

20 April 2017

## State Library highlights Queensland women of the First World War

State Library of Queensland (SLQ) has launched its latest display in the Talbot Family Treasures Wall, *Duty and Care* as part of the *Q ANZAC 100: Memories for a New Generation* program.

*Duty and Care* explores items from SLQ's First World War collections, such as photographs, diaries and letters, preserved as powerful examples of Queensland women's wartime involvement and experiences.

State Librarian and CEO Vicki McDonald said that the items on display provide an insight into the often untold contributions and sacrifices women made both on the home front and the war front.

"While there were limited opportunities for active service, women found creative and resourceful ways to participate and contribute to the war efforts," Ms McDonald said.

"Some enlisted in the Australian Army Nursing Service and saw active service overseas. Others threw themselves into fundraising activities, volunteered to care for wounded soldiers, or protested for peace.

"While the items displayed in *Duty and Care* can never paint a complete picture, they can reveal private experiences and, as a collection, these personal mementos and accounts can provide a greater understanding of how women in Queensland experienced the First World War, both at home and overseas," Ms McDonald said.

The SLQ Treasures Wall will feature a different themed exhibition for every year of the centenary of the First World War and provides an opportunity to explore and expose different aspects of Queensland's war time experience.

SLQ and the John Oxley Library are the custodians of the state's First World War history and these displays allow some of the precious collection items to be viewed, while providing greater context and understanding of how the First World War impacted Queenslanders.

*Duty and Care* is part of SLQ's *Q ANZAC 100: Memories for a New Generation* program and is proudly supported by the Queensland Government.

### ***Duty and Care***

12 April 2017 – 23 March 2018

Treasures Wall, Level 4, SLQ

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