

Dear Members of the NZUGA

I wanted to thank you very much for your generous sponsorship of my trip to New Zealand in August. Together with a similar donation from the NZ Society I was able to purchase my airfare, and the NZ UK Link Foundation helped with accommodation.

The research trip enabled me to spend essential time at the Alexander Turnbull Library in Wellington with Vincent O'Sullivan. We are preparing a two volume fully annotated edition of Katherine Mansfield's fiction – never attempted before – to be published in October 2012 by Edinburgh University Press, in conjunction with Columbia University Press in America. This internationally important project, comprising around 1500 pages, will redefine the status of New Zealand's most celebrated writer for the next generation. In New Zealand the launch of the volumes in February 2013 will also involve a major KM conference at Victoria University of Wellington.

Most of my time during the trip was spent in the Alexander Turnbull Library, temporarily housed in the Archive Building whilst the ATL building is being revamped. Here is housed the world's most significant collection of KM-related manuscripts and books. Being able to spend so much time there was an incredible experience. Vincent and I were able to make significant progress on our manuscript, going back to the original source material wherever possible. The ATL also houses microfiches of all the Newberry archive's holdings (the library in Chicago which houses the other main collection of KM manuscripts), which was of great help to us. The volumes would definitely have been the poorer without our being able to view this material, and the task was far too big for one person to do on their own! The staff at the ATL were incredibly helpful, and went out of their way to ensure we had access to all the manuscripts as and when we needed them.

The support of the NZUGA will be acknowledged in the volumes, and thank you again for supporting this important project, which will enhance the worldwide reputation of New Zealand's most iconic literary figure.

Very best wishes



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