

Our vision

Smart libraries build smart communities.

Our mission

Creatively linking Queenslanders to information, knowledge and each other.

Our values

The following values underpin our vision and mission:

- **Engagement:**
 - We are committed to the creation of new knowledge by facilitating engagement with our collections.
- **Outreach:**
 - We pursue directions that allow us to reach out to a diverse range of clients throughout Queensland.
- **Relevance:**
 - Our strategic direction reflects the strengths of our collection and our staff expertise.
- **Respect:**
 - We value diversity in all its forms, and are committed to intellectual freedom.
- **Responsiveness:**
 - We customise our client service strategies to meet the needs of diverse client groups.
- **Value for money:**
 - We are committed to accountability in the management of our resources and infrastructure.
- **Working together:**
 - We value the strengths of our staff and provide opportunities for continued learning and development.



Illumination, opening of the new State Library, 24 November 2006

Since its establishment in 1902, the State Library of Queensland has provided library services to the people of Queensland: as Australia's leading library for Queensland documentary heritage; as a major reference and research library; and as an advocate and financial partner of a statewide public library network.

The opening of the redeveloped State Library building at South Bank and the introduction of new services accounted for a significant increase in public visitation, in all its forms, to the State Library.

In 2006-07, there were over 638,000 visits to State Library sites and over 13.2 million page requests to the State Library website. In addition, in 2006-07 State Library staff answered almost 43,000 reference enquiries from clients throughout Queensland. The State Library provided access to over 37,000 online photographic images and manuscripts. Eight full text databases provided statewide access to the content of 4,775 journal titles. Loans of books and information resources from the State Library to public libraries and other institutions amounted to 452,059.

The State Library is an advocate and partner to a network of 337 library service points including 15 Indigenous Knowledge Centres (IKCs), in partnership with local government and community councils, for the delivery of library services. During 2006-07, approximately two million Queenslanders were registered library members and there were an estimated 19 million visits made to public libraries throughout the year.

Key roles of the State Library include:

- meeting the needs of regional, rural and remote Queenslanders through statewide services and programs;
- developing and supporting the provision of library services to Aboriginal people and Torres Strait Islanders;
- developing and promoting services and programs to a diverse range of audiences, including children and young people;
- providing reference and research services to all Queenslanders through the development of collections and delivery of services;
- positioning the State Library as a key player in facilitating relationships and cooperation between the publicly funded libraries in Queensland;
- providing funding and support services to public libraries and facilitating the provision of public library services for all Queenslanders;
- building collections and ensuring they are appropriately cared for and stored; and
- collecting, arranging, preserving and providing access to Queensland's documentary heritage.

The State Library provides:

- access to reference and general collections and services, including books, journals and magazines, newspapers, audiovisual, family history, maps, music, ephemera and electronic resources;
- access to research collections and services – including the John Oxley Library and the Australian Library of Art, which includes the James Hardie Library of Australian Fine Arts;
- books and other resource material to public libraries throughout Queensland and specialist services to public libraries in a number of areas, including services to young people and multicultural communities;
- public programs and exhibitions, including exhibition loans to libraries, schools, museums and other community organisations;
- outreach programs in reference, research, information literacy, internet training and digitisation throughout Queensland for library staff and the general community; and
- library services for Aboriginal people and Torres Strait Islanders including the establishment of IKCs primarily in Cape York and Torres Strait regions and initiatives to facilitate employment and training opportunities for Aboriginal people and Torres Strait Islanders in the library sector.

During 2006-07, as a result of the redevelopment of the State Library's South Bank building, collections and services were consolidated into three sites. The South Bank site provides reference and specialised collections and services while the Cannon Hill site provides collections and support services to public libraries throughout Queensland. The site in Cairns provides support services to IKCs.

State Library of Queensland



Chairperson's overview

I am pleased to report that 2006-07 was a remarkable year of achievement for the State Library of Queensland.

The redeveloped State Library was opened to the public on 24 November 2006. It was an occasion of great excitement, bringing to fruition the years of planning and hard work that went into making the vision a reality.

Realising an undertaking of the magnitude of the State Library redevelopment requires significant commitment across many levels of government. The Library Board of Queensland extends its thanks to the Hon Peter Beattie MP, Premier and Minister for Trade, the Hon Anna Bligh MP, Deputy Premier, Treasurer, Minister for Infrastructure and Member for South Brisbane, and the Hon Rod Welford MP, Minister for Education and Training and Minister for the Arts. Their sustained interest and support has been invaluable.

Our key building partners – the Department of Education, Training and the Arts, the Department of Public Works, Donovan Hill and Peddle Thorp Architects, and managing contractor Bovis Lend Lease – were instrumental to the overwhelming success of the project. I take this opportunity to thank all for their involvement. In addition, the Library Board warmly congratulates Donovan Hill and Peddle Thorp as the winners of the 2007 Royal Australian Institute of Architects *Brisbane Building of the Year* award for their redesign and extension of the State Library building.

An extraordinary spirit of dedication and enthusiasm was exhibited by the library staff, our volunteers and the public while the building project progressed. It is rewarding to know that the Queensland community will benefit from the rich resources and creative programs of the State Library for many years to come.

The new State Library provides an ideal opportunity to re-affirm the library's position as a provider of knowledge and a facilitator of learning throughout Queensland. The completion of the new building strengthens the State Library's role as a major supporter of *lifelong learning, cultural identity and active and informed citizenship in Queensland*¹ – these goals are recognised as integral to the future economic and social development of Queensland.

To support the State Library's goals, the *State Library of Queensland Awards* were relaunched in 2007, each with a \$5,000 prize. The Awards recognise individuals and organisations who have shown leadership and excellence in the library sector and the field of Queensland history. The *Library Board of Queensland Award* recognises excellence in the work of libraries or distinguished support for libraries in Queensland. The *John Oxley Library Award* recognises excellence in the development of Queensland history.

Given the geographical dispersion of Queensland's population, the State Library's role in ensuring that all Queenslanders can connect to information, knowledge and each other is vital. The State Library is a financial supporter and partner with local government in the provision of library services to a network of 337 fixed library sites across Queensland as well as 17 mobile libraries, which reach over 480 regional locations.

Each year the Library Board meets in both a regional and an outer-metropolitan location in order to ensure it engages with the wider Queensland community. This year, the Library Board met at Boonah and Moranbah, providing excellent opportunities for Board members to visit the library services available to the regions and liaise with local government and community representatives.

The Queensland Library Foundation has continued to play an important part in the State Library's activities in 2006-07. The successful conclusion of the *Imagine* fundraising campaign, which received pledges of \$3.3 million towards enhancing some of the distinctive features of the new building, sparked a renewed interest in the State Library. The Friends of the Library program was also re-established during the year. We welcome both old and new Friends to this program. The strong leadership of the Foundation's President, Mr Neil Roberts, and the support provided by the Foundation Councillors and donors have been outstanding and sincerely appreciated. The ongoing interest of the Foundation's patron, Her Excellency the Governor of Queensland, Ms Quentin Bryce AC, in the achievements of the State Library is also gratefully acknowledged.

I take this opportunity to thank fellow members of the Library Board for their sustained and enthusiastic contributions throughout the year. The Board expresses its appreciation to the State Librarian, for her strong and dynamic leadership, and the staff, who have worked vigorously towards the State Library's vision.

The 2006-07 year marked a new era for the State Library of Queensland, one that saw it challenge notions of what a library can be in a rapidly changing and technologically evolving society. With this in mind, I look forward keenly to the new opportunities that await the State Library in the coming year.

Emeritus Professor Roy Webb, AO
Chairperson

¹ *Smart Libraries build smart communities: Future Directions of the State Library of Queensland*, State Library of Queensland, Brisbane 2001



State Librarian's year in review

The past year marked a historic occasion for the State Library of Queensland – the completion of the State Library redevelopment. The new world-class building is challenging the traditional delivery of information and knowledge and, as a result, the State Library is now reaching further into Queensland than ever before.

We are proud to have opened Australia's first state library Indigenous Knowledge Centre, kuril dhagun, which is one of a growing network of 15 IKCs throughout Queensland. Welcoming both Indigenous and non-Indigenous people, kuril dhagun focuses on collecting, preserving and providing access to Indigenous languages, cultural heritage and the stories of Queensland's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander populations for the benefit of current and future Australian generations. The Centre is an integral part of the State Library's ongoing commitment to improving library services and collections for Aboriginal people and Torres Strait Islanders.

The State Library is committed to the delivery of services and programs for children and young people and opened a creative space for children under eight in the new building, called The Corner. A community-based program that supports our goal to foster children and young people to become informed and knowledgeable lifelong learners, The Edge, was also launched during the year. These programs for children and young people, and those who work with, care for and educate them, have proven a tremendous success, involving approximately 50,000 participants in a range of programs and activities in the seven months since the State Library's reopening.

During 2006-07, the State Library presented exciting exhibitions in its new gallery spaces. These included *National Treasures from Australia's Great Libraries* (held in partnership with Australian national, state and territory libraries), *A few of our favourite things* and *Sport and War* – exhibitions which offered a stimulating insight into our cultural identity. During the year, the 10th anniversary of the *Bringing them home* Report into Indigenous child separation was observed by the State Library through the exhibition, *Broken Links: the Stolen Generations in Queensland*, a moving exploration of the history and effects of the Stolen Generations in Queensland.

As an advocate and partner of the statewide public library network, the State Library provided valuable Online Public Access in Libraries training across regional, rural and remote Queensland throughout the year to over 1,000 public library staff. The training is an important partnership between local governments and the State Library to provide high-quality public library services which connect Queenslanders to knowledge and information through expanding technological innovation.

Increasing the accessibility of our collections has continued to be a priority throughout the year. The digitisation of Queensland heritage items has continued, increasing the availability of online collections, to meet our anywhere, any place, anytime service delivery philosophy. The redevelopment was also an opportunity to expand the facilities of the Heritage Collections, including the John Oxley Library, to give greater onsite access to Queensland's heritage materials, showcase collection strengths and provide more spaces for research and audience engagement with collections.

The reopening of the State Library provided an opportunity to realign our goals in ways that continue to support the Smart State. Throughout 2006-07, a new strategic policy, *Enriching the lives of Queenslanders*, was developed which will ensure that the State Library continues to expand as an information and knowledge provider for all Queenslanders in future years.

The State Library also led the development of a strategic vision statement during 2006-07, *Expanding Horizons: Positioning Queensland Public Libraries for the Future*, in partnership with the Local Government Association of Queensland and the Queensland Public Libraries Association. The policy aims to ensure public libraries are vital contributors to building a fair, socially cohesive, economically strong and culturally vibrant society in Queensland.

It is difficult to acknowledge all the hard work and achievements of the past year, but I recognise that the State Library would not be the institution it is without the commitment, loyalty and professionalism of its staff. I would like to express my appreciation to the State Library staff for their hard work during the final stages of the Millennium Library Project and for their efforts to find new ways of challenging the paradigms of what a State Library means in the 21st century. The support and direction provided by the Library Board of Queensland under the guidance of Emeritus Professor Roy Webb, AO is also acknowledged.

The significant achievements made by the State Library would not be possible without the support and commitment of its partners: the community; public libraries; local councils; the education sector; local, state and federal government departments and agencies; and the private sector. To these partners, the State Government, the Library Board of Queensland, the Queensland Library Foundation and our staff and volunteers, I extend my sincere thanks.

Lea Giles-Peters
State Librarian