



Customs House.

Credit: Fraser Coast Regional Council



The Portside Centre including the Bond Store Museum, Wharf St Maryborough.

Credit: Fraser Coast Regional Council



MV Ella

Credit: Deannah Vieth

Portside Centre

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Hours: 10am - 4pm Monday to Friday, 10am - 1pm Saturday and Sunday

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Presented by Museum & Gallery Services Queensland in partnership with the Portside Centre.

'Did You Know' – intriguing facts about the Centre

- The builder and captain of the *MV Ella*, which can be found in the Bond Store Museum, used the ceiling of his house to complete the vessel. It is not known what his wife's comments were.
- At one time Maryborough was second only to Sydney in welcoming the most of number of immigrants to Australia.
- It is said that some immigrants thought they were disembarking in California only to find they were in Maryborough.
- Maryborough was mentioned in the Opening Ceremony at the 2012 Olympics in London. As many Mary Poppins flew in the arena it was noted that Maryborough was the birthplace of Mary's creator, PL Travers.
- The HMAS Diamantina was built in Maryborough. She is the largest World War Two ship surviving in Australia and now sits in the Dry Dock at the Queensland Maritime Museum.
- The first man ashore at Gallipoli in 1915 was a Maryborough boy born and bred. His name was Duncan Chapman. Lieutenant Chapman rose to the rank of major with the 45th Battalion, and was killed in action at Pozieres, 6 August 1916.

Our Profile

The Portside Centre reveals the history of the Port of Maryborough and how the City developed around the Port. It is a complex of 3 heritage-listed buildings: Customs House, Customs Sub-Collectors Residence and Bond Store. Located in an enviable area of Maryborough renowned for its wonderful heritage buildings, The Centre is a gateway experience for visitors to the city and further afield into the region.

Maryborough Customs House is an attraction within the Portside Centre. The Customs House delves into Maryborough's eclectic and rich history. Visitors can learn about immigrants who had braved a long sea voyage into the unknown, the city as a place for innovation and national influence in heavy industry, and the birthplace of an internationally loved author.

Next door to the Customs House is the Bond Store Museum. This facility explores a complimentary and distinct history of Maryborough, focusing on the operations of Maryborough as a port. The MV Ella is an important – and large! – part of the experience as a boat that was built and operated for its whole working life out of the Port.

At its location adjacent to Queens Park and the Mary River, the Portside Centre gives visitors the opportunity to discover the significance of the Port and the customs revenues to the growing city.

What the Standards Program has meant for our museum

The Standards Review Program enabled me to refocus on Council's museums.

The Standards Program gave a direction to the museums. All management documentation is being reviewed, updated and where necessary, new plans are being put in to place.