The majority of our leading actors and actresses ride, and for the most part, with characteristic love of high quality and distinctive appearance, have

Author's Advice

'The Archives are a fantastic resource for creative writing, linking us to themes in history and taking us on a journey through writing and on to wider reading. This learning pack uses items found in the York Archives as a starting point. You can use the same items or adapt the ideas to your own research interests. This pack can be used by schools, groups or families.

The first key principle of writing fiction is the freedom to create, to make things up. In this creative writing workshop we start with real people and a real time in history, but because we don't have all the facts, we make the rest up and create story.

The second principle in this kind of writing is to 'free write' in the first draft; that means keeping the pen on the page for a set amount of time, i.e. ten minutes, and seeing what comes. It's especially important with the beginning of the story. Give the children time to write without censoring or correcting themselves. Punctuation and grammar can be dealt with in the second draft.

When reading the opening, or encouraging pupils to read their openings out loud to one another, make sure feedback focuses on positives. Creative writing is the most personal form of writing and requires a great deal of positive

affirmation, before we dive into correcting things. Grammar and spelling in re-drafting are then easier to approach as a means to make this wonderful story easier for a reader to understand.'

Helen Cadbury



J W Knowles Collection KNO/8/2

FOR PRICES OF ADMISSION

SPECIAL BILLS.

How to Search the Archive for Stories

You can find out what sorts of things are in the city archives by searching the electronic catalogue.

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You can type a key word into the searchbox on the library website: www.exploreyork.org.uk

I wanted to know about theatre in York in the past so I typed in 'theatre'.

One of the results was this: 'Knowles box'.

Inside was a treasure trove of items collected by Mr Knowles.

Here are some of the things I found, all of which promised thousands of story beginnings.

STENOGRAPHER'S

NOTE BOOK.

216 PAGES.

Specially Prepared for

Pen or Penoil Writing.

THEATRE

I made an appointment to visit the archive. The staff at the archive had the box ready for me when I arrived and it looked like this:

J H KNOWLES

KN0/8/2 AND KN0/8/4 - 9/1

KNO

Finally, I settled on this: a theatre programme from York Theatre Royal in the early 1900s

11111



Rownfree's -

EAST LYNNE.

BROWN POTTER

J W Knowles Collection KNO/8/2



