
Norman Nicholson letters to Alan Young
1978-1981

Abstract: These two letters, written by British poet Norman Nicholson to his friend Alan Young, as well as a 1981 clipping regarding Nicholson, were originally laid in a presentation copy of Nicholson's *The Shadow of Black Combe*. 
### Descriptive Summary

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<th>MSS 099, F886</th>
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<td>Norman Nicholson letters to Alan Young</td>
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<tr>
<td>Extent:</td>
<td>3 items (4 p.)</td>
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<td>Language:</td>
<td>Materials entirely in English.</td>
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### Administrative Information

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Biographical Notes

Norman Nicholson

British poet Norman Nicholson also wrote verse dramas, novels, literary biography and criticism, and an autobiography titled *Wednesday Early Closing*. In addition he was an editor of anthologies and gave readings and lectures.

Born January 08, 1914, in Millom, Cumberland (now Cumbria), England, Nicholson began writing poetry at the age of twenty-two. The first appearance of his poems in a book was the publication in 1943 of *Selected Poems*, a volume which also included poetry by John Hall and Keith Douglas.


Alan Young

Dr. Alan Young, Head of Arts Education, Didsbury College of Education, Manchester Polytechnic, was a long time friend of Norman Nicholson. Nicholson and his wife stayed at the home of the Youngs in January 1979, when Nicholson was awarded an Honorary Fellowship of Manchester Polytechnic.

Sources:


Information regarding Alan Young was also derived from the letters.
Scope and Content Note

These two letters, written by British poet Norman Nicholson to his friend Alan Young, as well as a 1981 clipping regarding Nicholson, were originally laid in a presentation copy of Nicholson's *The Shadow of Black Combe*. The book, which was enclosed with the first letter, was a gift to Alan and Rene Young. In addition to sending his book, Nicholson wrote that in January he would be receiving an Honorary Fellowship of Manchester Polytechnic. He discussed some details for the January trip to the ceremony and asked Young if Nicholson and his wife might stay to the Youngs' new home in Manchester. In his second letter, Nicholson continued to discuss the details of his trip to Manchester and the arrangements for staying with the Youngs. He invited the Young family to visit his home in Millom around Christmas, when they would be traveling to the Bankfield area. He also mentioned a photograph on the back cover of *The Shadow of the Black Combe*, which he did not choose and thought had a Dylan Thomas reference, but concluded: "but I felt that it would be recognized by very few of the people whom we hoped would buy the book, so I let it stay." The December 13, 1981, clipping from *Observer Review* contains an interview with Nicholson by Pendennis.
Selected Search Terms

Personal Names
Nicholson, Norman, 1914-1987--Correspondence.
Young, Alan--Correspondence.

Corporate Names
Manchester Polytechnic.

Topical Terms
Poets, British--20th century--Correspondence.
Degrees, Academic--Great Britain--20th century--Correspondence.

Form/Genre Terms
Correspondence.

Personal Contributors
Young, Alan, correspondent.

Related Materials in this Repository
This item forms part of MSS 099 Miscellaneous Literary and Historical Manuscripts.
Arrangement

The items are arranged in chronologically.
Detailed Description of the Collection

Typed letter signed, 1978 November 20 [Box 61 F886]
1 item (1 p.)

Typed letter signed, 1978 December 5 [Box 61 F886]
1 item (2 p.)

Newspaper clipping, 1981 December 13 [Box 61 F886]
1 item (1 p.)