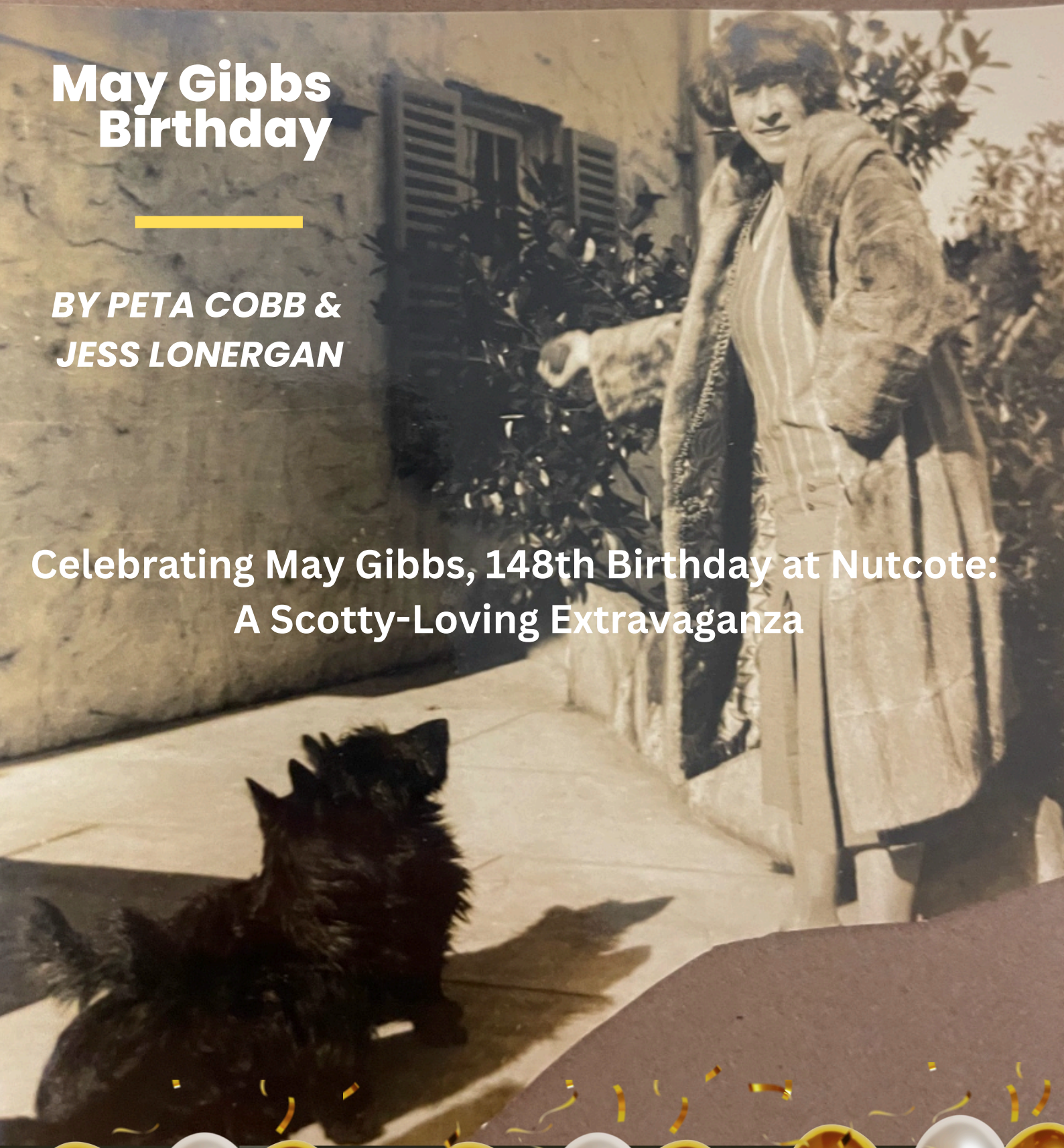


# May Gibbs Birthday

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*BY PETA COBB &  
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**Celebrating May Gibbs, 148th Birthday at Nutcote:  
A Scotty-Loving Extravaganza**





The historic harbourside home of beloved Australian author and illustrator May Gibbs, born 17 January 1877, came alive last weekend in a joyful celebration of her birthday.

A human gained free entry when they brought their Scottie on this special day.



Jaede and Whitney

This day brought together fans of Gibbs' timeless stories and lovers of Scottish Terriers for a truly unforgettable event. Peta and Andrew arrived with their adorable Scotties, feisty Pepper Potts, and Morgan Stark, while Jess joined the festivities with her spirited pup, Aliester. Jaede and Mike were not far behind with their delightful Miss Whitney. But the party didn't stop there. Many other guests brought along their beloved Scottish Terriers, creating a parade of these charming, well-groomed and sometimes scruffy, companions.



The garden was a sea of wagging tails and cheerful barks as Scotties of all shapes and sizes delighted the crowd. It was a fitting tribute to May Gibbs, who not only created enduring works like Snugglepoot and Cuddlepie but also had a deep love for Scotties.





Rene Heames, May's best friend, gave May and her husband a Scottie dog as a wedding gift when they got married in 1919, the best present ever! May owned several Scottish Terriers throughout her life and often featured them in her personal artwork and stories including, Scotty in Gumnutland.

The celebration included a variety of activities that delighted both humans and dogs. The Scotties enjoyed homemade puppy treats and a thrilling "Scottie Run," when Miss Pepper Potts decided to squeeze under the bottom gate and head out to the water!

A slight lapse in supervision from Andrew. It was all witnessed from the balcony of May's house and having video footage courtesy of Jaede, so Andrew could not deny the adventure. Andrew jumping the fence to save his Scottie daughter, phew!

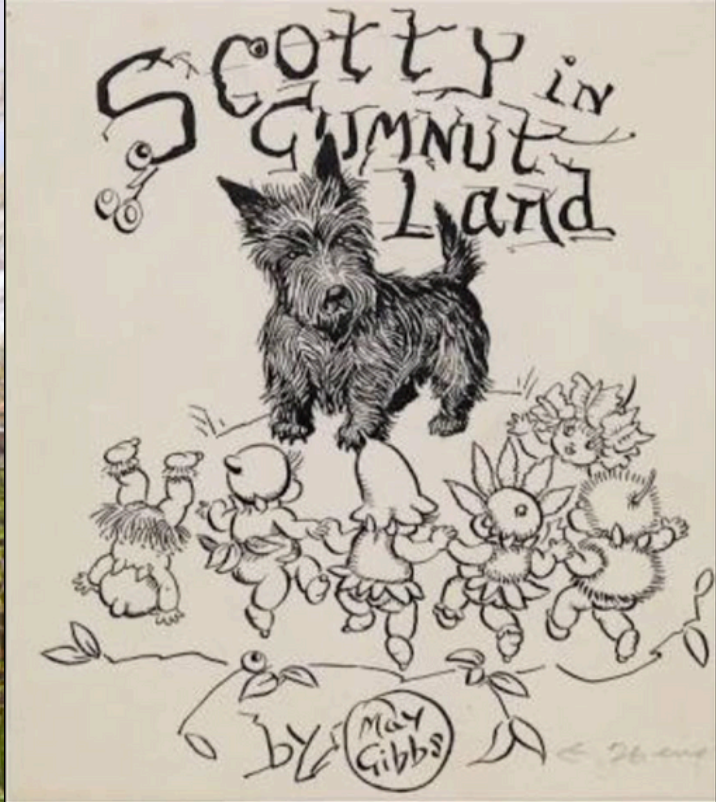
The dogs (not Pepper Potts) were on their best behaviour, charming everyone with their manners and antics. Guests explored Nutcote, marveling at its beautifully preserved interiors and tranquil gardens, which were a source of inspiration for Gibbs' art and stories. The museum (May's House, which will be 100 years old this year) exhibits provided fascinating insights into Gibbs' life, including her passion for Australian flora and fauna and her fondness for her furry friends.

The day was a perfect blend of history, creativity, and canine joy, celebrating May Gibbs' legacy and the charm of the Scottish Terriers she adored.



**The Scottie Brothers  
Aleister with Morgan Stark**





Visitors and Scottie owners indulged in tea, coffee, scones, jam, and cream, plus many other lovely treats – all made and served by volunteers.

It was then time to sing Happy Birthday to May and cut the delicious celebration Pavlova in the garden.

Both Scotties and their owners left with full hearts and unforgettable memories. It was a day that honoured May Gibbs' love of nature, art, and her cherished Scottish Terriers—a truly magical celebration for all.

*Happy Birthday!*