

# The Nancy Keesing Fellowship



The Nancy Keesing Fellowship, which honours the Australian literary figure, author and poet Nancy Keesing (1923-1993), was established by her husband, Dr Mark Hertzberg, AO, a past President of the Library Council of New South Wales. The Fellowship aims to promote the State Library of New South Wales as a centre of research into Australian life and culture and to provide a readily accessible record of the Fellowship project. This may be in the form of bibliographical or collection analysis, or historical or creative non-fiction.

The amount of the Fellowship for 2012 is \$12,000. The award may be used to supplement income while working on the designated project or to meet research and travel costs within the criteria of the Fellowship, as given below:

- Fellowship grants may not be utilised to cover publication costs.
- Applications will not be considered for Fellowships from persons concurrently holding another major or equivalent award for the proposed topic or project or whose work is part of their regular paid employment.
- Preference will normally be given to applications that support research on a topic or project that is not being pursued as part of a higher degree program.

During the period of the award, Fellows, who may be residents or non-residents of Australia, are expected to spend time in the State Library using its resources. A progress report is required for submission to the Library Council prior to completion of the research project. It is desirable that the Fellowship results in a publication with due acknowledgement of the award.

The successful applicant will be paid in two instalments: the first on taking up the fellowship; and the second on the production of a progress report at mid-term. It is expected that at the conclusion of the Fellowship, the fellow will make two presentations about their project. One will be to Library staff, and the other will be a public lecture. The Fellow may also be asked to contribute, as part of their acquittal of the Fellowship, an article (maximum length 1000 words) about their project to the Library's *SL Magazine*.

It is also expected that the fellow will provide a summary of the project - be it a textual description, a bibliography, a podcast, an e-resource, or whatever format is considered appropriate – to be loaded onto the Library's Fellowship pages on its website. This will provide a permanent and enduring record of the legacy of the Library's Fellowship program.

The Fellow will be given an initial orientation and introduction to the Library and its facilities and will be allocated certain access rights and privileges to assist in their research at the Library. The Fellow will be provided with a computer, a desk in the Fellows Room, and wider access to Library facilities. They will report to the Mitchell Librarian and/or the Senior Curator, Mitchell Library with designated Library Services staff available to assist with their day-to-day needs and enquiries while using the Library's collections.

The winner of the Fellowship will be designated 'The Nancy Keesing Fellow of the State Library of New South Wales' for the duration of the award. The term of the Fellowship extends for 12 months, and is generally taken up in the month of April.

The Fellowships Committee of the Library Council of New South Wales will consider all applications submitted for the Nancy Keesing Fellowship. All applicants will be notified in writing informing them of the Committee's decision, which is regarded as final. No discussion or correspondence will be entered into concerning the Committee's final decision. The Fellowships Committee reserves the right not to recommend the award of the Nancy Keesing Fellowship in any given year.

Applications for the Nancy Keesing Fellowship should be made on forms available from the State Library or on the website <http://www.sl.nsw.gov.au/about/awards/index.html>. Applications should be sent to The Mitchell Office, State Library of New South Wales, Macquarie Street, Sydney, 2000. The closing date for receipt of applications is 5 September 2011.

Dr Alex Byrne  
State Librarian & Chief Executive