



ROYAL HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF VICTORIA INC.

239 A'Beckett Street, Melbourne 3000

RHSV Barbara Nixon Award Nomination of Cathy Butcher

9 April 2021

Cathy Butcher spent her professional life in the Commonwealth Public Service and the trade union movement culminating in 15 years as Occupational Health & Safety Officer on the Victorian Trades Hall Council (retired July 2015). Cathy is no stranger to awards having won many over the years. At the 2012 Annual Trades Union Awards Special mention went to Victorian Trades Hall Council's Cathy Butcher, for her significant contribution to the union campaign throughout the harmonisation of the workplace health and safety laws. In 2013 she took home the Victorian WorkCover Authority's Award for Outstanding Leadership and Contribution to Health and Safety. This is a special WorkSafe Award, that is not awarded every year, but only in years where the panel decides there has been an individual who has shown 'outstanding leadership and contribution to health and safety in Victoria'. And again in 2015, when Victorian Trades Hall paid tribute to Victorian unionists who have made a huge lifetime contribution to our movement, Cathy Butcher was a winner of the Meritorious Service Award.

Cathy has spent her working life up to her elbows in governance and policy – establishing it, writing it, reviewing it and delivering it. And in 2018 we were very fortunate when she was recruited as a volunteer by Richard Broome to pull together a list of policy decisions made by the RHSV Council over the last decade. I think we all recognised immediately that Cathy was a rare beast and she was quickly co-opted onto Council as an Assistant Secretary to Carole Woods. So, since February 2019, she has been both a member of Council and the E&F Committee.

Cathy was a major contributor to our reaccreditation application to AMaGA for our Museums Accreditation in 2019. She also was the lead contributor to the updating of our Constitution in 2019 as well as crafting many other policies.

The RHSV has greatly benefited from her skills at developing governance procedures, administrative policies and her overview of the organisation. Her Council minutes are meticulous and she is a highly cooperative colleague. She is a team player and highly regarded amongst her fellow Councillors and the day volunteers with whom she often works.

We are extremely fortunate to have someone of Cathy's skills and expertise driving our policy agenda and she has undoubtedly pushed the RHSV into a more modern, accountable space. And she has achieved this with intelligence, great charm, humour and tact.

We have much pleasure in nominating Cathy Butcher for a Barbara Nixon Award in 2021.

Rosemary Cameron
Executive Officer

Jillian Hiscock
Collections Manager



21st May, 2021