



# NATIONAL TREASURES

*from Australia's Great Libraries*

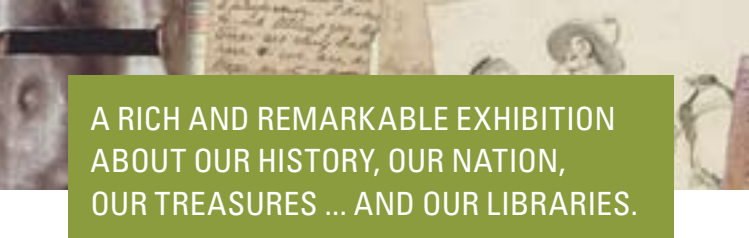
**26 August to 22 October 2006**  
at the State Library of New South Wales

A free travelling exhibition from Australia's  
National, State & Territory Libraries 2005–2007

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**EXHIBITION & EVENTS**

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## A RICH AND REMARKABLE EXHIBITION ABOUT OUR HISTORY, OUR NATION, OUR TREASURES ... AND OUR LIBRARIES.

*National Treasures from Australia's Great Libraries* brings together, for the first time, more than 170 extraordinary items that have shaped our nation. Drawn from the magnificent collections of Australia's National, State and Territory libraries, the exhibition contains manuscripts, maps, drawings, paintings and objects — from the everyday to the exotic — all linked to Australia.

*National Treasures from Australia's Great Libraries* includes familiar icons such as James Cook's *Endeavour* journal, Ned Kelly's helmet and Donald Bradman's favourite bat. Others may be less well known, such as the heartbreaking story of Mary Watson, who perished with her baby off a deserted Queensland island, or the diary of Shane Gould, written as a teenager during her record-breaking swims at the tragic Munich Olympics.

Spanning the earliest European depiction of the Southern Cross drawn in the 16th century, through our convict and colonial era, two world wars, recent innovations and our constant obsessions with sport, food and wine, this exhibition gives a fresh insight into the diversity and breadth of our history and what it means to be Australian today.

In this landmark exhibition, Australia is explored in eight different themes – *Under the Southern Cross, Settlement, Land and Nature, Hope and Hardship, Heroes and Villains, War and Loss, Innovation and Industry, National Obsessions* and *Culture*. In the stories told, the unknown becomes everyday and what was once ordinary becomes extraordinary.

## EVENTS PROGRAM

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### ***National Treasures from Australia's Great Libraries***

Dates & times: Wed 30 August, 12.30 pm – 1.30 pm,  
or Wed 30 August, 5.30 pm for 6 pm,  
or Thur 31 August, 12.30 pm – 1.30 pm

Venue: Dixson Room, Mitchell Wing

Cost: \$17, \$12

Margaret Dent, co-curator of *National Treasures from Australia's Great Libraries* talks about the making of the exhibition and shows highlights from some of its vivid stories of the last 200 years of our history.



### **People's treasures**

Date & time: Wed 6 September, 5.30 pm for 6 pm

Venue: Dixson Room, Mitchell Wing

Cost: \$12

Bring your personal treasures for appraisal of condition, recommendation for preservation, and comments on their value and historical context. Join the Library's expert curators and conservators as they discuss your rare books, diaries, drawings, watercolours, photographs and ephemera.

### **Treasured moments I**

Date & time: Mon 11 September, 5.30 pm for 6 pm

Venue: Metcalfe Auditorium  
Macquarie St Wing

Cost: \$17, \$12

Hear highly entertaining speakers, including Margaret Whitlam AO, Chester Porter QC and playwright Debra Oswald, share favourite moments in their lives, favourite items and responses to the exhibition.

### **Treasured moments 2**

Date & time: Wed 20 September, 12.30 pm – 1.30 pm

Venue: Dixson Room, Mitchell Wing

Cost: \$17, \$12

Australia's art experts will reveal their favourite treasure in the exhibition, their most prized personal treasure and share some treasured moments in their lives. With Geoffrey Cassidy (Sotheby's), Michael Reid (*Sydney Morning Herald*) and Joanna Strumpf (Sullivan and Strumpf).

### **Wannabees**

Date & time: Thurs 28 September, 6 pm for 6.30 pm

Venue: Dixson Room, Mitchell Wing

Cost: \$17, \$12 (Friends)  
\$13.50 (SL U35 members)

Wanna be a celebrity? Sydney's top gossip commentators and photographers talk candidly about what constitutes a celebrity, and how wannabees 'make it' in the fame game to become a national living treasure - or at least treasured by the public.



### **Treasured moments 3**

Date & time: Thurs 5 October, 6 pm for 6.30 pm  
Venue: Metcalfe Auditorium  
Cost: \$17, \$12

More amusing guests share treasured moments in their lives, their favourite items and responses to the exhibition. Speakers include Phillip Adams AO, Bob Ellis and Emma Tom.

### **Passion and the Inferno: saving a treasure**

Date & time: Thurs 12 October, 5.30 pm for 6 pm  
Venue: Dixson Room, Mitchell Wing  
Cost: \$17, \$12

The scenario is this: if there were a fire and members of our panel could save only one treasure in the exhibition, which one would it be and why? Chair Paul Brunton, with Professor Robert Manne, Miriam Estensen (historian), and Michael Sexton SC.

### **Vintage**

Date & time: Tues 17 October, 6 pm for 6.30 pm  
Venue: Members' room  
Cost: \$17, \$12 (Friends)  
\$13.50 (SL U35 members)

Dress historian Margot Riley from the State Library looks at vintage clothing as personal treasures and in the fashion world. Includes a fashion parade showcasing treasured items from the closets of The Vintage Clothing Shop.

## **BOOKINGS are essential for all events and for all group visits to the Galleries.**

Each event includes a viewing of *National Treasures from Australia's Great Libraries*.

Phone: (02) 9273 1770  
Fax: (02) 9273 1248  
Email: [bookings@sl.nsw.gov.au](mailto:bookings@sl.nsw.gov.au)  
Online: [www.sl.nsw.gov.au/whatson/bookings.cfm](http://www.sl.nsw.gov.au/whatson/bookings.cfm)  
Mail: Bookings Office, State Library of NSW  
Macquarie Street Sydney 2000

## ORDER YOUR NATIONAL TREASURES BOOK

This superb book illustrated in full colour, is both a guide and a record of this once in a lifetime exhibition.

Please fill out this form and either:

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Email [libshop@sl.nsw.gov.au](mailto:libshop@sl.nsw.gov.au)

The Library Shop is open 7 days.

*National Treasures from Australia's Great Libraries* is touring to all capital cities.  
For dates and venues please visit  
<<http://nationaltreasures.nla.gov.au>>.

### Participating libraries

ACT Heritage Library  
Northern Territory Library  
State Library of Queensland  
State Library of Tasmania  
State Library of Western Australia  
National Library of Australia  
State Library of NSW  
State Library of South Australia  
State Library of Victoria

INITIATED BY

**CASL**  
Council of Australian State Libraries

MANAGED BY



PRESENTED IN NSW BY



*NATIONAL TREASURES FROM AUSTRALIA'S GREAT LIBRARIES*  
IS GENEROUSLY SUPPORTED BY

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### State Library of New South Wales

Macquarie Street Sydney NSW 2000 Ph 02 9273 1414  
Email [library@sl.nsw.gov.au](mailto:library@sl.nsw.gov.au) [www.atmitchell.com](http://www.atmitchell.com)

### Facilities for people with a disability

Wheelchair access via Macquarie St, toilets & courtesy wheelchair, hearing loop, parking on the corner of Shakespeare Place & Macquarie St

### Opening hours

#### Exhibition Galleries

Weekdays: 9 am to 5 pm  
Weekends: 11 am to 5 pm  
Closed Monday 2 October

**ENTRY TO NATIONAL  
TREASURES FROM THE  
MACQUARIE ST WING ONLY**

