Ladybird Heritage Network

Ladybird Books Resource: Sport

The Ladybird Books Archive collection, owned by Ladybird Books, contains 20,000 original artworks, production proofs and documentation.

It forms part of the University of Reading's Archive of British Publishing and Printing, which is officially designated as an Outstanding Collection.

All loans are subject to approval and agreement by both parties, ensuring venues meet required environmental conditions.

In addition to artworks, Ladybird Books will include one marketing image (for venue's use only) to accompany capsule collection loans.

To find out more, please email specialcollections@reading.ac.uk

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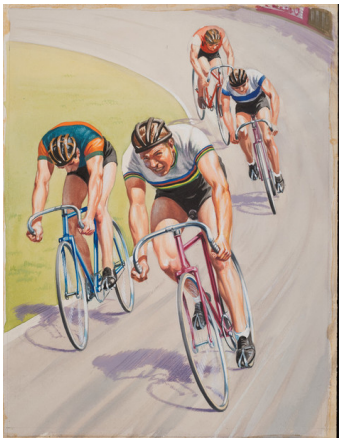
- Frank Humphris (1911-1993) studied at Gloucester College of Art and worked for Eagle comics prior to Ladybird Books. An expert in the American West, he was commissioned to author and illustrate several Ladybird books on the subject. He also illustrated Ladybird Books in several other series, including *The Record Breaker: Book 1*.
- Jack Matthew (b.1911) studied at Oldham School of Art and Goldsmiths' College, concentrating on wood engraving, lithography, and illustration. In addition to his Ladybird work, which included *The Story of Cricket* and *The Story of Football*, he was a prolific illustrator of crime fiction.

Please note that some artworks may not be available due to previous exhibitions / light exposure



Artworks:

- Playing football in India, *The Story of Football*, 1964
- A game of water polo, *The Record Breaker: Book 1*, 1970
- A relay race, *The Record Breaker: Book 1*, 1970
- A cycle race, *The Record Breaker: Book 1*, 1970
- Taking the chequered flag, *The Record Breaker: Book 1*, 1970
- A show jumper in action, *The Record Breaker: Book 1*, 1970
- A long jumper in action, *The Record Breaker: Book 1*, 1970
- Women's cricket, *The Story of Cricket*, 1964

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