

Ian Renard to receive the Redmond Barry Award

The Redmond Barry Award is the highest honour that the Association can bestow on an individual not eligible for Associate membership. The criteria for the award includes recognition of 'outstanding service to or promotion of a library and information service or libraries and information services...' Ian Renard, the winner in 2002 more than meets this criteria.

Ian is a lawyer by profession, and is the current deputy chancellor of the University of Melbourne, chairman of the Melbourne Theatre Company, and has occupied a wide range of other public positions. These include that of president of the Library Board of Victoria (formerly the Council of the State Library of Victoria). Ian served as the deputy chairman of the Council of the State Library of Victoria from June 1994, and was appointed as president of the Library Board of Victoria from May 1997 to May 2000. Ian gave strong leadership to the team responsible for the major building

redevelopment program for the State Library of Victoria. He ensured that the master plan was sufficiently broad and farsighted and that it could be properly supported by the funds available at each stage.

Ian motivated the State Library of Victoria Foundation through a period of steady consolidation, also personally securing some key sponsors and orchestrating the involvement in the Foundation's affairs of key library supporters.

He convinced the government that the rejuvenation of the State Library depended not only on completing the major building redevelopment program, but also a significant increase to the library's annual budget on a recurrent basis.

Ian played a major role in motivating, enthusing, and on occasion counselling the Library's senior executive team, and was very generous in the time he gave to this task. He was also conscious of his responsibilities

to explain and defend the library publicly and as appropriate, to both friends and critics, and was a very powerful advocate for the value of libraries generally and of the State Library of Victoria in particular.

Ian Renard is a most deserving winner of the Redmond Barry Award. It is fitting that as one of the most effective lay advocates and leaders in the State Library of Victoria's long history he is to receive an award named in honour of the State Library of Victoria's founder and first president, Redmond Barry. ■



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