

Praise for Qantilda Museum's Volunteers

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 **Qantilda Museum**, on **a great year of achievement**. The Winton and District Historical Society have operated the Qantilda Museum since 1972 and it has become an integral component of the Waltzing Matilda Centre complex.

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

"Qantilda Museum is to be congratulated for its achievements during its year-long participation in M&GSQ's Standards Review Program. The Museum is a positive example of successfully identifying and harnessing the skill sets of its volunteers. These people make a wonderful contribution to the Museum's operation and success."

M&GSQ's Standards Program Reviewers, Leanne Kelly and Christine Ianna, industry experts who played a vital role in providing pro bono professional advice and assistance throughout the Program praised the many achievements of the Museum volunteers including: securing funding towards the development of a new conservation, restoration and storage facility; sponsoring the restoration of the historic Chinese Market Garden; participating in events that attract friends and members; implementing the recommendations of Karen Coote, consultant conservator, and their ongoing significance assessment of collection objects.

Bruce Collins, President, explained their participation in M&GSQ's Standards Review Program had resulted in a better idea of the significance of their collection and how to care for it. He said,

"While it involves quite a deal of work the M&GSQ Standards Review program offers great benefits to participants in terms of knowledge of your collection and its value to your local community as well as to the community at large. It is also an opportunity for members to

realise that as volunteers, they have created displays that rank reasonably well alongside other small museums across the state.”

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 Winton Shire Council and the Regional Arts Development Fund to bring this program to Winton. The Regional Arts Development Fund is a Queensland Government and Winton Regional Council partnership to support local arts and culture.

The museum’s profile is attached.

For media enquiries and print quality 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 John East, Helen Collins, Bruce Collins, Cr Rae Bowden, Deputy Mayor Longreach Regional Council, Elinor East

Acknowledgement – Photo Outback Pics

Additional images are available upon request.

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