Memories of National Library at Stamford

by Edmond Ng

The National Library Board unveiled a book yesterday as part of its last series of efforts to preserve the memories of the old National Library at Stamford Road.

The book entitled *Moments in Time: Memories of the National Library* is a compilation of personal anecdotes and recollections of the library by more than 100 individuals of the public in print and picture form. Most entries revolved around several recurring themes, including tribute to patient and helpful library staff, reminiscences about the canteen outside the library, learning journeys through the



library's treasure trove of books, among others, including a love story and a ghost story. Contributors of articles in the book include people from different walks of life and also members of Parliament.

"The contributions we received reflected the close attachment so many people had for the red-bricked building. The contributors hail from all walks of life and recalled with fondness, some with a touch of humour, how the National Library had enriched their lives, in one way or another," said Dr N Varaprasad, Chief Executive of the National Library Board. "Moments in Time successfully captures and preserves their individual recollections."

The Moments in Time project was initiated some seven months ago in May 2004 when the Board's chairman, Ms Lim Soon Hoon, seeded the idea of preserving the sentiments and experiences of both the library users and staff across its 44 years of

history. A call was then made to the public to contribute their fondest memory of the library through submission of written entries in any of the four major languages, as well as photographs and other visuals.

The editorial team who helps put the book together consists of external committee, where Mr Philip Lee, the chief copy editor of Streats, serves as the book editor. Mr Paul Jansen, editor of Streats, and Ms Margaret Thomas, associate editor of Today, also serves in the committee as editorial consultants.

The book is now on sale at all major National Library Board libraries at the price of S\$12 each.

This article is available on the web at: http://www.edvencomm.net/news/nlb10dec04.pdf