

14/12/2021

**INGHAM FAMILY HISTORY ASSOCIATION INC.
IN PARTNERSHIP WITH SANDI ROBB, HISTORY
AND HERITAGE CONSULTANT
Winner at State Awards**

The Winners and Finalists of the **2021 Gallery and Museum Achievement Awards** (GAMAA) were proudly announced by Museums & Galleries Queensland tonight, 14 December, at a special live-streamed presentation.

Ingham Family History Association Inc. in partnership with Sandi Robb, History and Heritage Consultant was announced as **Winner** for its outstanding achievement in the category of Projects: Organisations Volunteer Run for its project ***Re-Discovering Buk Ti: Chinese settlers in the Lower Herbert Valley.***

The Ingham Family History Association Inc. is a small but dedicated group of twenty-three members. The Association has been operating for a number of decades and is a valued community group within the Hinchinbrook Shire district, which includes Ingham, Halifax and several smaller Lower Herbert hamlets in North Queensland.

This exhibition project sought to present Chinese settler history of the late 19th and early 20th centuries to the wider Lower Herbert Valley community and to bring pride to descendants who remain in the community today. In doing so, a light was shone onto a little-known aspect of Hinchinbrook Shire's history. The region's cultural diversity was also highlighted.

The committee and volunteers of Ingham Family History Association Inc. realised early on that their skill base did not extend to the planning of an exhibition; to the professional display of their research; or to the creation of a cohesive vision to meet the requirements of the TYTO Regional Art Gallery, Ingham, where the exhibition was shown. The group partnered with history and heritage consultant, Sandi Robb, who developed the Association's ideas in a creative and engaging way to professionally present the district's Chinese history to the broader community.

Museums & Galleries Queensland (M&G QLD) Executive Director, Rebekah Butler said, "Ingham Family History Association Inc. and Sandi Robb are to be congratulated for their project *Re-Discovering Buk Ti: Chinese settlers in the Lower Herbert Valley*. This project built the capacity of the Ingham Family History Association volunteers, developing individuals' skills in areas such as computing; how to evaluate and accession loan items; and identification of Chinese artefacts. It also raised members' confidence and understanding of how to present a professional exhibition."

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.

The Winners received an exquisitely crafted ceramic trophy by Queensland artist, **Michelle Yeatman**, courtesy of Yarrabah Arts and Cultural Precinct. Michelle belongs to the Gunggannji people. Her work draws on her intimate knowledge of Country and reflects her relationship with Jilghi Beach at Yarrabah. Commissioned by M&G QLD, this year's trophies are generously sponsored by Public Galleries Queensland and Australian Museums and Galleries Association (Queensland).

For the full list of GAMAA Winners and Finalists and to view the GAMAA presentation visit: https://magsq.com.au/?page_id=5826.

For media enquiries please contact:

Rebekah Butler, Executive Director, M&G QLD

Museums & Galleries Queensland

Phone: **07 3059 9740** Freecall: **1800 866 101** Mobile: **0422 579 180**

Email: **rebekah.butler@magsq.com.au** Website: **www.magsq.com.au**

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