## P83 Neil Gunn letter

## **RECORDS' IDENTITY STATEMENT**

Reference number: P83

Alternative reference number:

Title: Neil Gunn letter

Dates of creation: 1970

Level of description: Fonds

Extent: 1 sheet

Format: Paper

**RECORDS' CONTEXT** 

Name of creators: Neil Gunn

Administrative history: Neil Gunn (1891-1973), one of Scotland's

most prolific and distinguished novelists, wrote over a period that spanned the Recession, the political crises of the 1920's and 1930's, and the Second World War and its aftermath. Although nearly all his 20 novels are set in the Highlands of Scotland, he is not a regional author in the narrow sense of that description; his novels reflect a search for meaning in troubled times, both past and present, a search that leads him into the realms of philosophy, archaeology, folk tradition

and metaphysical speculation.

Born in the coastal village of Dunbeath, Caithness, the son of a successful fishing boat skipper, Gunn was educated at the local village primary school and privately in Galloway. In 1911 he entered the Civil Service and spent some time in both London and Edinburgh before returning to the North as a customs and excise officer based (after a short spell in Caithness) in Inverness. Before voluntary retirement from Government service in 1937 to become a full-time writer, he had embarked on a literary career with considerable success.

Ronald Thomson was also a Caithness born author.

Custodial history:

## **RECORDS' CONTENT** Letter from Neil Gunn to Ronald Description: Thompson, about Thompson's writing Appraisal: Accruals: **RECORDS' CONDITION OF ACCESS AND USE** Access: open Closed until: Access conditions: Available within the Archive searchroom Copying: Copying permitted within standard Copyright Act parameters Finding aids: Available in Archive searchroom **ALLIED MATERIALS** Related material: Publication:

Ref.	Description	Dates
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P83/1	Letter from Neil Gunn to Ronald Thomson, about Thomson's writing [1 sheet]	1970

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Notes:

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