

UQFL391 Ernest Briggs Collection

Size 1 box

Contents Correspondence and poetry manuscripts

Biography Ernest Briggs, a fifth generation Australian, was born in Sydney in 1905. He

was descended from Captain Thomas Rowley, adjutant to Governor Phillips, and later Lieutenant Governor of Norfolk Island. He was manager of Radio Station 4BK in Brisbane in the 1930s, and also wrote music and art reviews for the *Courier Mail*. He published several books of poetry. He died in 1967.

Notes Open access

For further manuscript material related to Ernest Briggs, see the W B Ross Collection UQFL210 and the Ernest Briggs Collection UQFL517. See also the manuscript of his play *The clearest call*, held in the Hanger collection at H0201. A memorial lecture by Briggs on Robert Dalley-Scarlett is held in the

Robert Dalley-Scarlett Collection UQFL38.

Box 1

Folder 1

Letter to Cecil Hadgraft giving a bibliography of his writing, 'excluding novels, plays, articles and a considerable number of other prose works', 24 Apr 1967, 2p, typescript, signed. Some title entries have a description following in brackets. Previously catalogued at F121.

Letter to Cecil Hadgraft, in reply to his of 26 Apr 1967, including two sonnets, 2 May 1967, 1p, typescript, signed. Previously catalogued at F123.

Folder 2

Sonnet: 'Triplicity', June 1967, 1p, handwritten. Dedicated 'to Judith Wright McKinney, D.Litt'. Inscribed: 'For Cecil Hadgraft, with good wishes'. Previously catalogued at F124.

Sonnet: 'The Happy Land', June 1967, 1p, handwritten. 'On an untitled picture by Annette Kinne, aged 6, sent to me by her brother Warren Kinne'. Inscribed: 'For Cecil Hadgraft, in sincere appreciation'. Previously catalogued at F125.

Folder 3

Last updated: 3/10/2012

Sonnet: 'Friended', 1967, 1p, typescript, signed. With handwritten note: 'For Elizabeth MacLeod, with all good wishes, Ernest Briggs, 1967.' Previously catalogued at F58.



Folder 4

Sonnet: 'Who Shall Not Come Again', 25 Mar 1943, 1p, typescript, signed. Inscribed: 'For Dr. F.W. Robinson, with all good wishes'. Previously catalogued at F126.

Folder 5

'The death of the hare' [poems], Brisbane, 1940-1948, 31p, typescript in handmade binding. Note in hand of Firmin McKinnon: 'From Ernest Briggs to Firmin McKinnon Christmas 1948.' Donated by Mrs Firmin McKinnon, May 1953.

Folder 6

'The Merciless Beauty: a poetry sequence', Brisbane, 1943, 27p, typescript in red paper folder. Inscribed: 'For Dr. George Mackaness, in sincere appreciation. Ernest Briggs, 1943'. Includes letter from Ernest Briggs to Dr. George Mackaness, 27 Sep 1943, 1p, typescript, asking for his opinion of the work, which Briggs intends to enter for the Australian Authors Competition. Subsequently published in Brisbane by Meanjin Press, 1943. Previously catalogued at F1641.

'The Merciless Beauty' [poems], [1943?], 23p, typescript in handmade binding. Inscribed: 'For Margery, with all good wishes from Ernest Briggs.' Includes a foreword by the poet, a review of the book written by W.A. Amiet for the *Daily Mercury*, Mackay, 25 Mar 1944 and a short article on Ernest Briggs from the *Courier Mail*. Donated by Ms Margaret Higgs. Subsequently published in Brisbane by Meanjin Press, 1943.

Folder 7

'The Timeless Flowers' [poems], 1947, 57p, typescript in handmade binding, subsequently bound. Includes a preface by the poet. Inscribed: 'For Firmin McKinnon, with good wishes from Ernest Briggs, 1947.' Donated by Mrs Firmin McKinnon, May 1953. Subsequently published in Brisbane by the *Courier Mail*, 1952, as *The Timeless Flowers and the Water Carrier*. Previously catalogued at F1658.

'The Timeless Flowers' [poems], 1947, 56p, typescript in handmade binding. Includes a preface by the poet. Inscribed: 'For Margery, with all good wishes, Ernest Briggs, 1947.' Donated by Ms Margaret Higgs. Subsequently published in Brisbane by the *Courier Mail*, 1952, as *The Timeless Flowers and the Water Carrier*.

Folder 8

Last updated: 3/10/2012

'The Secret Listener' [poems], 1948, 27p, typescript in folder, subsequently bound. Donated by Mrs Firmin McKinnon, May 1953. Inscribed by the author: 'For Firmin McKinnon, with good wishes, and appreciation, sincerely Ernest Briggs, 1948'. Subsequently published in Brisbane by Dunrobin, 1949. Previously catalogued at F1657.

'The Secret Listener' [poems], 1949, 36p, typescript in folder. Also 1p typescript of reviews. Donated by Mrs Firmin McKinnon. Subsequently published in Brisbane by Dunrobin, 1949. Previously catalogued at F122.



Folder 9

'The peat-fire flame' [poems], [1951], 28p, typescript in handmade binding, subsequently bound. At head of title: 'Festival of Britain. Scots poetry section, 1951.' By Ernest Briggs [Rory Mor]. Inscribed: 'For Firmin McKinnon, with all good wishes, from Ernest Briggs, 1951.' Donated by Mrs Firmin McKinnon, May 1953.

Folder 10

'The undying glory' [poems], [1951?], 30p, typescript in handmade binding, subsequently bound. At head of title: 'Festival of Britain. Poetry competition. English section a. Single poem in English not less than 300 lines.' By Ernest Briggs [Ballylee]. Inscribed: 'For Firmin McKinnon, with sincere appreciation, Ernest Briggs.' Donated by Mrs Firmin McKinnon, May 1953. Subsequently published in Ilfracombe, Devon, by A.H. Stockwell, 1954. Previously catalogued at F1660.

Folder 11

'The water-carrier' [poems], Brisbane, Apr 1951, 90p, ill., typescript in handmade binding, subsequently bound. With a preface by the poet. Inscribed: 'For Firmin McKinnon, with sincere good wishes, from Ernest Briggs, 1951.' Donated by Mrs Firmin McKinnon, May 1953. Subsequently published in Brisbane by the *Courier Mail*, 1952, as *The Timeless Flowers and the Water Carrier*. Previously catalogued at F1661.

Folder 12

'Butterfly poetry' [poems], Brisbane, 1953, 56p, typescript, xerox copy of original in possession of Judith Wright McKinney, bound. With a preface by the poet. Inscribed: 'For John and Judith, with every good wish, sincerely Ernest Briggs, 1954.' Previously catalogued at F1654.

'Butterfly poetry' [poems], Brisbane, 1953, 59p, typescript in handmade binding. With a preface by the poet. Inscribed: 'For Ethel Osborn, with every good wish from Ernest Briggs, 1954.' Previously catalogued at F1654.

Folder 13

'The high ascent and other poems', Brisbane, 1953, 16p, typescript in handmade binding. Includes 'Seven Sonnets for the New Elizabethan Age' commissioned for *The Courier Mail*'s Coronation Supplement, June 1953. Inscribed: 'For dear Ethel Osborn, and John Gilmour, with all good wishes, from Ernest Briggs 1953.' Previously catalogued at F1989.

'The high ascent and other poems', Brisbane, 1953, 16p, typescript in handmade binding with painted roses. Includes 'Seven Sonnets for the New Elizabethan Age' commissioned for *The Courier Mail's* Coronation Supplement, June 1953. Inscribed: 'For dear Margery with all good wishes, sincerely, Ernest Briggs, 1953.' Donated by Ms Margaret Higgs.

Folder 14

Last updated: 3/10/2012

'Curlew Hills', Brisbane, 1954, 24p, typescript in handmade binding. On top of title page: 'M. Haley'. Donated by Martin Haley.



Folder 15

'To the fleeting', Brisbane, 1956, 32p, typescript in handmade binding, subsequently bound. Inscribed: 'For Paul and Bobby, with every good wish from Ernest Briggs.' From the collection of Father Leo Hayes. Previously catalogued at F1659.

'To the fleeting', Brisbane, 1956, 32p, ill., typescript in handmade binding. Inscribed: 'For Martin Haley, in sincere appreciation from Ernest Briggs.' Donated by Martin Haley.

Folder 16

'Lieder der Seele (Songs of the Soul)', Brisbane, 1958, 16p, ill., typescript in handmade binding. Inscribed: 'For dear Margery, with all good wishes from your old friend Ernest Briggs, Xmas 1958.' Donated by Ms Margaret Higgs.

Folder 17

'When Jesus walked in Galilee', [1962?], 1p, typescript, signed. Inscribed: 'For dear Ethel and John Gilmour, with kindest greetings for the New Year 1962.' Previously catalogued at F1991.

'Rain in the Pine-Wood', by Gabriele D'Annunzio, English version by Ernest Briggs, [19--], 3p, typescript. Previously catalogued at F1992.

'Consolation', by Gabriele D'Annunzio, English version by Ernest Briggs,

[19--], 4p, typescript. Previously catalogued at F1993.

Folder 18

'Tranquil waters' [poems], [after 1964?], 57p, typescript in handmade binding. Includes a brief biographical note on the poet. Previously catalogued at F1990.