

M&GSQ is the peak professional body for the public museum and gallery sector in Queensland, representing a network of more than 400 organisations across the State.

Praise for Springsure Community Spirit

Deputy Mayor of Longreach, Councillor Rae Bowden and Deputy Mayor of the Central Highlands, Councillor Gail Nixon, joined Museum and 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 **Bauhinia Bicentennial Art Gallery, Springsure, on a great year of achievement.** Built in 1988, the Bauhinia Bicentennial Art Gallery sits within a multi-purpose space incorporating the public library and local heritage collection.

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

"The Bauhinia Bicentennial Art Gallery is to be commended for its achievements during its year-long participation in M&GSQ's Standards Review Program. The staff manage two important collections: artists' works from the Springsure and Rolleston districts and a local heritage collection of photographs and documents from the 1860s."

According to M&GSQ's Standards Program Reviewers, Dawn Oelrich and Elizabeth Bates, industry experts who played a vital role in providing pro-bono professional advice and assistance throughout the Program:

"Without a doubt the most impressive aspect of the Bauhinia Bicentennial Art Gallery, Springsure, is the absolute dedication and practicality of all of the people involved, both the library and council staff and the community, in their efforts to maintain and operate the Gallery. It is a pleasure to see the great community spirit that supports the many tasks of the Gallery as well as the desire to learn and continue the Gallery's operation."

Councillor Gail Nixon, Deputy Mayor, explained the participation in M&GSQ's Standards Program had resulted in recognition of the Gallery and the Council's collections as valuable community assets. She said,

"We are excited that Elizabeth Bates is returning to Springsure early in 2014 to run a workshop for volunteers and staff on gallery skills including exhibition installation and

handling artworks. We are pleased to acknowledge the support of a Regional Galleries Association of Queensland grant to make this possible.”

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 Central Highlands Regional Council and the Regional Arts Development Fund to bring this program to Springsure. The Regional Arts Development Fund is a Queensland Government and Central Highlands Regional Council partnership 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; Karen Newman, Arts & Cultural Officer Central Highlands Regional Council; Cr Gail Nixon, Deputy Mayor Central Highlands Regional Council

Acknowledgement – Photo Outback Pics

Other images available upon request.

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