

THE JOHNSTONE TWINS

An Appreciation of
Janet Johnstone (1928-1979) &
Anne Grahame Johnstone (1928-1998)
Philip Kelleway

The Johnstone twins were amongst the most prolific illustrators of children's books in twentieth-century Britain, working from their studio in either London, or the Suffolk countryside. Today they are remembered chiefly as the first illustrators of Dodie Smith's much loved classic, *The Hundred and One Dalmatians* (1956).

The sisters' popularity as artists took off in the early 1950s, when they were noticed by publishers and their reputation as illustrators began to grow. They always worked together, each assessing and contributing to a piece of work until both were satisfied. Janet's interest in animals and birds and Anne's love of period costumes reflected strongly in their work, including designs for, amongst other items, greetings cards. Up to the death of Janet in 1979, there was never a children's book illustrated under either one of their names alone.

They produced drawings and paintings for over one hundred books and were involved in early pioneering children's television programmes, including Charlie the Cat, Tai Lu, Andy Pandy, and Bill and Ben the Flower Pot Men.

In this lavishly illustrated book Philip Kelleway discusses the work of the Johnstone twins and introduces the reader to their fascinating lives, including being daughters to the famous artist and stage designer Doris Zinkeisen (1897-1991).

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

PHILIP KELLEWAY was born in Kenya and studied at the Universities of London (Goldsmiths' College), Marburg, and Reading, before gaining his doctorate from the University of East Anglia. His publications include *Highly Desirable: The Zinkeisen Sisters and Their Legacy* (2008) and *Julia Heseltine's Dreamscapes* (2009). He is in addition the co-author together with Paul Mayhew of *D'Oyly-John: Living in the Sun* (2012), also published by Halstar.

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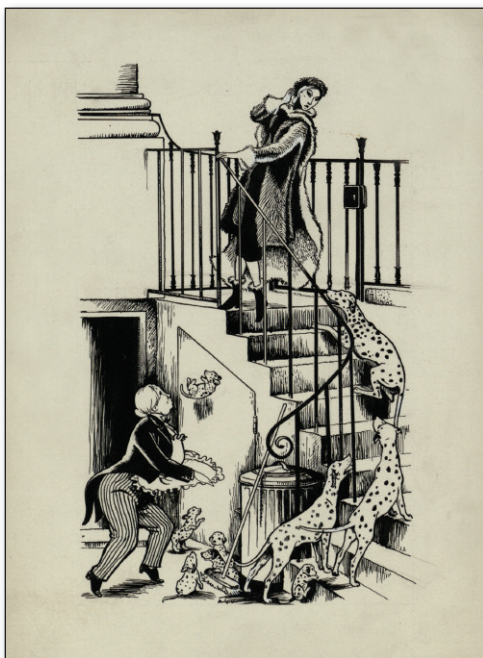


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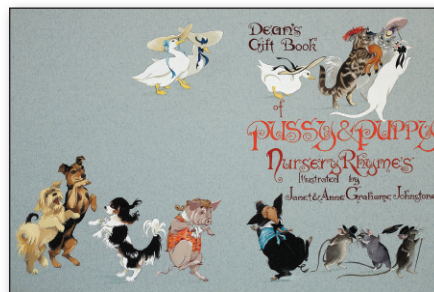
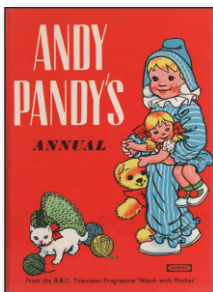
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Pen and ink drawing by the Johnstone twins for *The Hundred and One Dalmatians* (1956) by Dodie Smith. Picture by courtesy of the Howard Gotlieb Archival Research Center, Boston University.

Anne Grahame Johnstone, "Oranges and Lemons". Picture by courtesy of The Great British Card Company.



Far left: Janet Johnstone & Anne Grahame Johnstone produced artwork for this *Andy Pandys Annual* (1959).

Left: A design by the Johnstone twins for a dust jacket, circa 1972.

Below: Anne Grahame Johnstone, "Children in a Meadow". Picture by courtesy of The Great British Card Company.



Example of a double-page spread.

