



Achievements in 2006-07

Part 4



Far left State Reference Library, levels 2 and 3
Left The new State Library **Right** *National Treasures from Australia's Great Libraries* opening left to right: Her Excellency Quentin Bryce AC, Governor of Queensland; Lea Giles-Peters, State Librarian; Jan Fullerton, Director-General, National Library of Australia; and Sir James Gobbo AC CVO, Chairman, Council of the National Library of Australia

Part 4 Achievements in 2006-07

Our goals

The State Library contributes to the State Government's priority of *Realising the Smart State through education, skills and innovation* and the Government's community outcomes of:

- a community of well-skilled and knowledgeable people;
- safe and secure communities; and
- a fair, socially cohesive and culturally vibrant society.

During 2006-07, the State Library's strategic direction was guided by the *Libraries Act 1988* and the State Library's policy document, *Smart libraries build smart communities: Future Directions of the State Library of Queensland*.

The State Library focused on six goals in its Strategic Plan to ensure that the Government's priorities are supported through collections, services and programs that meet the needs of all Queenslanders. It also ensures that services are delivered in a timely, efficient and effective manner by appropriately skilled staff.

To achieve outcomes of lifelong learning, social cohesion, cultural identity and economic development, the State Library's goals were:

- Goal 1: To engage with diverse audiences;
- Goal 2: To increase access to our collections and services;
- Goal 3: To provide leadership;
- Goal 4: To develop and manage our collections;
- Goal 5: To enhance the skills and knowledge of our staff; and
- Goal 6: To add value to our services through effective resource management.

Highlights

During 2006-07, the State Library:

- finalised the delivery of the State Library redevelopment, a key part of the Millennium Arts Project, including:
 - relocating all State Library staff and 32 kilometres of collections from seven temporary locations into the new building at South Bank and to the State Library's site at Cannon Hill;
 - opening Australia's first State Library Indigenous Knowledge Centre, kuril dhagun, a welcoming indoor and outdoor meeting space which focuses on preserving languages, cultures and histories of Queensland's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander populations for both Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians;
 - launching expanded facilities in the new building for the State Library's Heritage Collections, including the John Oxley Library, which provide greater access to Queensland's heritage materials, showcasing collection strengths and providing more spaces for research and audience engagement with collections; and
 - developing new programs and services for delivery at the new building, online and through the statewide network of public libraries.



- developed public programs and services, such as:
 - *National Treasures from Australia's Great Libraries;*
 - *A few of our favourite things;*
 - *Sport and War;*
 - *Broken Links: the Stolen Generations in Queensland;*
 - *Reel Rescues;*
 - the *Introducing...* series which are free monthly talks featuring an external guest speaker who presents straightforward introductions to complex, topical subjects or people of notoriety; and
 - Infozone, which provides increased online access, wireless internet access and relaxed spaces for learning in the new State Library.
- increased audience scope through the development and continuation of partnerships with public libraries and other organisations, including:
 - partnering with *The Courier-Mail* and public libraries to launch The Big Book Club, a monthly book club aimed at adults, and The Little Big Book Club, an early literacy program for children;
 - partnering with Education Queensland to deliver the Online Literature Festival to over 8,000 teachers and students through 89 online events; and
 - offering writers workshops in partnership with the May Gibbs Children's Literature Trust, which attracted 300 children, young people, teachers and families.
- developed children and young people as a key audience through targeted programs and services, including:
 - launching The Edge, which provides creative learning programs for children and young people;
 - launching The Corner in the new State Library – a creative space for children under eight which has attracted approximately 19,000 children and their families and carers since November 2006;
 - developing the *Summer Reading Club*, a program delivered through public libraries to approximately 8,900 children and young people;
 - presenting *d_SPACE 1.38*, architecture and design workshops and interactive exhibitions to over 4,000 children and young people;
 - presenting the Travel Buddies project in partnership with Education Queensland's *The Learning Place* to 1,745 children and teachers throughout Queensland; and
 - holding Cartoon and Animation Workshops for over 200 children.
- increased the availability of collections through the digitisation process and expanded the breadth of online services, including:
 - digitising approximately 7,200 original images and photographs from the State Library collection and providing free online access to the images via the *Picture Queensland* website;
 - increasing the number of music scores on the *Music Queensland* website by approximately 10%;
 - training 90 regional librarians and members of other collecting institutions to digitise local photographs and manuscripts for preservation and access through the State Library's website. The project was funded through the Online Public Access in Libraries (OPAL) funding program, part of the Government's Blueprint for the Bush initiative; and
 - releasing various State Library programs on the website, which can be downloaded as a webcast or audio recording to reach a broader regional audience.
- advanced the Indigenous Library Services strategy by:
 - launching kuril dhagun;
 - delivering a program of events at kuril dhagun including Reconciliation Week and the '67 *Referendum*, as well as regular activities such as the *Night by the fire*, and regular Indigenous films to encourage visitors to embrace and appreciate the diversity of Queensland Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture;
 - leading the *Taking IT On* training initiative, which provided basic information technology training and technical support to 849 adults over 7,024 hours, in 23 remote Indigenous communities throughout Queensland; and
 - continuing the strategic partnership with Education Queensland to maximise learning and literacy opportunities for Aboriginal people and Torres Strait Islanders across Queensland.
- developed and delivered services, strategies and information for the public library network, in collaboration with local governments, including:
 - providing \$19.1 million under the Public Library Grant Scheme to support public library services, including the provision of new books and other library resources and services across Queensland;
 - providing \$0.25 million in grants for innovative public library programs in 24 local government areas;
 - implementing a trial of *yoututor*, an online tutoring service, in 30 regional public libraries to increase access to online support for school students to assist with homework, assignments, projects and exam revision;
 - delivering OPAL training sessions in emerging technology to over 1,000 participants in public libraries throughout Queensland; and
 - leading the development of a strategic vision statement, *Expanding Horizons: Positioning Queensland Public Libraries for the Future*, to promote library service best practice. The statement is being developed in partnership with the Local Government Association of Queensland and the Queensland Public Libraries Association.



Far left Staff from Indigenous Library Services, top from left: Olivia Robinson and Anna Flesser, bottom from left: Jo-Anne Driessens and Amanda Hayman, kuril dhagun Indigenous Knowledge Centre **Left** (Detail) Fiona Foley, *Black Opium*, 2006, Knowledge Walk, level 4 **Right** (Detail) *Kurilpa Country* by Lilla Watson, Infozone, level 1

Indigenous Library Services

The State Library, in partnership with Queensland Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities, has taken an active leadership role in developing library services and collections which reflect the vibrancy of Indigenous knowledge, cultures and histories. The State Library's ongoing commitment to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander library services and collections is reflected in a broad range of initiatives undertaken not only by Indigenous Library Services, but involving every aspect of the State Library's activities.

The State Library is committed to reconciliation and acknowledges the vital role it can play in building understanding and acceptance of our shared history and respect for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures.

Indigenous Knowledge Centres

The State Library has led the creation of 15 IKCs, 14 in remote Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities, over the last five years. Prior to this initiative only a small number of Queensland's remote Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities had access to public library services.

IKCs operate in the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities of Aurukun, Injinoo, Lockhart River, New Mapoon, Pormpuraaw and Wujal Wujal on Cape York; Badu, Boigu, Dauan, Erub, Mabiuiag, Poruma and Seisia in the Torres Strait, and Cherbourg in southeast Queensland.

An IKC combines the traditional functions of a local public library with a mission to affirm and strengthen Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultural identity as a vital source of individual and community strength and pride.

The State Library of Queensland is committed to developing new audiences and promoting its collections and services through active public programs delivered by the State Library or delivered in partnership with other organisations.

To engage with diverse audiences

Goal 1



IKCs are community spaces that offer traditional library services and can be keeping places and small museums. Activities at IKCs include arts and craft, computer and internet usage, summer reading and homework clubs, movie evenings, and programs supporting literacy such as karaoke machines (I Can Sing I Can Read), listening stations (Have you Heard), competitions conducted in conjunction with the local schools, community morning teas and story telling.

IKCs are established by the State Library in partnership with the local Aboriginal or Island Councils, which then take responsibility for staffing and managing the Centre. The State Library provides support in the form of establishment costs and organisation, project development, training and networking support for administrators. Ongoing training and support for local administrators is provided through field visits and annual workshops to build their skills. A key part of the IKC model is community ownership and the active participation of the community in the development of IKC services.

Mobilising and developing capacity is another library value that is a focus for IKCs. Like every public library, IKCs support the development of skills and capacities needed to survive in the modern world – literacy, computer skills, knowledge of government, community services and an awareness of world events and issues.

kuril dhagun Indigenous Knowledge Centre

kuril dhagun's programs in 2007 followed five central themes: *Country; Families and Communities; People and Power; Identity; and Desert to Saltwater*. Each program was complemented by exhibitions, workshops and activities, information sessions, film screenings, BBQs and community gatherings. In conjunction with other library programs, kuril dhagun participated in *The Summer Reading Club* (in partnership with The Corner), *Young Murri Mums Week*, *Reconciliation Week*, *National Sorry Day Program*, *Referendum '67 Project*, NAIDOC and *Coming of the Light Community Program*, monthly film screenings, *A night by the fire* series and school holiday workshops.

kuril dhagun is committed to working with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities to ensure local histories and knowledge are documented and preserved. A number of key projects which were the focus this year included *Remembering the Referendum: an oral history from the people and Yarnin: Aunty Alice James' Story*.

kuril dhagun provides an opportunity to explore the State Library and its services for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities, through specific tours for individuals, schools and family groups. A range of meeting spaces, both intimate and public, are available for community

use. These venues include the Loris Williams Room, the Talking Circle and activities and lounge areas that are regularly accessed by community groups for meetings, workshops, gatherings and celebrations. In the development and delivery of events, programs, exhibitions and activities, kuril dhagun has collaborated with a number of external organisations and agencies including the Aboriginal Centre for the Performing Arts (ACPA); Kummara Family Association; 98.9 FM; Reconciliation Queensland and Reconciliation Australia; National Sorry Day Committee; Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Policy (Department of Communities); South Bank TAFE and Brisbane North TAFE; Queensland Museum; Australian Electoral Commission; Brisbane City Council; SpeakOut; and Yugambah Museum, Language and Heritage Research Centre.

Although different in scale and purpose to the regional community-based IKCs, kuril dhagun is an important part of the IKC network. Where possible the program of exhibitions and events uses content from the regional IKCs, working with them to develop content that reflects the communities they serve. In addition, the IKC network operates on a reciprocal arrangement; material from each IKC is shared across the network, with kuril dhagun serving as a place to represent and celebrate Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures throughout Queensland.



Left *Taking IT On* training, Karren Pickering and Daniel Nunn, Wujal Wujal Indigenous Knowledge Centre **Right** Roxanne Dennis, Indigenous Library Services

Taking IT On

Taking IT On was developed by the State Library to provide basic IT (information technology) and technical support training to library administrators and other adults, to remote Indigenous communities with libraries or IKCs. This program is supported by the Australian Government through the Department of Communications, Information Technology and the Arts. Over 849 adults have received training depending upon their availability and interest levels.

Trainers visited each IKC and other remote Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities with libraries for a period of two to three weeks, offering introductory IT and technical support courses as well as training in library principles. State Library trainers visited 23 communities, primarily in the Torres Strait and Cape York regions including Boulia, Normanton, Boigu Island, Dauan Island, Wujal Wujal, Erub (Darnley Island), Poruma (Coconut Island), Quilpie, Cunnamulla, Badu Island, Weipa, Napranum, Pormpuraaw, Mabuiag Island, Lockhart River, Yarrabah, Seisia, Aurukun, Mornington Island, Injinoo, Cherbourg, New Mapoon and Coen. The majority of training sessions were offered in the library or IKC, to demonstrate the capability of these community resources and introducing some community members to the library or IKC for the first time.

Adults in each community were offered free, flexible computer training sessions covering an introduction to common software, computer set up, maintenance and use of the internet. Practical skills for using the internet to access services and find information were well received, including online banking, searching for information and communicating with government agencies including Centrelink and health services. The sessions on digital cameras and manipulating digital images for calendars, cards and newsletters also proved popular.

Some communities expressed interest in using information and communication technologies for recording local languages and songs and digitising early photographs. State Library trainers responded to these requests, offering specialised training sessions and the loan of specialised equipment.

As part of the *Taking IT On* project, the State Library has demonstrated to Councils without internet connections in the library or IKC, the benefits of providing this service to the community. Public access internet ensures IKCs are able to operate to their full potential, allowing for more rapid information retrieval and communication, access to online education and the possibility of searching for employment or setting up e-businesses. Ensuring that these communities have access to internet and opportunities to practise and develop the IT skills that they learnt through *Taking IT On* is crucial. Return visits during the year showed that skills have been retained.

Queensland Indigenous Languages Project

The Queensland Indigenous Languages Project is a State Library initiative funded by the Department of Communication, Information Technology and the Arts, under the Maintenance of Indigenous Languages and Records Program. The project arose out of a desire to support Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities to document, record, access, and promote their languages. As a result of ongoing consultation with members of the Queensland Indigenous Languages Advisory Group (which includes representatives from most of the language centres in Queensland) the State Library has formulated a policy, the first to cover intangible knowledge, which outlines how the organisation can support Indigenous language work throughout Queensland. Activities have included workshops on digital recording and standards, discussion of the protocols and procedures that govern access to collection materials, online resources to promote Indigenous languages and the presentation of bilingual virtual books on the State Library website and the kuril dhagun intranet.



Footprints Before Me

Footprints Before Me is an innovative joint project between the State Library and Department of Communities, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnership to create a comprehensive Queensland Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander family history website. When completed, this website will contain an informative list of the myriad resources containing information about Aboriginal people and Torres Strait Islanders of Queensland.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Employment and Training Strategy 2007-2010

The State Library is implementing *Our Place is Your Place: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Employment and Training Strategy 2007-2010*. The strategy promotes knowledge of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures in the State Library and public libraries with the objective of improving access to library and information services for Aboriginal people and Torres Strait Islanders. The Strategy also leads and facilitates sustainable employment, training, and career development pathways and partnerships for Aboriginal people and Torres Strait Islanders in the State Library and associated networks.

Reconciliation Strategy

The State Library of Queensland's *Reconciliation Strategy* confirms our commitment to reconciliation through leadership, service delivery, and engagement with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities. The State Library established a Reconciliation Working Group to implement the Strategy and advocate for reconciliation within the State Library and with external partners. During Reconciliation Week 2007, and in partnership with Reconciliation Queensland, the Working Group held several events and activities for staff including the Reading for Reconciliation project, to raise awareness and understanding of our shared history and the experiences of the Stolen Generation.

The *Reconciliation Strategy* is based on the guiding principles of understanding and accepting the history of our shared experience, respecting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures and identities, and recognising that past injustices continue to give rise to present injustices for Aboriginal people and Torres Strait Islanders. Through the *Reconciliation Strategy*, and in places such as kuril dhagun, the State Library intends to support all Queenslanders in their journey of reconciliation.

Protocols for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Collections

In 2007, the State Library adopted protocols for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander material and information in its collections and developed the *Protocols for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Collections*. The Protocols will ensure that ongoing collection, provision and access to this material, including digital material, is undertaken in a culturally sensitive, inclusive and appropriate manner.

5th International Indigenous Librarians' Forum

The State Library, in partnership with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Library and Information Resource Network (ATSILIRN), hosted the 5th International Indigenous Librarians Forum from 3-7 June 2007. The Forum was an opportunity for Indigenous library workers from around the world to share information, contribute in the development of solutions to common concerns, and to discuss issues relating to the communication, documentation and preservation of Indigenous cultures. The theme for the Forum was 'Culture, Knowledge, Future'. Papers delivered covered issues such as Indigenous knowledge, protocols, ethics, copyright, repatriation, developing knowledge places and heritage. The Forum was attended by 84 Indigenous representatives from throughout the world including Australia, Canada, the United States of America and New Zealand.

National and State Libraries Australasia (NSLA) Indigenous Library Services and Collections Working Group

The State Library convenes the NSLA Indigenous Library Services and Collections Working Group, which is responsible for promoting and implementing the National Policy Framework for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Library Services and Collections. Major achievements of the Working Group have included the launch and promotion of the National Policy Framework, development and dissemination of a list of initiatives outlining policies, programs and projects being undertaken by libraries throughout Australia in 2007, and mapping Indigenous digitisation projects across Australia and New Zealand.



Far left The Corner, level 1 **Left** Cartoon and Animation Workshops **Right** James Halford, 2006 Young Writers Award winner © NewsPix / Glenn Barnes

Children and young people

Children and young people are a key audience for the State Library. Through programs, workshops and online activities the State Library engaged with close to 50,000 children and young people in schools, public libraries and at home through the physical and virtual environments.

The Edge

The State Library's The Edge program for children and young people has delivered an array of creative and engaging programs since opening, either directly or through online projects with the public library network across Queensland.

The Edge offers a dynamic combination of children and young people's spaces, programs and events. The Edge is designed to foster social, intellectual and cultural development in children and young people and provide for lifelong learning and creative and critical thinking.

The Corner

The Corner is an accessible and creative space for children up to eight years and those who work with and care for them. It is an aesthetically charged and welcoming sanctuary at the State Library.

Since November 2006, The Corner has featured two programs, *Me, Myself and I* and *Play*. Each program featured a digital exhibition of curated artworks from Dr Barbara Piscitelli AM Children's Art Archive (from the John Oxley Library), as well as specially created artworks and installations, daily artist-led activities, books, fun and educational toys and online activities. Over 19,000 children, parents, carers and educators have enjoyed exploring The Corner since its opening.

Cartoon and Animation Workshops

Cartoon and Animation Workshops were offered during the January 2007 school holidays to children aged seven to 17 years and proved to be very popular. The workshops engaged with over 200 participants who thoroughly enjoyed working with well-known cartoonists Brian Doyle, John Cook, Malcolm McGookin, award-winning cartoonist Joanne Brooker and animators from the SpeakOut Community. A selection of the cartoons were put on the website at www.slq.qld.gov.au/info/kidfam/club/cartoon_workshops to showcase some of the ideas explored.

In collaboration with The Edge, Public Programs also presented a selection of 14 classic cartoons and animations, from the very earliest animated cartoon in 1908 to recent digital animation. Over 200 children and their families attended the films screened in the State Library.

The Summer Reading Club

The State Library has developed and coordinated a statewide family summer reading program for the past four years. Delivered through the State Library and Queensland public libraries the program comprises of two components:

- an interactive website with a range of fun literature- and arts-based activities, games, competitions and quizzes for children and young people; and
- activities for library-based programs, delivered in public libraries throughout the state.

With the opening of the new State Library in November 2006, the *Summer Reading Club* was hosted, for the first time, in kuril dhagun Indigenous Knowledge Centre. Visiting children participated in a range of free daily activities including Indigenous storytelling and dance, ochre painting, art workshops and daily discoveries in *Saltwater Country* (quiet reading area), *Desert Country* (creating story sticks) and *Cave Country* (literacy-based activities).

The 2006-07 *Summer Reading Club* was the most successful to date with over 8,900 children participating in 190 public libraries throughout Queensland during the summer school holidays.

Public Programs

The State Library's Public Programs unit aims to identify, develop and evaluate programs to ensure creativity, learning and community cultural development opportunities are integrated into the everyday activities of the State Library.

Public Programs works in partnership with community groups, business, the education and arts sector, government agencies, public libraries and other State Library units to achieve cooperative programs that will attract wider community engagement with our collections and services.

The Public Programs unit delivers diverse activities and services including community engagement, audience development and education as well as cultural strategies that enhance and nurture Brisbane as a creative, cultural capital.

Public Programs aim to create welcoming spaces, to advance community awareness of the State Library's services and increase access to the information, tools and cultural experiences needed for lifelong learning.



d_SPACE 1.38

The Edge team was proud to present *d_SPACE 1.38*, curated and designed collaboratively with acclaimed Queensland architect and designer Brian Steendyk. This program encouraged young people and wider audiences to not only observe architecture and design, but to engage with it, to understand its significance and think about how it may affect our lives. It is estimated that over 4,000 children and young people experienced *d_SPACE* by participating in the hands-on installation. *d_SPACE* also included a series of talks with Brian Steendyk and school holiday workshops for children and young people aged nine to 16 years.

The Young Writers Award

The *Young Writers Award* is a creative writing competition open to all Queenslanders aged 18 to 25 years. The competition was judged on merit by a panel of three judges: Sue Gough, author and member of Library Board of Queensland, Sandra McLean, author and Arts Editor for *The Courier-Mail* and Alasdair Duncan, author and winner of the *Young Writers Award* in 2001.

The 2006 *Young Writers Award* was won by James Halford for his entry, *Thoughts while night travelling*. The winner of the Maureen Donahoe Encouragement Award was Benjamin Law for his story, *Simon says*. Benjamin was also a highly commended entrant in 2004.

In 2006, the State Library received a total of 177 *Young Writers Award* entries, an increase from 146 in 2005. Of those, 131 were from the Brisbane area and 46 were regional including entries from the Gold Coast, Sunshine Coast, Bowen, Bundaberg, Cairns, Mackay, Rockhampton, Tambo, Tara, Toowoomba and Townsville.

Additionally, four stories were highly commended by the judges. They were:

- *Rainbow Serpent expressway* by Matthew John Doyle;
- *Fifteen metres* by Nicole Holyer;
- *Never silence independence* by Megan McGrath; and
- *Ava and the wonderless animist* by Laura Skerlj.

The six finalists for the 2006 *Young Writers Award* also received professional development opportunities with State Library partners, the Queensland Writers Centre and the Brisbane Writers Festival.

The Courier-Mail Little Big Book Club

The Courier-Mail Little Big Book Club is a partnership between the State Library, The Big Book Club Inc, *The Courier-Mail* and 612 ABC. It supports and encourages parents to read to their children from infancy to develop speech and literacy skills. Each month, three book titles, for age groups 0 to 2 years, 2 to 3 years and 4 to 5 years, are featured to assist parents to select books for their children.

Baby Rhyme Time

Public libraries throughout Queensland have been encouraged to offer *Baby Rhyme Time* sessions for parents and care givers which assist in language development for children four years and under. A total of 50,000 free *Rhyme Time* DVDs, booklets and library bags have been distributed through Queensland public libraries to reinforce the *Rhyme Time* message.

An Early Literacy Development training program has also been made available to public library staff to assist in the development of *Baby Rhyme Time* sessions in local libraries. Training for 120 public library staff was held in February 2007 in various locations, including the State Library, Gold Coast, Hervey Bay and Mackay.

The Learning Place

The State Library has continued its commitment to strengthening its educational programs in partnership with the Department of Education, Training and the Arts' e-learning environment, *The Learning Place*. Throughout the year, a range of strategies and projects have been developed to enhance access to, and relevance of, State Library collections and services to teachers and school children. A particular focus this year was on outreach to rural and remote areas. This partnership also raises awareness of, and advocates for, the potential relationship between public libraries and schools which is now beginning to see the development of collaborative programs.

During 2006-07, the State Library's partnership with *The Learning Place* generated the following projects:

- **The Online Literature Festival**
The festival involved students from across Australia engaging with Australian children's authors and illustrators through online discussions and forums. It included events such as 'Guess the Author', book discussions, character role play, book launches and story writing workshops. Over 100 authors and 8,000 teachers and school children participated in the two-week festival. A component of the program was delivered in partnership with the Brisbane Writers Festival.
- **The Travel Buddies project**
This delightful project involved specially created Travel Buddy stuffed toys that toured the state visiting schools and public libraries. To link with the State Library's opening theme of treasures, the Travel Buddies worked with over 1,745 preparatory to Year 3 students to find treasures within their local communities.
- **Manhua Wonderlands**
Manhua Wonderlands was presented by MAAP – Multimedia Art Asia Pacific and the State Library. This media project explored animation, video practices and contemporary literature formats. The project was supported by the Visual Arts and Craft Strategy, an initiative of the federal, state and territory Governments through Museum and Gallery Services Queensland and the partnership between the State Library and *The Learning Place*.



Far left Dianne Byrne, Heritage Collections, with Don Bradman's bat at *National Treasures from Australia's Great Libraries* © Newspix / Derek Moore **Left** Shane Webcke, Channel 7 presenter and rugby league legend at the launch of *Sport and War* **Right** Prof Ian Frazer at *A few of our favourite things*

Exhibitions

slq Gallery

The slq Gallery, on level 2, is a space appropriate for major state, national and international exhibitions.

National Treasures

National Treasures from Australia's Great Libraries was the inaugural exhibition in the redeveloped State Library. This national travelling exhibition heralded the commencement of a fresh era for the State Library as it is now able to receive federally indemnified exhibitions in the new slq Gallery. *National Treasures* was an initiative of the National Library of Australia and was made possible through a partnership with National and State Libraries Australasia (NSLA) members.

National Treasures opened at the State Library on the evening of Friday 17 November 2006. The exhibition was officially launched by Her Excellency the Governor of Queensland, Ms Quentin Bryce AC, in the presence of the Honourable Teresa Gambaro, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Federal Member for Petrie; Sir James Gobbo, Chair, National Library of Australia Council and Jan Fullerton AO, Director-General, National Library of Australia. In all, 332 guests attended the official launch events, which also provided a sneak preview of the new State Library building redevelopments.

The exhibition, held from 18 November 2006 to 7 January 2007, recorded a successful visitor attendance.

- A total of 42,012 people visited the exhibition, exceeding revised expectations by 26%.
- Visitor evaluation found that 62% of respondents came to the State Library specifically to attend the *National Treasures* exhibition. The majority of respondents rated the exhibition as 'excellent' and visitors spent between 30 and 60 minutes in the exhibition.
- In total, 69 groups took the opportunity during 'preview week' to view the exhibition, resulting in 2,186 visitors. Eleven school groups totalling 522 school children and teachers also attended the exhibition.

National Treasures also inspired the development of other public programs and exhibition spaces around the theme of treasures throughout the State Library and online.

Sport and War

Sport and War was launched at the State Library on 25 January 2007 by Shane Webcke, Channel 7 presenter and former Australian and Brisbane Broncos rugby league player. Over 200 guests attended the official launch including representatives from the Australian War Memorial, Returned Services League (RSL), the Department of Sport and Recreation, the Royal Australian Air Force and the Queensland Rifle Association.

Sport and War was an initiative of the Australian War Memorial and was sponsored by Visions of Australia and the Australian Sports Commission. The exhibition was held in the slq Gallery from 25 January to 30 April 2007.

During the 13-week period this exhibition was open to the public:

- a total of 18,311 people visited the exhibition;
- there were 34 groups that visited the exhibition, totalling 1,006 group visitors;
- of these groups, 23 were school groups, totalling 781 school children and teachers;
- visitor evaluation found that 50% of respondents came to the State Library specifically to attend the *Sport and War* exhibition; and
- respondents rated the exhibition as 'high' and visitors spent between 30 and 60 minutes in the exhibition.

Three related events, which all exceeded audience targets, were programmed to complement the exhibition including twice-weekly guided tours of the exhibition:

- *Documents of war: military material in the John Oxley Library* gave an overview of military items housed in the State Library's collections.
- *Gallipoli* screened as a free film.
- *Bring your memorabilia* gave visitors to the State Library a chance to have an expert curator, war historian and conservator from the Australian War Memorial help identify and learn more about their personal war memorabilia.



Philip Bacon Heritage Gallery

Located on level 4, adjacent to the John Oxley Library, this gallery space is designed to showcase Queenslandiana.

A few of our favourite things: 10 Queenslanders explore the State Library's collections

The Philip Bacon Heritage Gallery's first major exhibit in the new State Library building was *A few of our favourite things*. The exhibition opened on 25 November 2006 and closed on 11 March 2007.

Ten prominent Queenslanders were asked to choose their favourite items from the State Library's Heritage Collections related to their passions and interests. They also loaned one item from their own private collection. These ranged from the quirky – such as a plaster of Paris cast of Nick Earls' partner's foot – to the iconic, such as the football boots Jason Akermanis wore when the Brisbane Lions won their third consecutive premiership.

The exhibition was a way of showcasing the depth and diversity of the State Library's Heritage Collections and provided snapshots of Queensland's history.

Professor Ian Frazer and Jan Power also gave public talks about their favourite things during the exhibition.

The prominent Queenslanders who donated their time to participate in the project were (in alphabetical order):

- Jason Akermanis, Australian Rules Footballer;
- Philip Bacon AM, art dealer, patron and philanthropist;
- Premier Peter Beattie, politician;
- Governor Quentin Bryce AC, Governor of Queensland;
- Nick Earls, author;
- Robert Forster, singer, songwriter and member of The Go-Betweens;
- Professor Ian Frazer, 2006 Australian of the Year and founder and leader of the University of Queensland's Centre for Immunology;
- Dr Jackie Huggins AM, author, historian, Deputy Director of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Research Unit at the University of Queensland and Co-chair of Reconciliation Australia;
- Jan Power, journalist, specialist caterer, restaurant proprietor and food critic; and
- Leah Purcell, actor, writer, singer and director.

Reel Rescues

Reel Rescues is a cinematic exhibition which features never-seen-before footage from the 1920s to 1970s. The footage has been retrieved from the State Library's Heritage Collections film vault which holds more than 1,000 reels of film in varying conditions.

Challenging the idea of a traditional exhibition, the slq Gallery has been filled with screens showing film extracts and contemporary experimental films created using fragments of old movie footage. Part of the exhibition is also dedicated to unveiling the delicate and involved process of preservation and storage of old films.

The films chart Queensland's social history, encompassing momentous events such as the joyous celebrations in Queen Street on VP Day to private insights such as children bobbing for apples at a backyard party, a family creating their own 'trick' movies, with starring roles for the dog and cat, and an amateur newsreel of Kingaroy club football.

The *Reel Rescues* exhibition opened on 25 May 2007 and is on display until 2 December 2007.

Broken Links: the Stolen Generations in Queensland

The State Library marked the 10th anniversary of the *Bringing them home* Report into Indigenous child separation with the exhibition, *Broken Links: the Stolen Generations in Queensland*. The exhibition was opened on 30 April by Dr Jackie Huggins AM.

Indigenous curator Doreen Mellor (from the National Library of Australia) worked with an Indigenous Reference Group and researchers from the State Library and the Queensland Department of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Policy and Development to develop and coordinate the exhibition.

The exhibition portrayed the history of Indigenous child removal through records and documents held at the State Library and other institutions, and through the very personal stories of five Aboriginal people who were removed from their families when they were children between 1930 and 1973. Using original photographs from the John Oxley Library, documents and record books from the Queensland State Archives, artefacts and artworks on loan from museums and private individuals, as well as oral histories collected by the National Library of Australia's *Bringing Them Home Oral History Project*, the exhibition explored the trans-generational impact of this government policy. It is also a testimony to the resilience of the five members of the Stolen Generations whose stories were included.

Ruth Hegarty, Pamela Croft and Sharon Kinchela, whose stories were included in the exhibition, gave public talks about their experiences of being removed. Dr Mark Copland and Marianne Wobcke from Link-Up Queensland also gave presentations during the exhibition.

The exhibition included a sound-track of songs about the Stolen Generations which was also available for purchase through The Library Shop.



Far left Installation from *I Cherish This* **Left** (Detail) Peter Liddy, *Shamrock front end loader operator* 2004 **Right** *Boys at Mapoon dormitory, western Cape York, R 216*, John Oxley Library, State Library of Queensland

The Studio

The Studio is a ground floor exhibition and program space which is amenable to community exhibition needs.

I Cherish This: an exhibition of personal treasures

I Cherish This presented how and why 'stuff' matters to us. *I Cherish This* unpacked the stories, superstitions, beliefs and emotions that are woven around personal treasures. Participants were selected by expressions of interest through the statewide library network and included Cara Fanning (Sunnybank), John Meyers (Maryborough), Patricia Moody (Redcliffe), Anne Robbie (Moranbah) and Maria Starr (Cairns).

The exhibition also included young artists from two schools – Years 2/3C and 3L at Junction Park State School and AEIOU Early Intervention Centre for Children with Autism. The children attended a series of workshops with *Out of the Box* artists-in-residence to make artworks which were exhibited at *I Cherish This* during QPAC's *Out of the Box Festival* for three- to eight-year-olds. Workshops were also held at Junction Park State School to further develop the artworks and ideas for this exhibition.

I Cherish This was curated by State Library staff in partnership with local artists Dhana Merritt, Guy Webster, Daniel Marsden, Caro Toledo, Ky Curran and DesignFront.

New Ground: construction photographs by Peter Liddy

Brisbane-based photographer Peter Liddy revealed the story embedded in the construction of Brisbane's landmark \$291.3 million redevelopment of the South Bank Cultural Centre, which incorporated the redeveloped State Library. From the time work commenced in May 2004, Peter regularly visited the site to capture its architectural achievements and the daily working lives of those involved in its construction.

This exhibition was presented by the artist in association with the State Library and was curated by prominent art curator Timothy Morrell. It was supported by Arts Queensland, the Department of Public Works, the University of Queensland, Bovis Lend Lease, Conservation Resources, CR Kennedy & Company Pty Ltd and Ilford.

Water, Trees and Roots: stories from the Queensland Vietnamese community

This exhibition provided a historical snapshot of the Vietnamese community in Queensland. The State Library developed the exhibition in collaboration with the community-based Committee for the Celebration of the 30th Anniversary of the Vietnamese Refugee Settlement in Queensland. The exhibition was the culmination of a two-year community development process – and the first of its kind for the State Library.

Historical material included in the exhibition was drawn from a number of sources including the Austcare Education Project *Refugees from Vietnam*, the Brisbane City Council *Queensland Vietnamese Oral History Archive Project* and Film Australia's *Operation Babylift* documentary, which featured on SBS television. The exhibition also featured original artworks by Vietnamese children from the collection of original artworks held in the Dr Barbara Piscitelli AM Children's Art Archive in the John Oxley Library.

Water, Trees and Roots included digital stories produced as part of the *Queensland Stories* project and new photographic images from the collections and from *Picture Queensland*, both of which are accessible on the State Library's website.

Infozone

Artworkers Alliance

During the relocation, a collaborative exhibition project with Artworkers Alliance presented innovative artworks by emerging curators and artists in the Infozone. The final program in 2006 was curated by well-known Brisbane-based arts writer Kris Carlon and titled *The Ephemeral City* and included works by local artists Genevieve Staines, Luke Janniste and Shaun O'Connor which investigated the transient phenomena of the built environment.

Following the opening of the new State Library, the project was expanded and renamed the *Infozone Residency and Exhibition Project*. Artists were invited to explore the State Library's collections and services to develop commissioned new works for screening on level 1 of the new building. Natasha Ryan and Simon Dennes accessed the music and poetry collections to produce a series of animations which investigated Australian identity and history. Sound artist Lawrence English recorded images and sounds of the building to reveal spaces hidden to the general public which support and maintain the collections.

MAAP – Multimedia Art Asia Pacific and Manhua Wonderlands

The MAAP 2006 Festival, titled *Out of the Internet*, coincided with the opening of the new State Library building. The exhibition was curated by Kim Machan, producer, art consultant, curator and designer. The exhibition brought together artists from the Asia-Pacific region working in or connected through internet-based art practices. These included:

- *Candy Factory;
- Feng Mengbo;
- Charles Lim;
- Iain Mott; and
- YOUNG HAE CHANG HEAVY INDUSTRIES.

The Infozone, which had been the South Bank access point for the State Reference Library collection during the relocation, was transformed into a multimedia art exhibition space. The exhibition linked to projects at the Institute of Modern Art; Zendai Museum of Modern Art, Shanghai; Museum of Modern Art, New York; and the Tate,

London. The Festival also included Artist Talks on 1 December, an International Symposium on 3 December and culminated in a film screening on 4 December 2006. The exhibition included a small component in the new building and featured the *Manhua Wonderlands* DVD zine¹ and work by Iain Mott.

From November 2006, the State Library partnered with MAAP to develop an innovative media project exploring the intersection between animation, video practices and new and evolving contemporary literature formats that are being embraced by young people, such as Chinese comics, anime², manga³ and zines. The project was curated by Thea Baumann, a new media artist, curator and producer and resulted in the *Manhua Wonderlands* DVD zine which was featured at the MAAP 2006 Festival and was distributed through the statewide library network, museums and galleries.

Artists working on the *Manhua Wonderlands* project conducted workshops with teachers and curriculum specialists from *The Learning Place*, Education Queensland's e-learning environment, to facilitate the development of curriculum resources for new media arts of relevance and interest to young people.

Manhua Wonderlands was presented by MAAP – Multimedia Art Asia Pacific – and the State Library. It was supported by the Visual Arts and Craft Strategy, an initiative of the federal, state and territory governments through Museum and Gallery Services Queensland and the partnership between the State Library of Queensland and *The Learning Place*.

- 1 A zine is a self-published work which can be written in a variety of formats from computer-printed text to comics to handwritten text.
- 2 Anime is considered a subset of animation possessing an inherently Japanese cartoon-based influence and style.
- 3 Manga refers to comics originally published in Japan, or works derivative of the style.

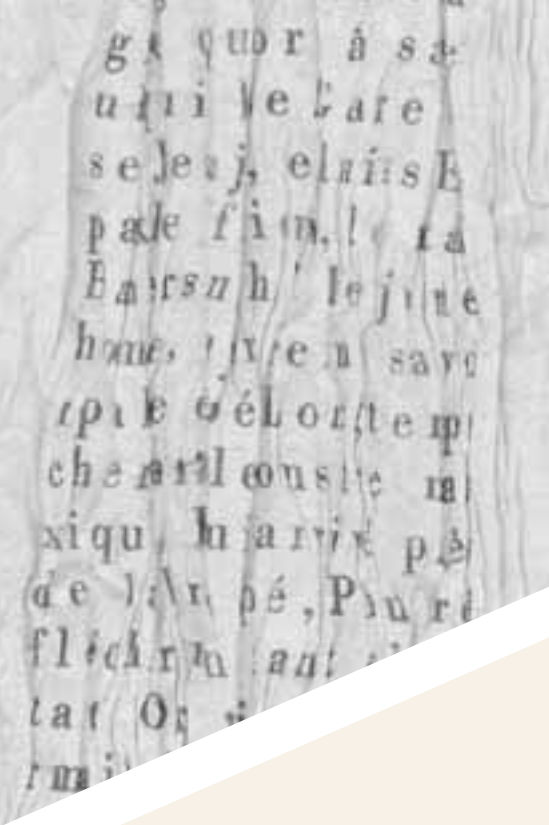


Online exhibitions

The State Library provides access to its South Bank exhibitions via online exhibitions, found on the State Library website. Online exhibitions also provide worldwide access to the State Library's historical photographs and original and published materials held in our collections. Interaction with collections is facilitated by educational resources, links to related references and invitations to make comments and enquiries from online audiences.

In 2006-07, the State Library added six new online exhibitions to its website:

- *Broken Links: the Stolen Generations in Queensland*;
- *Play*;
- *Unbound: Artists' Books*;
- *Illuminated: Books, albums, addresses*;
- *Drawn to the Word: Writers and Artists*; and
- *Me, Myself and I*.



Far left (Detail) Dorothy Herel, *Text vest 1 [Jabberwocky]*, 1991, RBHMON HER, Australian Library of Art, State Library of Queensland **Left** (Detail) H Noel Humphreys, *The art of illumination and missal painting: a guide to modern illuminators*, 1849, RB 745.67 1849, Australian Library of Art, State Library of Queensland **Right** Fashion illustration Uncovered

Travelling exhibitions, kits and loans

During 2006-07, the State Library's travelling exhibition program continued to be well received throughout regional Queensland. Exhibitions that finished touring this year included *Across the Coral Sea: Australian South Sea Islanders in Queensland*, and *What we want: the birth of women's suffrage in Queensland*. These exhibitions travelled to ten towns and cities throughout Queensland, ranging from Logan City, Runaway Bay and Coolangatta in the south to Boyne Island and Ayr, in the north, and west to Cunnamulla and Biloela.

Comprehensive support material, including exhibition manuals complete with detailed handling instructions, promotional material (posters, postcards and invitations) and educational resources, supplemented the exhibitions. There have been no outgoing exhibition loans requested from cultural institutions this year and only one new request for an exhibition kit loan. This was primarily due to the opening of the new State Library building and the extensive onsite exhibitions program. Four of the 45 exhibition kit loans remain on offer via the State Library's website with the development of a new kit in partnership with the State Library of New South Wales – *On the run: daring convict escapes*.

Treasures Wall

The Talbot Family Treasures Wall on level 4 of the new building showcases treasures from State Library's Heritage Collections. Its construction and the program of displays throughout its first year were funded by the Talbot Family through the Queensland Library Foundation. A limited production, full-colour catalogue containing information about the Talbot Family Treasures Wall and each of the three exhibition displays was produced for the Foundation and sponsors. Information about each of the exhibitions was made available through free, full-colour brochures available at the Treasures Wall.

The distinctive design and display furniture within the Treasures Wall was designed by Timothy Hill of Donovan Hill architects. Book mounts were carefully chosen to display the heritage material. The unique display system is a feature of the Treasures Wall, being appropriate in terms of meeting conservation standards and displaying the collection to its advantage. The system is reusable and is therefore environmentally and economically sustainable.

A website, www.slq.qld.gov.au/treasureswall containing information about the Treasures Wall, educational material and images of each of the works on display was also created. The website has rapidly increased in popularity from 1,418 requests in January 2007 to 9,986 in June 2007, an increase of 135%, auguring well for future events.

Unbound: artist books from the collection

The State Library holds approximately 800 artists' books in the Australian Library of Art, 30 of which were selected for the Treasures Wall opening exhibition, *Unbound: artists' books from the collection*. This display offered an insight into the wealth of treasures held within the State Library, and showcased some significant holdings by well-known artists, many of which had never previously been displayed. *Unbound: artists' books from the collection* was displayed from 25 November 2006 to 11 March 2007.

Illuminated: books, albums and addresses

This exhibition investigated the nineteenth century phenomenon of illuminated books and addresses held in the State Library's John Oxley Library and Australian Library of Art collections. The State Library holds only a small collection of books that are, strictly speaking, illuminated (hand-painted in rich colours and using burnished metals). Three books illustrated by Gordon Dalrymple Nichol are the premier examples. The State Library also holds a fine collection of books representing the renaissance of this craft in England during Queen Victoria's reign, illuminated by the chromolithographic printing process and published in the mid-late nineteenth century. *Illuminated: books, albums and addresses* was displayed from 24 March to 8 July 2007.



Events

Tours of the State Library building

Tours of the new State Library building have provided an opportunity to welcome both the public and those from within the library sector as well as offering an introduction to the extraordinary collections, resources and spaces within the new building.

To mark the opening of the new State Library in November 2006, building tours were conducted on the hour over the first two weekends and then daily until the end of December 2006. State Library volunteers then scheduled building tours twice a week throughout 2006-07. More than 1,712 public visitors have participated in individual tours. Group tours of community and school groups also proved popular with more than 1,985 participants.

Since the reopening of the building, Public Library Services staff provided tours of the building redevelopment to more than 150 members of the library sector. The tours were an opportunity for visiting library staff to view first hand the services offered to customers of the State Library, both within the State Library building and through the State Library's website. In addition to the building tour, Reference Services staff presented overviews of the reference and general collections.

Film screenings

Throughout the year, the State Library screened 22 features, 16 feature length documentaries and four short films totalling 33 sessions and attracting an audience of 2,250 people. Thematic series within the program included *The Films of Nicholas Ray*; *Documentary Pathways*; *The Sur-reel West*; *Almost Human? – humanity's relationship with the animal world*; *Family Life* and *One Big Show About Life*.

The State Library sponsored two screenings by the Queensland Animators Group in 2006-07, and in January 2007 presented a program of classic cartoons and animations spanning nearly a hundred years.

The Uncovered series

The *Uncovered* series ventured behind the scenes to highlight some of the rare, precious or unusual items in the State Library's collections as well as newly acquired items. Each month a different aspect of the State Library's collection was uncovered. The series aimed to showcase the huge range of items held in the collections and to uncover stories or information relating to the collections. Where it was possible, material referred to in a talk was available for the audience to view and, in some cases, handle.

Presented in the Fox Family White Gloves Room on level 4, the first *Uncovered* was held in March 2007 with Dr Nancy Underhill discussing the background to the Sidney Nolan series of Eliza Fraser paintings. Sidney Nolan spent some time researching Mrs Fraser in the John Oxley Library in 1947.

Since March 2007, *Uncovered* has also featured *Queensland ghosts*, a journey through the spookier side of Queensland's history especially for children aged six to 12 years; *Fashion illustration*, which captivated participants as they browsed through the exquisite *Parisian Journales du mond* and the *Gazette du Bon Ton*; and *What's New in the John Oxley Library*, which revealed the latest additions to Queensland's unique Heritage Collections.

The Introducing... series

Launched in February 2007, the *Introducing...* series offered straightforward introductions to complex, topical subjects or people of notoriety. The series was aimed at an audience with limited or no prior knowledge of the subject. Each talk was enhanced with additional information and resources developed in partnership with Reference Services or Heritage Collections to invite audiences to further pursue their interests through the State Library's collections and services. These free monthly talks featured an external guest speaker with expertise in the particular field under consideration.

- The series commenced with Dr Tony Raymond exposing the forensic science myths behind the 'CSI effect' in solving crime.
- In March, Ian Townsend, 2005 John Oxley Library Fellow, revealed some amazing stories behind one of Australia's deadliest tropical cyclones.
- In partnership with the *Griffith Review*, David Burchell, Senior Lecturer in Humanities at the University of Western Sydney, examined patterns of marginalisation and other social problems endemic in Western society in his talk on social exclusion.
- Sharon Beder, author and professor in the School of Social Sciences, Media and Communication at the University of Wollongong, discussed the ideology and politics of public relations in her presentation, *Introducing... the politics of spin*. Professor Beder's April talk focused on how corporations are using increasingly sophisticated techniques to influence public and political opinion.
- One of Australia's most important contemporary musicians, Queensland Music Festival Artistic Director Paul Grabowsky discussed his work and life's passion in a popular presentation in June. Produced in partnership with the Queensland Music Festival, Mr Grabowsky also performed some of his favourite compositions.

Below Nancy Pearl at a book signing session, State Library



Talks

In addition to the State Library's curated programs, a range of talks and events were also presented in association with other organisations or linked to the State Library's exhibitions. *Bring In your memorabilia*, a travelling roadshow event, was presented in association with the Australian War Memorial (AWM) in the closing week of the *Sport and War* exhibition. A panel of conservators and curators from the AWM spoke with 168 people from around southeast Queensland who brought in an amazing array of items – from letters written on toilet rolls to salt and pepper shakers made out of shell casings.

Susannah Fullerton, President of the Jane Austen Society of Australia, presented *The Importance of being Oscar*, a glimpse at the life and work of writer and raconteur Oscar Wilde.

State Library staff and external guests presented talks throughout the year to accompany some of the exhibitions and artworks featured at the State Library, including *National Treasures*, *Sport and War*, *Broken Links*, *A few of our favourite things* and *Unbound*.

Nancy Pearl Seminar

World-renowned Seattle librarian Nancy Pearl addressed over 250 members of the library sector at a seminar hosted by the State Library on 15 December 2006. The seminar covered best practice in reading advice for clients and book club management.

In the lead-up to the seminar, library staff from all regions of Queensland were asked to provide their favourite three reads. From these titles, State Library staff collated a list from which the public could cast their votes. The Top 10 Reads were announced by Nancy Pearl at the seminar and were posted on the website.

The highly successful seminar highlighted the love of reading across the profession and the importance of reading widely to ensure excellence in client service. The high attendance figures and lively discussions were testament to both the acclaim of Nancy Pearl and the level of interest in this kind of seminar.

A podcast was made available to public library staff through the State Library website.

Patrick Jones Seminar

Patrick Jones, a prominent figure in the area of public library programming for teenagers, entertained a group of 106 public librarians, teacher librarians, local government officials and State Library staff at the State Library on 12 March 2007 as he delivered his seminar, *Connecting YAs in libraries – vision, values and trends*.

A strong advocate for young people, Mr Jones provided many insights into how services for young people can be developed, often with minimal funding. He also highlighted strategies for attracting young people to libraries and relationship-building techniques.

The seminar was supported by presentations on youth programs by Lili Wilkinson from the State Library of Victoria and Queensland experts in the field of young people's services, including Lisa Burnett from Caboolture Shire, Christine May from Livingstone Shire and Bernadette Franzoni from Redland Shire.

Copies of all the presentations from the seminar were made available on the Public Library Services website for use by the library sector.

Community Outreach

Queensland Stories Program – Winner of the National 2006 VALA (Victorian Association for Library Automation) – Libraries, Technology and the Future *New Technology Award*

The Queensland Stories Program won the 2006 National VALA – Libraries, Technology and the Future *New Technology Award* in November 2006. The biennial VALA Award, is presented to the Australian library or information centre judged to have made the most innovative use of information technology during the previous two years.

The sharing of stories via digital technology is the key concept around which the *Queensland Stories* program has been built. The program promotes the State Library as a centre of creativity and learning, and provides opportunities for community engagement projects as well as the creation of collection content. The *Queensland Stories* website, www.qldstories.slq.qld.gov.au, the mobile multimedia lab and the delivery of digital story projects in partnership with public libraries and community organisations are the integral components of this program.

Projects completed during 2006 include *Clifton digital diaries* – a regional partnership project; *Milpera State School Stories* – a partnership with the Brisbane multicultural secondary school; and *Stories from the collection* – commissioned stories which present a personal viewpoint on items held in the State Library's collections. Digital stories featured in the exhibition program include *Living Treasures* stories from the Queensland Vietnamese community and *River Stories*, a partnership project with the Riverfestival.

Multicultural Bridge website – Finalist in the 2006 *National Multicultural Marketing Awards*

The Multicultural Bridge OPAL project was nominated and shortlisted as a finalist in the technology category of the 2006 National Multicultural Marketing Awards. The Community Relations Commission of New South Wales coordinates the awards, which aim to recognise the efforts of businesses and organisations that seek to harness the benefits of Australia's cultural diversity.

The *Multicultural Bridge* website, www.slq.qld.gov.au/bridge, provides information about the State Library's services and activities. Users can discover information about more than 110,000 books in over 60 languages in addition to music, videos, maps, pictures and family history information. *Multicultural Bridge* also includes links to Google™ search engines in 19 languages, online newspapers and radio broadcasts, online web translations and national and state government services.

Multicultural Bridge directly supports the State Library's strategic vision through *Multicultural Services Strategy: embracing diversity* by ensuring public libraries have access to training and appropriate online resources for Queenslanders from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds.

A new feature of *Multicultural Bridge* is a link to the *MyLanguage* national portal (www.mylanguage.gov.au). *MyLanguage* provides access to search engines, web directories, government websites, digital library projects and news in over 60 languages. The portal was developed as a partnership between the State Libraries of New South Wales, Queensland, South Australia, Victoria, and Western Australia and the Northern Territory and ACT Library and Information Services, as a way of enriching Australia's linguistic and cultural cyberspace.

Below Samoan dancers at Multicultural Bridge launch Brisbane



Yourtutor

Statewide consultation for the *Expanding Horizons* project highlighted a need for a community literacy model for public libraries to provide a range of education and literacy initiatives for all ages. Libraries play a critical role in community literacy through their support of young people's formal and informal learning. Within this role, homework support has been identified as a potential focus for service enhancement.

The *yourtutor* service, offered by Tutoring Australasia, is a complete tutoring service for people in Years 4-12 in key subject areas. *Yourtutor online* provides library-based and remote one-to-one online tutoring after school to young people living in regional, rural and remote Queensland. The State Library is undertaking a 12-month trial of *yourtutor* in a homework help pilot project for 35 libraries across the state. The *yourtutor* initiative has been funded through the OPAL project and will be reviewed in 2008.

Right Children performing at Pat Flynn's creative writing workshop



May Gibbs Children's Literature Trust

The State Library partnered with the *May Gibbs Children's Literature Trust* to generate a range of programs during the year. These programs were developed in cooperation with two of the recipients of the May Gibbs 2007 Fellowship, Leonie Norrington and Pat Flynn.

Leonie Norrington conducted workshops, readings and book signings at the State Library during February 2007. Her program included weekend readings from her younger readers' book *Croc bait* in The Corner, followed by a book signing in The Library Shop; and a twilight reading in the Talking Circle from *Under the mango tree*, a compilation of stories collected from Aboriginal elders. Leonie also conducted two writing workshops with Aboriginal students from the Wynnum West State School, and an oral history workshop with local Aboriginal elders.

In April 2007, Pat Flynn conducted five school workshops as well as creative writing workshops for children and their parents.

The National Film and Sound Archive

In an ongoing partnership with the National Film and Sound Archive (NFSA), the State Library is the Brisbane Access Centre for NFSA material. This means that material in the NFSA Collection can be viewed at the State Library free of charge and without the permission of copyright holders. A small collection of NFSA access recordings is currently held at the State Library, including a comprehensive range of Australian feature films produced before 1980 and key historical footage of Brisbane.

The Courier-Mail Big Book Club and The Courier-Mail Little Big Book Club

In February 2007, the State Library launched a three-year partnership with The Big Book Club Inc, *The Courier-Mail* and 612 ABC Brisbane. The Courier-Mail Big Book Club is a monthly book club that strives to nurture a love of reading and encourages people across Queensland to become more active with their library. Since its official launch at the State Library in February 2007, The Courier-Mail Big Book Club has successfully toured Australian authors Richard Flanagan, Steven Carroll and Michael Robotham. Also, 17 public libraries have hosted an author event, attracting over 900 participants.

The program has been heavily promoted by *The Courier-Mail* in the form of author interviews, book reviews, advertisements, logos and promotional materials. Media partner 612 ABC Brisbane has promoted touring authors through live interviews and community announcements. A monthly get-together at the State Library's café, Tognini's, welcomes the public to engage in discussion on the latest selection from The Big Book Club and is facilitated by State Library staff.

The Courier-Mail Little Big Book Club supports and encourages parents to read to their children from infancy to develop speech and literacy skills. Each month, three book titles, for age groups 0-2 years, 2-3 years and 4-5 years, are featured to assist parents to select books for their children. The program has been supported through monthly features in *The Courier-Mail* with colour advertisements promoting the selection.

Partnerships

The State Library has continued its strong educational partnership with the Department of Education, Training and the Arts' e-learning environment, *The Learning Place*. Through this partnership, a number of projects and strategies have been developed throughout the year to enhance the access and relevance of the State Library's collection to teachers and schoolchildren.

During 2006-07, the State Library also entered into the following partnerships:

Queensland Museum

To support their series of talks which highlight unique aspects of Queensland's history and cultural heritage, the State Library's Reference Services staff researched and compiled *Hot Topics*, which provided access to additional resources via the internet on the topic of each monthly talk by the Queensland Museum.

Backbone Youth Arts

A significant partnership has developed between the State Library and the Backbone Youth Arts, Dr Barbara Piscitelli, the Queensland Performing Arts Centre's Workshop and over 20 Queensland artists including Mia Kempel, to present programs in The Corner.