

Citations of Fellows and Laureates

At a meeting of the Council of the Australian Society of Archivists held in Canberra on 22 and 23 August 1997, it was agreed that 'Fellows and Laureates citations and photographs will be published in Archives and Manuscripts'.

In the following listing, citations for Fellows will be given first, in date order, that is starting at the first Fellowship awarded, that to Nancy Lutton in 1993. Citations for Laureates will follow, again in date order of the awarding of this honour. Photographs were on occasion taken of two or more recipients at the one time, even though the honours conferred on the recipients occurred at different Annual General Meetings. Ian Maclean appears in one photograph. He was the founding Chief Archives Officer of the Archives Division of the Commonwealth National Library (the foundation head of what is now the Australian Archives). Ian is an Honorary Member of the Australian Society of Archivists, and in the Australia Day 1996 Honours List, Membership of the Order of Australia (AM) was conferred on him by the Queen.

The Award of Fellowship is conferred on a professional member of the Society who has given years of distinguished service to the profession, to the theory, teaching or practice of archives work, or to writing about archives.

The Award of Laureate is conferred on a member of the Society who has been mainly or solely responsible for an outstanding development or achievement in archives work.

Fellowships

NANCY FLORENCE LUTTON, MBE

Nancy began her career in New South Wales in 1949, as Library Assistant in the City of Sydney Public Library. Upon moving to the New England area, she served the Armidale City and Dumaresq Shire Public Library, as Acting Librarian. A move to the UK brought work in libraries in West Sussex and Acton Borough. She returned to Australia via Alberta, Canada where she was Children's Librarian at Medicine Hat Public Library in 1959-61.

After a four year stint at Perth Technical College Library, she again moved north this time to Papua New Guinea, working first as an Assistant Librarian in the University Library and then as Librarian-in-charge of the House of Assembly Library. Her career in that Territory (which proved to be the first of two stays in Papua New Guinea) culminated in her being the Librarian-in-charge of the New Guinea Collection at the University of Papua New Guinea. After fourteen years in PNG Nancy returned to Perth in 1980 to the J.S. Battye Library as Divisional Librarian. This position meant that she had direct charge (under Margaret Medcalf, who was Principal Librarian and State Archivist) of the State's primary collection of historical materials.

In 1989 the National Archives and Public Records Service of Papua New Guinea needed a Chief Archivist and Nancy was selected for this important post, staying there till her retirement in 1992. Back in Australia, this time in Canberra, she took up the role of Part-time Executive Officer for the Australian Council of Archives.

Nancy has given service to the Society since it was formed in 1975. She has been a Professional member from the outset. She was Editor of *Archives and Manuscripts* between 1982 to 1987, and a member of Council. She performed sterling service also for the Papua New Guinea Branch of the Library Association of Australia in the years before that country was granted complete independence from Australia. Nancy has written book reviews and journal articles for the Society, and supported the work of the Society in Western Australia.

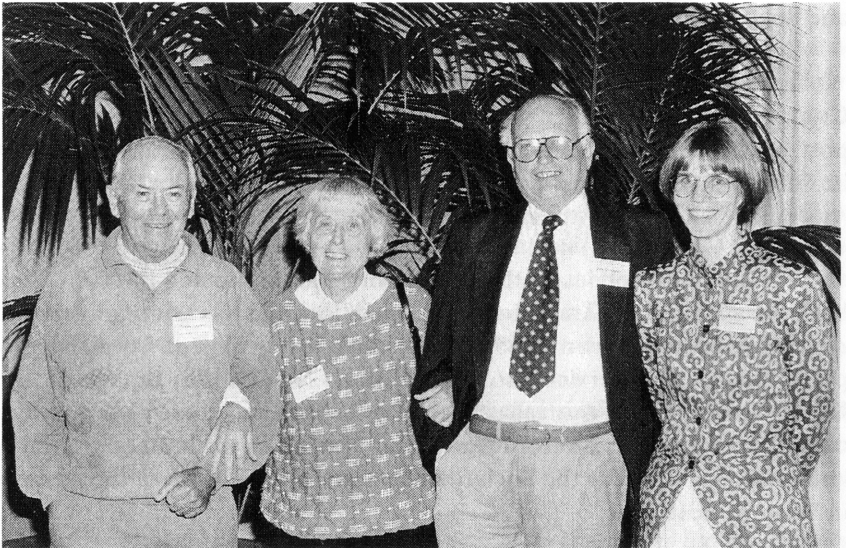
Nancy has given her time to sister organisations like PARBICA for whom

she edited the *Pacific Islands Journal* from 1987 to 1991.

Nancy's academic achievements include her 1965 LAA Associateship, a BA from the University of Papua New Guinea (1971), a Certificate in Archives Administration from the Georgia Archives Institute and an MA from the University of Papua New Guinea in 1980. In 1981 she was honoured with an MBE for services in the collection, arrangement and description, and utilisation of historical manuscripts in Papua New Guinea.

Nancy has undertaken the work required in a great variety of posts with vigour and determination. She came to archives work in mid-life, and while employed at the University of Papua New Guinea she undertook the collection of private archives, photographs, maps, oral history tapes etc to make the New Guinea Collection a first-class resource for study of the history of that country.

Nancy worked tirelessly for the Society especially in relation to *Archives*



Frank Strahan, Nancy Lutton, Bob Sharman and Anne-Marie Schwirtlich

and Manuscripts which she edited from 1982 until May 1987, maintaining the standard of the journal in a highly commendable way. During this same period, she edited the Society's *Bulletin*. Papua New Guinea benefited again from her vigour, for in 1989 she was responsible for publishing a series of Guides to three of the record groups of that country.

For her distinguished contribution to the archives profession, to the editing and publication of literature relating to archives, and above all, to the Society, the Council of the ASA has great pleasure in conferring the honour of Fellow on Nancy Florence Lutton.

Paul Brunton, President, 17 June 1993.

ROBERT SHARMAN

Bob Sharman has influenced, guided and promoted archives in Australia for more than forty years. His contributions to the profession have been wide-ranging, committed, distinguished and are seemingly inexhaustible.

He served as foundation archivist for Tasmania from 1951 to 1959 during which time he brought to order a government's records which had been subject to plunder for decades.

Once for Bob is not enough. In 1959, he became foundation archivist again – this time for Queensland – again bringing order out of chaos and during his period of tenure constructing the first purpose-built state archives repository in Australia, at Dutton Park, I think in 1968.

In 1960 he became editor of *Archives and Manuscripts* which he edited for an unbelievable 15 years and 39 issues – a record which is unlikely to be surpassed except by himself in his present role as editor of the Society's *Bulletin*.

In the same year he was elected President of the Archives Section of the Library Association of Australia, the predecessor of the ASA; and, not wishing

to fall prey to the deadly sin of sloth, followed this up with a four year stint as Secretary.

In 1970, he left Queensland, accepting the position of Archives Officer at the ANU archives, now the Noel Butlin Archives. The following year, 1971, he became the only serving archivist ever to be elected national President of the Library Association of Australia. His Presidential Address to the LAA's conference in Sydney remains as fresh and as relevant today as it was over 20 years ago:

It is because of the importance of discovering the ways in which decisions are taken that this Association, and all responsible public bodies, must lay great stress on the value of documentary evidence, and on the rights of individuals to discover exactly what decisions affecting the general populace have been taken

... the truth can often only be ascertained through an examination of the contemporary record; the document that becomes an archive. Yet many of my listeners will question what this has to do with archivists, for many of you will be under the impression that archivists are concerned only with the old and the obsolete. This is the misconception of the work of an archivist which I wish to correct with all the strength at my command. Projects are being carried out on records of very recent creation, and archivists are becoming increasingly concerned with the organising of records which tell, not only why yesterday's decision was made, but also what is likely to be tomorrow's decision.

Even Homer nods and in 1972 Bob deserted archives to become Assistant State Librarian of South Australia, a position he held until 1976 when he was appointed State Librarian of Western Australia from which he retired in 1988 but not before he hosted our first conference to be held in Perth, in 1987. As State Librarian of Western Australia he had ultimate oversight of the State's archives.

Bob was made the first honorary life member of the ASA and has been awarded the Fellowship of the LAA (now ALIA).

He served as national treasurer of the ASA from 1991-1993 and at present is editor of our *Bulletin*.

He has written extensively on professional matters. It is alleged, on what the lawyers call hearsay evidence (Bob himself cannot recall), that he contributed to the first issue of the first journal for archivists in Australia, the predecessor of *Archives and Manuscripts, the Bulletin for Australian Archivists*.

This record of outstanding service to his profession is, however, only half the story in my view.

What has always struck me about Bob is the fact that he continues to share his unrivalled experience and knowledge with his colleagues. It is rare indeed for a man of his eminence, who has achieved some of the highest positions in archives in Australia and who has been appropriately honoured by his peers, to continue to place himself at the service of the profession.

I personally have experienced his support and encouragement as I know have many others – support and encouragement which is given unconditionally and with immense grace. He is above all a gentleman.

Nothing I have done during my term as President of the ASA has given me more real pleasure and sense of satisfaction than conferring the Fellowship of the Society on Robert Charles Sharman. Nothing the Society does is more important than the public recognition it gives to a lifetime of distinguished service to the profession by one of its members.

Bob Sharman, archivist and friend, please accept the award of Fellow of the ASA as an inadequate but sincere token of our esteem and gratitude for what you have done for the archival profession in Australia. Your record can hardly be surpassed and surely not even equalled. You have set a hallmark for service and dedication. You are the profession's national living treasure. Long may you reign.

Paul Brunton, President, 11 May 1994

FRANK STRAHAN

What does it profit a man if he writes one hundred archives policies and secures the preservation of no archives?

Frank Strahan, who we honour today with the Society's highest award, has through his own efforts and commitment secured for the nation an incomparable body of documentation without which Australia's archival record would be significantly and permanently distorted. Of few people can this be said.

In 1959, Frank undertook a survey of Melbourne-based businesses for the Victorian Branch of the Business Archives Council of Australia. This led to the establishment in July 1960 of the University of Melbourne Archives and Frank's appointment as University Archivist, a position which he has held ever since.

Frank proceeded to build up a collection specialising in business and trade union records – often rescuing material as it was on its way to the tip. Begging, cajoling, borrowing but not actually stealing he swept the unloved, unwanted and unappreciated into his care. Equally importantly, he began to educate people in the value and importance of such records.

It was pioneering work, which many archivists to their shame take for granted today, and Frank's enthusiasm for archives was, and if I may say so, still is, infectious. The first fine careless rapture, unlike in Browning's bird, was not only recaptured but extended and repeated again and again. Frank, even after 35 years, is still promoting his beloved Melbourne University Archives and its collections. A passionate archivist indeed!

It is not possible to overrate the significance of Frank's achievement in assembling the collection at Melbourne University Archives, given Melbourne's preeminence until recently in Australian business and trade union affairs. Without Frank, this whole part of our history would barely survive.

And in building up a great collection, Frank excelled. To return to

Browning, *mutatis mutandis*, with a sentiment very dear to my heart and I am sure to Frank's, in collecting a man's reach should exceed his grasp or what's an archives for.

Yet Frank was not lavishly funded, resources were scarce and he had to, like all pioneers, 'make do'. He managed to convince businesses and trade unions that they should help finance the preservation of their records in his archives - a truly innovative practice to my knowledge unparalleled in Australia. He has managed to have an archival position fully funded by one of his depositors. In such ways has much-needed extra finance been generated.

The proof of the pudding is in the eating. Melbourne University Archives is today heavily used by researchers and a quick check through recently published books and articles will produce a citation rate which is truly impressive. Guides have been published, exhibitions have been mounted - the full gamut of activities in fact which perhaps we expect only from our larger organisations.

I have not covered Frank's contributions to the Business Archives Council, his work for the National Trust, his willingness always to speak to small groups about the importance of archives and his other professional achievements. They are all notable but if you seek his monument look around you - if you are in Melbourne University Archives, that is.

Nor have I mentioned, because I don't understand it, his fanatical devotion to the Carlton Blues, which I learn from a work of reference, is a football team.

I started with a Biblical quotation and shall finish with one.

In the promotion and advancement of archives, Frank, you have fought the good fight, you have run the race to the finish, and, most importantly, you have kept the faith. We salute you.

Mark Stevens, President

Paul Brunton, Chair of the Honorary Awards Committee, 27 July 1995

Laureateships

ANNE-MARIE SCHWIRTLICH

Anne-Marie was born in Bombay, India in 1956. She came to Australia during the early 1970s.

She began her career at the Australian Archives (Sydney) as an Assistant Research Officer. She remained with that organisation for nine years, gaining promotion to a Class 8 position in Records Services.

In June 1988 she moved to the Australian War Memorial as Senior Curator, Printed and Written Records, a position she still holds.

Anne-Marie's academic achievements include a BA with Honours (1977) at Macquarie University and the Diploma in Information Management - Archives Administration at University of NSW; (1982). She commenced a Masters Degree in Archives Administration in 1985.

She has lectured to students in the field of records management at the NSW Institute of Technology and TAFE College at Woden. And at the University of NSW she coordinated courses on administrative history, archives theory and history, and management of archives. She was co-editor of the Directory *Our Heritage*, published by the Society in 1983, and contributed two chapters to the first edition of *Keeping Archives* (1987). She has had a similar involvement with the second edition.

Anne-Marie has contributed significant papers to the Society's journal *Archives and Manuscripts*, and to conferences. She has supported the Records Management Association of Australia. Together with Ann Pederson, she has visited other states of Australia in a program to provide further education through *Keeping Archives* workshops.

Anne-Marie provides for the younger archivist an example of what can be achieved. She was Secretary of the Society at the age of 27 and President at the age of 33. On the completion of her term as President of the Society, she became for a year the President of the Australian Council of Archives.

She has strong professional convictions in such areas as professional ethics, and demonstrates vigour and initiative in seeking to help the Society, especially the younger members. During her term as President, she demonstrated a keen commitment to the ideals of the profession, and was steadfast in giving leadership. Her achievements as a lecturer mark her out as one of the profession's really significant teachers.

For her distinguished contribution to the archives profession, especially in relation to her leadership role within the ASA, the Council of the Society has great pleasure in conferring the honour of Laureate on Anne-Marie Schwirtlich.

Paul Brunton, President, 17 June 1993.

KANDY-JANE HENDERSON

The Council of the Australian Society of Archivists, Inc has resolved to confer upon Kandy-Jane Henderson the honour of Laureate of the Society.

The Laureateship is conferred on a member who has been mainly or solely responsible for an outstanding development or achievement in archives work. The Council has decided that Kandy-Jane Henderson is a member who ought to be so honoured.

Kandy-Jane Henderson has shown a strong commitment to the archives profession, in its local presence, and in the national and international scene. She has been reliable, thorough, imaginative and conscientious. Above all, she has given a great deal of time and thought to furthering the work of the Society.

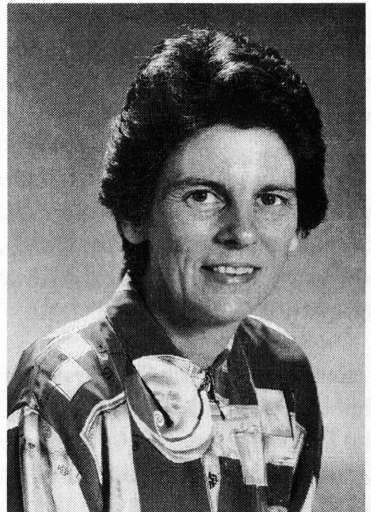
Kandy served the Society as its Secretary for two years 1989-91, after having been a Council Member from 1987-89. She was the first person to agree to be Secretary from a home base in the western two thirds of the country, and administered the affairs of the Society reliably and well, despite the distances involved. From 1980 to 1983, Kandy was the convener of a Sub-committee

of the ASA in Western Australia which organised two one-day seminar workshops for approximately forty participants on each occasion. A most significant aspect of this was the decision to set about publicising the profession in Western Australia. She was able to provide information and practical advice in the establishment of archives, and from this date a large number of schools, some commercial and religious establishments, professional and historical associations etc began to take an interest in founding archives institutions.

This work was consolidated in 1989-90 when Kandy initiated and acted as course coordinator for two week courses in archives administration. This inauguration of more formal archival education led eventually to the incorporation of archives subjects in courses in two universities. She has played a key role in introducing teaching courses in Curtin University of Technology She has also given a great deal of encouragement to Edith Cowan University in its establishment of a Graduate Diploma in Archives, and now chairs the Course Consultative Committee. Her work in publicising the need for education in archives has had a profound influence on the archival scene in Western Australia.

The establishment of a Western Australian Branch of the Society owes a great deal to Kandy. She was the Branch Secretary at the inauguration of the Branch in 1980, and continued in that role till 1984. She took on the job of Program Co-ordinator in 1985 for the first National Conference of the Society held in Perth (1987) - that Conference brought to the Society a net profit of \$14608.

Kandy has also taken a vigorous part in the activities of the Records Management Association, having set out to bridge the gap between the two professions and reassure records managers about the role of each body of professional workers. She has been a Branch Councillor of the WA



Kandy-Jane Henderson

Branch in 1983-86, 1988-89 and 1990-2, editor of the Branch newsletter, member of the Membership Status and Standards Committee 1983-89, and Seminar Co-ordinator 1991-2.

The Australian Society of Archivists has both pride and pleasure in conferring upon Kandy-Jane Henderson the honour of Laureate of the Society.

Mark Stevens. President. 23 May 1996.

SUE McKEMMISH

The Council of the Australian Society of Archivists, Inc has resolved to confer upon Sue McKemmish the honour of Laureate of the Society.

The Laureateship is conferred on a member who has been mainly or solely responsible for an outstanding development or achievement in archives work. The Council has decided that Sue McKemmish is a member who ought to be so honoured.

In the field of archival education and training, Sue has been a long-standing member of the Society's Education Committee and its principal representative on the National Records Competency Standards Steering Committee. She has been a teacher and a leading developer of the Masters program at Monash University, and has built alliances with Librarianship, Information Technology and Humanities colleagues in a way that has incorporated recordkeeping values into undergraduate courses. She has been a promoter of joint research projects within the wider archival community, and has been a pioneer in the provision of intensive professional development programs. As with all good teachers, she has shared her ideas and encouraged students and colleagues alike. That Monash University appointed her to Associate Professor level last year, after only six years as an academic, is ample external endorsement of her achievements as an educator.

She has also reached great achievements within the discipline of recordkeeping in this country. Sue was the key thinker within a small group of archivists from the later 1980s and early 1990s who refined and articulated ideas which are now widely accepted within the Australian profession and beyond. These include post custodialism, the linking of records and accountability, and a unified conception of archives administration and records management (and related notions of recordkeeping, the archival document and the records continuum).

The manner of contribution in both arenas has been exemplary, consistent, persistent, challenging, imaginative in approach, and of great value to all the Society stands for. It has also been ethical and selfless: she has always acknowledged the role of mentors and the assistance of colleagues and collaborators in her writing, submissions and presentations, to the point of understating her own crucial contribution.

The Australian Society of Archivists has both pride and pleasure in conferring upon Sue McKemmish the honour of Laureate of the Society.

Mark Stevens, President, 23 May 1996.

ANN PEDERSON

The Council of the Australian Society of Archivists, Inc has resolved to confer upon Ann Pederson the honour of Laureate of the Society.

Ann Pederson's career as an educator and leader in the archives profession in Australia has been exemplary and deserving of recognition by the Society.

The achievement for which she is best known was the publication of *Keeping Archives* in 1987. Ann was Editor-in-chief of this textbook of archival practice, as well as the author of two chapters, and it was her drive, determination and enthusiasm for the project which was most responsible for its success. The book has received wide international acclaim and has become established as an important primer for archivists all round the world, from



Anne-Marie Schwirtlich and Ann Pederson

Moscow to Manila, as well as in Australia. From another perspective, the publication of *Keeping Archives* (and its successor KA2) have done more to bring the achievements of the Australian profession to the attention of other archivists internationally than perhaps any other undertaking of the profession in Australia. The book also proved a great financial success for the ASA and is in fact the basis of our present state of relative financial health.

Ann came to Australia from the United States after a distinguished career in the Georgia State Archives where she rose from the position of Assistant to the Director, to be Director, in little more than a decade. She has been Lecturer/Senior Lecturer at the School of Information, Library and Archive Studies at the University of NSW since 1981. She has been a mentor and inspiration to her students over these years, especially instilling in them some of her determination to ensure that archivists bring the value of archives to public attention, through public programming.

Ann has also been in the forefront of ensuring that opportunities are available for continuing professional education for archivists in Australia. Since 1992 she has been a driving force in visits by Hugh Taylor, Terry Cook, Michael Cook, and Luciana Duranti, for public discussions of archival theory and practice alongside leading Australian archivists. She has been indefatigable in organising annual seminars for Australian archivists, such as those on Electronic Records and Public Programs and Outreach. Typically in these cases she has facilitated the involvement of other institutions, ensuring that the best available talent is accessible to those who wish to take the opportunity to improve professional skills and knowledge.

For her dedication and commitment, which has been evident over many years, to maintaining and raising standards of training and professional awareness of archivists in Australia, and for her support of the Society, the Australian Society of Archivists has both pride and pleasure in conferring upon Ann Pederson the honour of Laureate of the Society.

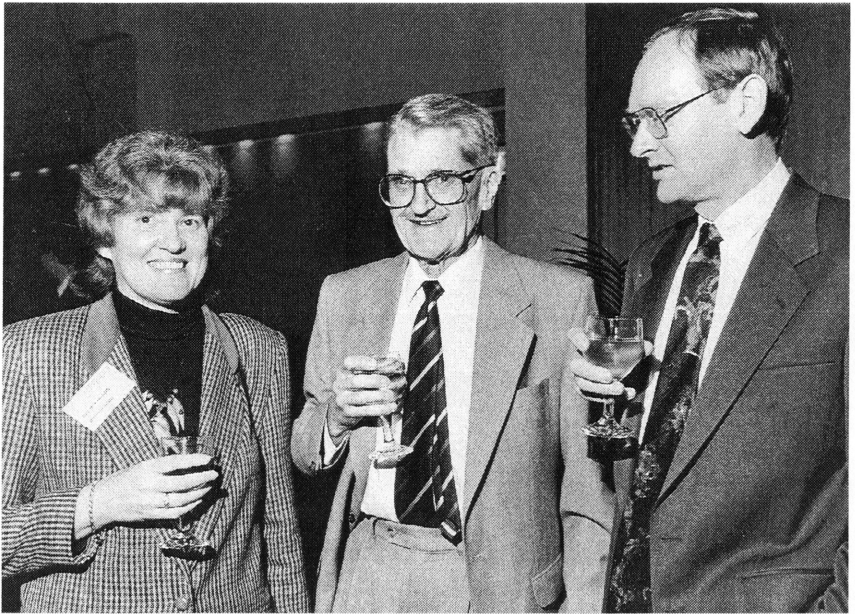
Mark Stevens, President, 23 May 1996.

MICHAEL PIGGOTT

The award of Laureate is conferred on a professional member of the Society who has been mainly or solely responsible for an outstanding development or achievement in archives work. In recognition of five years of distinguished service as Editor of the Society's journal *Archives and Manuscripts* and for numerous other services to the profession and the Society, the Council of the Society has resolved to confer this honour on Michael Piggott.

During the five years in which Michael filled the role of Editor for the Society's flagship publication and professional journal, *Archives and Manuscripts* reached new heights of excellence. During the 1990s the journal achieved with flair the difficult balancing act of having a broad appeal to

practitioners, teachers and archival theorists alike. In addition, the journal acquired under Michael's editorship an unprecedented international reputation for excellence in archival writing. Indeed, the recent international prominence enjoyed by the profession in Australia is probably due more to the output of *Archives and Manuscripts* than to any other single factor.



Sue McKemish, Ian Maclean and Michael Piggott

In addition to this achievement, Michael has been a long-standing contributor to and participant in the Australian archival discourse. Over the past fifteen years Michael has produced numerous publications and papers on Australian archival history and other topics. Most notable has been his joint editorship of the exemplary publications *The Records Continuum* (with Sue McKemish) and the 1995 ASA Conference Proceedings, *Archivists: The Image and Future of the Profession* (with Colleen McEwen).

Michael has given a lot of his time and energy to the ASA over the years,

serving three terms on the ACT Branch Committee and one term on ASA Council as Managing Editor. In his archival work for the National Library of Australia, the Australian War Memorial and the Australia Archives, Michael has always pursued and attained the highest of professional standards. His guide to the papers of C.E.W. Bean is an outstanding finding aid, perhaps the best guide to a collection of Australian personal papers that has ever been published.

At the Australian Archives, the internal Technical Training Scheme which Michael was responsible for developing and implementing was instrumental in producing the greatly increased level of professionalism that has been evident at our leading national archival institution during the 1990s. Michael has always made time to advise and mentor younger members of the profession, having a peculiar ability to bring the best out of his younger colleagues and to steer them in productive and rewarding career directions.

The Council of the Society therefore has great pleasure in conferring upon Michael Piggott the honour of Laureate of the Australian Society of Archivists, Incorporated.

Kathryn Dan, President, 24 July 1997