



The Diamantina Health Care Museum

Credit: Claire Lees



Countess Diamantina Roma / Lady Bowen Corner

Credit: Claire Lees



The Lord's Last Supper

Credit: Alan Ball (dec)
Medical Illustrations Dept,
Princess Alexandra Hospital

Diamantina Health Care Museum
Cornwall Street Entrance, Princess
Alexandra Hospital
Woolloongabba QLD 4102

P: 07 3240 2702

E: stringer@iprimus.com.au

W: www.health.qld.gov.au/pahospital/history/pah_museum

Hours: Open Sunday 12-2pm and
Wednesday 11am-2:30pm or by
appointment

Contact: Claire Lees, Vice President

Presented by Museum & Gallery
Services Queensland in partnership with
Diamantina Health Care Museum.

'Did You Know' – intriguing facts about the Museum

- Did you know our oldest item is a Skidmore Magneto-Electric Machine, circa 1885, that was used to give people shock treatment? It was apparently used to treat Neuralgia, Tic doloureux, and Toothache.
- Did you know we have the marquette of the Philip Piperides's 7 foot (2.1 metres) bronze of the Countess Diamantina Roma / Lady Bowen that now stands in the garden at Old Government House? Contessa Diamantina Roma, Lady Bowen (1833-93), wife of Queensland's first Governor (1859-67) Sir George Bowen, initiated several charitable organisations. She is commemorated in the name of many Queensland institutions, places and facilities, including the Diamantina Hospital for chronic diseases (1901) and the Diamantina Health Care Museum (2001).
- The museum has John Kemp's Bark realism of "The Lords Last Supper" which was the largest bark art work in Australia, and made with bark collected from Wynnum Creek. It was donated to the Hospital in 1973 for the newly built chapel.
- The museum displays the first dialysis machine used for renal failure patients. The Kolf Twin-Coil Artificial Kidney (Dialysis) Machine was donated to the Princess Alexandra Hospital by the Ladies Auxiliary in 1963.
- The museum houses a bell dating back to early 1930 when it was hung on the water tower of the Diamantina Hospital for Chronic Disease (now the Princess Alexandra Hospital) to call patients to meals, or bed, when they were out in the hospital grounds. It was transferred to the Brisbane Chest Clinic in 1954, where staff dedicated it to their Doctors & Nurses, the legend and the bell were returned to the PAH in 2004.

Our Profile

The Diamantina Health Care Museum Inc. is housed in the oldest building in the grounds of the Princess Alexandra Hospital: the heritage listed former Dispenser's House which was built in 1909. The site was originally used as an Aboriginal healing place by the Koorpooroo people of the Jagara group.

The museum celebrates and interprets the rich history of Health Care, the People and Staff at the Princess Alexandra Hospital. The museum displays a variety of photographs of previous years, furniture from the Diamantina health care days and makes available information booklets about the hospital's past, its people and equipment.

What the Standards Program has meant for our Museum

Cataloguing

We knew we needed to catalogue, but not how to start. Acting on the advice given we are now in the process of selecting the right program for our museum.

Donation Forms

We have designed a donation form for collection acquisition procedures and put it into use.