

AFFHO Services to Family History Award 2009

Citation – Shauna Hicks

Shauna Hicks has made an outstanding contribution to family history in Victoria, Queensland and Australian Capital Territory, firstly in her career as a professional archivist in the various archives offices and secondly through her hands-on approach and personal interest as a family historian, seizing opportunities through her profession and personal interests to support family history.

During her career she has enjoyed a public face in her various positions. In these roles she has represented the various state archives and in particular the Public Record Office of Victoria, where she has involved herself in improving access and promoting the wealth of sources at the archives through family history presentations at meetings, seminars, conferences and congresses. She regularly visits and promotes family history throughout the state and at times around the country. Although some of these are in relation to her employment there is no doubt her personal enthusiasm and support go well beyond her work responsibilities.

In Queensland Shauna worked in the John Oxley Library and the State Archives. She is a founding member of the Queensland Family History Society, established in 1979, and was awarded a Fellowship of QFHS for her extensive services to family history in 2000. Amongst other things, she was a committee member, established the Monumental Inscriptions collection, organised the indexing of Boar War Service Records, and was the original Education Officer.

Since then Shauna has served on the councils of the Heraldry and Genealogical Society of Canberra and the Genealogical Society of Victoria, involving herself in a voluntary capacity to assist these societies in their operations. She has also worked in tandem with her associated work colleagues in other States, to promote access to archives for family historians.

For 30 years Shauna has continuously devoted herself to ensuring the best possible relationship between researchers and the custodians of public records and the appreciation of her contributions by family historians throughout Australasia is now expressed through this award.