

8 June 2007

Winners announced for State Library Awards

Queensland's libraries and history were the winners at a gala awards evening last night at the State Library of Queensland.

State Librarian Lea Giles-Peters said, "The State Library of Queensland Awards acknowledge and support the many individuals and organisations who have made significant contributions to the development and appreciation of Queensland's history and achieved excellence in working for and supporting libraries.

"There were three Awards announced as part of Queensland Week celebrations, the *Library Board of Queensland Award*, *John Oxley Library Award* and the *John Oxley Library Fellowship*."

Helen Partridge received the *Library Board of Queensland Award* and \$5000 for her contribution to the library and information sector.

Helen has made a significant contribution to the library community in Queensland, and nationally, in three key areas of research, contribution to professional associations, and education and training of library workers.

What makes Helen's achievements exceptional and deserving of the Award, is the way in which she has established a synergistic relationship between these areas. Helen is a shining example of what one member of the Queensland library community can achieve when they are passionate about their profession and are willing to not just be involved but to lead.

The **Queensland Family History Society Publications Group** received the *John Oxley Library Award* and \$5000 for its outstanding contribution to the appreciation of Queensland's history and for the value of its publications.

This organisation has raised the profile of Queenslanders of all walks of life who have contributed to our history, not just the leaders in politics and business.

For more than 28 years, the Queensland Family History Society Publications Group has made records easily accessible for those 'everyday' contributors to our history, through the publication of an extensive collection of data relating to Queenslanders. In the past four years alone they have released 17 CD products with a total of three million index entries to people in Queensland from 1824 onwards.

Dr Martin Buzacott is the recipient of the *2007 John Oxley Library Fellowship*. The \$20,000 Fellowship allows Martin to access the resources of the John Oxley Library for research into *Miraculous Mandarins: A Musical History of Queensland*. Queensland is the only state in Australia which has never had a book written on its classical music history. Yet Queensland's musical history is actually more diverse and distinctive than that of any other Australian state.

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Martin said, “The Fellowship makes it possible for me as an individual author to write the most important book of my career, but I also intend to use it for the benefit of the John Oxley Library collection as a whole – and in turn for the benefit of Queensland’s cultural history.”

The *Library Board of Queensland Award* recognises the contribution by an individual or institution to the achievement of excellence in the work of libraries, or distinguished support for libraries.

The *John Oxley Library Award* recognises the contribution by an individual or institution to the development and appreciation of the history of Queensland.

The *John Oxley Library Fellowship* encourages original and creative concepts to document Queensland’s history.

The State Library of Queensland Awards Dinner were proudly sponsored by Jimbour Wines, Channel Seven, CPC Production Services and Caxton Street Catering.

Media inquiries

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Editor’s note:

Please contact Natasha Geritz to organise interviews with the State Library of Queensland Award recipients.