

## Longreach Powerhouse Museum Captures Town's Fascinating History

Deputy Mayor of Longreach Regional Council, 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 **Longreach Powerhouse Museum**, on **a great year of achievement**. The Longreach Powerhouse Museum cares for a significant state-registered heritage complex and collection, with clear links to the history of Longreach and Queensland's electrical heritage.

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

"Longreach Powerhouse Museum, owned by the Longreach Regional Council, is to be congratulated for its achievements during its year-long participation in M&GSQ's Standards Review Program. Council support of museum staffing and access to services is also commended and is crucial to the operation and long-term sustainability of the Museum."

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

"The Longreach Powerhouse Museum is a fascinating destination in Longreach, encompassing important buildings and the town's history in situ. Donna Rowlands and her staff should be congratulated for their work improving the care of the collection and enhancing the visitor experience for targeted school groups, interested tourists and the technical enthusiasts."

Donna Rowlands, Council's **Customer Service Team Leader-Tourism**, explained their participation in M&GSQ's Standards Review Program had resulted in direction and better understanding. She said,

"I started this program to get a better understanding of the Powerhouse Museum with Collection Management and the general overall management of the Museum. I feel I now have confidence in what direction and outcomes I can achieve for the Powerhouse

Museum. The mentors and facilitators of the Standards Review Program made participating so much easier for me and also were available to help with any questions that I had.”

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 Regional Arts Development Fund is a partnership between the Queensland Government through Arts Queensland, and Councils to support local arts and culture.

**The museum’s profile is attached.**

**For media enquiries and print quality images please contact:**

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**IMAGE CAPTION**

**Image 1** – L to R Cr Rae Bowden, Deputy Mayor Longreach Regional Council; Donna Rowlands, Customer Service Team Leader-Tourism Longreach Regional Council

**Acknowledgement** – Photo Outback Pics

Additional images are available upon request.

**MEDIA RELEASE END**