

QANTAS Founders Museum Heralded as a Wonderful Destination

Deputy Mayor of Longreach, Councillor Rae Bowden, joined Museum & Gallery Services Queensland (M&GSQ) at the Dr Bruce Yeates Memorial Cottage, Australian Stockman's Hall of Fame and Outback Heritage Centre on Thursday 5 December 2013, in congratulating **QANTAS Founders Museum**, on **a great year of achievement**. QANTAS Founders Museum has excellent engagement with both the community and the wider public and presents as an exceptional venue for both cultural tourism and public events.

M&GSQ's Executive Director, Rebekah Butler, said today,

"QANTAS Founders Museum is to be commended for its year-long participation in M&GSQ's Standards Review Program and to be congratulated for its strong vision and exceptionally high standard of achievement."

According to M&GSQ's Standards Program Reviewers, Dr Geraldine Mate and Christine Ianna, industry experts who played a vital role in providing pro bono professional advice and assistance throughout the Program:

"The experience of dealing with each and every employee of QANTAS Founders Museum was a pleasure. Their camaraderie and cheerfulness is contagious and makes for a very positive experience. The atmosphere of the Museum and purposefulness of the staff is a credit to CEO, Tony Martin."

Tom Harwood, Museum Curator, explained their participation in M&GSQ's Standards Review Program had resulted in improved collection management and ongoing professional support and networking. He said,

"We went into this process because we believe in the importance of striving to be the best we can be in all parts of our operation. We learnt we're doing well but we now have access to mentors whose knowledge, experience, enthusiasm and support is making it possible to

progress to an even higher level than we'd imagined. The work involved, especially in the self-reviews can be challenging but absolutely worth doing. A great program!"

M&GSQ'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 safeguarding and accessibility of community collections and stories.

M&GSQ Standards Review Program is pleased to acknowledge the support of Longreach Regional Council and the Regional Arts Development Fund to bring this program to Longreach. The Regional Arts Development Fund is a Queensland Government and Longreach Regional Council partnership to support local arts and culture.

The museum's profile is attached.

For media enquiries and images please contact:

Ann Baillie, Manager - Training & Professional Development, M&GSQ

Phone: **07 3215 0845** Freecall: **1800 680 433** (within Queensland)

Mobile: 0419 729 533 Email: ann.baillie@magsq.com.au



IMAGE CAPTION

Image 1 – L to R Tony Martin, CEO QANTAS Founders Museum; Cr Rae Bowden, Deputy Mayor Longreach Regional Council; Tom Harwood, Curator QANTAS Founders Museum

Acknowledgement – Photo Outback Pics

Additional images are available upon request.

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