

Margaret Mahy

Arch 429

Creator Margaret Mahy, born in Whakatane on 21 March 1936

Donor n/a

Title & Type Margaret Mahy

Dates covered 1969-2000

Quantity 80cm

Holder reference Arch 429

Description Margaret Mahy is one of the most famous New Zealand children and young adult book authors. Born in Whakatane in 1936, she moved to Christchurch to attend Canterbury University. She worked as a librarian in the Christchurch Public library until the early 1970s. Then she concentrated on her writing career and published world bestsellers like *The Haunting* and *The Changeover: A Supernatural Romance* (both received the Carnegie Medal). While the plots of many of her books have strong supernatural elements, her writing concentrates on the themes of human relationships and growing up.

Her novels have been translated into German, French, Spanish, Dutch, Norwegian, Danish, Swedish, Finnish, Italian, Japanese, Catalan and Afrikaans. In addition, some stories have been translated into Russian, Chinese and Icelandic.

For her contributions to children's literature she has been made a member of the Order of New Zealand. The Margaret Mahy Medal Award was established by the New Zealand Children's Book Foundation in 1991 to provide recognition of excellence in children's literature, publishing and literacy in New Zealand. In 2006 she was awarded the Hans Christian Andersen Award (known as the Little Nobel Prize) in recognition of a "lasting contribution to children's literature".

Margaret Mahy lives in Governors Bay.

This archive holds:

Fragments of stories, poems and plays. Speeches MM gave, published essays about MM, correspondence. Most of the material is typed with handwritten corrections.

Access conditions n/a

Formats Most material typed, some handwritten, a few photographs

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Location of original n/a

Finding Aids inventory, catalogue record

Name Entries

Areas n/a

Subjects Children literature

Series Manuscripts of short stories, poems, films and plays; published stories, correspondence with editors and publishers; writings about Margaret Mahy, speeches; IBBY – International Board on Books for Young People, HCA – Hans Christian Andersen Award; newspaper clippings; photographs

SERIES 1: Drafts and manuscripts of short stories: material typed and on A4 paper if not otherwise stated

BOX 1	ITEM	DESCRIPTION	NOTES, DATE
	1/1	Too Much Chocolate	3 pages
	1/2	Mr Pottipher	fax paper, first version
	1/3	The Dragon's Telephone,	8 pages, last page contains two short pieces on the reverse page: "Unknown Histories" and "Strange Southern Lands"
	1/4	Big Cat and Little Cat	2 pages
	1/5	The Haunted House, part 3 and 4	4 pages
	1/6	The Pirate and his Parrot + The Pirate and his Parrot, part 5?	4 pages, 2 pages
	1/7	The Pirate and his Parrot,	4 pages, different story on the back of the pages
	1/8	The Witch and Her Broom	3 pages
	1/9	The Witch and Her Broom	3 pages, different story on the back of the pages
	1/10	The Little World, The Little Sun and The Wonderful Child	5 pages
	1/11	The Little World, The Little Sun and The Wonderful Child	5 pages, photocopy of the above
	1/12	Story about "Utterly Patchwork"	5 pages A5
	1/13	Tidying Up	1 page, same story on both sides, 1995
	1/14	Mr and Mrs Delgado	5 pages
	1/15	Wicked Jacko Junket	3 pages
	1/16	The Hairy Stranger	3 pages
	1/17	Rooster Time	5 pages
	1/18	...Mr Lovelace's Hatshop...	4 pages, photocopied fax, 1990
2x	1/19	Moonlight Visitor	4 pages
	1/20	Fishing Day	3 pages
	1/21	The Brave Children and the remarkable shopping day	6 pages, suggested changes
	1/22	Aunt Nasty, fragment 1	19 pages
	1/23	Aunt Nasty, fragment 2	24 pages, hand written
	1/24	Aunt Nasty, fragment 3	40 pages
	1/25	Witch story	5 pages, A5
	1/26	The Librarian and the Robbers	5 pages, published 1978

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1/27	The Wonderful doctor Whisker	21 pages
1/28	Katie Stephenson fragment	11 pages
1/29	Mr Hyperion fragment	21 pages
1/29/1	Mr Hyperion fragment	19 pages (less the two last pages)
1/29/2	Mr Hyperion part 1. In the House/	57 pages
1/30	Oskar and the Space Helmet	4 pages, different story on the back of the pages
1/31	Enter Leo the Lion	48 pages
1/32	The Delmonico Family	37 pages
1/33	The Day of Horror	7 pages
1/34	Notebook	handwritten contents.
1/35	The Illustrated Traveller's Tale	no date, 16 pages with corrections
1/36	...Homer Holcroft worked in a shoe shop....	no date, 3 pages with corrections
1/37	The Big Race	no date, 3 pages with corrections
1/38	The Lightfoots	no date, 6 pages
1/39	The Lightfoots	no date, 5 pages with corrections, fax paper
1/40	The Snapper Street Ghost	3 Nov 1998, with letter from the editor with corrections
1/41	You can't eat your cake and hang it too: New Zealand Cake Art in the 1990s	No date, 6 pages
1/42	Entry to Reader's companion to Twentieth-Century Children's Literater	No date, 6 pages

SERIES 2: Drafts and manuscripts of plays, film scripts and poems

BOX 2	ITEM	DESCRIPTION	NOTES, DATE
	2/1	Two Windows and two doors, one with the words "Mr Milton Quidd" an "Dr Fairey"	film
	2/2	A Land Called Happy, programme 6	film
	2/3	A Land Called Happy, programme 11	film
	2/4	A Land Called Happy, programme 8	film
	2/5	A Land Called Happy, programme 2	film
	2/6	The Peculiar Principal of Possumville Primary School	Film
	2/7	Clapping Hands, 1 page	poem, 1995
	2/8	Brave Cat, 2 pages	poem, 1995
	2/9	Good Cookies	poem
	2/10	The Great Poodle Adventure	Poem
	2/11	Contract/Agreement (Gibson Film Developments, Wel and MM) to make a film: 'Typhon's People'	film, 10 June 1988
	2/12	Writers' Kit: 'The Big Chair'	film, 2000/2001?
	2/13	Cat in the dark	poem, 25 Feb 1998, fax with corrections (Vanessa Hamilton Books)
	2/14	...a penguin story..	film ?, 21 Oct 1998, with a letter to Chris Ellis
	2/15	See [4/44], Film: Antarctica (film scripts – different versions, correspondence with publisher Gibson Group)	1997-2000

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SERIES 3: Published Works

BOX 3	ITEM	DESCRIPTION	NOTES, DATE
	3/1	A Dissolving Ghost, Margaret Mahy about herself	In: Bricks, no 45, Winter 1993
	3/1/1	A Dissolving Ghost, Margaret Mahy about herself	Printed but not yet published version
	3/2	The Little World, The Little Sun and the Wonderful Child	With annotations and corrections by editor
	3/3	The Shadow Thief	Published in a collection, Penguin Australia 2003
	3/4	Oliver?	Penguin Aust/ on back of pages is a different story
	3/5	Touchstones: The interpretation of adult experiences by the images of childhood reading.	Library Services, Sydney, 1981

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SERIES 4: Correspondence with Editors/Publishers/others

BOX 3	ITEM	DESCRIPTION	NOTES, DATE
	4/1	Maddigan's Fantasia	Faber-and-Faber Publishers
	4/2	Poppaloo-Puppaloo	Vanessa Hamilton Books
	4/3	The Hairy Stranger, Moonlight Visitor, My Little World	Kingfisher, London
	4/4	Moving the Bones	Vanessa Hamilton Books, Chichester
	4/5	A Villain's Night Out. Fax sent by Clara Farmer (assistant to Jane Nissen). Incl the proposed drawings by Harry Horse	4 June 98, Clara Farmer, Penguin UK
	4/6	A Villain's Night Out. Fax sent by Pippa Durn with the attached manuscript, corrected.	30 Jun 98, Pippa Durn, Penguin UK
	4/7	A Villain's Night Out. Fax sent by Yvonne Hooker. Incl. text and illustrations	13 Jul 98, Yvonne Hooker, Penguin UK
	4/8	A Villain's Night Out. Fax sent by Yvonne Hooker. No attachments/ single page	23 Jul 98, Yvonne Hooker, Penguin UK
	4/9	A Villain's Night Out. Letter sent by Pippa Durn, incl. page proofs	10 Sept 98, Pippa Durn, Penguin UK
	4/10	Christmas Card	No date, Jenny Williams, Sth Wales
	4/11	Christmas Card	No date (after 2000), Gunney (?) and John
	4/12	Letter, incl 8 photographs of NZ writers (also MM)	24 March 2000, Glenda Randerson
	4/13	From Vanessa Hamilton to MM: letter, 5 pages, no end part	21 Dec 1998. Vanessa Hamilton Books
	4/14	From: Vanessa Hamilton to MM: letter, 2 pages, no end part	15 Mar 1999, Vanessa Hamilton Books
	4/15	From Vanessa Hamilton to MM: fax, 1 page, no end part	23 April 1999, Vanessa Hamilton Books
	4/16	From: Vanessa Hamilton to MM: 4 pages,	21 May 1999,

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		incl. corrections to 'Twenty-Four Hours'	Vanessa Hamilton Books
	4/17	From: Vanessa Hamilton to MM: fax , 2 pages about 'Twenty Four Hours'	13 July 1999, Vanessa Hamilton Books
	4/18	From: Penny Morris to Vanessa Hamilton about 'Twenty Four Hours'	19 Aug 1999, Penguin Children's Books
	4/19	From: Tracy Geddes to MM. Confirming funding for 'The Big Chair' series 4	19 Feb 2001
	4/20	From: ? (s.o. on behalf of MM), Fax to Jane Nissen, Penguin Children's Books)	18 May 1998
	4/21	From: Clara Farmer, Penguin Children's Books to Vanessa Hamilton, fax – 1 page	14 May 1998
	4/22	Fax by Collins publisher, 'Twenty Four Hours' will be published by Collins	1999
	4/23	From: Vanessa Hamilton to MM, fax, about the plan to choose Collins as a publisher for 'Twenty Four Hours'	6 Sep 1999
	4/24	From: Vanessa Hamilton to MM, fax about 'Twenty Four Hours'	1 Oct 1999
	4/25	From: Stella Paskins, Collins Children's Books to Vanessa Hamilton, fax about 'Twenty Four Hours'	14 Sep 1999
	4/26	From: Vanessa Hamilton to MM, fax about 'Twenty Four Hours'	21 Dec 1998
	4/27	From: Vanessa Hamilton to MM, letter financial arrangements	5 May 1999
	4/28	From: Vanessa Hamilton to MM, fax, 2 pages, incl a letter to Karin Riederer-MM is asked to read it first before it gets send off	6 May 1998
	4/29	From: Jean Richardson to Vanessa Hamilton, fax, 1 page asking permission for gaining the world rights for poem 'Cat in the Dark'	25 Feb 1998
	4/30	From: Vanessa Hamilton to MM, fax, 2 pages, editing suggestions to 'Twenty Four Hours'	21 May 1999
	4/31	From: Vanessa Hamilton to MM, fax, 1 page	20 Jan 1998
	4/32	From: Vanessa Hamilton to MM, fax, 2 pages	4 Feb 1998
	4/33	From: Elizabeth Kerr, Creative NZ-Arts Council to MM, letter confirmation that MM receives the Prime Minister's Award for Literary Achievement	12 Oct 2005

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	4/34	Email exchange (several emails) between MM and Bill Manhire	July 2005
	4/35	Email Andrew Wilson (Otago Univ) and MM	15 Aug 2005
	4/36	Email, 3 pages,: From Bill Manhire to MM, preparing for project: collaboration between writers and physicists	5 May 2005
	4/37	Emails: From Lynley Hargreaves to MM, Wellington Event: Are Angels OK?, incl. suggested programme of event	14 Oct 2005
	4/38	Email: From Bill Manhire to MM, in preparation for "Year of Physics"	17 Dec 2004
	4/39	Fax (photocopy): From Undine, Creative NZ to MM, organising interviews in Wel., 2 pages	1 Dec 2005
	4/40	Email: Mairead Sweeney, Creative NZ to MM: organising flights to Wel, 3 pages	21 Nov 2005
	4/41	Emails: From/to Claudia Marquis (English Dpt, AKL) to/from MM: planning and invitation to Children's Literature Conference , 3 pages + 1 letter, 2 pages	8 April, 11 April, 4 Sep, 30 Oct 2005
	4/42	2 letters, 4 faxes: From organisers of NZ Post Awards (Penguin NZ) to MM: MM won the prize for "A Summery Saturday Morning"	4 Dec 1998, 29 Jan, 2 Feb, 7April, 8 April 1999
	4/43	Letter: Franklin Watts Publishers, London to MM: official invitation (template) for immigration purpose.	No date
	4/44	See: [2/15], Correspondence with Gibson Group about the film: Antarctica	1997-2000
	4/45	Letter: Jeannie Buxton (Gibson Group) to MM	23 Aug 1989
	4/46	Letter: Margaret McElderly to MM	Vanessa Hamiltin Books, 31 Mar 1989

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SERIES 5: Published and unpublished material about MM

BOX 3	ITEM	DESCRIPTION	NOTES, DATE
	5/1	One Great Frolic With Words, Interview with Margaret Mahy	Published: Education, vol 6, 1973
	5/2	Robyn Sheahan: The Use of the Supernatural to explore Realistic Issues in Margaret Mahy's <i>The Changeover</i> .	Published: Papers, Explorations into Children's Literature, vol 2, no 1, 1991
	5/3	Selections from recent reading connected with children's literature, sent to us by Margaret Mahy	Published: Education, no 7, 1975
	5/4	Michael Levy: Paper written about the novel "Changeover". Paper to be presented at a conference in the US	May 2005
	5/5	Marnie Scott: Assignment for English course; analysis of "A Summery Saturday Morning"	Sept 1990?
	5/6	Margaret Mahy about herself in an article written for a book about Fathers and Daughters	No title, no date
	5/7	Published talk in: International Reading Assn., Wellington Council - 4 th conference	11-13 May 1973
	5/8	Josephine Raburn: The Changeover, A Fantasy of Opposites	Children's Literature in Education, Vol 23, No. 1, 1992
	5/9	Announcement : Children's author commissioned for Telecom education kit	New Zealand Books, vol 3, no 4, March 1994
	5/10	MM: Address to the NZ Sceptics	New Zealand Humanist, no 120, Dec 1993
	5/11	Ceri Worman: From Idealism to Capitalism	Youth Libraries Revue- Journal of YLG, 1997
	5/12	Antonella Sarti in 'Spiritcarvers': Interviews with eighteen writers from New Zealand, MM Feb 1995 and April 1997	Cross Cultures 31, 127-152
	5/13	Constance Reed: The magical World of Margaret Mahy	In: Books for Children, March

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			1974
	5/14	Adam Berkin: "I woke myself": The "changeover" as a Modern Adaptation of "Sleeping Beauty"	
	5/15	Introducing MM by Betty Gilderdale (Penguin Books)	No date
	5/16	School newsletter	No date
	5/17	Citation for MM on the conferment of the degree of Doctor of Letters (hc) from the University of Canterbury	7 May 1993

SERIES 6: Speeches given by MM and speeches about MM : most of speeches have no date and none of them are published

BOX 4	ITEM	DESCRIPTION	NOTES, DATE
	6/1	On one occasion....	No title, no date
	6/2	M Mahy annual lecture	1990
	6/3	Introductory note to a women's book festival	
	6/4	...Memory dear Cecile...	No title, no date
	6/5There iws of-course something a little strange....	No title, no date, no final pages included
	6/6	...when I was a child...	No title, no date
	6/7	...on one occasion...	No title, no date
	6/8	With Children in Mind	No title, no date, printed (not typed as the others)
	6/9	Talk to New York Librarians	No title, no date, stained
	6/10	Talk about Paul Jenning's books	No title, no date, misses beginning
	6/11	Talk called "Patchwork". MM thanks for an award MM she received for "Catalogue of the Universe"	No title, no date
	6/12	Talk given in Shanghai (speech was originally written to be presented in Dublin/ changes made in pencil)	No title, no date
	6/13	Speech presented in New York	No title, no date
	6/14	Talk given at reading conference in Perth/Australia	May 1993
	6/15	Talk about MM's "The Catalogue of the Universe"	No title, no date
	6/16	Fragment, beginning missing	No title, no date
	6/17	Talk about 'making jokes'	No title, no date
	6/18	Fragment, end part missing	No title, no date
	6/19	Fragment, middle part missing. Talk given at a conference, MM still in the role as Children's Librarian at Canterbury Public Library	No title, no date
	6/20	Countries of the Mind, Books and environment in childhood.	No date, Article written for the school journal
	6/21	Talk about 'memory'	No title, no date
	6/22	Talk about the 'telephone'	No title, no date
	6/23	Talk about the structure of stories	No title, no date
	6/24	"Looking for Ourselves. An Account of	No date

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		Children's Books in New Zealand'.	
	6/25	About communication and literature	No title, no date
	6/26	Talk about 'Living as a Writer	No title, no date/ MM's address and phone number on top of first page
	6/26/1	Same talk like 6/26 – Talk about 'Living as a Writer	No title, no date/ MM's signature on top of first page.
	6/27	Talk about the 'reader'	No title, no date/ on very thin paper, lots of handwritten notes, especially on last page.
	6/28	'A fantastic Tale'	No date/ attention Mark Williams
	6/29	Talk given at a book festival	No title, no date/
	6/30	Breakfast Talk	No title, no date/ handwritten notes
	6/31	Lunch time speech, 'Food in Children's Books'	No date/
	6/32	'A dissolving ghost: Possible Operations of Truth in Children's Books and the Lives of Children'.	No date/ with a quote by Walther de la Mare

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SERIES 6: Speeches given by MM and speeches about MM : most of speeches have no date and none of them are published

BOX 5	ITEM	DESCRIPTION	NOTES, DATE
	6/33	Speech for Arts Festival in Christchurch	No title, no date
	6/34	Fax Fatchen: MM Book Launch	No date
	6/35	Talk about: A dissolving Ghost	No date
	6/36	Talk given in Perth:....I accepted with pleasure....	No date/No title
	6/37	Talk give at a library function:....on previous occasions like this, I have spoken as a librarian	No date/No title/ no end, final pages missing
	6/38	Introductory story: "Down the Back of the Chair:"	No date/No title
	6/39	Stories at home and Stories at School, Reading in the family and at home.	No date/ MM talks about New Zealand- talk was give on an international platform
	6/40	"Endings and Beginnings"	No date/
	6/41	WWriter in New Zealand: includes the opening paragraphs from the story: The Bridge Builder.	No date
	6/42	A Place in the World: the impact of childhood reading	No date/ no end, final pages missing
	6/43	Wonderful Aunt Story 5: Jokes and passion in Reading Acquisition	No date
	6/44	Touchstones: The interpretation of adult experience by the images of childhood reading.	No date
	6/45	...I was told to talk about being a writer and how I write....	No date/ no title/ last page torn and scribbled on
	6/46	Mahy's Carnegie Acceptance Speech	1984
	6/47	...from the time I was a small child I had contact with what we call stories...	No date/ has Margaret mahy written on title page
	6/48	...on one occasion I found myself at an afternoon party talking to someone I had never met before and this man began telling me a story...	No date/ no title
	6/49	"Seeing the Lion", same talk like: "Endings and Beginnings"	No date

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	6/50	Tragedy's Wild Twin: The mixed nature of humour	Nov 2003, lecture presented at the Auckland College of Education/ incl. letter by the College Librarian
	6/51	MM annual lecture:...Imagination has brought mankind through the Dark Ages...	1990
	6/52	The bubble: ...in the beginning when I asked what I should talk about today I was told to keep it light hearted...	No date
	6/53	Talk given at Gibson Group, Wellington	No date
	6/54	May Hill Arbuthnot Honor lecture, Pittsburh, PN: Introduction of MM by Ginny Moore Kruse	23 April 1989

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SERIES 7: IBBY (International Board on Books for Young People) and Hans Christian Andersen (HCA) Award for Writers

MM was selected as a candidate for the HCA award in 2002 and won the prestigious award in 2006.

BOX 6	ITEM	DESCRIPTION	NOTES, DATE
	7/1	Dossier/ application for the HCA award	Sept 2001
	7/2	Certificate of being selected as candidate for the HCA award	2002
	7/3	Correspondence with Lynn Earl, travel agent in Auckland who organises trip to Beijing (incl. 6 passport photos of MM)	2006
	7/4	Emails (print copies) of correspondence with Tessa Duder, Julian Ludbrook, Liz Page, Libby Limbrick, Forest Zhang (congress organiser) in preparation for travels to Beijing	2006
	7/5	Dossier/ application for the HCA award	2006
	7/6	Beijing 2006, IBBY registration form: print copy of website, partly filled out	2006
	7/7	Information about Arrival and Departure at Beijing airport, printed website	
	7/8	Programme, 30 th IBBY World Congress	20-24 Sept 2006
	7/9	Press release, announcement MM wins HCA award	27 Mar 2006
	7/10	IBBY letter to MM informing her about the decision that she will receive award	10 April 2006
	7/11	Speech by Tayo Shima (President of IBBY): The Empress of Japan and the Members of IBBY	Conference in New Delhi 1999
	7/12	Talk give by MM at the USSBY annual meeting at the San Francisco ALA.	San Francisco, 26 June 1987

SERIES 8: Newspaper Articles: originals and photocopies

BOX 6	ITEM	DESCRIPTION/Publication source	NOTES, DATE
	8/1	The Gazette, Montreal	23 June 1990
	8/2	The Saturday Mercury	4 May 1991
	8/3	The Weekend Australian	8-9 June 1991
	8/4	The Listener	14 Jan 1991
	8/5	The NZ Listener	3 May 1975
	8/6	The Philadelphia Inquirer	5 Jul 1987
	8/7	Extracts of review from the US	1992
	8/8	Booklist-uncorrected proof: The Door in the Air and Other Stories	1991
	8/9	Corrected version: The Door in the Air and Other Stories	March/April 1991
	8/10	New York Times Book Review	23 Jun 1991
	8/11	Times Literary Supplement T.L.S.	25 Nov 1988
	8/12	Review: Nonstop Nonsense	Jun 1989
	8/13	Vector Books- Review: The Tricksters	1986
	8/14	Wilson Library Bulletin: The Great White Man-Eating Shark	March 1990
	8/15	Horn Book: The Great White Man-Eating Shark	March/April 1990
	8/16	Hungry Mind Review: A Tall Story and Other Tales	Winter 1992-93
	8/17	English Journal: The Changeover	April 1987
	8/18	Television (Colleen Reilly): Strangers typical of our best/ Strangers deserves every award it gets	?
	8/19	NYTBR: Falling in Love with a Ghost	17 May 1987
	8/20	San Francisco Examiner-Chronicle: Ghostly Tale of Sexual Awakening	28 Jun 1987
	8/21	T.L.S.: a Good Anger	Nov 1987
	8/22	NYT: 17 Kings and 42 Elephants	11 Aug 1989
	8/23	Children's Books: Tap-Dancing on the Edge of a Cliff	24 May 1988
	8/24	Times Educational Supplement, TES: Memory	July 1987
	8/25	New Society/ London	1987
	8/26	Auckland Star	13 Sep 1987
	8/27	? by Caron Eastgate: Her Wig for Sci Fi	?/ 1987?
	8/28	Tuesday Morning: Wizardy with words	8 Sep 1987
	8/29	TES: The Door in the Air and Other Stories	30 Sep 1988
	8/30	The Guardian: Tales of the oppressed	8 Oct 1988
	8/31-	Various articles	1987-

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	8/53		

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SERIES 9: Photographs

BOX 6	ITEM	DESCRIPTION/Publication source	NOTES, DATE
	9/1	MM speaking to a woman	no date
	9/2	MM sitting with three women	no date
	9/3	Reading at a library?	no date
	9/4	Reading at a library/ MM sitting in the background	no date
	9/5	Seal lying	no date
	9/6	Seal sitting up, smiling	no date

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BOX 7		NEW ACCESSION	
	1	1 vol. children's short stories, m/s.	
	2	Typescript of "The Haunting" - Carnegie Medal winner,	1982
	3	Uncorrected proofs of "The Catalogue of the Universe", together with USA amended text.	1985,
	4	Copy-edited and corrected version of "Catalogue of the Universe" - incomplete.	no date
	5	Various typed and hand-corrected versions of "Catalogue of the Universe".	no date
BOX 8			
	6/1	Chez Jean-Paul! or breakfast with Sartre.	no date
	6/2	Copy-edited and corrected typescript of "My Mysterious World"	no date
	6/3	Uncorrected page proofs of "Raging Robots and Unruly Uncles"	no date
	6/4	Handwritten script for the television programme "Cuckooland"	no date
	6/5	Autobiographical extract on writing	no date
	7	Various articles, reviews and cuttings about and/or her books. Also includes a small collection of writings Mahy from the National Library and a report made to England and the USA in	1973

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