



· ANNUAL HISTORY CITATION ·

2006

Keith Arthur Johnson

The Annual History Citation honours a lifetime of significant contribution by an individual to the profession and practice of history. In 2006, on the occasion of the 11th anniversary of its foundation, the History Council of NSW marks the contribution of Keith Johnson, inaugural member of the History Council of NSW and a distinguished promoter of the practice of family history.

Keith Johnson joined the Royal Australian Historical Society in 1962 and the Society of Australian Genealogists in 1964. He served on the Royal Australian Historical Society council from 1975-1985 and again from 1988-1993 during which time he was Vice-President. He served on many committees and the Royal Australian Historical Society awarded him a Fellowship in 1982 for his service to that Society and for his contributions in advancing the knowledge of history particularly through the production of historical publications.

Keith Johnson has served continuously on the Council of the Society of Australian Genealogists since 1969. He was President 1978-1985, 1993-1996 and has also served as Vice-President for three separate terms 1975-77, 1985-86, 1996-96. He was elected a Fellow of the Society of Australian Genealogists in 1975 for his services to the Society and to scholarship. In 1992 he was elected a Fellow of the Society of Genealogists, London, for service to international genealogy. Keith's knowledge of Australian history has been recognised beyond genealogical boundaries. He was awarded the inaugural C.H. Currey Memorial Fellowship from the State Library of NSW in 1975. He was also an inaugural Member of the

History Council of NSW Management Committee from 1995-97. In 2003 in recognition of his outstanding service to genealogy and as an author and publisher of Australian family history he was appointed a member of the Order of Australia.

Keith Johnson has co-authored several books and contributed to three biographies to the *Australia Dictionary of Biography*. Keith Johnson and Malcolm Sainty began publishing reference works in 1969 and they have been co-directors of the publishing company, Library of Australian History, since 1977. Under this title Keith Johnson has co-edited over 100 titles of historical significance which particularly relate to the colonial era of New South Wales. The most notable are *The Founders of Australia: A Biographical Dictionary of the First Fleet* (1989), *The Second Fleet: Britain's Grim Convict Armada of 1790* (1993), *Sydney Burial Grounds 1819-1901 and History of Sydney's Early Cemeteries from 1788* (2001). Keith Johnson continues to serve on important history committees and publish historical works. The History Council of NSW is honoured to celebrate Keith Johnson and his achievements with its annual history citation in 2006.

