

23/11/2016

## **QLD's galleries and museums recognised in State Awards**

Queensland's public galleries and museums were formally recognised at the **2016 Gallery and Museum Achievement Awards** (GAMAA) at a gala event proudly presented by Museums & Galleries Queensland and hosted by Creative Arts Redlands – Redland Performing Arts Centre and Redland Art Gallery, on Tuesday 22 November 2016.

The **Fassifern District Historical Society Inc**, in the Scenic Rim 90Km south west of Brisbane, was **announced the Winner** for its outstanding achievement in the category of 'Projects: Organisations Volunteer Run' for its project *War Memories including CWA Involvement*.

The Fassifern District Historical Society, known as the Museum, consists of a number of buildings, including the Frazerview School, Templin State School buildings, and Aratula C.W.A. building, gifted in 2013. When the Scenic Rim Regional Council planned its "War Stories in Our Town" program for the ANZAC commemorations, the Museum's Committee applied for a grant to refurbish the Frazerview building.

Through sheer hard work by the Museum's Committee and volunteers, renovations were completed and the War Memories Galleries was opened in May 2015, while the Aratula C.W.A. building remained unrenovated.

Wanting to recognise the contribution of the C.W.A. to the war effort, the Committee decided to move the Aratula C.W.A. building to the Museum, and with a very modest budget, they set about bringing it back to its former glory. News of this project spread and they were soon inundated with community support with offers of labour, materials and fundraising. The Aratula C.W.A. building was completed in July and since then visitor numbers have increased, the Museum has received approaches for research and publishing projects, and community pride has grown.

Presented by **Museums & Galleries Queensland** (M&G QLD), the GAMAA celebrate the outstanding achievements, professional excellence, and innovation of Queensland's museum and gallery sector. It also recognises the valuable contribution that our State's museums and galleries make in enriching their local and wider communities, and honours the extraordinary commitment and talents of paid professionals and volunteers working in the industry.

M&G QLD Executive Director, Rebekah Butler said the GAMAA continue to recognise and celebrate the remarkable achievements of our museums and galleries and are testament to the skill, ingenuity and professionalism of the sector.

"This year's GAMAA recipients reflect a diverse range of large and small organisations. M&G QLD extends its congratulations to all of the 2016 GAMAA winners, finalists and nominees. We also thank our 2016 judges, sponsors and partners in supporting this important industry event," Ms Butler said.

Each year, M&G QLD commissions a different Queensland artist to create the GAMAA trophy. This year's award Winners were presented with an exquisite trophy handcrafted by Brisbane-based ceramic artist **Kenji Uranishi**. The GAMAA trophies are generously sponsored by Brian Tucker Accounting.

For a full list of GAMAA recipients go to the M&G QLD website at [www.magsq.com.au](http://www.magsq.com.au).

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