

2/11/2017

[EMBARGOED UNTIL 9PM THURSDAY 2 NOVEMBER 2017]

**VIRGINIA GORDON**  
**Assistant Curator, Queensland Police Museum**  
**Winner at State Awards**

The strength, ingenuity and talents of Queensland's public galleries and museums were triumphantly demonstrated tonight with the announcement of the winners of the **2017 Gallery and Museum Achievement Awards** (GAMAA) at a gala presentation event, proudly hosted by Old Government House, QUT.

**Virginia Gordon**, Assistant Curator, Queensland Police Museum, Brisbane, was **announced as Winner** for her outstanding achievement in the category of 'Individuals Paid.'

Virginia Gordon was appointed as the Queensland Police Museum's Assistant Curator in August 2000. Her first 12 years were spent managing the Education Program during which she spoke to thousands of children and adults, enlivening their curiosity about the world of policing in Queensland. Virginia's interest in costume led her to amass many resources about the changes in police uniforms since 1864. As the Museum's costume expert, she was instrumental in researching and adding historical police uniform items to the Australian Dress Register.

Virginia's well-researched and efficiently communicated public information service has built a strong rapport with clients, who rate her service as exceptional.

**Museums & Galleries Queensland** (M&G QLD) Executive Director, Rebekah Butler said, "We congratulate Virginia Gordon for being recognised as the Winner in this category. Her curiosity and continuous pursuit of knowledge and willingness to share this is commendable. We applaud her achievements at the Queensland Police Museum and the work she has done with its historical uniform collection.'

Virginia completed both a Graduate Certificate in Museum Studies in 2004 and a Graduate

Diploma in Museum Studies in 2005 to upskill for her work within the Queensland Police Museum. Across 17 years, Virginia has continued with her research and knowledge about the uniform history of the Queensland Police – gathering information, resources, images, newspaper clippings and archival data about uniforms and their changes (1864 to now). Virginia undertakes historical research for a variety of Museum clients – working with prospective donors; writing histories of various police stations and police officers; and providing access to records on Indigenous troopers and trackers within the service.

Ms Butler said, "This year's winners and finalists stood out from an exceptional group of nominations. These accolades embody outstanding examples of our sector's achievements, professional excellence, and innovation. They also highlight the valuable contribution and achievements of professionals and volunteers working in our industry."

The GAMAA were established by Museums & Galleries Queensland in 2004 to honour the achievements of our state's individuals and organisations in striving towards excellence.

Winners of the 2017 GAMAA received an exquisite trophy crafted by Queensland artist, Lincoln Austin. Commissioned by M&G QLD, the trophies are generously sponsored by our long-standing Awards supporter, Brian Tucker Accounting.

**For media enquiries or images, please contact:**

**Rebekah Butler, Executive Director, M&G QLD**

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