

Templin Historical Museum congratulated for their achievements in State Standards Review Program

Museums & Galleries Queensland (M&G QLD) was pleased to congratulate **Templin Historical Museum**, at a **special presentation event** held on Friday 2 February 2024, at The Centre, Beaudesert, for completing the intensive year-long Standards Review Program assessing their practice against *The National Standards for Australian Museums and Galleries*.

Located between the country town of Boonah and the Cunningham Highway, the Templin Historical Museum was established more than 40 years ago in the former Templin State School, with 18 buildings relocated to the site and spread across 7.5 acres. Visitors to the Museum can explore the expansive collection reflecting the diverse aspects of the local area from the 1870s to the present times. Notable exhibits include the *Madame Weigel collection*, the School, the Jaws of Life, and an extensive archive providing insights of the local heritage. Visitors can enhance their experience by bringing a picnic lunch to enjoy on the beautifully maintained grounds.

Did you know that Templin Historical Museum houses an extensive textile collection spanning over 140 years? One notable highlight is the *Madame Weigel collection*, a unique assortment of clothing and paper patterns. Madame Weigel, a household name in Australia and New Zealand for almost a century, designed thousands of paper patterns for home dressmaking after starting her pattern business in 1878. Her business sold 1 million patterns in 1915 alone!

The *Madame Weigel collection* stands out as one of its kind, continuously expanding as local sewing group members use original paper patterns to craft new garments. The Museum proudly displays original Weigel garments, alongside other temporary textile exhibits.

M&G QLD's Executive Director, Rebekah Butler, said,

"We congratulate the Templin Historical Museum on what they have achieved through their participation in M&G QLD's Standards Review Program. This dedicated, knowledgeable group of volunteers are particularly strong in developing and maintaining professional networks which is commendable. Deepening these relationships will support the Museum's operations and future ambitions."

According to Maggi Solly and Jim McCann (M&G QLD's Standards Program Reviewers), industry experts who play a vital role in providing pro-bono professional advice and assistance throughout the Program,

"Templin Historical Museum is to be commended for its efforts to preserve the history of the Scenic Rim region and the commitment of the numerous volunteers to make this history available to visitors. Particularly notable is The House of Fashion, which highlights the *Madams Weigel collection*, a collection which has national significance. The Museum's commitment to participate in community events is also commendable."

Templin Historical Museum President, Karen Douglas said,

"The Standards Review Program has shown us that we need to update our accessioning and de-accessioning policies. It has helped us identify significant collections among what we have and encouraged us to apply for funding to support our significance assessment, which will open further doors for us."

M&G QLD's Standards Review Program supports museums and galleries to build skills and capacity; plan for a sustainable future; identify strategic priorities for improvement; and ensure the safeguarding and accessibility of community collections and stories.

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Image Caption: The Goolman building, half of the original Goolman Divisional Board building prior to the Shire name change to Boonah Shire.

Acknowledgement: Courtesy of Karen Douglas.



Image Caption: The 'Jaws of Life' as invented, constructed and used in the 1960s by two local men, Kevin Lotz and Les Hoffman.

Acknowledgement: Courtesy of Karen Douglas.



Image Caption: A green dress made using a Madame Weigel pattern by Museum members who all belong to the Boonah Branch of the Australian Sewing Guild.

Acknowledgement: Courtesy of Karen Douglas.



Image Caption: Templin Historical Museum Volunteer, Peter Skinner, President, Karen Douglas, Curator, Iris Skinner and Secretary, Jennifer Pickup receiving Templin Historical Museum's Certificate of Recognition from Mayor, Greg Christensen, Scenic Rim Regional Council.

Acknowledgement: Courtesy of Museums & Galleries Queensland.