Prestigious Tasmanian history award launches

A prestigious new book prize will shine a spotlight on Tasmania’s history and culture, and commemorate the contribution Dick and Joan Green made to the state.

The Dick and Joan Green Family Award for Tasmanian History, a biennial prize worth $25,000, will be launched at 4.30pm today at the Academy Gallery in Inveresk.

The Green family has partnered with the University of Tasmania to create the award, which will recognise high quality published work that makes a significant contribution to understanding Tasmania’s past.

University Provost Professor Mike Calford said the generous gift would honour the achievement of authors researching and writing about our state’s culture and history.

“Our institution is grateful to be working with the Green family on a project that will deepen our understanding of the place we call home, and that will attract attention to authors doing valuable work.”

Both from Launceston, Joan and the late Dick Green were key players in the establishment of the National Trust in Tasmania during the 1960s and remained involved for decades. As well as playing an integral role in the preservation and celebration of Tasmanian built heritage, the Greens were strong supporters of the arts.

A former Alderman, Deputy Mayor and Mayor of Launceston, Dick Green served on the boards of the State Library of Tasmania, the Tasmanian Theatre Company, and the Tasmanian Ballet Company, among others.

Joan Green was a champion golfer, a member and volunteer of the National Trust for 50 years and a contributor to organisations such as The Australiana Fund, the Tasmanian Symphony Orchestra and the Order of Australia Association.

Caroline Johnston, daughter of Joan and the late Dick Green, said the Green family is very excited to be launching this Award with the University to recognise those who continue to value, and write about, Tasmanian history.

“The award is a special way to recognise the contribution of our parents to the preservation of the built heritage and its history and to the community generally. We
were imbued with a sense of history at home and books were an integral part of the household too so it seems fitting to combine them in this Award.”

The award is open to all authors who publish books of original research on Tasmanian history. The first eligibility period for the award will be from 1 July 2015 to 30 June 2017.

Entries open on 4 July and close on 8 September 2017 with the longlist, shortlist and winners to be announced in 2018.

For more information on the award, visit the Dick and Joan Green Family Award for Tasmanian History page [here](#).

**Information released by:**
University of Tasmania, Communications and Media Office
Phone: 61 3 6324 3218
Email: Media.Office@utas.edu.au