We are delighted to be publishing the first issue of the re-launch of *Papers: Explorations into Children’s Literature*.

We want to begin by thanking Associate Professor Anthony Eaton for his careful stewardship of the journal in recent years. In 2021, a new editorial team based at Deakin University took on responsibility for the journal. As part of this process, we moved the journal to a free, open-access digital platform and the back issues dating from 1994 are now available for easy access. A special shout out to Judith Way and Melanie Persson for their diligent assistance in this area! Please take a look at the Archived issues on the Papers site to see the wide range of scholarship available in the journal.

Our vision for *Papers* is – as it has always been – to celebrate the vibrancy of scholarship in children’s literature and encourage and mentor early career scholars. While we welcome articles on Australasian material, we do not limit *Papers* to articles only on Australasian works or by Australasian scholars. We aim to publish research on all aspects of children’s and young adult literature and encourage work drawing upon theoretical, analytical, or practice-led methodologies. We have a rolling publication strategy, which means that accepted essays will be published as they are ready.

In this issue, we are pleased to include the essay by the winner of the Kate McInally Postgraduate Essay Prize, Elizabeth Little. It was awarded at the most recent biennial ACLAR conference in July 2022.

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