

Zara Clark Museum

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ZaraClarkMuseum

Hours:

Dec-Feb: Daily 10am-1pm
Mar-Nov: Daily 10am-2pm

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Zara Clark Museum building

Credit: Charters Towers Regional Council



Display of the North Queensland's (Kennedy Regiment), especially Charters Towers' involvement in the fight for New Guinea at the start of World War I.

Credit: Charters Towers Regional Council

Our Profile

Visitors can relive the history of Charters Towers at the Zara Clark Museum. A large collection of everyday objects, historical machinery and photographs, tells the story of life in the area over time and illustrates the excitement of Charters Towers' development since the discovery of gold in 1871.

The museum is housed in a heritage listed, late Victorian building reflecting the affluence and confidence of Charters Towers' golden past. From the late 19th century many companies have operated within the building, providing essential goods and services to the businesses, pastoralists and miners within the area.

Items on display are organised around a series of themes, offering something of interest for every visitor. Popular displays include a rare example of a Lampson Aerial Cash System from the old Stan Pollard's store in the main street, the gaming machines from a SP bookmaker's shop offering to tell your future at a price, and the Charles Wallace Collection, showcasing the town's proud military history from the Boer to the Vietnam wars, which holds a poignant story concerning a pair of unfinished socks from World War I.

Friendly volunteers are always on hand at the museum to share their special stories, present guided tours and demonstrate some of the equipment on display.

Did you know?

You can find interesting stories about local men who fought in conflicts across the years at the Zara Clark Museum. Remarkable items include a pair of unfinished knitted socks accompanied by a touching letter from a soldier and the remnants of a B-25 Bomber.

Dame Nellie Melba, the great Australian operatic soprano, visited Charters Towers in 1909. Visit the Zara Clark Museum to find out more.

15,000 men were camped in Charters Towers during World War II. At the Museum you can see a diorama of the Breddan Airfield, which played a vital role in the defence of Australia from 1942-1948.

Did you know the iron lung in the Zara Clark Museum collection is not made of iron?

What the Standards Review Program has meant for our museum

Involving People: The Standards Program has assisted us with ideas to use in the recruitment of more volunteers and to encourage further interest from those who already are involved.

Collection Development: The program highlighted a need to revise our Statement of Purpose, Collection Policy and Significance Statements to meet the requirements of the new National Trust of Australia (Queensland) Incorporated body.