

The Colin Smythe Terry Pratchett Archive

A Pratchett Preview

The first chance to view a selection of the material available in the archive presented by Colin Smythe, Terry Pratchett's agent.

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Admission Free

"Nunc Id Vides, Nunc Ne Vides"

Motto of The Unseen University, Ankh-Morpork.

Introduction

The Colin Smythe Terry Pratchett Archive

The Colin Smythe Terry Pratchett Archive, representing every facet of Terry Pratchett's published output, has been generously donated by Terry Pratchett's agent, Colin Smythe. It is an accruing collection and is in the process of being catalogued. This display has been created to give an early taste of the extent and depth of this most comprehensive collection and the work carried out so far to make it accessible.

Terry Pratchett

Terry Pratchett is the author of the phenomenally successful Discworld series and is one of contemporary fiction's most popular writers. His first Discworld novel for children, *The Amazing Maurice and His Educated Rodents*, was awarded the Carnegie Medal for the best children's book of 2001. *The Wee Free Men*, a novel for younger readers set on Discworld, won the 2004 W.H. Smith Teen Fiction Award.

Terry Pratchett was born on 28 April 1948 in Beaconsfield, Bucks. He left school to begin work with the *Bucks Free Press* in 1965. He left the *Bucks Free Press* and started work for the *Western Daily Press* on 28 September 1970, but he returned to the *Bucks Free Press* in 1972 as a sub-editor, and on 3 September 1973 joined the *Bath Evening Chronicle*. In 1980 Terry was appointed publicity officer for the Central Electricity Generating Board, with responsibility for three nuclear power stations.

His first novel, *The Carpet People*, was published by Colin Smythe in 1971, followed by *The Dark Side of the Sun* (1976) and *Strata* (1981). In 1983 the first Discworld novel, *The Colour of Magic*, was published, and marked the beginning of the Terry Pratchett phenomenon. In September 1987, soon after he had finished writing *Mort*, Terry decided that he could afford to devote himself to full-time writing.

His books are now translated into some 30 languages. In addition to audio versions, adaptations for the stage, radio drama, and animated films, there is a thriving market for memorabilia, artefacts, games and alcoholic beverages, all based on the Discworld and its characters.

Terry's work for the Orang-Utan Foundation is common knowledge. He has also done a year's stint as Chairman of the Society of Authors, and was chairman of the panel of judges for the 1997 Rhone-Poulenc Prize.

He was appointed an Officer of the Order of the British Empire in the Queen's 1998 Birthday Honours List 'for services to literature'. In July 1999 he received an honorary Doctorate of Literature (D.Litt.) from the University of Warwick, and in 2001 one from the University of Portsmouth. In December 2003, he received an honorary doctorate from the University of Bath.

Based on: BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES ABOUT TERRY PRATCHETT BY HIS AGENT, COLIN SMYTHE, BY PERMISSION OF THE AUTHOR

A Pratchett Preview

Plan of the Exhibition cases

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The Notice Board

Cohen the Barbarian

From the illustration by Paul Kidby

An example of the publicity material produced for the launch of a Terry Pratchett novel, in this case *The Last Hero* (London: Gollancz, 2001). A (possibly) life size cardboard cut-out figure, with integral stand, intended for display in bookshops.

Case 1

The Streets of Ankh-Morpork

Stephen Briggs and Terry Pratchett

London: Corgi, 1993

The map painted by Stephen Player incorporates information about the Discworld city of Ankh-Morpork drawn from the various novels. Terry Pratchett has admitted that Stephen Briggs knows more about Ankh-Morpork than he does himself.

Case 2

Alt.Fan.Pratchett T-Shirt

This t-shirt is produced by alt.fan.pratchett, nominally the newsgroup dedicated to discussion of the works of Terry Pratchett. However, though a topic may be started by someone who wants to say something about one of Terry's books, many discussions cover a far wider range of subject matter.

The illustration shows the librarian of the Unseen University, who for reasons explained in *The Light Fantastic*, has been turned into an orang-utan, and prefers to remain so.

Case 3

Death on a Motorcycle

An example of a pirated model, produced without authorisation. The model is a three dimensional adaptation of Paul Kidby's artwork, based on the action described in the novel *Soul Music*. Death has become one of the most popular of the Discworld characters, and would therefore be a prime target for piracy.

Case 4

Guards! Guards!

Illustrated by Graham Higgins and adapted by Stephen Briggs

London: Gollancz, 2000

Described variously as a 'graphic novel' or 'big comic', this is the fourth Terry Pratchett title to be adapted to this format. The previous titles were *The Colour of Magic*, *The Light Fantastic* and *Mort*.

Case 5

Unseen University T-Shirt

The Unseen University is the training ground for wizards, and is situated in the Discworld city of Ankh-Morpork. Terry Pratchett has created a complete academic institution, with faculties, staff structure and customs. The t-shirt displays the coat-of-arms of the UU, with the motto: "Nunc id vides, Nunc ne vides".

Case 6

Alcoholic Beverages

There is a growing cellar of alcoholic beverages produced to mark significant events in Terry Pratchett's literary career. A small selection is displayed here.

Fifty 1948-1998: Celebrating 50 Years of the Discworld's Creator

Label artwork by Josh Kirby

Oakham: Davis'es Brewing Co., 1998

The label carries a portrait of Terry Pratchett incorporating images from the Discworld.

Fountain of Youth 1996: Eternal Life Guaranteed or Your Money Back

A white wine issued to mark the release of the computer game "Discworld II, 'Missing presumed.....'" based on Terry Pratchett's Discworld.

Imp Pale Ale: Discworld Convention 1998

Label artwork by Alex Bennett

Oakham: Davis'es Brewing Co., 1998

"Made for Wallbro to commemorate the Diskworld Convention 1998."

Winkle's Old Peculiar

[Glastonbury?]: Glastonbury Ales, 2002

Brewed by Glastonbury Ales for sale at the twinning of the Somerset town of Wincanton with the Discworld city of Ankh-Morpork, 7 December 2002.

Black Hogswatch: "Ho Ho Ho"

Label artwork by Paul Kidby

Oakham: Davis'es Brewing Co., 1998.

The label carries a portrait of the Discworld character Death.

Case 7

First Editions of the Discworld Novels

The Discworld is a flat planet. The Great A'Tuin is the star turtle who carries the Discworld. Upon the turtle's back stand four giant elephants on whose shoulders the disc of the world rests.

This is the world created by Terry Pratchett in 31 novels thus far, from *The Colour of Magic* in 1983 to the latest novel, *Monstrous Regiment*, published in 2003. All of these are shown in cases 6 and 11.

The Carpet People

Gerrards Cross: Colin Smythe, 1971

Terry Pratchett's first published novel. A launch party was held in the carpet department of Heal's store in Tottenham Court Road, London. *The Carpet People* received few reviews, but those few were ecstatic, with it being described as being 'of quite extraordinary quality' (*Teacher's World*) and 'a new dimension in imagination ... the prose is beautiful' (*The Irish Times*). This is one of fewer than 6 copies with illustrations hand-coloured by the author.

Cases 8-9

Wyrd Sisters

Wyrd Sisters serves as a good example of how far one title can spread its wings.

The novel was first published in London by Gollancz in 1988, and re-issued in 1996. The Corgi paperback edition and a Book Club Associates edition were published in 1989. The novel first appeared in the U.S.A. published in paperback by ROC in 1990. A Science Fiction Book Club Selection hardback edition also appeared in 1990, and a Harper Torch paperback followed in 2001. In 2002, Book Club Associates published the title in their Unseen Library series.

Meanwhile, multiple translations of the work had been produced, in Bulgarian, Czech, Dutch, Estonian, Finnish, French, German, Hebrew, Hungarian, Italian, Japanese, Norwegian, Polish, Portuguese, Russian, Serbian, Spanish, Swedish and Turkish. Most of these are represented in the display.

The work was adapted for the stage, as a radio drama, and an animated film, and was the basis for a musical and a Suite for Wind Band. It also appeared in two versions as an audio book.

Wyrd Sisters

Dramatised by Vince Foxall. Director Claire Grove.
[London]: BBC, 1995.

A radio drama in 4 episodes, broadcast between 29 June and 20 July 1995.
2 unboxed sound cassettes with handwritten labels, apparently not commercially produced.

Case 10

Books for Younger Readers

Of Terry Pratchett's books for young readers, *Truckers*, the first volume of what is known in the USA as the Bromeliad Trilogy, was a landmark in that it was the first children's book to appear in the British adult paperback fiction best-seller lists. In due course it was followed by *Diggers*, *Wings*, the revised version of *The Carpet People*, and all three Johnny Maxwell books, *Only You Can Save Mankind*, *Johnny and the Dead*, and *Johnny and the Bomb*.

The Bromeliad Trilogy

Truckers

London: Doubleday, 1989
The First Book of the Nomes.

Diggers

London: Doubleday, 1990
The Second Book of the Nomes.

Wings

London: Doubleday, 1990
The Third Book of the Nomes.

The Johnny Maxwell Novels

Only You Can Save Mankind

London: Doubleday, 1992

Johnny and the Dead

London: Doubleday, 1993

Johnny and the Bomb

London: Doubleday, 1996

The Carpet People

Rev. edn
London: Doubleday, 1992

"This book had two authors, one aged seventeen, one aged forty-three. Both of them were Terry Pratchett."

The Carpet People was first published in 1971 and written when the author was a teenager. Terry Pratchett revised it extensively for the new edition, retaining the original characters and story whilst adding the touch of comic fantasy which characterises his current writing. The new edition has no illustrations.

The Dark Side of the Sun

Gerrards Cross: Colin Smythe, 1976

Cover illustration by the author.

Strata

Gerrards Cross: Colin Smythe, 1981

“*The Carpet People* was followed by *The Dark Side of the Sun* and *Strata*, both written on dark winter evenings when Terry had nothing better to do.” (*Biographical Notes*, by Colin Smythe).

Compact Discworld

The Colour of Magic ; The Light Fantastic ; Equal Rites ; Mort

London: Gollancz, 1995

“Full-length Discworld novels in compact form, specially handmade by the imps of the Counterweight Continent.”

Compact Discworlds contain the complete, unabridged text of the original novels.

Case 11

First Editions of the Discworld Novels [continued]

Case 12

The Librarian

Paul Kidby

Malmesbury: Wentworth Wooden Jigsaw Co., 2002

The Discworld has given rise to many games, both computerised and non-computerised. Among the latter is this fine traditional wooden jigsaw, with one of Paul Kidby’s striking illustrations of the Librarian of the Unseen University.

Discworld Mugs (1)

Illustrations by Josh Kirby

[S.l.]: Igneous the Troll’s All-Night Wholesale Pottery, 1989-1991.

Three examples from a series of mugs reproducing Josh Kirby’s illustrations for the hardback book jackets for *Guards! Guards!*, *Reaper Man*, and *Witches Abroad*.

Discworld Mugs (2)

Illustrations by Paul Kidby

Thailand

These mugs reproduce illustrations by Paul Kidby for the Discworld publications.

Case 13

A Collection of Badges

Produced by 'Witsend'

The badges are in a variety of colours, each one carrying a different quotation from, or associated with, the Discworld novels.

Badges and Miscellaneous Items

Produced by Insignia, AS and C.M.O.T. Dibbler (Stephen Briggs)

The badges depict coats of arms of various organisations from the Discworld, the Discworld itself, the coat of arms of Ankh-Morpork, and The Fresh Start Club, a club founded by the zombie Reg Shoe, in *Reaper Man*, for those who are having difficulty in relating to being undead. One badge carries the text 'I still ate'nt dead', Granny Weatherwax's essential label. The remaining items variously depict Death and the Discworld.

Models

There is a truly amazing range of models associated with the Discworld, its characters and locations. The two main creators of the models are Clarecraft (Woolpit, Suffolk) and The Cunning Artificer (Bernard Pearson, Wincanton, Somerset). The model on show is one of the latest from the workshop of the Cunning Artificer.

Granny Weatherwax's Cottage

2004

Cunning Artificer Catalogue no. GW01

Granny Weatherwax is one of the most notable of Terry Pratchett's Discworld characters. *"Witches are not by nature gregarious, at least with other witches, and they certainly don't have leaders. Granny Weatherwax was the most highly-regarded of the leaders they didn't have."* (*Wyrd Sisters*, London: Gollancz, 1988).

Case 14

Still to come ...

The cataloguing of The Colin Smythe Terry Pratchett Archive is a work in progress. Terry Pratchett's prolific and continuing output, and the desire of his fans for ever more varied Discworld commodities, suggest that it will never in fact reach a conclusion!

The display on these shelves gives a foretaste of the material already in the collection, which we are only just beginning to catalogue:

- € Translations into Japanese
- € Press cuttings
- € Short stories, interviews and commentaries in journals
- € Models
- € Games
- € Calendars
- € Posters
- € Publicity material
- € Cards
- € Bookmarks