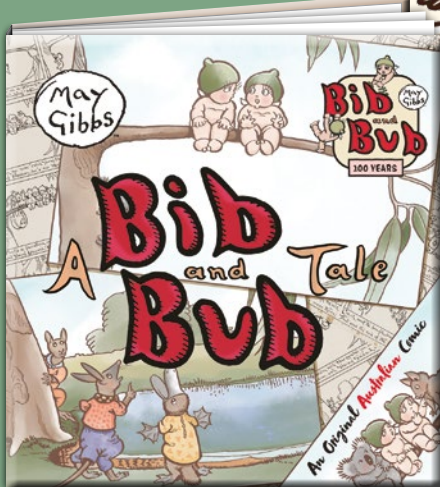


IN THE SPOTLIGHT:



100 YEARS OF MAY GIBBS' **BIB AND BUB**

**Celebrating Australia's first female
newspaper cartoonist 100 years later**



BORN IN 1877 IN KENT, United Kingdom, May Gibbs arrived in Australia at the age of four. She drew and painted as a child and went on to study art in Western Australia and in the UK before settling in Sydney as a children's books author and illustrator. 2016 marked 100 years of May Gibbs' first children's book *Gumnut Babies* and 2018 celebrated the *Tales of Snuggletop* and *Cuddlepie* centenary. On her passing in 1969, she bequeathed 50% of the copyright of all her works to The Northcott Society and 50% to Cerebral Palsy Alliance. Through her foresight and generosity, proceeds from the sale of May Gibbs products have supported thousands of Australian children living with disability and their families.

THIS YEAR, May Gibbs's first and longest-running cartoon strip turns 100! In August 1924, Gibbs was 47 years old when her popular comic strip *Bib and Bub* first appeared in the *Sunday News*. Hired by the *Sunday News* on the recommendation of fellow cartoonist Syd Nicholls, Gibbs thrived in an otherwise male-dominated field, producing a *Bib and Bub* comic strip every week for 43 years! The half-page strip featuring her signature cheeky Gumnut Babies is still one of the longest-running comic strips in Australia to be continuously produced by one single artist.



*Crack went the bough, down they all went.
That was the end of the argument.*



*He dashed along, sprang through the air,
and in two twinklings, they were there!*

A testament to her creativity and longevity, Gibbs produced her final *Bib and Bub* comic strip for the *Sun Herald* in 1967, aged 91.

A collection of her original drawings is now proudly on display at the State Library of NSW. Curator Sarah Morley suggests that May Gibbs proved herself a "shrewd businesswoman" who kept track of all of her work and paid in notebooks and even created another income stream with *Tiggy Touchwood*, published under a pseudonym in a rival newspaper.

**FOR MORE BELOVED
MAY GIBBS CLASSICS
See page 20 item #886**

