the future. Thanks again for the extraordinary work you have done to preserve Australia's children's literature and its heritage."

Special invitation:

The National Centre for Australian Children's Literature
(formerly the Lu Rees Archives)

Invites you to attend its End of Year celebrations

Where: Level A, The University of Canberra Library



