## AWARDS FOR SERVICES TO FAMILY HISTORY

Each year, nominations are called for the QFHS Inc. Award for Services to Family History, which is reserved for QFHS members only, and presented at our November Christmas break-up meeting. The nominations are considered by previous awardees as designated by the Management Committee and they form an ad hoc committee for this purpose each year.

Nominations accepted for 2017 were **Pamela Masel**, Member Number 1845, and **Margaret Shand**, Member Number 240. All service mentioned has been voluntary.



Pam Masel with her award

It would be difficult to find a person who has volunteered in more roles than Pam Masel during the time she has been a member of the Queensland Family History Society. Pam joined the Society in 1993 as Member Number 1845, firstly as a joint member with her late mother, and then with her husband, Les, who has also made a significant contribution to the Society.

As time permitted, Pam joined the editorial team in 2007, taking on the tasks of proofreading the quarterly Queensland Family Historian and the e-newsletter Snippets before these publications went to print or were circulated. Pam has been in this role for many years, and as the Society publishes four issues of the journal each year and as well as the monthly Snippets, you will appreciate the many hours Pam has spent on this task. Our Society is justifiably proud of our communication with members and Pam's unstinting work and attention to detail in this regard ensures that our publications are of a very high standard. Our journal continues to feature in the winning entries of the Nick Vine Hall Award.

Our members value the monthly *Snippets* e-newsletter with its timely announcements of events and new websites for people to access. She has also been part of the publications group involved for many years in indexing the Society's records, thus making these available to members and others through our various outlets.

Pam has been a library assistant since 2001 and is conscientious in that role, and also in ensuring that our facilities are maintained to the highest standard possible. Currently, Pam is the Society's Acquisitions Officer, sourcing, pricing, and ordering books and other resources to add to the Society's enviable collection. This is a time consuming task, and includes keeping track of the amount of money expended from and remaining within the Cecily Cameron donation. Pam was instrumental gathering many of the World War I unit histories collected at the centenary of the beginning of that conflict. She also has a spot at Members' Meetings, promoting treasures for the Print Library.

Her other contributions include assisting with the move to Gaythorne in 2005, being part of the team which appraised donations to the Society, facilitating the collection of members' pedigrees, being on deck to help with various functions such as the May Fair of 2004 and other activities and gatherings, and contributing to the Strategic Planning exercise.

In recent years, Pam has been a member of the Management Committee, filling an important role in the long term and dayto-day running of the Society and until recently has been a member of the Research Team undertaking research for members and non-members who, because of their distance from the Library and Resource continued

Centre, have not been able to do the research themselves.

In her spare time, Pam has researched female members of the Anglican religious orders. For her services to family history both within the Society and in the wider context, Pam is a worthy recipient of the QFHS Services to Family History Award.

Nominated by: Sue Reid



Margaret Shand

Margaret has contributed to family history in general and to the Queensland Family History Society in particular through her involvement in a range of indexes done by our publications group — all directed to the wider community of family historians.

Since 2004 Margaret has contributed to a broad range of our publications — mostly as part of a large team. Her indexing tally, currently totalling 286,527 records, includes records for the Queensland Cemetery Collection, the Queensland School Pupils Index, Queensland Intestacies, Insolvencies and Wills, all of the Commonwealth Electoral Rolls we have published so far, and one current project. She is still an active member of the publications team and is always asking for more work to do.

It is easy to list the number of records Margaret has indexed but what does it actually mean? Does anyone who is not an indexer have any concept of the effort required? Over 14 years it means Margaret has spent in excess of 3,500 hours helping the Society. She is not visible to members since she works from her home — nonetheless her work has been of enormous importance.

She has been a very competent indexer, accurate and careful — and definitely dedicated to making records available for the benefit of fellow researchers. Margaret has made a tremendous contribution to our Society and to the wider community of family historians — truly worthy of recognition by the membership of QFHS.

Nominated by: Rosemary Kopittke, Jackie Buttress and Mary Geiger.

Margaret was not present at the meeting and her award was posted to her. ■

## **MEMBERS' INTERESTS**

We remind members that all interests must be submitted using the Members' Interests Application Form, downloaded from our website at <a href="http://www.qfhs.org.au/members-interests/">http://www.qfhs.org.au/members-interests/</a>. Interests will be uploaded to our website as soon as possible after the Application Form is received, and printed in the *Queensland Family Historian* as space allows.

## Member's name: Mr Lou Muller