

## **Cooneana Heritage Centre Participants in Standards Program**

Museums & Galleries Queensland (M&G QLD) presented participants from **Cooneana Heritage Centre** with a Certificate of Recognition for completing an intensive year-long program that assessed their practices against *The National Standards for Australian Museums and Galleries* at a special event held on 3 December 2018. Greg Chemello, Administrator, Ipswich City Council and Councillor Jason Cook, Deputy Mayor, Lockyer Valley Regional Council joined M&G QLD to celebrate their achievements.

Cooneana Heritage Centre is located in New Chum, between Redbank Plains and Blackstone, Ipswich. Visiting the scenic site, you can learn about the mining history of Ipswich and see displays about local history and heritage. The Centre boasts two buildings of cultural heritage significance: the 1868 Cooneana Homestead and the 1970s Rhondda Collieries administration building, an architectural award-winning building.

M&G QLD's Standards Program Reviewers are industry experts who play a vital role in providing pro-bono professional advice and assistance throughout the Program. According the Reviewers matched to work with the organisation, Margot Jolly, Museum Consultant, and Amanda James, Senior Community History Officer, History Trust of South Australia,

"Cooneana Heritage Centre volunteers that engaged with the Standards Review Program are to be commended on their enthusiasm, commitment and their determination to move forward in several areas."

Sandi Jones, Publicity and Volunteer Coordinator, Cooneana Heritage Centre said,

"The Standards Review Program has engaged more of our active volunteers with improving the cataloguing, storage and conservation of our collection."

M&G QLD's Executive Director, Rebekah Butler, said,

"Cooneana Heritage Centre is to be commended for what they have achieved through their participation in M&G QLD's Standards Review Program, and for their plans to strengthen the vision and goals of the Centre."

M&G QLD's Standards Review Program supports museums and galleries to build skills and capacity; plan for a sustainable future; identify strategic priorities for improvement; develop an action plan; and ensure the safe-guarding and accessibility of community collections and stories.

For more information on the Standards Review Program, please visit <http://www.magsq.com.au/cms/page.asp?ID=5520>

M&G QLD is pleased to acknowledge the support of Ipswich City Council and the Regional Arts Development Fund, which allowed M&G QLD to deliver this program to organisations in the regions. The Regional Arts Development Fund is a partnership between the Queensland Government and the Ipswich City Council to support local arts and culture in regional Queensland.

Cooneana Heritage Centre's profile is attached with more information and quotes from the organisation on their outcomes from the Program.

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

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**Image Caption:** Sandi Jones, Carole Lee, Olivia McMahon, Allan Walsh, Janice Palmer and Dorothy Walsh receiving a Certificate of Recognition from Greg Chemello, Administrator, Ipswich City Council.

**Acknowledgement:** Courtesy Museums & Galleries Queensland. Photographer Profile Photographics.



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