

STATE LIBRARY OF QUEENSLAND

MEDIA RELEASE

Former member of The Go-Betweens wins prestigious State Library fellowship

Dr John Willsteed was last night awarded the \$25,000 John Oxley Library Fellowship at State Library of Queensland.

The former member of The Go-Betweens will create new knowledge about Queensland music through interviews with musicians such as Kev Carmody, John Collins (former Powderfinger bassplayer), William Barton, Brad Shepherd (Hoodoo Gurus) and Jen Boyce (Ball Park Music).

The musician and academic hopes his project, *'Dive For Your Memory – Queensland music stories'*, will reignite public engagement with State Library's oral histories while providing fresh digital content for researchers and music lovers.

The winner of this year's Monica Clare Research Fellowship, Sheridan Teitzel, will explore Indigenous healing systems with her project *'Sacred plants and cultural frameworks: capturing First Nations value systems in western Cape York'*. These systems differ from conventional Western medical perspectives and the project will focus on 15 to 20 species and kinship relationships.

This year's Digital Collections Catalyst, Evelyn Saunders, will be *'Min(d)ing the dead'* with an interactive online documentary about a "ghost" town that became Queensland's largest gold mine during the pandemic.

The Rainbow Research Fellowship was awarded to Dr Heather Anderson who will highlight the contributions of women, trans and non-binary people to the history of Queensland community radio (with a focus on 4ZZZ).

The 10 Queensland Memory fellowships and awards support researchers and creatives to interpret the significant collections of the John Oxley Library with \$110,000 awarded across 6 fellowship categories.

The Queensland Memory Awards are made possible by the support of donors through the Queensland Library Foundation.

2023 Queensland Memory Award winners:

- **John Oxley Library Fellowship (\$25,000 plus 12-month residency):** Dr John Willsteed for his project *'Dive For Your Memory – Queensland music stories'*
- **John Oxley Library Honorary Fellowship (12-month residency):** Dr Eun-ji Kim and Aaron Tao for their project *'Culinary crossroads: history of Asian-Australian eateries and migration policies in Queensland'*
- **John Oxley Library Award:** Dr Robert Anderson OAM (Uncle Bob). Recognised for his lifelong dedication to workers' rights through the union movement and his tireless efforts in preserving First Nations history and advancing national reconciliation.

- **John Oxley Library Community History Award (\$5,000 supported by the Queensland Library Foundation):** Pama Language Centre. Recognised for their work in the recording and revitalisation of language. The centre works across Cape York with many language groups and dialect speakers to achieve language revival.
- **Monica Clare Research Fellowship (\$20,000 funded by The Siganto Foundation plus a 12-month residency):** Sheridan Teitzel for her project *'Sacred plants and cultural frameworks: capturing First Nations value systems in western Cape York'*
- **Queensland Business Leaders Hall of Fame Fellowship (\$15,000 funded by the John Allpass Charitable Foundation plus a 12-month residency):** Dr Robin Trotter for her project *'T C Dixon & Sons: makers of shoes of distinction'*
- **Rainbow Research Fellowship (\$20,000 funded by the Norman H Johns Trust plus a 12-month residency):** Dr Heather Anderson for her project *Radio rebels: highlighting the contributions of women, trans and non-binary people to the history of Queensland community radio (with a focus on 4ZZZ).*
- **Digital Collections Catalyst (\$15,000 stipend):** Evelyn Saunders for her project, *'Min(d)ing the dead'*
- **Christina Boughen OAM Fellowship (\$10,000 funded by the Boughen Family):** Dr Nicole Murphy for her project *'Exploration, celebration and continuation: the legacy of Christina Boughen OAM'*
- **State Library of Queensland Medal (Library Board of Queensland award):** Grant Collins. In recognition of significant contributions as Manager, Preservation Services for leading the care and management of State Library collections ensuring their long-term access.

Quotes from Minister for the Arts Leeanne Enoch:

"Congratulations to the winners of the 2023 Queensland Memory Awards, the storytellers who record and share the significant narratives of diversity, inclusion, culture and First Nations truth-telling.

"The Queensland Government supports these awards to broaden the ways in which Queenslanders can come to know and appreciate our state's cultural DNA, and our distinct and shared heritage and histories, including highlighting marginalised voices and stories otherwise untold.

"Our ongoing investment in State Library of Queensland delivers on the Government's *Creative Together 2020-2030* roadmap and its priorities including, sharing our stories and celebrating our storytellers, elevating First Nations arts, driving social change and strengthening communities."

Quotes from State Librarian and Chief Executive Officer Vicki McDonald AM:



Queensland
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Media enquiries

State Library of Queensland Communications team
media@slq.qld.gov.au
(07) 3840 7897

Interviews and images are available upon request.

“State Library is the home of rare and significant heritage items that tell the story of Queensland.

“These fellowships enable a deeper engagement with our treasures through thoughtful and creative research — uncovering new knowledge and illuminating historical truths.

“I congratulate all our winners and thank our generous donors for their ongoing support.”

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