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[EMBARGOED UNTIL 9PM THURSDAY 2 NOVEMBER 2017]

KILBURNIE HOMESTEAD 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.

Kilburnie Homestead, located in Jambin, Central Queensland, was **announced the Winner** for outstanding achievement in the category of 'Engagement: Organisations Volunteer Run' for its nomination ***Open Days***.

Completed in 1903, the Kilburnie Homestead and outbuildings were entered on the State Heritage Register in 1992. The Homestead is now occupied by the fifth generation of the family who decided to open to the public on a regular basis in 2017. The success of their first open day, which attracted over 250 visitors and raised \$1,300 for the Royal Flying Doctor Service, encouraged Fiona Hayward, her family and volunteers to open the homestead on a monthly basis.

To her credit, Fiona Hayward recognised that it was necessary to gain further understanding of documenting and caring for the family collection and was successful in receiving funding for workshops delivered by the Queensland Museum Network's Museum Development Officer program on cataloguing, object handling, basic conservation practices, and digitisation.

As a result, Fiona has not only achieved significantly improved collections care but also a professional and well-presented experience for visitors.

Museums & Galleries Queensland (M&G QLD) Executive Director, Rebekah Butler said, "Being recognised as the Winner in this category is testament to the remarkable efforts of Fiona Hayward and the Kilburnie Homestead to preserve the Campbell family's history and to share this rich collection and resource with visitors to the Homestead."

The land on which Kilburnie Homestead stands was first selected by John Campbell in 1883. As Kilburnie is still a working cattle property, the open days allow visitors to engage more extensively with over 130 years of uninterrupted grazing heritage. The family's collection contains photographs, books, artworks, textiles, clothing, domestic items, farm equipment, as well as significant collections from the family's participation in the First and Second World Wars.

In recent times the open days have been expanded to include opportunities for bush camping at the property's dam, and there are future plans to include displays of heritage trades, making use of the property's blacksmith workshop.

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

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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