

Rockhampton Museums Recognised in State Industry Standards Program

Museums & Galleries Queensland (M&G QLD) congratulates **Archer Park Rail Museum** and the **Country Hospital Museum**, Rockhampton for completing an intensive 18-month program throughout 2021 and 2022, reviewing their practice against *The National Standards for Australian Museums and Galleries*.

The 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. Reviewers, who are industry experts, were matched to each organisation and played a vital role in providing pro-bono professional advice and assistance throughout the Program.

Standards Program Reviewers for Archer Park Rail Museum, Maggi Solly and Rob Shiels, said, "**Archer Park Rail Museum** is to be congratulated for providing an excellent visitor experience centred around the working Purrey Steam Tram on which visitors can ride along a Rockhampton street most Sundays. As well as the impressive Archer Park Station building with refreshment rooms, a variety of other carriages and railway engines are available for exploration. The volunteers are enthusiastic and knowledgeable, and have taken this opportunity to further improve visitor experience."

Standards Program Reviewers for the Country Hospital Museum, Zoe Scott and Jim McCann, said, "The review of the **Country Hospital Museum** has been most rewarding. The volunteers are to be commended for their ongoing commitment to the Museum. They should be congratulated on their enthusiasm for the Review process, and for making significant progress with some of the future recommendations made."

M&G QLD's Executive Director, Rebekah Butler, said, "The **Country Hospital Museum** first took part in M&G QLD's Standards Review Program in 2007 and are to be congratulated for undertaking the Program again in 2021-2022. Their participation is testimony to the volunteers' commitment to preserve and share the Museum's collection, and to build on their successes by identifying new strategic priorities to guide them into the future."

She continued, "**Archer Park Rail Museum** is also to be congratulated on their achievements. Staff and volunteers have worked hard throughout the course of the Program to regrow the Museum's visitation as COVID-19 restrictions eased in 2022, resulting in increased school and tour group attendances. They also acquired a new digital collection management system and have made impressive progress implementing this."

The organisation's profiles are attached with more information and quotes from each, outlining their achievements and outcomes from participating in the Program.

FOR MEDIA ENQUIRIES, PLEASE CONTACT:

Rebekah Butler, Executive Director

Museums & Galleries Queensland

P: 07 3059 9744 E: rebekah.butler@magsq.com.au (Monday – Thursday)

W: www.magsq.com.au

Janice Bobart, Coordinator

Archer Park Rail Museum

P: 07 4922 2774 E: archerpark@bigpond.com

W: <https://www.archerparkrailmuseum.com>

Del Leitgeb, President, Australian Country Hospital Heritage Association Inc.

Country Hospital Museum, part of the Rockhampton Heritage Village

P: 0417 781 677 E: secretary@achha.org.au

W: www.achha.org.au



Image Caption: Archer Park Rail Museum

Acknowledgement: Courtesy of Archer Park Rail Museum



Image Caption: Standards Program Field Visit at the Archer Park Rail Museum.

Acknowledgement: Courtesy of Museums & Galleries Queensland.



Image Caption: Operating Theatre, Country Hospital Museum
Acknowledgement: Courtesy E.J. Payne ACHHA Inc.



Image Caption: Standards Program Field Visit at the Country Hospital Museum
Acknowledgement: Courtesy of Museums & Galleries Queensland.



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The delivery of the Standards Review Program in Rockhampton was supported by the Regional Arts Development Fund (RADF), a partnership between the Queensland Government and Rockhampton Regional Council to support local arts and culture in regional Queensland.