Preserving the Past in Digital Memory: The ‘Children’s Literature Digital Resources’ Project

The Australian Children’s Literature Digital Resources (CLDR) project was funded by Australian Research Council Linkage Equipment Infrastructure and Facilities grants from 2008 to 2010. CLDR forms a key outcome of the AustLit Children’s Literature Research Community in AustLit and contributes a significant number of resources to the Full Text collection. Led by Queensland University of Technology in partnership with The University of Queensland the project digitised a selection of early Australian children’s literature, both popular and rare.

CLDR incorporates primary texts published from 1850 to 1945, including children’s and young adult fiction, poetry, short stories, and picture books. This collection is supported by selected secondary material.

The purpose of the project is to provide a centralised access point for information about Australian children’s literature and writers and a growing body of full-text primary resources. Four key aims of the project are:

- To establish an important digital facility for research, teaching, and information provision around Australian children's literature;
- To provide access to a wide range of high-quality full-text data, both primary and secondary resources;
- To provide access to essential library and research information infrastructure and facilities for established and emerging researchers in the fields of Humanities and Education;
- To enable research while preserving important heritage material.

The completed project is used as a valuable research tool by students, schools, researchers, and academics across a range of disciplines.

Over 500 Full Text Resources digitised by Queensland University of Technology