

UQFL 65

George Landen Dann Collection

Size 2 boxes

Contents Incoming correspondence 1932 to 1976; two diaries; manuscripts of dramas, poetry, prose, an unpublished novel, and a film/television script; notes; personal papers; programmes of productions of his plays; scrapbooks; newspaper clippings; photographs.

Biography George Landon Dann was born in Queensland in 1904. He was a draughtsman and a member of the military forces as well as a playwright. His career as a dramatist started with "In Beauty it is finished" in 1931. Most of Dann's plays won or gained places in competitions, including a first prize for "No Incense Rising" in 1938 at the Dramatists' Club of Australia competition, which was judged in London.

Notes Unrestricted access
See Hanger Collection for playscripts from this collection.

Box 1

- A1 Australian Elizabethan Theatre Trust**
Letter 17 Dec. 1958 to George Landen Dann congratulating him on award-winning play: *Resurrection at Matthewtown*.
- A2 Australian Society of Authors**
Letter [n.d.] to George Landen Dann inviting him to join the Society. Circular letter, signed by Jill Hellyer.
- A3 Bennett, Mary M**
Letter 7 Dec. 1954 to George Landen Dann discussing his work, and the problems of Aboriginal rights. She was an Aboriginal welfare worker in W. A. and author of: *Christison of Lammermoor*.
- A4 Birmingham Repertory Theatre**
Letter 28 Dec. 1932 to George Landen Dann re his play: *In beauty it is finished*, which was rejected.
- A5 Blake, Wally**
Letter 24 Apr. 1959 to George Landen Dann describing the production in Stanthorpe of: *Ring out, wild bells*.
- A6 Brisbane Repertory Theatre Society**
Letters (2) 22 June 1932, 18 Dec. 1951 to George Landen Dann, first returning play submitted, second informing him of his election as a Life Member of the Society.
- A7 Bryant, Beryl**
Letters (2) [n.d.] and 6 July 1940 to George Landen Dann discussing production of his play: *Caroline Chisholm* by Bryants' Playhouse, Darlinghurst.

- A8 Cardiff Unity Theatre**
Letters (4) 19 Apr. – 27 Sept. 1950 to George Landen Dann re production of his play: *Fountains beyond*, problems of presenting Australian Aborigines to audiences familiar only with Negroes as coloured people.
- A9 Christesen, Clement Byrne**
Letter 22 May 1940 to George Landen Dann thanking him for an address to the Queensland Authors' and Artists' Association.
- A10 Clunes, Alec**
Letter 27 Jan. 1949 to Miss Parker, returning George Landen Dann's play: *Fountains beyond*, as unsuitable for production to a London audience (Arts Theatre Club)
- A11 Codrington**
Letter, [May 1938] to George Landen Dann re reading his plays. Codrington was a member of a British touring company starring Fay Compton.
- A12 Dearing, Peter**
Letter, 16 July 1938 to George Landen Dann thanking him for a copy of: *Caroline Chisholm*. He was producer of the British touring company starring Fay Compton.
- A13 Devaney, James Martin**
Letter 12 Apr. 1961 to George Landen Dann asking him to submit a one-act play to the Queensland Writers' Guild for inclusion in a collection to be published.
- A14 Devaney, Jean**
Letter 25 Oct. 1957 to George Landen Dann asking him to call on her when he visits Townsville.
- A15 Dramatists' Club of Australia**
Letters (2) 10 Feb., 16 Mar. 1938 to George Landen Dann informing him that: *No incense rising* has won the Club's playwriting competition; enclosing the report of the judge Alfred W. Paxton.
- A16 Duncan, Catherine**
Letter 4 June 1941 to George Landen Dann discussing his play: *Fountains beyond*. (Minerva Theatre)
- A17 Elliott, Brian Robinson**
Letters (2) 20 July, 20 Oct. 1953 to George Landen Dann; first introduces a visiting Canadian friend, second discusses the possibility of a play being presented in London by Derek Van Abbe.
- A18 England, Edith Mary**
Letter 28 July 1944 to George Landen Dann discussing his play: *Fountains beyond*, her own work and difficulties of finding a market.
- A19 Esson, Hilda**
Letter 2 Sept. 1946 to George Landen Dann returning the manuscript of: *Ha ha among the trumpets* as unsuitable for production by her company. (New Theatre)
- A20 Fenton, Catherine**
Letter 2 Aug. 1951 to George Landen Dann re production of: *Caroline Chisholm*. (Whitehall Productions)

- A21 *The Geographical Magazine***
Letter 1 Mar. 1949 to George Landen Dann asking for a contribution on the Queensland sugar industry and the White Australia policy, which has been recommended by Hartley Arthur.
- A22 Grahame, Ailsa**
Letters (6) 21 Jan. 1943 – 9 Dec. 1955 to George Landen Dann mainly discussing his play: *Fountains beyond*, which she wants to submit to Tyrone Guthrie for consideration; last letter discusses: *How far returning*.
- A23 Independent Theatre**
Letter 13 Sept. 1937 to George Landen Dann congratulating him on winning the Australian Play Competition with: *No incense rising*.
- A24 Lamond, Henry George**
Letter 24 Oct. 1932 to George Landen Dann, personal.
- A25 Lord, Mary**
Letter 14 May 1976 to George Landen Dann re his play: *The fortress* enclosing adjudicator's report.
- A26 Lucas, Llywelyn**
Letter 8 Aug. 1932 to George Landen Dann congratulating him on winning a playwriting competition.
- A27 Maryborough Creative Writers' Group**
Letter 8 Sept. 1967 to George Landen Dann asking for copies of old scripts for radio or television plays as examples of what is required for television presentation.
- A28 Palmer, Nettie**
Letters (4) 16 Mar. 1946 – 24 Aug. 1953, one undated, discussing his plays.
- A29 Palmer, Vance**
Letter 26 June 1930 to George Landen Dann congratulating him on winning the Brisbane Repertory Theatre competition.
- A30 Playwrights' Advisory Board**
Letter 8 July 1958 to George Landen Dann enclosing newspaper clipping and program of production of: *Fountains beyond* at Toowoomba.
- A31 Rees, Leslie Clarence**
Letters (18) 28 Sept. 1939 – 11 Sept. 1958 with many dated but no year stated, discussing his plays and productions.
- A32 Robinson, Frederick Walter**
Letters (2) 17 May 1946, 7 Nov. 1946 to George Landen Dann inviting him to attend a literary seminar, enclosing a copy of an examination paper in which one question relates to himself.
- A33 Rowbotham, David**
Letter 13 July 1962 to George Landen Dann enclosing a newspaper clipping referring to early productions of Dann's plays.
- A34 Simpson, Colin**
Letters (3) 23 Mar. 1944 – 6 May 1947 to George Landen Dann re his play: *Caroline Chisholm*.

- A35** **Sisley, Barbara**
Letters (5) 29 Dec. 1957 – 29 Dec. 1943 to George Landen Dann discussing his plays and productions.
- A36** **Stephens, James Brunton**
Letter 25 Nov. 1950 to George Landen Dann drawing his attention to Mary Gilmore's poem: *Australia* on the passing of the Aborigines.
- A38** **Stewart, Jean**
Letters (4) 27 Aug. 1939 – 29 Oct. 1950 and one later undated, personal. She was his old school teacher.
- A39** **Adelaide Repertory Theatre**
Letters (2) 30 May, 28 July 1934 to George Landen Dann re production of his play: *Monday morning*.
- A40** **Amos, Francis T.**
Letter 27 July 1953 to George Landen Dann re aid to Revel Cooper and other Aboriginal prisoners in Fremantle Gaol.
- A41** **Arthur, Hartney**
Letters (2) 18 Jan. 1945, 16 Apr. 1946 to George Landen Dann, the first discusses his difficulties in writing, second congratulates him on success of: *Ha ha among the trumpets*. Enclosed: a letter from the Tasmanian Treasurer praising Dann's play about his grandmother Caroline Chisholm.
- A42** **Australian Broadcasting Commission**
Letters (2) 18 Aug. 1964, 16 Sept. 1966 to George Landen Dann re his play: *Ring out wild bells*.
- A43** **Thorndike, Sybil, Dame**
Letter 16 Nov. 1932 to George Landen Dann congratulating him on one of his plays which she has just read.
- A43** **Turner, Anthony F.**
Letters (3) 11 Feb. 1944 – 10 Feb. 1945 to George Landen Dann, personal.
- A45** **Western Australia Drama Festivals Inc.**
Letter 15 July 1941 to George Landen Dann re a manuscript submitted.
- A46** **Meredith, Gwen**
Letters (2) undated, 14 Mar. 1955 to George Landen Dann enclosing royalty cheque for use of excerpt from: *Fountains beyond*.
- B1** **Dann, George Landen**
Diary 19 Aug. - 23 Sept. [193?] of a tramping trip with a friend from Sandgate to Fraser Island, when they were on the dole.
- B2** **Dann, George Landen**
Diary 7 Apr. – 14 May 1932 of a stay on Hamilton Island, near Proserpine, spent writing while unemployed. It is addressed to Jim, and ends with a statement of his feeling about his own writing. Also more detailed account of the rail trip from Brisbane in exercise book.
- C1** **Dann, George Landen**
Untitled one-act play. Draft only.
- C2** **Dann, George Landen**
Scripts: *Potted history*; *Cast up by the sea*; Program of a variety concert; chorus: We'll all go riding on a rainbow [194?].

- C3** *Strawberries will never taste the same again* [television or film script] [19??]. Incomplete.
- D1** Rough drafts of light verse. [19??]
- D2** *I'm goin' home for Christmas*: song. Words by George Landen Dann, music by Ivy Sakrzewski. [194?].
- D3** Rough drafts of light verse incl. 'A tale for Christmas'.
- E1** *The day we found the hanging uncle*, by Hap Wah [short story] [19??].
- E2** *A long way out – a long way back* [19??]. Rough draft of a travel diary of a trip from Toowoomba west to the South Australian border. Incomplete.
- E3** Short story, untitled, incomplete.
- E4** *Troubler in the sun*, by Hap Wah [short story]. [19??]
- E5** *You know where you can go* [novel]. [19??]. Various drafts of a novel apparently set in outback Queensland.
- E6** *Repertory ramblings*: essay. [1956].
- E7** *Family failings* [n.d.]
- F** Manuscripts: notes

Box 2

- G1** Personal and miscellaneous papers.
- G2** Press clippings.
- G3** Programs of productions of his plays. *See also: Scrapbook.*
- G4** Scrapbook 1934 – 1946. Some pasted clippings, mostly loose. Includes photographs of A. I. F. concert play in which Dann was a member.
- G5** Scrapbook – 1931 – 1933. Newspaper clippings and programs.
- G6** *Poems* [compiled with George Landen Dann]. – [n.d.] Contains newspaper clippings of verse by various authors and poems transcribed by George Landen Dann. Accompanied by a bookplate of George Landen Dann and a pencil sketch dated 5 July 1930.
- G7** Photographs (15)