

source

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See page 1 for image caption.

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**museums
& galleries**
QUEENSLAND

SPECIAL FEATURES IN THIS ISSUE

A wrap-up of M&G QLD's 2019 Conference

Opening Doors

Pages 8 – 16

**Stories on each of the Winners and Finalists
of the 2019 Gallery and Museum Achievement Awards**

Pages 19 – 29

WOULD YOU LIKE TO MAKE A DONATION TO MUSEUMS & GALLERIES QUEENSLAND to assist us in supporting Queensland's museums and galleries?

The Museum and Gallery Services Queensland Donation Account is a tax deductible fund listed on the Register of Cultural Organisations under Subdivision 30-B of the Income Tax Assessment Act 1997.
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calendar :

■ Touring Exhibitions | M&G QLD

- *Legacy: Reflections on Mabo*
Maitland Regional Art Gallery, NSW
9 November 2019 – 26 January 2020
- *Reasonable & Necessary: prints and artist books by Artel Artists*
Artspace Mackay, QLD
18 October 2019 – 19 January 2020
- *Dissonant Rhythms*
Ross Manning
Latrobe Regional Gallery, VIC
26 October 2019 – 12 January 2020
- *Safe Space*
contemporary sculpture
Toowoomba Regional Art Gallery, QLD
7 December 2019 – 2 February 2020
- *Some people are stories*
Vincent Serico
Artspace Mackay, QLD
31 August – 3 November 2019
Pine Rivers Art Gallery, QLD
8 November 2019 – 18 January 2020
- *USE*
Bundaberg Regional Art Gallery, QLD
1 October – 17 November 2019
Banana Shire Regional Art Gallery, Biloela, QLD
25 November 2019 – 28 January 2020
- *Manggan – gather, gathers, gathering*
Bunjilaka Aboriginal Cultural Centre, Melbourne Museum, VIC
16 August 2019 – 26 January 2020

Front cover: **Australian Age of Dinosaurs, the 2019 Gallery and Museum Achievement Awards (GAMAA) Winner in the category of 'Organisations with Paid Staff – Sustainability' for their nomination, *Turning out the lights: Australia's first International Dark-Sky Sanctuary*. Dinosaur sign at the base of The Jump-Up with star trails. Photo: Grant Salmond. To read about their nomination, go to pages 25–26 of this issue of source.**

- *YOU ARE HERE 2*
Susan Lincoln
Warwick Art Gallery, QLD
9 January – 16 February 2020

■ Events | Other Organisations

- **Australian Museums and Galleries Association (AMaGA) National Conference**
Creating the Future: Trust. Diversity. Imagination.

Dates: 18–21 May 2020
Venue: National Convention Centre,
Canberra, ACT
<https://amaga2020.org.au/>

sector development :

- **New M&G QLD Program for 2020: Mentorship, International Fellowship & Internship Program**

M&G QLD has been successful in its application to Arts Queensland's Queensland Arts Showcase Program to deliver a *Mentorship, International Fellowship & Internship Program*.

The Program will support paid and volunteer staff in Queensland public museums and galleries to access expertise in national and international cultural institutions for the purpose of professional development. This initiative aims to build the capacity of Queensland's collections sector, its workers and the communities they serve.

The program will launch in late January 2020, with applications due in April 2020. Placements will be undertaken between 1 July 2020 and 30 June 2021.

Details and application forms will be on the M&G QLD website and announced in our weekly eNews in late January 2020. Keep posted.

■ 2019 Gallery and Museum Achievement Awards (GAMAA)

The 2019 GAMAA were presented at a gala event at the recently opened Cairns Performing Arts Centre (CPAC). There were 95 guests in attendance, including delegates from M&G QLD's Conference, *Opening Doors*.

Robert Ryan, 2019 GAMAA Judge, presented the awards to Winners and Finalists in six categories. M&G QLD sincerely thanks the 2019 GAMAA judging panel:

- Jane Harding, Heritage Coordinator, Noosa Council;
- Robert Ryan, Senior Coordinator Community Programs, Mackay Regional Council;
- John Walsh, Consultant, All Art Services.

Please see pages 19–29 of this issue of *source* for the inspiring stories of each nomination.

The Winners and Finalists are:

ORGANISATIONS WITH PAID STAFF: **PROJECTS**

JOINT WINNER

Museum of Brisbane
The Designers' Guide: Easton Pearson Archive

JOINT WINNER

Brisbane City Council
Botanica – Contemporary art outside 2019

FINALIST

Sunshine Coast Council
Expanding Experience – Bankfoot House Heritage Precinct

FINALIST

Redland Art Gallery
Redland Art Gallery's 15th Birthday Celebrations



2019 GAMAA Winners and Finalists (L–R): Michele Pickering, Brisbane's Living Heritage Network; Emma Bain, Redland Art Gallery; Rebecca Milliner, Cairns RSL Sub-branch; Mark Richardson, Cairns RSL Sub-branch (accepting on behalf of Craig Maher); Kim Stoter, Australian Age of Dinosaurs; Michael Wardell, Logan Art Gallery, Logan City Council; Pia Robinson, Brisbane City Council; Georgie Sedgwick, Museum of Brisbane; Dr Valerie Boll (accepting on behalf of Dr Valerie Keenan, Girringun Aboriginal Arts Centre); Jennifer Garcia, Newstead House; Hannah Williamson, Moreton Bay Regional Council; Elysha Rei, Queensland State Archives. Photo: Blueclick Photography, courtesy of M&G QLD.

**ORGANISATIONS VOLUNTEER RUN:
PROJECTS**

WINNER

Ipswich Historical Society Inc.
Interactive Touchscreen WW1 Ipswich War Stories

FINALIST

Hervey Bay Historical Village & Museum
Publication of new book 'Moments in Time: A Pictorial History of Hervey Bay & Surrounds 1890 to 2018'

**ORGANISATIONS WITH PAID STAFF:
ENGAGEMENT**

WINNER

Logan Art Gallery, Logan City Council
He kākano āhau (I am a seed)

FINALIST

Queensland State Archives
The Memory Lounge

FINALIST

Moreton Bay Regional Council
Community Cultural Capacity: Curatorial Development Framework

FINALIST

Redland Art Gallery
From Little Things: Artist books by Robyn Foster and St James Lutheran Community Kindergarten

FINALIST

Newstead House
Museum Theatre: The War Years — Americans at Newstead House

**ORGANISATIONS VOLUNTEER RUN:
ENGAGEMENT**

M&G QLD did not receive any nominations in this category.



One of the exquisite 2019 GMAA trophies created by Lucy Quinn. Commissioned by M&G QLD through the generous sponsorship of Brian Tucker Accounting. Photo: Andrea Higgins, M&G QLD.

**ORGANISATIONS WITH PAID STAFF:
SUSTAINABILITY**

WINNER

Australian Age of Dinosaurs
Turning out the lights: Australia's first International Dark-Sky Sanctuary

FINALIST

artisan
A new home for craft and design

**ORGANISATIONS VOLUNTEER RUN:
SUSTAINABILITY**

The judges chose not to shortlist any Finalists in this category.

INDIVIDUALS: PAID

WINNER

Dr Valerie Keenan
*Art Centre Manager, Girringun Aboriginal Art
Centre in Cardwell, North Queensland*

FINALIST

Michele Pickering
Coordinator, Brisbane's Living Heritage Network

FINALIST

Rebecca Milliner
*Events and Marketing Coordinator, Cairns RSL
Sub-branch*

INDIVIDUALS: VOLUNTEER

WINNER

Craig Maher
*Volunteer, Cairns RSL Sub-branch – Kokoda Hall
Museum*

FINALIST

Matthew Jackson
Volunteer, Cassowary Coast Regional Council

M&G QLD sincerely thanks the 2019 sponsors,
without whom the GAMAA could not be delivered.

Our 2019 GAMAA sponsor is Brandi Projects.

Cairns Regional Council hosted and supported
the presentation event at their stunning Cairns
Performing Arts Centre. Thanks to the CPAC team
for their assistance.

Commissioning of the 2019 GAMAA trophies
was made possible through the sponsorship of
long-standing GAMAA supporter, Brian Tucker
Accounting. As Brian retires this year, 2019
will be his last year of sponsoring the trophy
commission. M&G QLD sincerely thanks Brian for
his outstanding support since 2004.

This year's exquisitely crafted trophies were
created by Queensland artist, Lucy Quinn.

M&G QLD also acknowledges the support of Public
Galleries Queensland and Australian Museums



**Guests arriving at the Cairns Performing Arts Centre
for the GAMAA presentation event. Photo: Blueclick
Photography, courtesy of M&G QLD.**

and Galleries Association (Queensland) who both
offered travel bursaries for the presentation
event.

Thank you to everyone who nominated in
the 2019 GAMAA. If your nomination wasn't
shortlisted this year, we encourage you to seek
feedback and to try again in a future year.

■ Visits to Museums and Galleries in Queensland by M&G QLD Staff

M&G QLD staff members visited the following
museums, galleries and cultural venues in
Queensland during June to September:

- Attended opening of *Undefined Dreams*
exhibition by Carlos Barrios at Mitchell Fine
Art, Fortitude Valley, Brisbane.
- Attended opening of Judy Watson's exhibition,
bodies of water and melting snow, at Milani
Gallery, West End, Brisbane.

- Visit to Cairns Art Gallery exhibition, *Queen's Land Blak Portraiture* and Naomi Hobson's *Adolescent Wonderland* exhibition.
- Assisted with the exhibition installation of *Safe Space contemporary sculpture* at Dogwood Crossing, Miles.
- Attended opening of *Margaret Olley* exhibition at Philip Bacon Galleries, Fortitude Valley, Brisbane.
- Visit to Patrick Tjungurrayi's exhibition, *Kallianku*, at Mitchell Fine Art, Fortitude Valley, Brisbane.
- Attended opening of *Elixir of light* exhibition at William Robinson Gallery, Old Government House, Brisbane.
- Attended opening of exhibitions, *Various Objects* by Aaron Butt and *Altered* by Jacinta Giles, at Jan Manton Gallery, Brisbane.
- Attended opening of *BIG PAINTINGS small paintings* exhibition by Ian Smith at Woolloongabba Art Gallery, Brisbane.
- Visit to Nicola Hooper's exhibition, *Zoonoses*, and Lynley Dodd's exhibition, *The Life and Times of Scarface Claw*, Caboolture Regional Art Gallery.
- Attended the Abbey Medieval Festival, Caboolture.
- Attended opening of *The Work of Art in the Age of the Selfie* exhibition at QCA Galleries, South Brisbane.
- Attended opening of *Materiality, Agency and the Body: Sharna Barker and Natalie Lavelle* exhibition at QCA Webb Gallery, South Brisbane.
- Visit to exhibitions, *Marking Memory* by Denise Green and *BELVEDERE REDUX v.2* by Charlotte Tegan; and attended artist talk by Denise Green with Charlotte Tegan and Taylor Hall at Jan Manton Gallery, Brisbane.
- Visit to Wondai Regional Art Gallery.



- Visit to Wondai Museum.
- Visit to The Ration Shed Museum, Cherbourg (photograph above).
- Attended opening of *You can lead a horse to water* group exhibition at QCA Grey Street Gallery, , South Brisbane.
- Assisted with the *Legacy: Reflections on Mabo* exhibition at Umbrella Studio Contemporary Arts, Townsville.
- Visit to exhibitions, *The Residue* by Lucy Quinn and *movement at the edge* by Mandy Quadrio at Outer Space ARI, West End, Brisbane.
- Attended opening of *Gemma Smith: Rhythm sequence* exhibition at QUT Art Museum, Brisbane.
- Visit to exhibitions *Play With Paper* and *Brooching the Subject* at Pine Rivers Art Gallery.
- Attended opening of Lesley Kendall's exhibition *Garden* at Side Gallery, Red Hill, Brisbane.
- Attended opening of *Legacy: Reflections on Mabo* exhibition at Redland Art Gallery.
- Attended opening of *Jon Molvig: Maverick* exhibition at Queensland Art Gallery | Gallery of Modern Art, Brisbane.
- Visit to Cairns Museum, including Les Paul's miniature furniture exhibition, *A Small World*.
- Visit to Cairns and District Chinese Association collection.

- Visit to Mulgrave Settlers Museum, Gordonvale.
- Visit to Yarrabah Arts & Cultural Precinct.
- Visit to Tropical Mountain Flora by Donna Davis at Cairns Botanic Gardens Visitor Centre.
- Visit to Cairns Performing Arts Centre.
- Visit to Cairns Art Gallery.
- Visit to Kokoda Hall Museum, Cairns RSL.
- Visit to *Energy 2019* exhibition, Tanks Arts Centre, Cairns.
- Visit to Australian Armour and Artillery Museum, Cairns.
- Visit to Tjapukai Aboriginal Cultural Park, Cairns.
- Visit to James Cook Museum, Cooktown.
- Visit to Nature's Powerhouse, Cooktown.
- Visit to Elizabeth Guzely Gallery, Cooktown.
- Visit to *A Portrait of Australia: Stories through the Lens of Australian Geographic* exhibition at Cobb and Co Museum, Toowoomba.
- Attended launch of mural by Simon Degroot at Flying Arts, Artiz Street Art at University of Southern Queensland, Toowoomba.
- Visit to *The Heritage Bank Photographic Awards* exhibition at USQ Artworx Gallery, Toowoomba.
- Visit to Paronella Park, Mena Creek, North Queensland.
- Attended the talk, 'Reconstructing the battle of Narawai (Moongalba)' by Dr Ray Kerkhove, at North Stradbroke Island Museum on Minjerribah.
- Visit to Hinkler Hall of Aviation and House Museum, Bundaberg.
- Visit to The Story Bank, Maryborough.

exhibition touring and development program :

■ **Reasonable & Necessary** artist Robert Gallagher reports on his trip to Cairns

M&G QLD's touring exhibition, *Reasonable & Necessary: prints and artist books by Artel artists* was on display at Tanks Arts Centre, Cairns, in July and August 2019. On 26 July, Tanks Arts Centre convened 'Willing & Able - A Critical Thinkers Forum' which brought together artists and support workers from Artel Studio, ARC Disability Services and Arts Project Australia in an afternoon of discussion over the sometimes tricky questions surrounding disability arts.

Reasonable & Necessary artist, Robert Gallagher, reports on his trip to Cairns for these events.

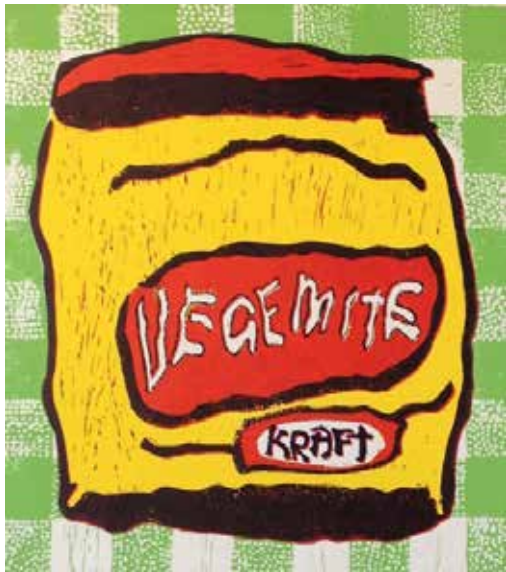


"I went to Cairns and I had a good time at the forum, 'Willing & Able'. I was able to go because Museums & Galleries Queensland sponsored me to go to Cairns to talk about my artwork in the *Reasonable & Necessary* exhibition from Artel.

The people at the forum were artists, actors, writers, staff from various supported studios such as Artel, Arts Project Australia, Access Arts,

Arc Disability Services, members of the Cairns Regional Council and people who were interested in hearing about us.

The audience at the forum were amazed when I showed them a slide of my artwork, *Pop Goes the Vegemite*. It's a huge painting of a Vegemite jar sitting on a vast green gingham tablecloth.



The people attending enjoyed my talk because I had so much to say about my artwork. I was surprised to learn that I had been talking for 20 minutes when I had finished. Chris Stannard (Curator, Cairns Regional Council) came up to me afterwards and said that everyone liked my talk – it made me feel great, I enjoy sharing my thoughts with an audience.

I also met Doug Robins who spoke at the forum as he is a playwright and a theatre performer. Interestingly, I remember Doug's name because I worked with his uncle, Shane McFarlane, on many creative projects in the arts and writers' studios at Cascade Place many years ago and Shane would talk about his baby nephew. Doug is also an artist and he said he was interested in reading my stories. I hope to send him some. Doug Robins also directs plays for the theatre. Doug Robins also acted in some plays; I didn't hear if Doug acted and directed at the same time.



Reasonable & Necessary is an exhibition of particular artworks by people with disability who are having their artworks shown across Queensland.

On behalf of myself and all the artists of Artel, I would like to thank Museums & Galleries Queensland and CPL and Cascade Place for their support in organising this opportunity to share our artwork around Queensland."

Images

Page 6: Robert embarking on his trip to Cairns.

Page 7 left: Robert's artwork, *Pop Goes the Vegemite*.

Page 7 right: Robert with Doug Robins.

Reasonable & Necessary: prints and artist books by Artel Artists is an initiative of Museums & Galleries Queensland in partnership with CPL and curated by Lynne Seear. This project has been supported by the Queensland Government through Arts Queensland; the Visual Arts and Craft Strategy, an initiative of the Australian, State and Territory governments; and the Australian Government through the Australia Council, its arts funding and advisory body. The project is proudly sponsored by Hutchinson Builders and Moreton Bay Regional Council.

training and professional development program :

■ M&G QLD Standards Review Program

The Standards Review Program is an opportunity for participating museums and galleries to assess their practices and policies against *National Standards for Australian Museums and Galleries v1.5*, with the aim of becoming valuable and sustainable community assets.

The 'health check' for museums and galleries results in each of the organisations developing a plan for the future through completing a series of activities and hosting Reviewers for an on-site visit.

In 2019 the Standards Review Program incorporated one on-site visit for Reviewers and the participants. The Field Visits took place in late October with the 2019 Reviewers:

- Justin Bishop, Manager, Wei'num Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Arts and Crafts Corporation;
- Christine Ianna, Conservation and Museum Consultant;
- Jim McCann, Museum Consultant;
- Maggi Solly, Museum Consultant.

Participants have all worked very hard to submit their Self Review Surveys. This information formed the basis of discussion for the visit.

The Field Visits were an opportunity for the Reviewers to meet participants, tour the museum or gallery, view achievements by the organisation to date and to offer practical advice. There was also a planning activity undertaken during the visit.

For more information about the Standards Review Program, please visit <http://www.magsq.com.au/cms/page.asp?ID=5520>

More information about the participants will be available in the next edition of *source*.

■ REPORT

Opening Doors:
2019 M&G QLD Conference
17–20 September 2019
Tanks Arts Centre, Cairns

Museums & Galleries Queensland (M&G QLD) held its 2019 State Conference, *Opening Doors*, from 17–20 September at the award-winning Tanks Arts Centre and various other locations in Cairns, on Yirrganydji and Gimuy Walubara Yidinji lands.

The Conference is a major industry event for people working in the public museum and gallery sector throughout Queensland and is held every four years. *Opening Doors* comprised a quality program of high-calibre national and international speakers, masterclasses and workshops, parallel sessions, tours and social activities.

Feedback from delegates was very positive, with 100% of delegates who responded to the evaluation survey rating their overall satisfaction with the Conference as 'excellent' or 'good', and 100% of delegates rating the organisation of the Conference as 'excellent' or 'good'.

Delegates were asked 'What were the highlights of this Conference?' Responses included:

'Being visible, networking, ideas, learning, access to trends or new ways of engagement, opportunity for growth, an opportunity to ask questions.'

'Location, variety of presentations, friendliness, sharing of ideas, networking opportunities.'

'Opening and closing performances, international speakers, diversity of topics and speakers.'

'I made some incredible contacts which I can now count as friends.'

'The quality of the speakers and the level of organisation – fantastic! Thank you.'

'The people, passion and great work happening already and commitment to listen, question and do better.'

'Theme/topic was current – Opening Doors. Variety of content was great.'

'Great speakers/subjects, not self-indulgent showcases – successes and failures.'

'Keynote speakers, re-purposed heritage buildings, MDO program, Curio, tactile, Te Papa programs, Museum Hack, interpretation.'

'Museum Hack, Te Papa, location, welcome drinks, catering – loved the cultural experiences.'

'Inclusiveness of Indigenous participation.'



The Conference title of *Opening Doors* set the scene for discussion around ways to engage with diverse audiences and stakeholders. As there is an increasing pressure to grow visitor numbers and implement audience research and development, how do museums and galleries meaningfully engage with communities and respond to visitors' voices?

Plenary and parallel speakers presented a variety of papers which confirmed that connecting with visitors is one of the most important aspects of running a museum or gallery. Delivering quality interactive opportunities and audience and stakeholder engagement, along with organisational changes required to become a truly inclusive museum or gallery, were also discussed.

Delegates were welcomed to the Conference, to Tanks Arts Centre and to Cairns by:

- Carl Fourmile, Gimuy Walubara Yidinji and Minjil Dancers;
- Rebekah Butler, Executive Director, M&G QLD;
- Cr Bob Manning OAM, Mayor, Cairns Regional Council.

Gerib Sik Torres Strait Islander Dance Troupe farewelled delegates from Tanks Arts Centre with an uplifting performance.

Both international keynote speakers received very positive feedback from delegates:

- Tasia Duske, CEO, Museum Hack, New York, USA presented *Museum Hack: Redefining the Museum Experience*;
- Frith Williams, Head of Experience Design, Museum of New Zealand Te Papa Tongarewa presented *Opening the Door to the New Te Papa: Guiding Principles*.

M&G QLD was able to secure high-calibre plenary speakers from across the sector, including:

- Julian Meyrick, Strategic Professor of Creative Arts, Flinders University: *Meaning versus Metrics in Evaluation Processes: a struggle for the soul of arts and culture*;
- Deanne Fitzgerald, Senior Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Advisor, Western Australian Museum and Member of Australian Museums and Galleries Association's First Peoples Roadmap Advisory Group: *First Peoples: A Roadmap for enhancing Indigenous Engagement in Museums and Galleries*;
- Gail Mabo, Curator, and Kellie Williams, Director, Umbrella Studio Contemporary Arts: *Legacy – Reflections on Mabo*;
- Tracy Puklowski, Director of Creative Arts and Cultural Services, City of Launceston and Director, Queen Victoria Museum and Art Gallery: *Standing on two shores – new directions at QVMAG*.

There were multiple parallel sessions with 35 speakers drawn from local government, regional galleries and museums, state institutions, university museums, volunteer-run museums, peak bodies, and artists. Parallel sessions were so rich in content that some delegates lamented having to choose between the options.

Parallel presentations included:

Bianca Acimovic, Gallery Director, Rockhampton Art Gallery
Feasibility to Funding: The New Rockhampton Art Gallery

Melissa McQuillan, Volunteer Coordinator & Melanie Sorenson, Collections Manager, Cairns Historical Society
What are the ingredients for a successful volunteer program?

Sheona White, Director, Penrith Regional Gallery
Leading Creative Engagement

Rebecca Maclean, Public Programs Officer, Bundaberg Regional Galleries
Not All Glue & Glitter: Children's Perspectives on Community through Meaningful Arts Engagement

Chris Stannard, Curator, Cairns Regional Council and Sandra Ross, Education & Public Programs Officer, Gympie Regional Gallery + Hayley Mahaffey and Olivia Azzopardi
Year 13+ Retaining young creatives in the arts, and in their region, after year 12

Georgie Sedgwick, Head of Engagement, Museum of Brisbane
Reimagining the Visitor

Samantha Faulkner, Coordinator, Exhibitions, State Library of Queensland
A new exhibitions model, a new engaged exhibition program

Suzanne Gibson, Manager, Cairns Museum; Jo Besley, Consultant; and Dr Jo Wills
Reimagining Cairns Museum: renewal through engagement

Dr Jo Wills, Museum Development Officer, Queensland Museum Network
On the road with the MDO: exploring Far North Queensland's changing museum landscape

Chris Stannard, Curator, Cairns Regional Council
Building an Arts Capital

Pam Bigelow, Indigenous Art Centre Alliance
IACA Reaching for the Peak

Jodi Ferrari, Education and Audience Development Officer, Tweed Regional Gallery & Margaret Olley Art Centre
#coolexhibition: New Ways of Thinking About Our Young Audiences

Sarah Barron, Public Programs Officer, QUT Art Museum and William Robinson Gallery
Making Visible

Elysha Rei, Public Programs Officer, Queensland State Archives
Queensland State Archives: it's all about access

Michael Wardell, Art Gallery Coordinator, Logan Art Gallery
He kākano āhau (I am a seed) – Logan Art Gallery's recent project with the local Māori community

Karina Devine, Gallery Director, Warwick Art Gallery and Jolanta Szymczyk, Artist
Parallel Visions – 15,000 km apart

Sarah Lyons, Senior Education and Audience Engagement Officer and Joel Evans, Senior Arts Programming Officer, Bunjil Place Gallery
We're Not Gonna Wreck the Place: Multi-Artform Youth – Engagement at a Suburban Arts Centre

Nicola Holly, QCA Galleries Manager, Queensland College of Art, Griffith University
Half n' Half: Bringing an Exhibition to Your New Audience

Shanna Muston, Arts and Cultural Advisor, Banana Shire Council | Banana Shire Regional Art Gallery
A Tribute to Modern Pioneers

Lisa Jones, Curator, Queensland Police Museum
Bringing your display alive with Augmented Reality

Elspeth McEachern, Senior Cultural Heritage Officer, Sunshine Coast Council
Applying the Awesome Principle to museums and galleries

Rachel Arndt, Gallery Programs & Touring Exhibitions Manager, Museums & Galleries of NSW
Cultural Mediation in Australia

Pia Robinson, QUT Precincts Widening Participation Programs Officer, Queensland University of Technology
Vision of Youth

Jennifer Garcia, Communications & Programming Manager, Newstead House and Dianne Aylward, Principal, Moreton Bay Environmental Education Centre
Theatre in Education: The War Years at Newstead

Ann Kreger, Cairns and District Chinese Association Inc.
Walking and Talking: Chinese Culture in Cairns

Judith Hickson, Curator, Queensland Stories, Culture and Histories Program, Queensland Museum
Collecting for the Future



Masterclasses and workshops were very successful with high participation rates. Presenters included:

- Michael Alexis, Director of Marketing, Museum Hack: *High Leverage Marketing – How to attract + engage audiences without breaking your budget*;
- Frith Williams, Head of Experience Design, Museum of New Zealand Te Papa Tongarewa: *Storytelling in Space*;
- Russell Milledge, Lecturer in Media Arts, James Cook University: *Time Tunnels*
- Melanie Sorenson, Conservator: *Caring for Paper Documents and Books*.

Pre-Conference activities included:

- A cultural bus tour to Mulgrave Settlers Museum, Gordonvale, and Yarrabah Arts & Cultural Precinct including Menmuny Museum;
- Weaving Workshop with Anne Jillett, Ellis Road Fibre Art, presented by KickArts Contemporary Arts;
- Cairns Arts and Culture Map – Public Art Walking Tour, hosted by Cairns Regional Council;
- Cairns and District Chinese Association Inc. Tour.

Social activities included a wonderful and warm Welcome Reception at the award-winning Cairns Museum. Delegates were treated to short tours by brilliant volunteers, and were able to network on the verandah.

Networking dinners at various Cairns restaurants followed pre-dinner drinks with Australian Museums and Galleries Association (Queensland) (AMaGAQ) and Public Galleries Queensland (PGQ). These networking dinners were themed around areas of practice including:

- Public programs / community engagement / visitor services;
- Exhibition / curatorial / interpretation; and
- 'Open to all' delegates.

M&G QLD's Gallery and Museum Achievement Awards (GAMAA) were also held as part of the Conference. See pages 2–4 of this issue of *source*.

Opening Doors would not have been such a success without the generous contribution of sponsors and supporters. M&G QLD acknowledges and thanks everyone who participated, whether as a delegate, session chair, presenter, sponsor or supporter.

Thank you to the Conference Committee:

- Michael Brennan, Director, Noosa Regional Gallery;
- Trudie Leigo, Independent Curator, Central Queensland;
- Nicholas McDougall, Volunteer, Greenmount Homestead, Mackay;
- Shanna Muston, Arts and Cultural Officer, Banana Shire Council;
- Ann Sutherland, Cultural Heritage Support Officer, Sunshine Coast Council.

Special thanks to Celestine Doyle, M&G QLD Board Member, for assistance with sponsorship; and to Donna Davis who generously volunteered her time to assist M&G QLD staff throughout the Conference.

M&G QLD also thanks the Plenary Session chairs:

- Dr Jim Thompson, CEO and Director, Queensland Museum Network;
- Justin Bishop, Manager, Wei'num Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Arts and Crafts Corporation;
- Tracy Cooper-Lavery, Gallery Director, HOTA Home of the Arts;
- Simon Elliott, Deputy Director, Collection and Exhibitions, Queensland Art Gallery | Gallery of Modern Art;
- Sheona White, Director, Penrith Regional Gallery.

Further comments from delegates:

'Really interesting talks and a nice sense of community.'

'Great conference. Well done, very informative and challenging.'

'Thanks to the M&G QLD team – fantastic organisation and opportunity.'

'You guys nailed it! I loved-loved this conference. Thanks for so much, it's been super valuable.'

'Congratulations to the M&G QLD team – the work you put into this event was brilliant.'

To download the Conference Program, parallel PowerPoint presentations (those made available by speakers) or to watch plenary presentation videos, please visit the M&G QLD website, <http://www.magsq.com.au/cms/page.asp?ID=10449>

Conference images are available on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/pg/magsq/>

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source : [page 16]



All photographs from the M&G QLD 2019 Conference by Blueclick Photography, with the exception of:
Page 11 bottom; Page 13 bottom left; Page 16 top – Andrea Higgins, courtesy of M&G QLD
Page 14 bottom left – Rosie Miller

sector news :

■ Vale Jeanette Alfredson

Born and raised in Cooran, QLD, Jeanette worked in her family business, Alfredson's Joinery. After her father's passing in the early 1970s Jeanette managed the business until its closure in 1990. Not only an accomplished business woman, Jeanette's interests included music, gardening and painting.



Jeanette Alfredson. Photo courtesy of Noosa Museum.

Jeanette's retirement led her to focus on her local community. She was involved with many community groups and sat on Council committees and reference groups. She was instrumental in creating the Noosa Shire Heritage Levy, the first of its kind in Australia.

Museums & Galleries Queensland pays tribute to Jeanette's commitment to the history and heritage of her community. Jeanette was involved with Noosa Museum for over 20 years, with many of those spent as President of the Cooroora Historical Society. Her passion and professionalism in managing the volunteer-run museum was venerable.

She will be dearly missed.

■ **Small Museums Conference 2020** **Call for Host**

The Small Museums Conference has traditionally focussed on issues relevant to the small-to-medium museum and collections sector. It is planned and hosted by a different Queensland organisation each year.

M&G QLD supports the host through promotion, assistance with programming and speaker ideas and contacts and also with evaluation and collecting feedback. The Small Museums Conference is a great opportunity to showcase your region and your organisation. It provides valuable opportunities for networking and information sharing.

The Small Museums Conference has been running for many years and previous hosts include: The Abbey Museum of Art and Archaeology; Kingaroy Heritage Museum; Discover Eumundi Heritage & Visitor Centre; Brisbane's Living Heritage Network; and Redland Museum in partnership with North Stradbroke Island Historical Museum.

If your organisation is interested in hosting the 2020 Small Museums Conference, please contact Deannah Vieth, M&G QLD Training & Professional Development Manager, P: 07 3059 9742 E: deannah.vieth@magsq.com.au

■ **\$5.8 million allocated to conservation of Newstead House**

The Queensland Government will invest \$5.8 million to help protect Brisbane's oldest surviving European home. Newstead House is 173 years old, and the funding will be used towards conserving the House, its collection of nearly 3,000 items, and the former historic electricity substation that is also on its grounds.

Located on the grounds of Newstead Park, Newstead House is open to the public. It was built as a privately-owned cottage in 1846, and significantly renovated in 1867. Also located on the Park's grounds is Substation No 5, which was built in the 1920s to help power the city's tramway system. Newstead House, Newstead Park and the substation were also among the first of the State's historic places to be entered in the Queensland Heritage Register in 1992.

This allocation of funding will go towards maintenance, replacing the roof, and repair works associated with drainage, timber, painting and wallpaper, and protecting the collection.

■ James Cook Museum, Cooktown, closed until 2020

National Trust of Australia (Queensland) has closed James Cook Museum, Cooktown, from 10 October 2019 for essential conservation works and a curatorial refresh. The planned closure will allow for essential repairs and improvements to the Museum which was last refurbished in 2001, including access and interpretation.

James Cook Museum is set in a stunning nineteenth-century convent. It houses an original anchor and cannon from the HMB *Endeavour*, and an extensive collection of local Guugu Yimithiir artefacts. The Museum tells the story of the interaction between Captain James Cook and the Indigenous people – a story integral to Australian history, told from both perspectives, and is the first recorded act of Reconciliation. The Museum showcases the fascinating heritage of Cooktown, which is set on the banks of the Endeavour River and the gateway to Cape York.

The National Trust will work with the local community to offer the opportunity to continue to hear and share these stories, and plans to reopen the Museum in mid-2020. For updates on this project, go to the National Trust of Australia (Queensland) website, nationaltrustqld.org.au, and social media.

■ Community Sustainability Action Grants Program funding announced

Owners and custodians of heritage-listed places have been awarded funding to help protect Queensland's important state heritage places. 30 recipients will receive funding for projects that include repairs and restoration work to help preserve important heritage buildings.

This round of funding is part of the Government's \$18 million Community Sustainability Action Grants Program, which helps to conserve Queensland's environment and heritage and protect wildlife. Recipients include:

- National Trust of Australia (Queensland) – \$15,000 to develop a Conservation

Management Plan for Brennan & Geraghty's Store in Maryborough.

- National Trust of Australia (Queensland) – \$20,000 to replace the guttering, add downpipes and repaint damaged surfaces at the Hou Wang Miao Temple in Atherton.
- CQ Military Museum Inc – \$40,000 to repaint the exterior of the heritage-listed Drill Hall which houses the CQ Military Museum in Rockhampton.
- Heather Stewart – \$15,000 to develop a Conservation Management Plan for Kilburnie Homestead at Jambin and surrounding outbuildings and grave sites.
- Anella Holdings Pty Ltd – \$40,000 to repair the roof of the original home of Jose and Margarita Paronella at Paronella Park, to conserve the interior of the building.

■ New appointments/staff changes

- Lisa Jackson left her position with North Stradbroke Island Museum on Minjerribah in August 2019. Pekeri Ruska has been employed as the Administrative Manager at the Museum.
- Jo Duke has left her position as Curator and Manager of Gladstone Regional Art Gallery and Museum, and has taken up the position of Curator and Manager of Caloundra Regional Gallery.
- Cameron Curd will take up the role of Curator and Manager of Gladstone Regional Art Gallery and Museum. Cameron was previously at Aotea Utanganui Museum of South Taranaki, New Zealand.

The Winners and Finalists of the 2019 Gallery and Museum Achievement Awards

ORGANISATIONS WITH PAID STAFF: **PROJECTS**

JOINT WINNER

Museum of Brisbane

The Designers' Guide: Easton Pearson Archive



The Designers' Guide: Easton Pearson Archive was Museum of Brisbane's (MoB) first major exhibition featuring the Easton Pearson Archive. The Archive, comprising 3,300 garments and more than 5,000 objects, accessories and ephemera, is the largest collection from a single Australian fashion house held by a public art gallery or museum, and forms part of the Museum's permanent collection. The Archive gift to MoB has been made possible by the generous support of Brisbane-based philanthropist, Dr Paul Eliadis.

The Designers' Guide exhibition featured 200 garments that captured the artistry and techniques that placed the label at the forefront of Australian fashion for 28 years. It included sketches, range plans, look books, inspiration pieces and accessories, highlighting the design process from inception to completion of the garments.

MoB worked with the designers Pamela Easton and Lydia Pearson to select the designs they felt highlighted the greatest innovations of their design practice and to share the stories behind the evolution of each garment.

During the exhibition period, MoB delivered 73 public programs, including 32 tours, as well as talks and special events, workshops and school holiday programs, engaging with over 5,000 people from a diversity of audiences.

Image: Courtesy of Museum of Brisbane.

JOINT WINNER

Brisbane City Council

Botanica – Contemporary art outside 2019



Brisbane City Council's Botanic Gardens was added to the Queensland Heritage Register in 1997 in recognition of its natural, historic and cultural values.

For ten days in May 2019, the Gardens played host to *Botanica – Contemporary art outside*. There are many and varied 'rooms' within the Gardens, ranging from large open grassed areas,

rainforests, water lily-filled lagoons, a mangrove boardwalk and an avenue of Bunya pines, planted in the 1850s – an important tree for First Nations Peoples.

The Public Art team at BCC and the *Botanica* Curators, Urban Art Projects, worked closely with the Gardens' curator and staff in consideration of the sensitive nature of the flora and fauna. Consisting of 12 ephemeral works by leading local and interstate contemporary artists and designers, *Botanica's* rich public program featured daily tours, artist workshops, talks and performances.

A core objective for the growth and development of *Botanica* was partnerships. Griffith University generously supported *Botanica* with financial sponsorship and in-kind support. Programming *Botanica* within the school term provided the opportunity for BCC's Public Art team to work with the Queensland Art Teachers Association in the development of an Education Resource which was distributed to secondary schools across Queensland. *Botanica* was also a highlight of the Museum of Brisbane's Brisbane Art Design Festival.

Image: Heidi Axelsen and Hugo Moline (MAPA), *Plant Nation*, 2019. Courtesy of Brisbane City Council.

FINALIST

Sunshine Coast Council **Expanding Experience – Bankfoot House** **Heritage Precinct**

State heritage-listed Bankfoot House is the oldest surviving residence in the Glass House Mountains. Built in 1868, it was once the lunch stop and staging post for Cobb & Co coaches on the Brisbane to Gympie goldfields route. Gifted to Council by the Ferris family in 2004, it was on condition that the house is open to the public and the story told of the three generations of the same family who lived there for 134 years.

The aim of the Bankfoot House Heritage Precinct Exhibitions Project was to increase visitor experience by creating new permanent exhibitions within previously under-utilised spaces and enhancing existing exhibitions. It also opened



the precinct to a first-ever temporary exhibitions program and expanded public and education programming. The multi-faceted project involved five buildings and a total of seventeen spaces, including re-launching the Mary Grigor Centre as an exhibition space, and restoring the heritage shed.

Sunshine Coast Council worked closely with Queensland Museum, M&G QLD, consultants, conservators and archaeologists to complete all stages leading up to and including the Bankfoot House Heritage Precinct Exhibitions Project. All exhibitions and interpretation associated with the project was undertaken by Council staff and was timed for completion for the Bankfoot House 150th anniversary in October 2018. The Friends of Bankfoot House were involved in all stages of the project, and Council values their enormous contribution and continued support.

Image: One of three exhibition spaces in the restored shed at Bankfoot House. Courtesy of Sunshine Coast Council.

FINALIST

Redland Art Gallery **Redland Art Gallery's 15th Birthday** **Celebrations**

In 2018, Redland Art Gallery (RAG) celebrated its 15th Birthday through year-long programs and events across the Redlands Coast.

Celebrations focused around sharing a love of the visual arts and expanding opportunities for



local artists, with over 90 exhibitions, events and workshops on offer for the community and visitors to be involved in, and the launch of the RAG Red Box Pop-Up Gallery.

Programs and projects specifically developed included RAG volunteers sharing their love of the Redlands in the exhibition, *Project Tote*. Photographs of the volunteers' special places in the Redlands were printed onto reusable tote bags that were displayed 'en masse'. It aimed to encourage viewers to consider using tote bags instead of plastic to help reduce rubbish and maintain the beautiful local environment.

Other exhibitions included *The Search for Warrajamba* by Quandamooka artist, Delvene Cockatoo-Collins, also providing an opportunity to celebrate her achievement in designing the artwork for the Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games medals. *#luvRedlands*, a major RAG Collection exhibition curated by Director, Emma Bain, drew inspiration from more than 4,800 residents and visitors who shared what they feel is unique to the Redlands.

Image: Shore Birds installation. Courtesy Redland Art Gallery.

ORGANISATIONS VOLUNTEER RUN: PROJECTS

WINNER

Ipswich Historical Society Inc.
Interactive Touchscreen WWI Ipswich War Stories



This project involved the purchase and installation of an interactive kiosk to display stories of Ipswich WW1 servicemen. A Department of Veterans Affairs grant was obtained to pay for the kiosk.

The interactive kiosk expands information about the people named on three Ipswich WW1 honour boards displayed in an Anzac Centenary Spirit of Service funded display.

An aim of the project was to take the Society into the digital age and to engage younger audiences by creating new opportunities for volunteers and visitors. Through providing digital literacy training to volunteers and seeking grants for digital products and equipment, they have up-skilled their members, encouraging them to attend workshops on how best to share stories and learn effective research techniques from WW1 historians and other like community organisations.

BEMAC funding was received for a related video project. Information technology experts developed content, researched by the project officers into a suitable format for the kiosk, and

ongoing research will contribute more content over time. For example, information about servicemen who returned to civilian life is now being researched in conjunction with veterans' organisations and families still residing in the Ipswich area.

Image: Story and portrait, Lieut. C.D. Scott. Courtesy of Ipswich Historical Society Inc.

FINALIST

Hervey Bay Historical Village & Museum
Publication of new book 'Moments in Time: A Pictorial History of Hervey Bay & Surrounds 1890 to 2018'



The Hervey Bay Historical Village & Museum is a volunteer-run, not-for-profit organisation established in 1974. This project centred on the publication of *Moments in Time: A Pictorial History of Hervey Bay & Surrounds 1890 to 2018*, the third major book published by the Museum in recent years. This 200-page, full-colour publication involved twelve months of collecting, sorting, compilation and editing by the volunteers, with many hours spent editing and enhancing some of the old photographs and researching the locations.

From the Museum's extensive collection, they accessed extremely rare glass negatives from the 1890s, postcards from the 1920s, and panagrams of 1950 as well as the decades up to 2019.

The project was supported by Fraser Coast Regional Council and has been extremely well received by the general public.

Image: Book launch. Courtesy of Hervey Bay Historical Village & Museum.

ORGANISATIONS WITH PAID STAFF: ENGAGEMENT

WINNER

Logan Art Gallery, Logan City Council
He kākano āhau (I am a seed)

The City of Logan is home to over 315,000 people from more than 215 different cultural groups. In initiating and planning this project, Logan Art Gallery was specifically seeking to engage with the local Māori community, the largest non-European community in Logan.

He kākano āhau (I am a seed) showcased contemporary Māori arts and culture at Logan Art Gallery in late 2018. It comprised an exhibition of artworks by local Māori artists; a large collaborative artwork made by Logan's community under the guidance of artists; and complementary public programs including a cultural family fun day. *He kākano āhau* was the result of an extensive period of planning and consultation with local Māori community groups as well as Australian and New Zealand First Nation Elders. It formed part of a long-term strategy to highlight



and celebrate the various cultural influences that richly contribute to Logan's diverse community and to foster closer relationships between the gallery and these cultural groups.

A major aim of this project was to build an exhibition development model which allowed greater accessibility and ownership for diverse cultural communities. A new structure based on collaboration needed to be developed. Gallery staff saw themselves as facilitators and not decision makers. Direction was to come from the community, and a meeting was set up where a Project Coordinator of Māori ancestry was nominated by the artists and Elders in attendance. The Coordinator was contracted by the gallery to provide a liaison between the artists, the Māori community and the gallery; to provide cultural advice; and to mentor the Māori artists.

The exhibition and this new collaborative engagement model built for the project has played an integral role in how the gallery engages with communities, reaches new audiences and fosters opportunities for inter-cultural exchange.

This project was supported by the Regional Arts Development Fund (RADF). RADF is a partnership between the Queensland Government and Logan City Council to support local arts and culture in regional Queensland.

Image: Community weave. Ngā tamariki o Uru (The children of Uru-te-ngangana), 2018, woven harakeke (flax Formium tenox). Photo: Carl Warner.

FINALIST

Queensland State Archives
The Memory Lounge

Queensland State Archives (QSA) holds the State's memories and, through the Memory Lounge, is now helping the community share their own memories.

The Memory Lounge is a QSA initiative that delivers a program of community engagement within a purpose-built dementia-friendly space. The Memory Lounge aims to value,



respect and actively engage older people in the community. The lounge area provides a comfortable and welcoming space inspired by mid-century interiors, with furnishings selected to accommodate people living with dementia.

The Archive and Dementia program commenced in the Memory Lounge in April 2019. Visitors can relax and browse through photo albums of images from the Archives, watch films from the 1950s and 1960s, and share memories over morning tea. Attendees leave with a copy of a photograph to take home to continue conversations about personal memories and past experiences.

The Memory Lounge provides a social experience to share stories inspired by QSA's collection, comprising millions of records dating back to 1823.

Image: Courtesy of Queensland State Archives.

FINALIST

Moreton Bay Regional Council
Community Cultural Capacity: Curatorial Development Framework

Moreton Bay Regional Council (MBRC) is the third largest local government in Australia, and owns and operates three art galleries – Caboolture Regional Art Gallery, Redcliffe Art Gallery and Pine Rivers Art Gallery.

A key deliverable of Council's galleries is to foster and develop the artistic practice of regionally-based artists and to contribute to creating a



Image: Red: The Henzell St Quilters exhibition. Photo: Simon Woods. Courtesy of Moreton Bay Regional Council.

FINALIST

Redland Art Gallery

From Little Things: Artist books by Robyn Foster and St James Lutheran Community Kindergarten



vibrant arts community in the Moreton Bay region. In 2016, it was identified that Council's galleries have been exhibiting between 10–15 community groups on a regular basis, some for as long as 20 years. It was further observed that most groups don't have the capacity to develop exhibitions – for example, curatorial skills; installation skills; logistical planning; access to promotion; exhibition and graphic design; and writing about the exhibition concept, the artists and their works.

A Curatorial Development Program (CDP) was created to enhance the capacity of these local artists and groups by detailing the curatorial process that Council's Galleries team employs to lead out exhibitions. Through a series of meetings and feedback sessions, the team has worked collaboratively with local art groups to build skills and increase the visibility of local artists and artisans beyond the region, by ensuring that their works are exhibited to best practice standards. The CDP framework maps key milestones in an exhibition's development and allows community art groups to actively participate in the curatorial process from start to finish.

Working within the program framework has introduced new ideas and perspectives for these exhibitions, and the long collaborative process has built trust, excitement and pride in the artists. After 18 months of collaboration and challenging their practice, the artists are ready to show their creations to their networks, building audience anticipation to engage with the artwork and the galleries.

This collaborative exhibition between local Redlands artist Robyn Foster and children from St James Lutheran Community Kindergarten explored how kindergarten children learn to become members of the wider community outside of the home.

Being part of a community gives a sense of belonging, identity, interaction, support and purpose. When thinking about how children interact with their wider community, one constant, aside from family and neighbourhood, is school.

Local Redlands Coast artist Robyn Foster chose to work with images of class photographs from the many Redlands' schools which have helped to nurture and teach successive generations of Redlanders and provide formative education of community experience and interaction.

The works presented in the exhibition by Robyn are in the form of hanging works and artist books. They are mainly hand-drawn or cyanotype prints, some with hand stitching – mediums which were all available a century ago when these schools were being built by the local community.

As part of the Kindergarten's current curriculum, the children are exploring how they interact with

their wider community. RAG invited the children to further interact and participate with the gallery and be part of this special exhibition through workshops to help draw out their thoughts on how they see their own place in our local community.

As part of the initial stages of the project, 114 children and over 21 staff and parents from the Kindergarten undertook workshops at Redland Art Gallery, with most being a first-time visitor to the gallery. Since the project has wrapped up, increased visitation and return visits from the children and their families on weekends has opened the gallery to a wider audience.

Image: Courtesy of Redland Art Gallery.

FINALIST

Newstead House

Museum Theatre: The War Years – Americans at Newstead House

Built in 1846, Newstead House is the oldest standing residence in Brisbane. *The War Years: Americans at Newstead House* brought museum theatre to Newstead House for the first time, using the House as a stage. This engaging theatre piece took audiences on a journey back to Brisbane World War II where, in 1942, over one million U.S. Servicemen were based in Brisbane and Newstead House was commandeered by the American military.

Created and delivered in partnership with Moreton Bay Environmental Education Centre, the production is a walking theatre experience with eight scenes set in a variety of rooms and locations on the Newstead House cultural and heritage precinct. Through music, dance and spoken word, the story of Marelle and Joe unfolds, taking audiences through the House and through their emotional journey. Targeting a teenage audience, it was believed that this "love" story would help students connect with the history.

The War Years: Americans at Newstead House highlights the social conditions of the time and the very real threat of war. It shows the social differences between the Americans and



the Australians in simple tangible ways such as food, music, style, language, and introduces the challenges young women faced at the time when wanting to work and what was, or was not, socially acceptable.

For the team behind Newstead House, the emotional connection to this story and the theatre performance confirms the belief that Newstead House must be experienced as a cultural and heritage precinct, coming alive and engaging its audiences.

Image: Courtesy of Newstead House.

ORGANISATIONS VOLUNTEER RUN: ENGAGEMENT

Museums & Galleries Queensland did not receive any nominations in this category.

ORGANISATIONS WITH PAID STAFF: SUSTAINABILITY

WINNER

Australian Age of Dinosaurs

Turning out the lights: Australia's first International Dark-Sky Sanctuary

Following the accidental discovery of a large dinosaur femur in 1999, local graziers David and Judy Elliott started a not-for-profit museum,



the Australian Age of Dinosaurs. During the first seven years of its operation, the Museum acquired the beginnings of a very large collection of dinosaur bones. In 2009 it relocated to The Jump-Up, a 1400-hectare unique mesa environment near Winton that is home to a diverse array of flora and fauna.

The lack of population, low humidity and light pollution make the geographical location of the Museum site, atop The Jump-Up, a magical spot to stargaze. The rise in artificial light around the world and its potential to negatively affect the environment, including wildlife, led Museum staff and volunteers to begin a sustainable program to protect the extraordinarily dark-skies above The Jump-Up.

This level of conservation has been achieved through the compilation and adoption of a formalised Lighting Management Plan. Educational programs and guided tours focused on understanding the benefits of truly dark skies were also established to ensure continued public engagement to this very remote Museum and region.

In April 2019 this sustainability plan culminated in The Jump-Up being designated Australia's first International Dark-Sky Sanctuary, the classification within the International Dark Sky Places program reserved for sites that are remotest and often darkest in the world whose conservation state is most fragile.

Image: Courtesy of Australian Age of Dinosaurs. Photo: Steve Lippis.

FINALIST

artisan

A new home for craft and design



artisan was founded in 1970 and is the peak body for craft and design in Queensland. They are dedicated to providing meaningful experiences that help audiences access a deeper understanding of craft and design, and its importance to our communities.

In April 2018, artisan moved to its new purpose-built venue in the Brisbane Showgrounds redevelopment in Bowen Hills, Brisbane, cementing the organisation's future and furthering its ability to contribute to the sustainability of Queensland craft practitioners and designers. The move was made possible by forming solid partnerships with corporate supporters, and financially enabled the organisation to maximise this opportunity for sustainable growth.

After one year in the new venue, artisan can demonstrate significant achievement, such as a 70% increase in their public program activity; attracting 57% of first-time visitors; a 33% increase in revenue; and increased exhibition and commercial opportunities for practitioners.

Image: Courtesy of artisan.

ORGANISATIONS VOLUNTEER RUN: SUSTAINABILITY

The judges chose not to shortlist any nominations in this category.

INDIVIDUALS: PAID

WINNER

Dr Valerie Keenan

Art Centre Manager, Girringun Aboriginal Art Centre



Valerie is recognised for the sustained effort and dedication she has shown in her position as Art Centre Manager at the Girringun Aboriginal Art Centre and Keeping Place Museum. Valerie has worked with the Centre from the outset in 2008 when it first received full-time funding. Since then, she has applied for and received significant grants for projects and for individual artists from a wide variety of funding bodies.

With a huge workload from the beginning, Valerie has enabled real jobs for staff, volunteers and trainees. Her multiple duties have included: arts program development, business plan development; staff hire, training and funding; administration; grant writing and acquittals; exhibition development; professional development opportunities; media and promotion; merchandise development; and research – not to mention: bus driver, cook and more.

Under Valerie's guidance, highlights for the Centre include solo and group shows in places such as Monaco, Paris, Canada, and numerous Australian venues. Girringun artists are represented in major collections including the British Museum, National Gallery of Australia, National Museum of Australia, and many private collections.

Under Valerie's direction, the Centre has successfully completed public art projects in Monaco and many in Australia, including the

Queensland Rail Tilt Train Art+Place Project, Bagu on the Foreshore in Cardwell, Strand Ephemera in Townsville, and most recently at the Cairns Performing Arts Centre. A major exhibition of Girringun artists' works, *Manggan – gather, gathers, gathering*, is currently being toured to five states of Australia by M&G QLD through Visions of Australia funding.

Valerie has supported the staff and artists to undertake professional development, and facilitated many opportunities for staff and artists to attend museums and galleries to learn about collections, attend and speak at exhibitions, and have their work acquired.

During this time, she has completed her PhD, and was personally awarded the Vida Lahey Memorial Travel Scholarship 2019 (Queensland Art Gallery | GOMA) to research Norwegian Explorer Carl Lumholtz who undertook exploration of parts of the Girringun region in the 1880s. Findings from this study will result in an exhibition and be included in the Girringun archives.

Image: Photo: R. Morten, courtesy of Girringun Aboriginal Art Centre.

FINALIST

Michele Pickering

Coordinator, Brisbane's Living Heritage Network

Michele is a quiet achiever who works hard for the members of Brisbane's Living Heritage Network (BLHN). She is passionate about all that she does on behalf of the heritage sector, and her enthusiasm for her work is evident to all who come into contact with her.

Michele is recognised for her years of service to Brisbane's heritage sector, but also for one achievement in particular. This year, the Brisbane City Council announced a new grant – the Historical Organisation Assistance Grant Program – that will help to address some of the running costs and operational expenditure in the heritage sector, and will make an enormous difference to small museums struggling with day-to-day expenses. Michele was a key lobbyist for this initiative. In her role as Coordinator at BLHN, she consulted



members to find out how she could best help them and, through her careful research, identified that a number of the members were struggling to stay open due to rising rates, electricity and insurance costs. Advocating for BLHN members, she took every

opportunity to make sure Council was aware of the struggles that small museums were facing. The new grant can be partly attributed to Michele's persistence.

Michele works hard to raise the profile of BLHN members and to increase public awareness of the heritage sector. She visits sites, creates networking opportunities, organises walking tours and seminars, and is responsible for publication of the BLHN Guide Book. Under her watch, membership of BLHN has increased to its highest ever level in 2019.

Image: Photo: Blueclick Photography, courtesy of M&G QLD.

FINALIST

Rebecca Milliner

Events and Marketing Coordinator, Cairns RSL Sub-branch

By her singular efforts, Rebecca has raised the profile of the Sub-branch's Kokoda Hall Museum to achieve a level of community engagement unsurpassed in the history of the Museum. Rebecca has delivered these outcomes by implementing three key initiatives:

- Effective promotion of the Museum through Sub-branch periodicals, social media and advertising to the general public;
- Developing and implementing an educational initiative for school students involving tours of the Museum, themed toward and



commemorating the November 2018 Centenary of Armistice, including an interactive activity titled *The Armistice Centenary First World War Treasure Hunt*; and

- Capitalising on these successful outcomes by promoting further comprehensive and educational school tours of the Museum.

Rebecca has demonstrated an exemplary level of professionalism, commitment and vision in dedicating hours of her time to planning, development and execution of the Armistice treasure hunt and commemorative activity, and in her contributions toward promoting the Kokoda Hall Museum and defining its strategic direction.

She has become a role model and mentor, inspiring other Sub-branch staff and volunteers to similar levels of professionalism and commitment, and raised the profile of the Cairns RSL Sub-branch to achieve recognition as a valued contributor to the Cairns community.

Image: Courtesy of Cairns RSL Sub-branch.

INDIVIDUALS: VOLUNTEER

WINNER

Craig Maher

Volunteer, Cairns RSL Sub-branch, Kokoda Hall Museum

Since commencing as a volunteer for the Cairns RSL Sub-branch Kokoda Hall Museum after discharging from the Royal Australian Navy in 2011, Craig has made an outstanding contribution towards improving the material state of Museum

exhibits, by initiating and implementing new displays and sourcing new items of memorabilia. His contributions, enthusiasm and vision have combined to establish him as a role model for his fellow Museum volunteers and has inspired them to undertake further ground-breaking initiatives.



Craig has contributed to raising the standards of practice of the Kokoda Hall Museum, and some of his notable achievements in enhancing Museum exhibits and creating new displays include:

- Refurbishment of over 100 Military crests and remounting on dedicated display boards which he manufactured;
- Construction and installation of cabinets for weapons in a dedicated collection for display;
- Sourcing of historically significant uniforms and cleaning and refurbishment of the uniforms for display;
- Construction of a mezzanine storage area by reinforcing the roof of the Museum's Vietnam War exhibit "Bob's Bunker", with an authentic façade for "Bob's Bunker";
- Sourcing funding for a 1/50 scale model of Cairns-based Attack Class Patrol Boat HMAS Barricade ... to name a few.

The outcomes that Craig has delivered have originated from his innovative approach and strategic vision for the direction of the Museum. His ideas have been underpinned by specific themes relevant to the history of Cairns' important role in the defence of the nation. He has demonstrated exemplary professionalism in delivering outcomes that add value to the Museum's collection.

Craig is a valuable asset to the organisation.

Image: Courtesy of Cairns RSL Sub-branch.

FINALIST

Matthew Jackson
Volunteer, Cassowary Coast Regional Council

Matthew is recognised for his contribution and commitment to preserving and sharing the history of Cardwell to locals and visitors to Cardwell. He has volunteered his time at the Cardwell Visitor Information & Heritage Centre since 2012, and has presented a number of displays focusing on the modern history of the region.



Photo: Blueclick Photography, courtesy of M&G QLD.

In January 2019, Matthew presented a display entitled *Era of Crime* which showcased three prominent local crime stories from the 1920s and 1930s, and highlighted the Italian gangster folklore of Far North Queensland. This project allowed Matthew to showcase his research skills and his interest in modern history, and provided an opportunity for him to present his work to the community.

In March 2019, Matthew presented a display, *Here Lies A Japanese Pearl Diver*, which showcased one of the local resident's kindness in restoring a grave marker on Gould Island which was set there to honour the Japanese Pearl Divers who lost their lives during the 1918 Cyclone. As part of the display, Matthew invited the local primary school children to display Japanese origami art as a gesture to the Guest of Honour, the Consul General of Japan. Matthew further developed his research and public speaking skills through working on and presenting these displays.

The success of Matthew's displays in attracting audiences at the opening nights, in garnering media attention, and increasing numbers to the heritage precinct, has inspired other volunteers to create and curate their own displays focusing on their own topics of interest of Far North Queensland history.

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