



Standards Community Directory

Volume I 2003 - 2016



The Standards Review Program has been developed by Museums & Galleries of NSW and Museums & Galleries Queensland and funded by Arts NSW and Arts Queensland.

Welcome to the Standards Community 2017

What is the Standards Review Program?

This program, implemented by Museums & Galleries of NSW (M&G NSW) in 2003, and since 2005 in partnership with Museums & Galleries Queensland (M&G QLD), supports museums and galleries through a process of self-review and external feedback.

It provides an exciting opportunity for museums and galleries to assess their practices and policies against the *National Standards for Australian Museums and Galleries*. The program aims to establish a long term network for sustainable community museums and galleries as well as acknowledging the hard work undertaken by volunteers and paid staff to maintain Australian heritage.

What are the key components?

- Working with regional service providers to develop ongoing support for museums and galleries
- Self-assessment by participants guided by the *National Standards for Australian Museums and Galleries*
- External peer review (Standards Review Committee – M&G NSW / Standards Reviewers – M&G QLD)
- Identification of desired outcomes and on-site advice
- Practical tools to assist participants in addressing key planning needs such as: volunteer succession planning strategies, community engagement strategies, collection management policies, access to funding; working with local government, business and research opportunities
- Promotion of participants' achievements: certificate presentation, communication with participant stakeholders, media releases
- Continuation of support and review.

In 2017, M&G NSW and M&G QLD will continue working in partnership on the Standards Review Program. M&G QLD will partner with local government agencies to deliver the program to museums and galleries in the Sunshine Coast and Noosa regions. M&G NSW will partner with several local government agencies to deliver the program to museums and galleries across NSW. This will see the "Standards Community" grow to include these new participants and enable participating organisations to broaden their operating networks.

How do I use the Standards Community Directory?

The Standards Community Directory features a profile of each museum and gallery that has gone through the Standards Review Program. The profile includes a description of each organisation, contact details and how they benefitted from participating in the Standards Review Program.

Each organisation listed in this directory:

- Is promoting its unique profile to the "Standards Community" and wider audiences
- Is available to assist and answer any questions you may have as you undertake each stage of the Standards Review Program
- Is contactable via the details and hours as per their profile page
- Will share with all other "Standards Community" members (including new members) their achievements and outcomes from participating in the Standards Review Program
- Has provided words of support and encouragement to new participants in the Standards Review Program.

Further Information

If you have any questions or would like to share experiences of participating in the Standards Review Program with these experienced museums and galleries, please contact them via the details outlined on each page, and within their indicated hours. They would be delighted to hear from you.

M&G NSW enquiries

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M&G QLD enquiries

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Cover images

Top: Miles Historical Village Museum. Credit: M&G QLD.

Bottom: Display of eggshells at Bathurst District Historical Society Museum.

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About M&G NSW and M&G QLD

Museums & Galleries of NSW

Museums & Galleries of NSW (M&G NSW) is the key support agency for the museum and gallery sector in NSW. A not-for-profit company established in 1999, the strong relationships M&G NSW has established within metropolitan and regional communities enable the organisation to contribute significantly to the development of the sector throughout the state.

Through the provision of advocacy, assistance and information services, M&G NSW plays a pivotal role in nurturing sustainable museums and galleries within their community ensuring the ongoing provision of enjoyable, enriching experiences for the people of NSW.

M&G NSW receives core funding from the NSW Government through Arts NSW, with additional funding from project grants. M&G NSW is also assisted by the Federal Government through the Australia Council for the Arts, its arts funding and advisory body.

Museums & Galleries Queensland

Museums & Galleries Queensland (M&G QLD) is the peak professional body for Queensland's public museum and gallery sector which includes more than 290 museums, 150 historical societies and 80 regional galleries.

M&G QLD promotes, supports and provides services to foster excellence in museums, galleries and keeping places. M&G QLD strives to ensure a future where museums, galleries and keeping places are relevant, accessible and valued by their communities.

The organisation achieves this by providing a range of programs and services in the areas of sector development: training and professional development, exhibition development and touring, and information and referral services, and by promoting the achievements of Queensland galleries and museums through activities that profile and recognise their activities.

Museum and Gallery Services Queensland, trading as Museums & Galleries Queensland is a non-profit company, limited by guarantee, and jointly owned by the Regional Galleries Association of Queensland and Museums Galleries Australia (Queensland).

M&G QLD is supported by the Queensland government through Arts Queensland and is assisted by the Visual Arts and Craft Strategy, an initiative of the Australian, State and Territory Governments and by the Commonwealth through the Australia Council its arts funding and advisory body.

2016 Standards Program

Overview

In 2016, three museums participated in the NSW Standards Review Program and three museums and three galleries participated in the Queensland Standards Review Program.

The feedback from all participants has been very positive. Through participating in the program, the museums were able to step back and evaluate their role in the community and consider how they might improve their museum practice to ensure their ongoing sustainability.

Key areas of focus included: significance assessment, strategic planning, collection management, conservation, communication, education, volunteer engagement / management and succession planning. Each organisation was able to identify areas of focus specific to their institution.

The Standards Review Committee (NSW) and Standards Reviewers (QLD) provided support and guidance throughout the Program and were deemed to be incredibly valuable in assisting each museum to achieve the goals they had set at the beginning of the Program.

2016 NSW

- Australian Golf Heritage Museum
- Bathurst District Historical Society Museum
- Henry Kendall Cottage

2016 Western Downs & Maranoa QLD

- Chinchilla Historical Museum
- Gallery 107 @ Dalby
- Lapunyah Art Gallery, Chinchilla
- Miles Historical Village Museum (Standards 2)
- Roma on Bungil Gallery
- Taroom Museum

M&G NSW reviewers, support and funding

Thank you

The significant outcomes of the M&G NSW Standards Program could not have been achieved without the outstanding contribution of the Standards Review Committee members. M&G NSW would like to sincerely thank all members of the committee for their time, expertise and dedication to supporting community museums throughout NSW, since the Program's inception in 2002.

Standards Reviewers

Standards Reviewers for the M&G NSW Standards Review Program from 2002 - 2016 include:

Julie Baird - Assistant Director, Newcastle Museum

Dr Pamela Bell - Independent Curator and Art Valuer

Suzanne Bravery - Former General Manager Programs and Services, Museums & Galleries NSW

Sarah Jane Brazil - Independent Industrial Heritage Expert

Sheryl Connors-Young - Manager Indigenous Programs, Learning Services, Australian Museum

Louise Douglas - Associate, Centre for Historical Research National Museum of Australia

Glenn Ferguson - Exhibitions Manager, Public Programmes, Australian Museum

Yaël Filipovic - Public Engagement Manager, Museum of Contemporary Art

Sandra Florance - Research Officer, Bega Pioneers Museum

Jackie Green - Tumut Historical Society

Susan Hutchinson - Former Director, Fairfield City Museum & Gallery

Margot Jolly - Museum Consultant

Lisa Jones - Curator, Queensland Police Museum

Rebecca Jones - Sydney Living Museums

Desmond Kennard - Museum Consultant

Tamara Lavrencic - Museum Programs and Collections Manager, Museums & Galleries of NSW

Sam Malloy - Former Manager, Chifley Home

Kent Mayo - Director, McCrossin's Mill Museum

Ellie McFadyen - Conservator

Pip McNaught - Former Curator, National Museum of Australia

Richard Mulvaney - Former CEO, NSW Rail Transport Museum

Libby Newell - Museum Consultant

Joanna Nicholas - Curator, Sydney Living Museums

Rebecca Pinchin - Museum and Heritage Support Officer, Orange City Council

Sarah-Jane Rennie - Former Manager Sector Development, Museums & Galleries NSW

Dan Robinson - Former Director, Cultural Heritage Program, Queensland Museum

Helena Robinson - Lecturer, Museum of Heritage Studies Program, University of Sydney

Kerrie Ruth - Secretary, Queanbeyan Museum

Dr Morgan Sant - President, Lady Denman Heritage Complex

Matthew Scott - Museum Consultant

Ken Smith - President, Hambledon Cottage

Barrina South - Acting Regional Program Coordinator, Far West Department of Environment & Climate Change

Dr Peter Stanbury - Museums, Collections and Heritage, Macquarie University

Margot Stuart-Smith - Museum Programs and Collections Coordinator, Museums & Galleries of NSW

Josh Tarrant - Former Acting Collection Manager, The Workshops Rail Museum, Queensland Museum

Fiona Tennant - Principal Collections Manager, International Conservation Services

Myfanwy Thompson - Curator, Old Courthouse Museum

Stephen Thompson - Curator, Parks Service Division, Department of Environment and Conservation NSW

Rebecca Turnbull - Hawkesbury Regional Museum

Sally Watterson - Former Senior Museums Curator, Tweed River Regional Museum

Keri Whiteley - Manager Cultural Services, Hawkesbury City Council

Local government

M&G NSW would like to thank all the local government agencies and Museum Advisors who have supported the program in their regions.

Funding and support

M&G NSW receives core funding from the NSW Government through Arts NSW, with additional funding from project grants. M&G NSW is also assisted by the Federal Government through the Australia Council for the Arts, its arts funding and advisory board.

M&G QLD reviewers, support and funding

Thank you

M&G QLD would like to acknowledge the significant contribution of Standards Reviewers over the past twelve years of the M&G QLD Standards Review Program. They have played a vital role in providing professional advice and assistance to 86 organisations, devoting their time, free of charge, often over a number of years. Some Reviewers have also worked across both the M&G QLD and the M&G NSW Standards Review Programs. The Standards Review Program would not be possible without their commitment and expertise.

Standards Reviewers

Standards Reviewers for the M&G QLD Standards Review Program from 2005 - 2016 include:

Elizabeth Bates – Museum and Gallery Consultant
 Justin Bishop – Director, KickArts Contemporary Arts
 Ross Bower – Then President, Redland Museum
 Ken Brooks – Manager, Brennan & Geraghty's Store Museum
 Steve Chaddock – Heritage and Museum Consultant
 Joolie Gibbs – Then Coordinator, Gympie Regional Gallery
 David Gibson OAM – Then Director, Newstead House
 Audrey Hoffmann – Past Director, Warwick Art Gallery
 Christine Ianna – Conservation Consultant
 Ian Jempson – CEO, Queensland Maritime Museum
 Lisa Jones – Curator, Queensland Police Museum
 Leanne Kelly – Then Program Manager, Museum of Brisbane
 Richelle Leane – Then Inquiry Centre Supervisor, Queensland Museum Network
 Jan King – Past Director, The Queensland Energy Museum
 Tamara Lavrencic – Then Collection Manager, Historic Houses Trust NSW
 Dr Geraldine Mate – Principal Curator, History, Information and Transport, Queensland Museum Network
 David Mewes – Curator, The Workshops Rail Museum, Queensland Museum
 Susi Muddiman – Director, Tweed River Art Gallery
 Denise Neville – Then Museum Industry Trainer and Consultant
 Dawn Oelrich – Then Gallery Curator, University of the Sunshine Coast Gallery
 Shelley Pisani – Director, Creative Regions
 Helen Pithie – Then Museum Development Officer, Queensland Museum Network
 Sarah-Jane Rennie – Head of Collections Care, Sydney Living Museums
 Dr Andrew Rozefelds – Head of Ancient Environments, Queensland Museum Network
 Dan Robinson – Past Director, Cultural Heritage Program, Queensland Museum Network
 Bronwyn Roper – Senior Cultural Development Producer, National Trust of Australia (Victoria)

Maggi Solly – Past Director, Yarra Ranges Regional Museum

Christopher Salter – Then Marketing Audience Development Manager, Museum of Brisbane

Matthew Scott – Museum Consultant

Ross Searle – Art Consultant

Ken Smith OAM – Past President, Hambledon Cottage

Josh Tarrant – Then Acting Collection Manager, The Workshops Rail Museum – Queensland Museum

Sally Watterson – Then Senior Museums Curator, Tweed River Regional Museum, Tweed Shire Council

Mary-Louise Williams – Past Director, Australian National Maritime Museum

Local government

M&G QLD would also like to thank all the local government agencies and Museum Development Officers who have supported the Program in their regions.

Specific funding

In some years of extensive travel, specific funding has been obtained from other sources including:

Cooktown & District Historical Society Inc and the Regional Arts Development Fund made it possible for M&G QLD to take the program to Cooktown in 2011.

Mareeba Historical Society Inc and the Regional Arts Development Fund made it possible for M&G QLD to take the Program to the Tablelands in 2011.

Longreach Regional Council and the Regional Arts Development Fund made it possible for the Program to go to Longreach in 2013.

Winton Shire Council and the Regional Arts Development Fund made it possible for the Program to go to Winton in 2013.

Central Highlands Regional Council and the Regional Arts Development Fund made it possible for the Program to go to Emerald and Springsure in 2013.

Blackall-Tambo Regional Council and the Regional Arts Development Fund made it possible for the Program to go to Blackall and Tambo in 2013.

Richmond Shire Council and the Regional Arts Development Fund made it possible for the Program to go to Richmond in 2014.

Mackay Regional Council and the Regional Arts Development Fund made it possible for the Program to go to Mackay in 2015.

Western Downs Regional Council and the Regional Arts Development Fund made it possible for the Program to go to Dalby, Chinchilla and Miles in 2016.

Maranoa Regional Council and the Regional Arts Development Fund made it possible for the Program to go to Roma in 2016.

The Regional Arts Development Fund is a Queensland Government and Regional Council partnership to support local arts and culture.

Australian Golf Heritage Society Museum

Standards profile

The Australian Golf Heritage Museum has a diverse and fascinating collection of golfing artefacts dating back to the early days of golf in Australia in the second half of the 19th century. Highlights of the collection include golf clubs by Old Tom Morris, 1930s film footage of Don Bradman receiving golf training, Frank Eyre trophies, a driver owned and used by Jack Nicklaus and a 'periscope' golf seat.

Test your putting skills with a range of heritage putters. Golf historians and writers are welcome to use our extensive research library (by appointment).

The museum is proud to offer a travelling display of golf clubs, balls, trophies and other artefacts, for golf clubs in Sydney to host free of charge (donations welcome). The display was nominated in the 2015 Imagine Awards. We endeavour to include an object or information specific to the history of the host club and will deliver, install and pack down the display. For more information, please contact us (museum@australiangolfheritage.org.au).

The museum offers talks to golf clubs and historical societies and can help golf clubs organise their own hickory golf day. Advice can be provided on collecting, restoring and preserving old or antique golf clubs and other golfing artefacts.

Image: Displays at the Australian Golf Heritage Museum.



Details

4 Parramatta Rd, Granville NSW

02 9637 4720

museum@australiangolfheritage.org.au

www.australiangolfheritage.org.au

Opening hours

Sunday 10am - 4pm and by appointment

Bathurst District Historical Society Museum

Standards profile

The Bathurst District Historical Society Museum and Archives is located in a wing of the heritage classified courthouse, designed by Colonial Government Architect James Barnett in 1880.

Formed in May 1947 the Society's first collections document important regional developments such as the growth of the garrison town, contact with explorers and surveyors, the first gold discovery in NSW, the formulation of Cobb and Co., and the region's colourful bushranging history.

It is home to the Penzig Collection a large collection of material relating to bushrangers and in particular, Ben Hall, and comprises paintings, pictures, drawings, objects and costumes amassed by renowned bushranger enthusiast, collector, author, actor, and cartoonist Edgar Penzig, and his wife over a lifetime of collecting.

Additionally over 65,000 photographic images, glass plate negatives, and other related ephemera form a significant part of the collection.

There are also two carved trees or dendroglyphs in the collection which are a unique feature of traditional Australian indigenous culture. The Wiradjuri carved ceremonial tree was found near O'Connell about 25 kilometres east of Bathurst and is thought to have marked a ceremonial site or grave.

The second carved tree is a River Red gum that once stood at the mouth of the Mandagery Creek at the junction of the Lachlan River. In June 1815, explorer and surveyor George Evans marked this tree to show he had reached the furthest westward point of any British explorer at the time.

There is also a collection of militaria from various theatres of war involving Bathurstians, discrete collections of objects that have been donated to the Society, such as a collection of bird's eggs, and a collection of stuffed and mounted birds, furniture from historic and heritage buildings and properties in the Bathurst district, two scale models of landmark sites in Bathurst, an early X-ray machine developed by a Roman Catholic priest in Bathurst.

Image: Displays at the Bathurst District Historical Society Museum



Details

East Wing, Bathurst Courthouse, Russell St, Bathurst NSW

02 6330 8455

info@bathursthhistory.org.au

www.bathursthhistory.org.au

Opening hours

Tuesday - Friday, 10am - 4pm

Saturday - Sunday, 11am - 2pm

Closed Mondays, Good Friday and Christmas Day

Henry Kendall Cottage and Museum

Standards profile

Henry Kendall Cottage and Museum is located at West Gosford. The Cottage is the second oldest surviving building in the Gosford District. Convict Peter Fagan arrived in 1821 from Ireland and purchased 24.28ha of land at West Gosford. The Cottage was built using convict labour c1836-1840. It was known as the Red Cow Inn and a short time later as Cooranbean. In the late 1870s, the Fagan brothers befriended the celebrated poet Henry Kendall who lived for a short time in the cottage while working for the family.

The museum is undertaking a full reinterpretation of the permanent collection display. The extensive collection includes local artefacts and a memorabilia, capturing life as it once was, including an old printing press, a bullock dray and unique items, salvaged from local shipwrecks. Also featured is a 19th century relocated local slab shed that holds a significant collection of artefacts from the thriving timber getting, ship building and citrus industries.

We hold regular temporary exhibitions, open days and excursions. We are also developing our school excursion and public program content in partnership with other venues in the region. The Museum is set in over two acres of peaceful park-like grounds with picnic tables and electric barbecue facilities. Parking is also available in the grounds.

Henry Kendall Cottage Museum is owned and operated by the Brisbane Water Historical Society. In 1959 the Society purchased the cottage and worked to ensure its preservation. In 1961 the Cottage museum opened dedicated to the pioneers of Brisbane Water. A second museum building opened in 1983.

In 2014 we celebrated the 175th anniversary of the building of the Cottage, as well as the birth of Henry Kendall in 1839. Over a thousand visitors attended. The Museum was presented with the Gosford City Council Award for Interpretations Projects and Heritage Events in 2015.

Image: The exterior of Henry Kendall Cottage.



Details

25-27 Henry Kendall St, West Gosford NSW 2250

02 4325 2270

info@henrykendallcottage.org.au

www.henrykendallcottage.org.au

Opening hours

Wednesday, Saturday and Sunday, 10am - 3pm

Closed Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, Good Friday

Open other days for groups by appointment

Chinchilla Historical Museum

Standards profile

Come to the Chinchilla Historical Museum and stand in the place where the fight against the scourge of prickly pear was instigated, read about the development of the experimental station and the first plant killed by the larvae of the cactoblastis moth.

Find the unique, local petrified wood called Chinchilla Red, which can be dated to the Jurassic Period (140 - 180 million years ago) and learn about the local timber industry at the Cyprus Pine Interpretive Centre.

Discover the perils of country policing and see one of the only remaining, fire damaged police cells in Australia. See many examples of historical machinery including a unique Mogul tractor. An extensive collection of family and local history information, photographs and newspaper articles can be found in the Kathleen Emmerson Library, which is located in the museum grounds and can be visited by making an appointment.

Come for a ride on the mini train and get a fabulous view of the entire museum grounds or just bring a picnic and relax in peaceful surroundings.

Did you know that a man's moustache could be kept safe from becoming wet if a moustache cup was used? This is a teacup with a protective semicircular ledge on the inside.

Did you know that a 'meat safe cot' was popular in pioneering days because it kept babies safe from snake and insect attack? You can view a 'meat safe cot' at the Museum.

Program outcomes

Interpreting the Collection

The museum has many items in its collection which are important to the local area, we have begun to research these as adding well-researched stories to collection objects brings history to life and enhances visitor experience.

Collection Management

Commitment to transfer all hard copy collection records to an electronic system.

Image: Mini train in the Museum grounds. Credit: Chinchilla Historical Museum.



Details

Villiers St, Chinchilla QLD 4413

07 4662 7014

chinchillamuseum@bigpond.com

Opening hours

Thursday - Monday, 9am - 4pm

Gallery 107 @ Dalby

Standards profile

Gallery 107 @ Dalby is a contemporary art space in rural Queensland showcasing emerging and established artists. The Gallery is situated in Dalby's cultural hub, MyALL 107.

The Gallery offers a range of participatory programming including interactive exhibitions, workshops and community projects. Gallery 107 @ Dalby engages with its community and visitors through social media and the welcoming volunteers. Open 7 days a week, it's well worth a visit.

Did you know Gallery 107 @ Dalby is housed in a repurposed indoor sports centre? Having transformed the original timber floor and squash court walls into a modern gallery space, these features can still be seen today. The building was also the Council Chambers for 20 years. Many visitors comment that Gallery 107 rivals the standards of metro galleries. It truly is a beautiful space.

Did you know the Gallery is a vibrant space that fosters strong connections within the local and regional communities? MyALL 107 houses Gallery 107 @ Dalby, the Lake Broadwater display, library, cinema and community radio station.

Did you know the Committee takes great pride in managing the gallery as an inclusive place to be? The increasing visitation and community involvement demonstrate that Gallery 107 @ Dalby is a great asset to the Western Downs region.

Message to new participants

This program is well worth completing, not only for the encouragement and vast array of information and advice, but for the confirmation that the organisation is progressing towards its goals.

Program outcomes

Organisational Goals

The Standards Review Program reinforced that the goals Gallery 107 @ Dalby is aiming for are the right ones and positively encouraged us while offering some practical tips.

Community Engagement

Advice was generously given on how to involve and maintain engagement with volunteers, participants, audiences, other galleries and the wider community as well as the value of such engagement to Gallery 107 @ Dalby.

Image: The contemporary gallery setting has evolved from its original use as squash courts. Credit: Sally Charlton



Details

107 Drayton St, Dalby QLD 4405

0490 087 540

info@gallery107dalby.com.au

www.gallery107dalby.com.au

www.facebook.com/Gallery107Dalby

Opening hours

Monday - Friday, 10am - 4pm

Saturday, 10am - 2pm

Sunday, 11am - 3pm

Lapunyah Art Gallery

Standards profile

Lapunyah Art Gallery is located in the Cultural Precinct in Chinchilla's Central Business District. Recognised as a warm and welcoming space for exhibiting artists and visitors, Lapunyah has a changing program of local and touring exhibitions across two gallery spaces.

Entirely managed by a team of dedicated volunteers, the Gallery increases the profile of local artists and provides thought provoking contemporary exhibitions for the community. The highly skilled volunteer staff provide professional development support through exhibition opportunities complimented by community workshops.

With a focus on strong teamwork Lapunyah develops the professionalism of their volunteers through a unique in house exhibition mentoring program and regular skills training.

The Lapunyah Art Gallery holds images of local Acacia and Fungi by Grace Lithgow and works by significant artists such as Hugh and Anthony Sawrey, Rex Bacchus-Smith, Tom McAulay, John Morrison and Paul Ching-Bor.

Did you know that Lapunyah Art Gallery has been entirely managed by dedicated volunteers since the Gallery's inception in 1999? The volunteer staff would love to welcome you to Lapunyah Art Gallery and introduce you to Chinchilla and the creative life of the region.

Did you know that the Gallery's *Monitor* has links to the new industrial era of the region? Peter Kosina created the sculpture from scrap metal sourced from the Kogan Creek Power Station, built in 2007 under the Queensland State Government's Clean Energy Policy.

Did you know that the facility was originally the Chinchilla Shire Council Library? With the repurposing of the Cultural Precinct, it became the Chinchilla White Gums Gallery. It has now been rebranded Lapunyah Art Gallery.

Message to new participants

To the many other museums, galleries or keeping places that have not yet participated in the Standards Review Program: Don't wait!

Drive your committee and fellow volunteers mad by always rabbiting on about National Standards and changing your practices to meet them and you too, can have a red bin (for disaster preparedness).

Program outcomes

The Standards Review Program has confirmed that the practices the Lapunyah Art Gallery has put in place over the last few years are appropriate. It has shown us the pathway to future directions.

Image: Lapunyah Art Gallery. Credit: Lapunyah Art Gallery.



Details

80-86 Heeney St, Chinchilla QLD 4413

07 4668 9908

lapunyah@outlook.com

www.facebook.com/Lapunyah-Art-Gallery-Chinchilla-156011694574906

Opening hours

Monday - Friday, 10am - 4pm

Saturday, 9am - 12pm

Miles Historical Village Museum (Standards 2)

Standards profile

The Miles Historical Village Museum was officially opened in 1971, and over the years has developed into one of the premier tourist attractions within the region: a place for connecting to memories of a disappearing country lifestyle.

There are currently over 35 buildings in a streetscape with amazing collections and links to a bygone era...if you remember it, we have it! Featured original buildings include the Hippong Slab Hut Homestead, Columboola Hall, Dalwogan Railway Siding, Andersen's Smithy, Jimbour CWA, Village School, Dairy, Gaol, Dulacca Presbyterian Church and the Australian Bank of Commerce. Recreated buildings in the streetscape include The Red Rose Café, a replica of the first Greek café built in Miles in 1925, the boot maker, union hotel, hospital, butcher, barber shop, laundry, garage, post office, bakery and printery – The Murilla Express.

Visitors are welcome at Miles Historical Village Museum every day except Christmas Day. Come along and explore a slice of history in this unique setting!

The name of the Miles Historical Village Museum main street, 'Dogwood Crossing', was the original name of the town of Miles until 1878 when the Railway went through. At this time it was renamed 'Miles' as a mark of respect to Sir William Miles, the owner of the famous Dulacca Station. He was elected to State Parliament in 1865 and took an exhibition of Queensland, and the Murilla Shire, to Philadelphia in 1876.

Message to new participants

As second time participants Miles Historical Village Museum has once again been blown away by the positive outcomes in being involved in the Standards Review Program. The support, advice and encouragement provided by Museums & Galleries Queensland are outstanding. Having industry expertise on hand through the Reviewers' visits is daunting, challenging and also refreshing and rewarding if your organisation goes into the program with an open mind and a willingness to share, embrace, change, progress, grow and learn. We would encourage cultural organisations to take advantage of the Standards Review Program; you will not be disappointed! A must do!

Program outcomes

Solid organisational policy and planning

The Standards Review Program has enabled us to refocus, develop, review and adopt solid organisation policy and planning documents. There is a commitment to professional and up-to-date policies and plans that can guide the committee, staff, volunteers and ultimately the facility.

Collection Management Strategies

The Miles Historical Village Museum has massive and valuable collections that require focused and well planned management. The Standards Review Program has enabled us to review our Collection & Preservation Policy and its supporting documents. However most importantly our Reviewers were able to provide us with industry advice on improved and facility specific tasks, processes and procedures to help us address perhaps the most challenging area for us to deal with.

Image: Miles Historical Village Museum Credit: Chris Sweetapple Photography.



Details

141 Murilla St, Miles QLD 4415

07 4627 1492

mileshistoricalsoc@bigpond.com

www.mhv.org.au

www.facebook.com/MilesHistoricalVillage

Opening hours

Monday - Sunday, 8am - 5pm

Roma on Bungil Gallery

Standards profile

Roma on Bungil Gallery is a vibrant, accessible space that presents quality exhibitions to reflect and celebrate the local community. The gallery is the result of many years of passionate endeavour by local artists, which resulted in a purpose built gallery space. It is located in the Roma Community Arts Centre, the cultural hub of the region.

The focus of the volunteer committee is to provide a space that widens cultural horizons and encourages social interaction. The gallery is generously supported by Santos GLNG and Maranoa Regional Council.

Did you know local art groups fundraised for nearly 20 years to raise the funds and support needed to build the gallery space?

Did you know that volunteers curate most of the exhibitions presented at the Roma on Bungil Gallery? A passionate team of volunteers manage the gallery.

Did you know the gallery provides a Young Artist Bursary program for high school students, which is generously sponsored by Santos GLNG?

Be sure to stop in and experience exhibitions of local, regional and touring artwork.

Message to new participants

We cannot say enough about how helpful the process and those who facilitated it have been for us. We now have a much better idea of where we need to review our processes and even more important where to turn for help if we need it. It has been a wonderful learning experience and has given those of the committee who were able to be involved a more cohesive direction for the future planning for the Gallery. The staff and Reviewers have been very supportive and extremely well organised.

Program outcomes

Greater understanding of managing a Gallery

By having committee members involved in the review process and developing relationships with the Reviewers and M&G QLD staff they have broadened their knowledge and skill base in relation to managing a sustainable Gallery of a high standard. This has been energising and created a shared direction to go forward.

Raised our profile within the Maranoa Regional Council

With the aid of the Reviewers and M&G QLD staff the committee has developed a relationship with the new Councillors that lends itself to a solid ongoing working relationship.

Image: Inside the Gallery. Credit: Roma on Bungil Gallery



Details

38-44 Hawthorne St, Roma QLD 4455

secretary@romaonbungil.com.au

www.romaonbungil.com.au

www.facebook.com/romaonbungilgallery

Opening hours

Monday - Friday, 9am - 5pm

Saturday, 9am - 12pm

Taroom Museum

Standards profile

Follow explorer Ludwig Leichhardt's 1844 footsteps into the rich farming country around the Dawson River and visit the Taroom Museum. The Taroom Museum holds a collection of objects specific to Taroom and the surrounding district.

Wander through museum buildings, including St Mary's Church of 1893, the Boathouse and Jongh Tai Shue's Confectionary and Bakery shop.

Our diverse collections include objects from early businesses, a Blacksmith's forge, and a fabulous piece of jewellery belonging to Sarah, wife of John Becker the Bootmaker c1870.

Experience a 19th century round pole and slab house, which was the Reynolds' home and also the township's general store. Feel what it was like to be confined in the original Taroom lockup. You can also see a variety of machinery from pioneering days.

Did you know St Mary's Church was cut in half and moved by bullock wagon two kilometres to Bonner's Knob (Gilbert's Lookout) in 1920? In 1970, it was then cut in half again and moved to its current location, which was the site of the original Taroom state school.

Did you know in April 1874 our rowboat and boathouse was mentioned in the 'Dalby Herald and Western Advertiser', even though the boat house hadn't actually been built? Three publicans, with businesses adjacent to the river, could not agree on where it should be situated and this caused a furor.

Did you know that local identity, Miss Eunice Clarke, could type up to 300 characters a minute on the Mignon AEG #4 typewriting machine and drive a tractor while wearing a dress? See both the Mignon and the tractor at the Museum.

Come and see our wonderful collection, bring a picnic and enjoy the grounds.

Message to new participants

Is the Standards Review Program relevant to small museums/ galleries run by volunteers? Most Definitely. We found there is a wealth of information to be accessed and the Standards Review Program facilitators are most knowledgeable and always accessible. We have benefited in so many ways, there is just not the space to point them all out. So don't just think about joining... Do It. It is an opportunity of a lifetime for your organisation.

Program outcomes

Greater understanding of managing a museum

The Standards Review Program has made us more focused on up-to-date documentation and presentation in our museum, including a collection management plan, updating our acquisition register, better understanding of textile preservation, and the importance of proper care and display techniques.

Image: St. Mary's Church built in 1893 – Taroom Museum's main building. Credit: M&G QLD.



Details

17 Kelman St, Taroom QLD 4420

0409 663 701

tdhs2014@hotmail.com

www.facebook.com/groups/TaroomHistoricalSociety

Opening hours

Open by request - phone Glenys Shearer, 0409 663 701

Eskbank House Museum

Standards profile

Eskbank House was built in 1842 on Wiradjuri land for magistrate and politician, Thomas Brown, and his wife Mary. It has been at the heart of Lithgow's history including the mining and iron industries. In 1966 Eskbank House was opened as one of the first house museums in New South Wales.

The museum houses furniture and decorative arts from Eric Bracey, founder of the museum. Displays also feature the nationally significant Lithgow Pottery Collection and many objects from the history of Lithgow's ironworks including 'Possum the Locomotive' and items that tell the social story of the region.

Visitors can enjoy a group tour of the museum or wander by themselves amongst the buildings and gardens. The 'Courtyard Gallery' hosts regular changing art exhibitions devoted to community and professional art.

Eskbank House also hosts music concerts, plays and themed events such as Garden Parties, Steampunk Eskbank and a Halloween Fashion Parade. The grounds and enclosed courtyard are available for hire for events and weddings.

Message to new participants

It was really good at focusing us on where our gaps were, but also really rewarding because of the things we realised we were doing right.

Program outcomes

We have learnt a lot about conservation and cleaning our collection. We are now planning to do a yearly clean which we will open up to the public as well.

We are going to implement a new program of volunteer training with bi-monthly meetings, a tour guide training course and regular excursions.

Image: Eskbank garden parties are always a treat.



Details

70 Inch St, Lithgow NSW 2790

02 6351 3557

eskbank@lithgow.nsw.gov.au

eskbank.lithgow.com

Opening hours

Wednesday to Sunday, 10am – 4pm

Open for events and tours out of hours by arrangement

Hawkesbury Regional Museum

2015 Imagine Awards.

Winner, Museum Exhibition Projects: 3-10 staff

Standards profile

Hawkesbury Regional Museum is located in Windsor, Australia's third mainland settlement (after Sydney and Parramatta). It is the only publicly-run, professionally staffed museum in the Hawkesbury and, indeed, in the wider area including the Blue Mountains, Penrith, Hills and Blacktown local government areas. Entry is free to visitors, and groups are welcome with prior arrangement, please call during opening hours for bookings, costs and further information.

The museum collection has built up over 60 years and comprises almost 6000 objects significant to the history of the Hawkesbury. They include convict tools excavated at the site of the World Heritage Listed Old Great North Road, objects relating to the Hawkesbury's special role in shipbuilding in the 'Secret River' days, original settler land grants telling of the early colonial Governors and indigenous tools that show the skills of the Darug and Darkinjung people that cared for the land around the Hawkesbury for many thousands of years.

Here you can also see things you won't find anywhere else, from the celestial globe that belonged to internationally-renowned astronomer John Tebbutt, to the building level used in building Australia's oldest church at Ebenezer, also a 1870s original flood boat and not to mention that uniquely Hawkesbury creation, the flabbitt.

The museum has won awards for the new building (opened 2008), for collection management and conservation, for tourism, for its volunteers, and for the exhibition Flood! (2015) and also offers regular public programs.

Also on site is Howe House, built in the colonial style on land granted by Governor Macquarie in 1811, and now fitted out and interpreted in ways that reflect its many uses over more than 200 years of history. The house is open for tours on weekends and at other times by appointment for booked groups. It plays an important role in a range of education programs operated by the museum.

Message to New Participants

We found the program to be a great opportunity to look at the museum with 'fresh eyes'. The self-reviews, onsite visits and forward planning, we found to be very beneficial for us and the direction of the museum.

Image: The Hawkesbury Regional Museum.



Details

8 Baker St, Windsor, NSW

02 4560 4655

museum@hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au

www.hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au

Opening hours

Wednesday-Monday 10am-4pm

Closed Tuesdays (except by appointment for guided groups)

Closed Christmas Day, Boxing Day and Good Friday.

Open 10am-4pm other public holidays

Guided tours of historic Howe House: Sat-Sun 11am and 2pm

Lithgow Small Arms Factory Museum

Standards profile

The history of the Lithgow Small Arms Factory is about people - their aspirations, disappointments, and achievements, the economic and social hardships endured, the influence of our British heritage on Australia in the early 1900s, and sheer human stubbornness.

It is also about the introduction of new technologies into the emerging new nation. The Lithgow Factory was Australia's first high precision mass production facility.

This museum, located on the original Commonwealth Small Arms Factory site, houses a fascinating collection that showcases the industrial heritage of our nation, and the finest firearms display in the Southern Hemisphere.

You may be surprised to recognise some of the diverse array of commercial items manufactured by the factory as it struggled to stay viable between the wars.

The Museum is doing a fantastic job identifying and telling stories that are about Lithgow, its community and the history that intersects with the factory. This way the museum is able to provide stories that resonate with all types of visitors not just those interested in the design and manufacture of firearms.

They have successfully pulled out the social history aspects of the factory and are working on telling these stories in an innovative and engaging way.

Image: Lithgow Small Arms ground floor gun room



Details

69 Methven St, Lithgow NSW 2790

02 6351 4452

lithgowsafmuseum@ozemail.com.au

www.lithgowsafmuseum.org.au

Opening hours

Tuesday to Thursday, 9:30am – 2pm

Saturday and Sunday Public Holidays, 10am – 4pm

NSW school holidays, every day, 10am to 4pm

Closed Christmas Day, Good Friday

Lithgow State Mine Heritage Park and Museum

Standards profile

The Lithgow State Mine Heritage Park is an open-air museum which tells the story of one of Lithgow's original coal mines. The site has a fascinating collection of former mine buildings that house an array of industrial, mining and railway related exhibits. The site also includes a railway branch-line that extended from the Eskbank Locomotive Depot.

There are a series of outdoor interpretive panels that tell the story of the colliery, including its huge poppet head, through engaging text and historical images.

The former State Mine Office has been successfully developed as the Park's Visitor Centre and incorporates a 'Mining Museum' where various rooms boast thematic displays related to the history of the colliery and coal mining generally. These displays are supported by fascinating objects, historical timelines and story-boards. The Mine Office also includes limited collection storage space, an administration and collection cataloguing room, and a volunteer staff room/kitchen.

One of the most appealing and successful operations of the site is the Bathhouse Building. This building has a large enclosed area which is currently used for storage and functions and is supported by catering facilities. On the internal perimeter of the building are original shower facilities which were used by the miners after their shifts – this history is complimented by a well-designed story-board. One part of this 'shower block' area has an amazing spectravision display called Fire in the Mine, which features a moving historical figure, Marion Curry, who tells her dramatic story of the dangers faced by miners in their everyday work. This spectravision display brings to life the human aspect and dangers that mining communities once faced.

Not far from the Bathhouse are the original colliery Workshops. These buildings were once utilised as blacksmithing facilities, machine shop and electricians' workshop, as well as the main store for the mine. Today, a large part of the workshops is occupied by a blacksmith who operates on site most days. In various parts of these workshops (including upstairs) are an array of machine and industrial pieces. It is also used for storage of the collection and miscellaneous items.

Message to new participants

The Museum Standards Program encouraged and energised our Board and volunteers by highlighting our many organisational strengths.

Program outcomes

The program has helped us to identify opportunities for improvement and the assessors helped us to develop plans for improvement.

We have particularly focused on improving collection storage and are now developing a room specifically for the storage of small artefacts.

Image: The Bathhouse features a collection of impressive trade union banners. This space is also used for hired functions and special events.



Details

3 State Mine Gully Rd, Lithgow NSW 2790

02 6353 1513

statemin@lisp.com.au

www.statemine.org.au

Opening hours

Saturday, Sunday, School and Public Holidays, 12pm – 4pm

Booked tours at any time by appointment

Mt Victoria & District Historical Society Museum

Standards profile

This amazing museum is set in sixteen rooms of the heritage listed 1868 Mount Victoria Railway Station. It is part of the railway to the west which was built across the rough terrain of the Blue Mountains.

A display to commemorate the bicentenary of the crossing of the Blue Mountains has sketches, paintings and artefacts showing the work of the explorers, road builders, tradesmen and convicts.

The struggle of the settlers is shown by the nature of the tools and farm equipment, whose construction, use and maintenance required enormous physical effort.

The changing domestic scene is illustrated by costume and accessories, pottery, historic railways tableware, musical instruments and furniture. Development of the area as a tourism destination and industries such as mining are also depicted. Displays and information on unique local schools are a highlight. Many natural history items depict local and exotic wildlife.

An hourly train service from Sydney to the door runs at weekends. Wheelchair access to ground floor and car parking are readily available.

Message to new participants

Advice stemming from a close examination of the museum's operation was beneficial but be prepared the whole process is very time consuming.

Program outcomes

Discussing a disaster plan galvanised our members to ensure that our plans to provide safety if a fire broke out were improved.

Having experts look at how you are operating and giving feedback both positive and negative was helpful.

Image: Exterior of the Mt Victoria & District Historical Society Museum.



Details

Mt Victoria Railway Station, Mt Victoria NSW 2786

02 4782 7866

jeanwinston@iinet.net.au

mountvictoriamuseum.info

Opening hours

Saturdays, Sunday & Public Holidays 12pm to 3pm

Open every day of school holidays except Christmas Day

Murrurundi Historical Society Museum

Standards profile

The museum is in three buildings. A pioneer cottage which was removed from a farm at Timor and sited on council land in the main street (it is also the New England Highway). The second is an old wooden Presbyterian church which is used as an exhibition centre housing an important WWI exhibition. The old church was removed from its original site and situated alongside the third building, the former Literary Institute and now a museum.

Exhibition Centre:

The building is housing a four-year running exhibition of WWI highlighting the region's involvement in the Great War. Specially researched story-boards and borrowed objects make for an interesting visit. This year the building is also housing a Quilt exhibition which will run till mid-year followed by a display honouring the Vietnam War's Long Tan battle which occurred 50 years ago. Next year the hall will hold a special display of the light horse battles including Beersheba, which will go for the full year.

Pioneer Cottage:

The most interesting of Murrurundi's many historic buildings is the Pioneer Cottage in Remembrance Park on the New England Highway. This cottage was built around 1889. It is constructed of hardwood slabs faced on one side by a back breaking process with a pit saw. The other side of the slabs are left in their original round back state. The framework is of rough hewn hardwood all taken from the property or surrounding area.

The roof is of corrugated iron, the floors of milled cyprus, perhaps added at a later date. Earth floors were often used in those days.

Former Murrurundi Literary Institute:

The former Murrurundi Literary Institute at 127 Mayne Street is the home of the Murrurundi & District Historical Society.

Housed in one of the oldest towns in the Upper Hunter, Murrurundi museum was described as "a museum in itself; a museum without walls."

The building sits on the site of the old Court of Petty Sessions and Watch House which was a wooden structure presided over by Edward Mayne (the main street was named after him).

Message to new participants

The direction and assistance has put us in contact with other museums and art galleries in the region which has increased our awareness and lead to focused involvement with both community and regional programs.

Program outcomes

Murrurundi's rural history is the focus of a number of e-books we are now making available through our website

Our involvement with Museums and Galleries has prompted the move to make our history accessible to a much wider audience.

Image: The Literary Institute - One of the museum buildings.



Details

127 Mayne St, Murrurundi NSW 2338

02 6546 6664

secretary@murrurundihistoricalsociety.com

murrurundihistoricalsociety.com

Opening hours

Saturday and Sunday, 10am – 2pm

Every second Wednesday, 10am – 2pm

Open other times by appointment

Norman Lindsay Gallery & Museum

Standards profile

Discover the work of an illustrious local – visit the Norman Lindsay Gallery and its landscaped Roman-style gardens!

Once the home of artist and writer Norman Lindsay (1879-1969) this sandstone cottage and extensive grounds, located at 14 Norman Lindsay Cres, Faulconbridge, is now a gallery run by the National Trust, displaying the artist's impressive practice including watercolours, oils, etchings and ship models.

Perfect for a sunny afternoon stroll, the grounds are dotted with Lindsay's sculptures and fountains. A cafe provides an idyllic setting to dine in after viewing the gallery and exploring the grounds and picturesque bushwalk.

Changing exhibitions ensure that no two visits are the same. The 2015/16 exhibitions include: Billjims and Brothers (WW I); Fantasy of the Sea; and 'This Shrine- The Single Nude in Norman Lindsay's Art.'

Our guided tours offer exclusive access to Lindsay's painting and etching studios as well as his renowned Magic Pudding characters. Offered every hour, hear stories on Lindsay's life and career from our personable and knowledgeable volunteer guides.

The Norman Lindsay Gallery is a venue for many special events such as Life Drawing summer schools, Art and Literature workshops for Children, Jazz in the Garden, Winter Jazz and Winefest, or Christmas Carols.

Message to new participants

I would suggest to future program participants that we found it was a very useful process to be able to work our way through the things we wanted to put in place, and also to recognise the things we were already doing well.

Program outcomes

Based on recommendations from the Onsite Review, we carried out an assessment of our signage and have introduced two new signs at the entry to the property and plan to replace more of the old signs as funds allow. The outcome is that we now have signs which are much clearer and easier to read.

Our desire to have the full collection back on site at the gallery has also been achieved with the recent cleaning and return of all the artworks kept offsite for over 10 years, due to our inadequate storage facilities. The newly refurbished storeroom has meant that we are able to plan and work much more easily on providing interesting changing exhibitions.

Image: The Oil Room. Credit: photo by J. Miller.



Details

14 Norman Lindsay Cr, Faulconbridge NSW 2776

02 4751 1067

info@normanlindsay.com.au

www.normanlindsay.com.au

Opening hours

Open seven days 10am to 4pm

Closed Christmas Day

Sydney Cricket Ground Museum

Standards profile

Nestled alongside the heritage-listed Sydney Cricket Ground Members Pavilion, beneath the Ladies Stand, the SCG Museum is dedicated to the unique sporting and social activities that have occurred in the precinct since the 1850s.

The SCG Museum is accessible as part of the dynamic SCG Tour Experience, a 90 minute behind the scenes historical journey through the Sydney Cricket Ground, Allianz Stadium and the SCG Museum.

The museum is also open to Members and their guests on Test match and select domestic cricket match days.

The museum collection and our distributed collection of movable heritage located throughout the SCG and Allianz Stadium precinct focus on items that illustrate the development of the grounds and Sydney Cricket and Sports Ground Trust, as well as the sports men and women, presenters and entertainers who have performed at the grounds with state, national and international recognition

Program outcomes

One team member has taken on the role of developing a Disaster Preparedness Plan, working with staff across the Sydney Cricket Ground Trust, to integrate the museum's disaster preparedness with the broader emergency planning policies of the stadium.

Staff have begun writing comprehensive collection documentation process manuals so that volunteers can work in the confidence that all the documentation will be consistent. This is important as the SCG Museum moves to having all its collection available online.

Image: Exterior of the SCg Museum. Photo by Tamara Lavrencic.



Details

Entry via Venue Services Office, Allianz Stadium forecourt, Driver Avenue Moore Park, NSW 2021

1300 724 747

tours@scgt.nsw.gov.au

sydneycricketground.com.au/history/scg-museum

Opening hours

Monday to Saturday 10am – 11:30am

The SCG Museum is accessible to the public via the SCG Tour Experience, a 90 minute walking tour of the SCG, Allianz Stadium and the SCG Museum.

Tarella Cottage Museum

Standards profile

Tarella is a house museum occupying a spectacular setting with easterly views from the Blue Mountains to Sydney.

The house, one of the earliest in Wentworth Falls, was built as a summer retreat in 1890 for the McLaughlin family who bequeathed the house and collection to the Blue Mountains Historical Society in 1967. Many of the objects on display are provenanced to the the family - of particular note is the collection of military memorabilia belonging to Geoffrey McLaughlin who served in both Gallipoli and the Western Front during WWI and was awarded the military cross.

Come and visit us and experience the evolution of family life over 90 years – hear the Brunswick Gramophone played in the parlour, sit by the fire in the original kitchen in the colder months and ascend the steep staircase to the tiny bedrooms on the first floor!

On this same site, the Blue Mountains Historical Society (formed in 1946), operates a research centre which has an extensive archive of photographs, books maps, objects, digital and paper archives relating to the Blue Mountains and further afield. These are available for research.

Throughout 2016 Tarella Cottage Museum will be the venue for a series of exhibitions which will be on display as part of our regular Open Days on the last Sunday of each month. Everyone is welcome to visit on these days to see exhibitions which not only reflect the life and times of the McLaughlin family, but also depict aspects of Blue Mountains and Australian social history.

Tarella is owned and managed by the Blue Mountains Historical Society Inc. and our friendly and knowledgeable group of volunteers are here to welcome you.

The Cottage Museum now has its own dynamic Facebook page which is regularly updated and well worth a visit and a “like”.

Message for New Participants

Although organisations considering future participation in the Standards Review Program might be initially hesitant as they consider the task and the process which lies ahead of them, they should not be deterred by the unknown. Instead they should be aware that the M&G NSW organisation abounds with experienced, friendly and helpful people who are intent on assisting them to achieve the greatest amount of learning and the best possible outcome for them and their particular organisation.

Program outcomes

A great deal was gained from the opportunity to spend time with members of other similar organisations who were engaged in the same process of reassessment and redirection as we were, to have the opportunity to learn from each other's experiences.

It was extremely beneficial to have access to professional people with wide-ranging experience and understanding and to have them come to visit our space with its particular requirements and guide us on our journey towards achieving a new and revitalised direction.

Image: Tarella Cottage Museum.



Details

99 Blaxland Rd, Wentworth Falls NSW 2782

02 4757 3824

bmhs@bluemountainshistory.com

bluemountainshistory.com

Opening hours

Last Sunday of every month, 10am-4pm

Groups are welcome by appointment at other times

Trainworks

Standards profile

Since 1975 the historic town of Thirlmere in Sydney's southwest has been home to significant rail heritage collection, including over 100 rolling stock items, associated with the history of railways in NSW.

The 5-hectare rail corridor site and much of the collection is owned by the state of New South Wales and is managed by Transport Heritage NSW.

Be enthralled by the luxury of the palace on wheels, the Governor-General's luxurious, private carriage, used by the Queen in 1954, and be astounded by the sound and light show telling the long story of shunting locomotive 1021 in the theatrette. Be awed by the giant Garratt 6040, the largest type of steam locomotive in Australia, and captivated by the tiny pay bus, which was a mobile pay office for the workers on the railways. Take a walk up to the Roundhouse, our operating workshop where you can view the staff and volunteers maintaining our vast collection of running locomotives and carriages.

Come on a Sunday and enjoy a steam train ride up the historic Loop Line to Buxton during steam season, or join us for one of our fun-filled events, such as our ever-popular Days Out With Thomas.

Program outcomes

Staff used the opportunity to focus on policies and procedures. Documents had been written on an ad hoc basis over the past few years, but now everyone has a better understanding of the policies that have been written and which are important to develop in the near future.

The curatorial team has started the process of planning for a redevelopment of the displays and an interpretation plan will be developed.

Image: The main exhibition hall of Trainworks.



Details

10 Barbour Road, Thirlmere NSW 2572

02 4683 6800

info@trainworks.com.au

www.trainworks.com.au

Opening hours

Monday to Friday, 10am – 4pm

Saturday and Sunday, 9am – 5pm

Artspace Mackay

Standards profile

Artspace Mackay is a dynamic art gallery situated in an award-winning architecturally designed building. Centrally located in the city's cultural precinct, the gallery has a vibrant exhibition program, contemporary gift shop and alfresco cafe.

At its inception, the gallery inherited a significant collection of artists' books. Now the third largest in Australia, the collection has grown through the gallery's national artist book competition, The Libris Awards.

Artspace Mackay presents an exciting and engaging range of activities and events for all ages throughout the year. Rock Paper Scissors Art and Design Market held every July is a highlight in the gallery's calendar. The event provides a platform for local artists and designers to showcase their work.

Did you know Mackay born contemporary Indigenous artist, Danie Mellor, has a strong relationship with Artspace Mackay? The gallery now owns a number of significant works by the artist including locally themed artworks commemorating 150 years of European settlement in Mackay.

Message to new participants

The gallery staff felt this process was an extremely important one. It gave us a crucial opportunity to survey the services we provide to our community. It also highlighted the fact that we service not only our local Mackay Regional Council catchment, but also that we have an important role to play in the wider gallery sector. Our collection holds national significance, and because of this, it's important that we also consider how we can provide effective access for people across Australia, or even worldwide to our prestigious collection.

Program outcomes

Self-awareness for the gallery

The Standards Review Program gave us the much needed directive to 'make time' (where time is often the hardest thing to find) to take a long look at our 'reasons for being'. It was a real chance to stop and reflect on the gallery's purpose, our staff, our community, needs of stakeholders, and to take a realistic approach to our direction for the future.

Collection significance

We developed an action plan to enable the gallery to re-catalogue all items in the Mackay Regional Council Art Collection. This process will ultimately lead to better quality access for staff, the wider community, and academia to our nationally respected collection. It included a goal to have our collection accessible online.

Image: Artspace Mackay's Permanent Collection Gallery features works from the Mackay Regional Council Collection. Credit: Jim Cullen Photography



Details

Civic Centre Precinct, Gordon St, Mackay QLD 4740

07 4961 9722

artspace@mackay.qld.gov.au

www.artspacemackay.com.au

www.facebook.com/artspacemackay

Opening hours

Tuesday - Friday, 10am - 5pm

Saturday - Sunday, 10am - 3pm

Greenmount Homestead

Standards profile

Take a trip back to a more peaceful past with a visit to the heritage listed Greenmount Homestead, one of Mackay's most significant historical sites. This wonderful combination of a stunning homestead, beautiful grounds and fascinating collection tells the story of a single family, the Cooks. For three generations they were part of this place and left a record of their contribution to the region's history. This unique homestead is one of the only of its era in Australia still with a living connection to the family.

Be surprised by the art deco bathroom, moved by the children's drawings and fascinated by the architecture of a Queenslander. Walk through the impressive lead light and timber door into the cool and quiet interior and experience Albert Cook's vision for his family home. Explore the homestead, and discover everything from tea sets to the Model T Ford and relax with a picnic in the grounds.

Did you know Greenmount Homestead was a successful cattle stud? You can see ribbons, trophies, medals and other awards. Even the records still sit in silent testimony to the Cook family's endeavours.

Did you know that the grounds are a popular venue for weddings and other special occasions?

Did you know Greenmount Homestead celebrated its centenary in 2015? This marked 100 years since the homestead was built.

Message to new participants

The program appears daunting, but it is worth the effort. The Reviewers help you to focus on what really matters and inject fresh ideas and enthusiasm into your facility. Yes, there is paperwork to do, but for us the real benefit came from those conversations we had during the field visits – that's where the real benefits of this program really come to the fore.

Program outcomes

Planning and focus

The professional guidance and input that we have received during the Standards Review has given us a better sense of direction in terms of how we manage the collection at Greenmount, and in particular what areas we need to focus on in the short, medium and long term. This will help us to identify what resources are required to help us to achieve our goals, as well as providing our volunteer group with direction, motivation and ownership in the future of the museum.

Organisational structure

The review program has reinforced our need to become an incorporated body to provide our volunteers and visitors the best experience we can. Through an incorporated body, all volunteer policies and procedures will be reviewed, standardised and agreed by our management committee.

Image: Front view of Mackay's original historic Homestead. Credit: Mackay Regional Council



Details

Greenmount Rd, Walkerston QLD 4751

07 4959 2250

greenmounthomestead@gmail.com

www.mackay.qld.gov.au/community/council_facilities2/council_facilities/greenmount_homestead

www.facebook.com/greenmounthomestead

Opening hours

Sunday - Friday, 9.30am - 12.30pm

Mackay Regional Council Libraries Heritage Collection

Standards profile

Mackay Regional Council Libraries Heritage Collection hosts an extensive range of historical resources relating to the development of the Mackay region.

The collection includes reference books, original material, photographs, maps, newspaper archives, videos and DVDs. These items document people, places, activities, industries and events, and encapsulate patterns of life, development and progress in the region. The Heritage Collection section also actively engages in contemporary collecting of publications, images and ephemera.

The collection is used by family history researchers, local residents, visitors to the region and people connected to Mackay. Researchers can access unique publications including school histories, family histories and sugar industry records.

The extensive photograph collection is available for viewing online and also in hard copy. Online access to over 550 images is via vGallery, which can be found through the Library's catalogue.

Message to new participants

The Standards Review Program is well-structured; and, the facilitators and Reviewers are extremely supportive and approachable. The Program offers various opportunities for information and knowledge sharing and networking. The facilitators and Reviewers continually provide assistance and support through provision of constructive feedback and suggestions. An excellent program!

Program outcomes

The Standards Review Program allowed Heritage Collection staff to reflect on the amount of work already undertaken; and, provided an opportunity to review current processes to ensure a high standard of collection management and relevance is maintained

Image: Denman/Fordyce collection objects. Credit: Mackay Regional Council Libraries: Denman/Fordyce Collection



Details

Dudley Denny City Library, 134 Victoria St, Mackay QLD 4740

07 4961 9387

localhistory@mackay.qld.gov.au

www.mackay.qld.gov.au/libraries

www.facebook.com/mackaylibraries

Opening hours

Monday – Wednesday, Friday, 8.30am - 6pm

Thursday, 8.30am - 8pm

Saturday, 10am - 2pm

Noosa Regional Gallery (SEQ)

Standards profile

Noosa Regional Gallery is located on the ground floor of Noosa Council's main office, situated in the small village of Tewantin on the picturesque Noosa River. It is accessible by road or river. As the oldest regional gallery on the Sunshine Coast, the gallery is a major contributor to the creative industries in the region. It is the largest visual arts space on the Sunshine Coast.

The gallery presents a diverse annual program, featuring exhibitions by local, national and international artists. A dynamic range of activities and events designed for all ages accompanies the exhibitions.

The Gallery is supported by an energetic volunteer group and long-standing Friends Noosa Regional Gallery. Local artisans feature in the gift shop, with a range of unique homewares, jewellery, books and gift cards.

Did you know Noosa Regional Gallery initiated Floating Land art and environment symposium in 2001? The gallery has an extensive archive of digital images from photographers who have documented each program since its inception.

After your visit to the Gallery, be sure to sit outside and enjoy the fantastic river views.

Message to new participants

The timing to participate in the Standards Review Program was perfect. Accessing expert advice and working closely with the independent Reviewers and the M&G QLD staff helped the gallery make use of an appropriate phase of review, following the de-amalgamation of Noosa Council from its larger host council. During this review phase, the gallery (and Council) was more receptive to be challenged on the notion of reviewing the legacy of past operations and ascertain its collection position.

The process also encouraged us to think and act on strategy development to provide the gallery with direction to secure a firm position in its future within council and its role in the community, ultimately resulting with a sound case for a facility upgrade (including more prominent signage).

M&G QLD's support and delivery of the Program, and working with the independent Reviewers was very rewarding and validating.

Program outcomes

New Strategic Plan

A schedule of actions to develop a new Strategic Plan - a first for the gallery, providing direction and strength to firmly position its future and ultimately, a facility upgrade (including more prominent signage).

Clarity around having a Collection or not

A recommendation that artworks in council's possession undergo a significance assessment and not be considered a gallery collection, with the large archive of Floating Land digital images to be catalogued and accessioned into the Heritage Library collection.

Image: Inside Noosa Regional Gallery. Credit: Noosa Regional Gallery



Details

Ground floor, Riverside, 9 Pelican St, Tewantin QLD 4565

07 5329 6145

gallery@noosa.qld.gov.au

www.noosaregionalgallery.com.au

www.facebook.com/noosaregionalgallery

Opening hours

Tuesday - Friday, 10am - 4pm,

Saturday - Sunday, 10am - 3pm

Pioneer Valley Museum at Mirani

Standards profile

The Pioneer Valley Museum tells stories of the Valley, yet our rich history can resonate for all of Queensland.

Come and visit the heritage hub of the Valley. Explore stories about personalities, places and objects that help tell our history and give fascinating glimpses of our past.

Our heritage embraces Aboriginal and South Sea Islander culture, the rich industrial tapestry of cane, cotton, tobacco, timber and even gold, of the region and our natural environment. The museum boasts truly unique specimens including the *Pallimnarchus gracilis* fossil and rare cultural objects like the Amalgamated Workers Association Flag and the very first diesel loco to haul cane in the Mackay Region.

The personalities and identities of the Valley are entwined with the rich history that we share. If you are from near or afar, our collections and stories are here for you to explore.

Mackay is home to the largest community with Australian South Sea Islander heritage in Australia. Many members of this group are the descendants of men who were indentured to the sugar cane industry from the late 1800s. The Museum houses a display of authentic South Sea Islander artefacts collected by one of these families from their home islands.

The Township of Mirani once had a Magistrate's Court servicing the Pioneer Valley. Significant pieces of dressed pine furniture, including the prisoner's dock, a witness stand and Magistrate's chair from this Court House are now displayed in the Museum.

Message to new participants

It has been a very worthwhile exercise. As we progressed through the various stages of the Standards Review, we found that we gained a better understanding of procedures in managing a small rural museum and the challenges of future proofing our organisation. Our Reviewers were particularly encouraging in helping us to plan for potential changes to our Museum.

Program outcomes

The Standards Review Program reinforced the direction that our group is taking in developing the stories of local identities, particularly as this has already encouraged increased local interest in the Museum.

Discussions with the Reviewers have encouraged us to plan and undertake the process of the digitisation of the collection working in conjunction with the other museums in the Mackay Council region.

Image: First diesel locomotive used in the sugar industry in the Mackay region. Credit: Friends of the Museum



Details

Victoria St, Mirani QLD 4754

07 4961 9229

pioneer.valley.museum@gmail.com

www.mackay.qld.gov.au/community/council_facilities2/historical_centres/pioneer_valley_museum

www.facebook.com/Pioneer-Valley-Museum-490180477706428

Opening hours

Tuesday - Thursday, 9.30am - 2.30pm

Bowraville Folk Museum

Standards profile

The Bowraville Folk Museum was originally a General Store and became the Headquarters of the Voluntary Defence Corps during World War II. It continued to operate as a Department Store until the Museum opened in 1970.

Some of our more significant displays relating to local history include a log cabin, a local Presbyterian Church which was relocated to the grounds of the Museum, and the Boarding House set from the Umbrella Woman, which was filmed locally, and featured Bryan Brown, Rachel Ward and Sam Neill. We also have a working Blacksmith's Forge and several working agricultural machines.

Come and experience a rich collection of local material, pose on a side-saddle for a photo or pull the cord on the Lamson cash carrier that was used when the building was a department store.

Take advantage of our research facilities and delve into local family history or initiate a search into your own family.

The Bowraville Folk Museum is run by a committee acting on behalf of our members and the community of Bowraville.

Message to new participants

The Standards Program has woken us up to a lot of areas of museum work and the reviewers have suggested things we hope to implement. With the help of volunteers we're hoping to get all our plans done next year.

Program outcomes

New Museum Plan

The top priority is to develop a new museum plan. The strategic plan will cover exciting things like education programs for children and adults as well as new story boards allowing visitors to learn from the collection without a volunteer having to lead them through.

Nambucca Valley Museums

During the Standards year all the Nambucca Valley museums got together for a meeting that went really well. We're looking forward to working together in the future. We have discussed issues like sharing what is in our collections, which could lead to deaccessioning collection items and distributing them to other museums in the Valley where they will work better.

Image: The exterior of the Bowraville Folk Museum.



Details

86 High Street, Bowraville NSW 2449

02 6564 8200

bowravillefolkmuseum@gmail.com

www.nambucca.com.au/folkmuseum

Opening hours

Monday - Friday, 10am - 3pm

Saturday & Sunday, 10am - 1pm

Bunker Cartoon Gallery

Standards profile

The Bunker Gallery Cartoon Collection is possibly the largest collection of Australian and International cartoons in Australia. It numbers nearly 19000 cartoons (and growing), including historical cartoons from the early 20th century, as well as entries from the Rotary Cartoon Awards.

Over the last few decades, the technologies which have been introduced to the art of cartooning have changed dramatically. Contemporary cartoonists have a whole new tool box and palette to work with. What was once referred to as 'Black and White Art', due to the use of brush, pen and ink on white paper, usually worked over a pencil sketch has changed with the digital graphic art revolution. Cartoonists use the internet to source a wide variety of software programs, images and fonts as well as to send their works to publishers worldwide at the click of a mouse.

Hand coloured cartoons are now in short supply which makes the original hand drawn works produced prior to the digital age rare and historic in the use of drawing media. The most significant cartoons in the Bunker Cartoon Gallery's historical collection are:

- Two lithograph cartoons by Stan Cross
- A Percy Lindsay cartoon from 1930
- A Jim Russell original caricature of Uncle Dick from "The Potts" from 1950
- Monty Wedd's illustrations from the Stamp News
- Mark Lynch's cartoons which comprise 8 percent of the whole collection

Visitors can view exhibitions, learn about the history of the building, which is a WWII Bunker, and view cartoons in folders and purchase copies and use the cartoon reference library.

The Gallery also hosts local and emerging artists' displays and touring exhibitions. Please check the website for current and upcoming shows.

The Gallery is operated by Coffs Harbour City Council Community Services.

Message to new participants

Participating in Standards has been very beneficial to me in my role as Coordinator of the Gallery. I felt that I could sit down and have frank discussions with the Reviewers and gain some perspective. It has highlighted areas of my practice which are due for review, but it has also been great to get the boost from positive feedback about our exhibitions and database.

Program outcomes

Volunteer Recruitment

Next year we'll focus on getting together a volunteer recruitment policy. In the past we have waited for the volunteers to approach the Gallery, however, there does come a point where you need to look at the skills your volunteers have and actually go out and try to find those people in the community who have the skills that you still need.

Disaster Planning

We will also work on establishing the Significance of the collection. A flow on from this would be the emergency evacuation procedures for the collection. We will develop a priority list of which cartoons would be rescued first.

Image: The exterior of the Bunker Cartoon Gallery.



Details

John Champion Way, Coffs Harbour NSW 2452

02 6651 7343

bunkergallery@bigpond.com

www.coffsharbour.nsw.gov.au

Opening hours

Monday - Saturday, 10am - 4pm

Coffs Harbour Regional Museum

Standards profile

The aim of the Coffs Harbour Regional Museum is to reflect the social and cultural history of the Coffs Harbour Region with a primary, but not exclusive emphasis, on developing collections and exhibitions reflecting the relationships between the region's residents and the area's maritime and hinterland waterways.

Our vision is to bring Coffs Harbour's history alive!

The Museum has been divided into exhibition spaces with different themes that take the visitor on a journey from the area's earliest days, right up to the present. Coffs Harbour's maritime history will literally wash over visitors through the coastal soundscape that will greet them as they learn about life as a Solitary Island lighthouse keeper and enjoy a huge range of exhibits that show how our early city forebears lived.

Local Indigenous culture also takes pride of place in the new Museum with important objects from the museum collections and a new short documentary on Tony Hart, who is considered to be one of the area's finest Indigenous artists and craftspeople.

There is also a 'Communications Room' that houses a Morse code machine, phonograph rolls and a phonogram, a stereoscope and the magnificent, and quite enormous, projector from the famous TASMA cinema – to show the way we've listened, watched and learned has changed over time. Also on display are many of the unique and beautiful clothes collections from the nineteenth century onwards that local families have donated and, of course, our important archive of objects related to the city's 'founder' Captain John Korff.

The Museum has now converged with the Coffs Harbour library and gallery and this will enable us to provide a more professional and upgraded resource for our local community in the future. We will be able to move forward with digitising the collection and making it accessible to all. We have already been working with the library on our Picture Coffs Harbour project. We have been scanning and cataloguing our large collection of over 10,000 photographs. The web address for this is www.picturecoffsharbour.org

Message to new participants

Thank you M&GNSW for the program which has allowed us to go forward with confidence in the future of our museum.

Program outcomes

We have been successful in obtaining a VIM Development Grant to enable us to upgrade and complete our Strategic Plan

We believe that the Strategic Plan is the key for our future development. It indicates that we are endeavouring to upgrade our documentation and processes for the future.

Confidence

The museum is confident in its processes for its future development and prosperity.

Image: Students fascinated by the "Flintstone Cart", an old goldmining wagon. Photo by David Senoir.



Details

215A Harbour Drive, Coffs Harbour NSW 2452

02 6648 4847

museum@chcc.nsw.gov.au

www.coffsharbour.nsw.gov.au

Opening hours

Tuesday - Saturday, 10am - 4pm

Don Dorrigo & Guy Fawkes Historical Museum

Standards profile

The visitor can explore the stories of early settlement and the development of logging, sawmilling and dairying on the Dorrigo Plateau through themed displays. Temporary photographic displays related to annual town events, festivals and commemorations are a regular feature of the museum. Volunteers involved with the ABC Open Projects have produced short films that the visitor can view in the museum.

An extensive digitised photographic archive includes the A.C. Bennett Collection (circa 1911-16), Waterfall and A.E. Murray original glass negatives, community organisations, timber, dairying and farming industries, WWI & WWII soldiers, families, natural disasters, sporting events and the Dorrigo- Glenreagh Railway. Other important objects and collections include the Wharfdale Printing Press for many years used to print the Don Dorrigo Gazette, Buddy Williams' connection with Dorrigo, and the Dorrigo Hydro Electricity Scheme.

The Dorrigo Museum's primary focus is the collection and display of historical and contemporary material that encompasses objects, photographs, local histories and stories of people and place in both print and digital media as well as videos that capture the natural beauty of the Dorrigo landscape.

Since 2013 we've been engaged in a very successful program of regular theme-based visits to the local hostel. The program was established as a social event to tap into the memories of the residents. Other on-going projects include recording and documenting the histories of the Dorrigo Butter Factory, the Dorrigo Telephone Exchange, history of the western Plateau, and the local Red Cross.

In 2014 we were engaged in reviewing all museum practices through the M&G NSW Standards Review Program. In 2015 we'll be setting up a series of digital photo frames to complement major displays.

Message to new participants

Being involved in the Standards Program was a positive and productive experience. The program provided an opportunity to enhance our understanding of best practice museum management.

Program outcomes

During the Program we discussed with the Reviewers the operational differences of the Museum and the Historical Society. A positive outcome has been the establishment of a separate museum management committee.

The installation of six digital photograph frames to complement exhibitions. A VIM Grant provided funds to purchase metal shelving to install a typological exhibition of domestic items.

Image: Displays at Don Dorrigo & Guy Fawkes Historical Museum.



Details

24 Cudgery Street (cnr Cudgery & Myrtle Streets), Dorrigo NSW 2453

02 6657 1956

dorrigomuseum@y7mail.com

mgns.org.au/organisations/dorrigo-and-guy-fawkes-historical-society

Opening hours

Wednesday, Saturday & Sunday and throughout school holidays,
10am - 2.30pm

Kempsey Museum

Standards profile

Kempsey Museum explores the stories of the Macleay River District from Aboriginal prehistory to today, and its inhabitants in a 1983 Sir Zelman Cowen Commendation award winning building designed by Glenn Murcutt.

Some of our more significant displays relating to local history include the timber industry, local military history, maritime history and the Macleay River, indigenous inhabitants, domestic life and textiles, music, sporting and natural history, dairying, communications, farming and land transport.

Take advantage of our research facilities. We hold family research files, books, maps, microfilm and audio visual materials. As well as having access to the archives of the Macleay Chronicle and Macleay Argus, we also hold the nationally significant Angus McNeil Collection of glass plate negatives.

Come and experience the working model steam sawmill, marvel at the rowing skiff used by champion sculler Tom Saul, visit the schoolroom or Settlers Cottage or just sit and enjoy our recreated cottage garden.

The Kempsey Museum is managed by the Macleay River Historical Society.

Message to new participants

We were hesitant at first to join up because of our shortage of volunteer resources. As part of the program however we introduced a new induction package and guidelines for managing volunteers, and have actually increased our volunteer numbers in addition to other outcomes of the Program.

Program outcomes

Networking

Networking with other participants resulted in new ideas and sharing of these, for example a volunteer from Coffs Harbour attended one of our Educational Open days as an observer. We also produced a glossy brochure similar to one we saw from one of the other participants which has resulted in increased visitor numbers.

Documentation

The call for key documents for Activities 1, 2 and 3, resulted in a reorganisation of our Museum documentation, which has facilitated future Grant Applications. We now also have better documentation for volunteer training.

Image: Telephone display at Kempsey Museum.



Details

62 Lachlan Street, South Kempsey NSW 2440

02 6562 7572

Mrhs5@bigpond.com

www.kempseymuseum.org

Opening hours

Daily (except Good Friday and Christmas Day) 10am - 4pm

Mary Boulton's Pioneer Cottage & Museum

Standards profile

Sister Mary Boulton (1914-2003) had a long career in nursing and midwifery in the District. Her family connections to Macksville go back to the 1860s when her grandfather arrived in the area. Mary was inspired by a visit to America, where she experienced first-hand various forms of museums and public history, she decided to create a museum of her own in her local community.

Today, visitors can encounter the living conditions of the Nambucca Valley pioneers: the early 19th century furnished cottage in a delightful garden setting; a timber-getter's bark hut, a dairy where cans of cream were stored; tools and implements from the dairy, beef, banana and farm crop industries. Among the displays are household and personal items - including clothing that would have been cleaned using a 'blue bag' for whitening in a timber laundry trough.

Early businesses have not been forgotten with the meat processing display prominent; a seat from the first hotel and a rake used to harvest oysters. Parish maps of the district and charts of early town sub-divisions, numerous local history books, files and photographs, and staff to assist with research.

An Open-Day is held each year and a pioneer plaque wall is an on-going project.

Admission fees apply. The grounds are available for hire for marriage and naming ceremonies. Morning and afternoon tea catering is available for group tours.

This wheelchair friendly complex is managed by a volunteer committee.

Image: Exterior of Mary Boulton's Pioneer Cottage Museum.



Details

38 Gumma Road, Macksville NSW 2447

0487 911 682

maryphyllisboulton@gmail.com

<http://mgns.org.au/organisations/mary-boultons-pioneer-cottage-museum>

www.nambucca.nsw.gov.au

Opening hours

Wednesdays & Saturdays, 1pm - 4pm

Nambucca Headland Museum

Standards profile

The Nambucca Headland Museum in Nambucca Heads invites you to inspect their huge and interesting collection of local artefacts and memorabilia.

The Museum records and displays the history of the Nambucca Valley. There are several key features: one of the main ones is the 1916 Aboriginal School from Stuart Island, now incorporated into the Museum.

Other objects relate to the early timber and shipping industries and photographs of the trees and timber-getters and ships and shipping. The Royal Tar is especially interesting as it was not only the largest ship built on the coast of NSW when it was launched in 1876 but was purchased in 1893 by the New Australia Settlement Association and sailed to Paraguay.

The clothing and textile collection including fine lace and embroidery is a good record and counterbalance to the male industries on display.

Message to new participants

The reviewers really spurred us on. None of us are from the Valley, so we feel a big responsibility to respect the past members who have looked after the collection since the 1960s. But now we have four museums in the Valley, so we need to focus on our significant themes. The reviewers strengthened us by giving us great practical points.

Program outcomes

Rearranging and Deaccessioning

We have started to do some rearranging of displays and storage and have even begun deaccessioning. This will help us put on better displays of our more significant objects. In the rearranging process, we have come across objects that don't have relevance to our region at all! We have started developing new displays and have emptied out a corner of the school room for children's activities.

Focus on Indigenous Displays

The school building in the museum is the old Mission School building and was built in 1916. We have decided to focus on the building for its centenary in 2016. We have also developed a new interpretive panel with a Small Grant and also smartened up the indigenous display.

Image: Model yacht made from cow horn at the Nambucca Headland Museum.



Details

Liston Street, Nambucca Heads NSW 2448

02 6569 4353

nheadmuseum@midcoast.com.au

www.nambucca.com.au/museum

Opening hours

Wednesday, Saturday & Sunday, 2pm - 4pm
(Other times by appointment)

Kronosaurus Korner

Standards profile

Kronosaurus Korner is Australia's premier marine fossil museum, featuring over 1000 different and well-preserved fossils from Richmond in outback Queensland. The fossils on display provide fascinating insights into the creatures that survived in the ancient Eromanga Sea which covered Richmond 100 million years ago.

Marvel at one of the largest collection of marine fossils in the Southern Hemisphere. Come face to face with one of the largest pliosaurs that ever lived – *Kronosaurus* – a 10 metre long predatory marine reptile which had enormous terrifying crocodile-like jaws. Meet 'Penny' the plesiosaur – one of the most complete vertebrate fossils in the world, 'Wandah' – Australia's largest fish fossil, 'Minnee' – the most complete baby ichthyosaur yet found and 'Marlin's Beastie' – the limb bones of a completely new, long-necked sauropod dinosaur.

Dive in deeper with Kronosaurus Korner's audio tours. You can explore how these creatures moved underwater in the theatre and see first-hand the preparation of fossils with direct viewing into the preparation laboratory. You can also see the only reproduction/animation in the world that shows how Kronosaurs moved.

Take up the unique opportunity to accompany Kronosaurus Korner's resident palaeontologist on the 'Digging at Dusk' field trip to Richmond's famous fossil sites. These are held from May to August. Bookings can also be made for a week long 'CSI: Cretaceous Sea Monster Investigation' dig in July.

Enjoy the best coffee around and a bite to eat at the Moonrock Café and pick up a souvenir in the gift shop. With all this and more, Kronosaurus Korner is a not-to-be-missed highlight of the Australian Dinosaur Trail.



Message to new participants

We thoroughly recommend the Standards Program for any small museum wanting to improve their practices, whether it be for developing specific areas or advancing an organisation across the board. The Standards Program staff and reviewers were not only professional and accessible, but imparted invaluable information which will undoubtedly take our museum to the next level.

Program outcomes

Education Kit

Our new education kit will include strands from the Science learning area of the Australian Curriculum. Learning outcomes for foundation to year 10 students will relate to themes within our museum.

Collection Management

We are streamlining our collection database and making it available to various audiences online via eHive. Internal and external users will have access to images and information on collection items.

Image: Rob levers Gallery showing 'Penny' the plesiosaur
 Credit: Kronosaurus Korner

Details

91 - 93 Goldring Street, Richmond QLD 4822

07 4741 3429

enquiries@kronosauruskorner.com.au

www.kronosauruskorner.com.au

www.facebook.com/kronok

Opening hours

November - March, Monday - Friday, 8.30am - 4pm

Saturday - Sunday, 8.30am - 3pm

April - October, Monday - Sunday, 8.30am - 5pm

Maritime Museum of Townsville

Standards profile

Indulge your fascination with the sea...

Set on the banks of the picturesque Ross Creek, the Maritime Museum of Townsville holds many interesting treasures and tells the story of the maritime history of Townsville and surrounds. Friendly volunteers will greet you as you begin to explore the Museum.

Immerse yourself in the story of the SS *Yongala* and its fateful encounter with a cyclone in 1911. Tragically there were no survivors but eerily the mailbag washed ashore and after being dried, the letters were posted. You can see some of these in the display. There are also portholes, hatches, crockery and the evocative ship's bell from 'North Queensland's Titanic'.

The *Yongala* was a coastal passenger ship, which in the era before rail travel, provided a vital service to the coastal towns of Australia and her loss was widely felt. The mysterious disappearance of the *Yongala* triggered reports of a ghost ship often seen between Townsville and Bowen until the wreck was eventually discovered in 1958.

There is a fabulous model ship collection, which shows the intricacies of miniature shipbuilding. Many of these models were built using original ships' plans and are correct to the smallest detail.

You can also see the Bay Rock Lighthouse, *Beth* – an authentic harbor tender, the clinker built dinghy used in the movie *Australia* and an anchor purported to be from the *l'astrolabe*, French explorer La Perouse's ill fated ship.

Relax on the deck overlooking the sailing boats or have a picnic in the beautiful grounds where the kids can run around. You can purchase a souvenir or two and then head to the nearby Palmer St cafe precinct for a coffee.

Message to new participants

Our museum has undergone extensive changes in staffing throughout the review. This necessitated activities being reassigned to uninformed new staff. Despite this, the learning experience for those involved has been beneficial, providing the information, advice and motivation needed to continue.

Program outcomes

Participation in the Standards Review Program has increased our sense of pride for the enormous contribution made to the community over the past 28 years by those involved with preserving the maritime history of the region.

Museum representatives have thoroughly enjoyed their involvement in the Standards Review Program which has been both stimulating and challenging but what we most enjoyed is meeting the Reviewers who we found very professional, extremely helpful and very good company. They provided a wide range of information, experience and invaluable advice.

Image: Freemantle Class Patrol Boat, Ex HMAS Townsville
Credit: Royal Australian Navy



Details

42 - 48 Palmer Street, South Townsville QLD 4810

07 4721 5251

tmhs@bigpond.com

www.townsvillamaritimemuseum.org.au

www.facebook.com/maritime.museum.of.townsville

Opening hours

Monday - Sunday, 10am - 3pm

Queensland Maritime Museum

Standards profile

Queensland Maritime Museum boasts an array of objects that have changed the course of history – for Queensland, Australia and the world. A great place to come - you can spend hours here exploring Queensland's past. Look into the lives of sailors on board the *Diamantina* - the only one of her kind left in the world. See how they lived and worked or stand in the place where the final surrender of WWII took place. Come and find out about Z Force and their collapsible canoes or see first-hand the cramped conditions on Pearling luggers and imagine swimming in cumbersome dive suits.

Get hands on – touch, smell and experience part of Brisbane's early maritime history. The Museum grounds boast the fascinating colonial dry dock and pump house with huge sandstone blocks and great acoustics. And don't miss out on the Bulwar Lighthouse and collection.

Bring your picnic lunch, sit on the grass and enjoy the fantastic river views. There is room for the kids to run around and plenty to see. From the *Pink Lady* (where you can imagine the challenges experienced by Jessica Watson sailing round the world) and the tugboat *Forceful* to model ships, dinner services and artwork, along with guided tours and a gift shop, this is a destination for all the family.

Message to new participants

If you are genuinely committed to sharing your stories with a wider audience, keen to hand on your collection to the next generation and prepared to review your museum or gallery management then I can't recommend this program highly enough. The staff at M&G QLD do a fabulous job delivering this program and they are genuinely committed to helping your team as it undertakes the Standards Program. The external reviewers donate their time to help you gain the maximum possible benefits from the program. Give it a go - it is well worth the effort.

Program outcomes

Peer and Internal Reviews

Standards Program provided us with an excellent opportunity for peer review of our achievements against the core areas of museum practice. The reviewers provided a very balanced assessment that highlighted our strengths and the areas where we needed to have a re-think about some of our activities. The internal review took some discipline but was a valuable exercise that both reaffirmed that we are operating the museum soundly and identified those areas that needed attention.

Visitor Engagement

The program challenged us to reflect more on visitor engagement and how we can improve the visitor experience and the way we tell stories.

Image: HMAS Diamantina in the South Brisbane dry dock
Credit: Tim Nemeth



Details

412 Stanley Street, South Brisbane QLD 4101

07 3844 5361

info@maritimemuseum.com.au

www.maritimemuseum.com.au

www.facebook.com/queenslandmaritimemuseum

Opening hours

Daily, 9.30am - 4.30pm

Townsville Heritage Centre

Standards profile

Visitors to Townsville Heritage Centre receive a very warm welcome from the volunteer guides. Located near Townsville's impressive Castle Hill, visitors experience the rich heritage of the city during their tour of the historic home 'Currajong' and the 'Worker's Cottage'.

'Currajong' has a fascinating history during its nearly 100-year occupancy since 1888. Built as a villa residence for landed gentry the house also served as a military hospital during World War II, a monastery, and nunnery. The home has been beautifully restored to its 19th century décor and furnished of the era.

Adjacent to 'Currajong' is the 'Worker's Cottage', circa 1884. This quaint 1-bedroom dwelling gives visitors a great sense of the pioneering spirit of North Queensland. Your guided tour brings to life these marvellous dwellings set in carefully maintained spacious heritage-inspired gardens and expansive lawns.

View the fascinating Green collection of ceramics from the first Japanese Consulate in Australia, which was located in Townsville.

Message to new participants

Inviting someone in to review your organisation is a big step but the rewards are great. We now appreciate all of the activities we do well and have had professional advice, help and references that will help us improve other area that have been a concern for many years. The Standards Program is a real confidence booster.

Program outcomes

Collection Management

While our collection is well managed, we have revised our proposed collection storage areas and evaluated the appropriateness of these in terms of temperature and access. The Program has provided references to help us manage the collection more professionally.

Heritage Centre Management

As a first step towards recruiting more volunteers we have identified a set of work areas and are in the process of developing job descriptions for these.

Image: 'Currajong' historic building Credit: Tim Nemeth



Details

5 Casting Street, West End, Townsville QLD 4810

07 4771 5873

dorothy@gibwilde.com.au

www.nationaltrust.org.au/places/TownsvilleHeritageCentre

Opening hours

March - November

Wednesday, 10am - 1pm

Saturday - Sunday, 1pm - 4pm

Zara Clark Museum

Standards 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.

Message to new participants

The Zara Clark Museum group had some reservations when involvement in the Review was first proposed because of our fairly unique situation being a volunteer group responsible to the National Trust of Australia (Queensland).

We found the program to be of great benefit though, with some recommendations already put into place and others being worked upon at the present time.

Program outcomes

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.

Image: Zara Clark Museum building

Credit: Charters Towers Regional Council



Details

36 Mosman Street, Charters Towers QLD 4820

07 4787 3672

zaraclarkmuseum@hotmail.com

www.nationaltrust.org.au/places/ZaraClarkMuseum

Opening hours

Monday - Sunday, 10am - 2pm

Albury LibraryMuseum

Standards profile

This award-winning Albury LibraryMuseum brings state-of-the-art technology, engaging interactive exhibitions, reading and research together at one location.

The building was designed by nationally renowned architects Ashton Ragatt McDougall and is the first facility of its kind in Australia to house a library and museum under one roof.

The LibraryMuseum is a fantastic showcase for national and international touring exhibitions, and incorporates works from the Albury City Collection in our permanent exhibition Crossing Place. This world-class exhibition, told through an engaging collection of objects, oral stories and film, weaves together the story of Albury from its first contact with the Wiradjuri people, traditional owners of the land, to the city we know today. Crossing Place traces the settlement of Albury by land and water - its growth into a city through rapid post World War II immigration from the Bonegilla Migrant Centre, its federal ambition and the role of de-centralisation government policy on the region. Integral to the story is the Murray River, where children can explore a river installation via a special 'kids only' display of river artefacts, animals, sounds and smells.

Crossing Place is the starting point for many of the education programs offered by the LibraryMuseum. There is an education resource for school teachers, audio tour available and guided tours can be arranged for members of the public.

Message to new participants

We found the M&G NSW Standards Program very beneficial. The opportunities provided for self review, forward planning and organisational analysis were important for the LibraryMuseum and our strategic planning.

The process also, enabled us to work more closely with other museums in our region and build on these existing relationships.

Program outcomes

Self analysis

The process of identifying all existing AlburyCity policies, procedures and documentation that are relevant to the Albury LibraryMuseum was highly valuable. Having an existing checklist from M&G NSW, enabled us to cross reference against our existing policies and documentation and identify any outstanding gaps.

Valuing our volunteers

Our organisation has always acknowledged the skills and time provided by our local volunteers. However, the M&G NSW Standards Program highlighted the on-going volunteer contributions, their dedication, energy and support for the LibraryMuseum. In particular, the Albury and District Historical Society's relationship with the LibraryMuseum is essential to the care and documentation of the collection and our on-going success.

Image: Crossing Place exhibit.



Details

Corner Swift and Kiewa Streets, Albury NSW 2640

02 6023 8333

admin@alburycity.nsw.gov.au

www.alburycity.nsw.gov.au

Opening hours

Monday, Wednesday and Thursday, 10am - 7pm

Tuesday and Friday, 10am - 5pm

Saturday, 10am - 4pm

Sunday, 12pm - 4pm

Berrigan & District Heritage Museum

Standards profile

Berrigan is proud to be credited with several “firsts”. Civic minded Berrigan men took the lead in organising the first Corowa Conference on federation in 1893. The first Rural Fire Brigade in NSW was formed in Berrigan in 1901. The first Parents and Citizens Association in NSW was established in Berrigan.

Oral histories, federation information, fire brigade memorabilia and material relating to the Berrigan RSL, including guns, medals and uniforms are important features of the Museum. The Museum also houses the service records of Berrigan men and women who served in World War II, plus some from World War I.

There is an extensive collection of photographs and press cuttings of early farming and the coming of irrigation in 1939 via the Mulwala Canal. As well as materials relating to the Berrigan Schools, there are photographs and information on several district schools, which were active but have been closed for many years.

A heritage town walk brochure is available in full colour. This links with the main street buildings and corresponding wall plaques.

The Museum is still gathering oral histories and cross referencing those already in the collection. More wall plaques are being prepared for significant buildings and will total 20 on completion.

Berrigan and District Heritage Museum is managed by a committee of volunteers.

Message to new participants

It is well worth participating. Until our museum was subjected to inspections and suggestions, we volunteers were unaware of how we could improve our displays.

Program outcomes

Participating in the program demonstrated the need to simplify displays. Instead of having everything out at once, it is more interesting to store some items for a while.

We had several old double sided display cabinets. By cutting these in half we could put them against the walls to make the room look more spacious.

Image: Early calculator.



Details

60 Jerilderie Street, Berrigan NSW 2712

ndal@activ8.net.au

Opening hours

Wednesday, 9am - 11am

Any other time by appointment

Bishop's Lodge Historic House and Garden

Standards profile

Bishop's Lodge Historic House is a remarkable iron house and outbuildings designed and built in 1888 by Bishop Sydney Linton and architect, John Sulman. It incorporates innovative design ideas for mitigating Hay's extreme summer heat.

Bishop's Lodge is surrounded by a heritage garden featuring a remarkable collection of historic roses, some of which are unique.

The focus of the collection is the iron house built in 1888 as the residence for the Anglican Bishop of the Riverina. The small but significant collection is based around the families who lived there, its use as a hostel for school boys in the 1930s and 1940s, the heritage roses and the work of the committee since 1985.

Current programs include the labelling of the collection of heritage roses, school holiday programs, seasonal public programs around aspects of the collection and regular fundraising programs.

Bishop's Lodge welcomes visitors six afternoons a week and arrangements can be made for group visits at other times with prior discussion.

The volunteer management committee acts on behalf of the Hay Shire Council which purchased the property in 1985.

Message to new participants

The value of the program is in being able to hold extended discussions with reviewers who have wide experience in a range of museum settings and develop ideas and practices within this bigger picture.

Program outcomes

Investigation of volunteer recruitment programs

The action plan discussed on our final site visit should provide good guidance for developing a formal volunteer recruiting, training and recognition program.

Understanding success

We often don't recognise what our achievements and successes are in our small, isolated rural community. We need to rejoice in all achievements, be they small gains or significant forwards steps!

Image: Assortment of letters belonging to Mary Matthews.



Details

Moama Street, Hay South NSW 2711

02 6993 1727

Fax: 02 6993 4050

bishopslodge@westnet.com.au

www.bishopslodgehay.com

Opening hours

Daily, 2pm - 4.30pm

Corowa Federation Museum

Standards profile

Corowa's Federation Museum tells the exciting story of Australia's historical progress from being a group of independent, uncooperative colonies through to their people voting to form a unified federation. The critical role that the 'break through' 1893 Corowa Conference played in this outcome resulted in Corowa being recognised nationally as 'The Birthplace of Federation'.

On a walk down Corowa's main street you will see that the extensive Federation display in the Museum, is complemented by two major historical time lines and 14 historical plaques, all designed by the Museum's volunteers.

Australia's iconic painting, Tom Roberts' 'Shearing the Rams' was painted at Brocklesby Station near Corowa in 1890. A copy of the painting, together with details of its genesis and the personalities depicted, is featured near our shearing shed display.

We proudly display works by Tommy McCrae, a local 19th century Aboriginal artist, now nationally recognised.

Other significant displays include historical clothing, life through Corowa's first 150 years, agricultural equipment, a blacksmith's shop, saddlery, old medical and dental equipment and a mint condition, 1929 A model Ford car.

Our totally volunteer-operated museum is located in the very impressive purpose-built, Border Brass Band Building (1915) – its entry foyer being used for continually changing displays sourced from our extensive collections.

Historic Corowa with its unique Federation Museum is a 'must visit' for all Australians – young and old!

Message to new participants

While we were apprehensive about the demands involved with participation being placed upon our small numbers of volunteers, we quickly realised that the effort to be genuinely introspective and committed to a positive practical outcome.

Program outcomes

Increased positive focus on our strengths and weaknesses

Development of a more systematic approach to all aspects of our activities, prompted by the need to complete the Standards Questionnaire and our exposure to alternative ideas etc.

Acceptance of the benefits flowing from external inputs

While we were aware of problems with our collections, the Standards Program, plus input from others, forced us to directly address this subject now.

Image: Federation conference display 1893.



Details

Queen Street, Corowa NSW 2646

www.corowa.nsw.gov.au/visitors/attractions/200611222821.asp

Opening hours

Saturday - Sunday, 1pm - 4pm
Other times by appointment

Deniliquin & District Historical Museum

Standards profile

Our museum was built in the 1880s as a residence for Police Inspector John Dowling Brown, whose territory spanned a large part of south-western New South Wales. Occupancy by members of NSW Police ceased in the 1970s, after which the building fell into disrepair until the mid 1980s, when it was acquired by the Deniliquin & District Historical Society. With the support of Heritage Funding and many volunteers the building has since been increased in size and brought back to much of its early condition. It was opened to the public in 1994.

The Museum, which remains the property of Crown Lands, is managed by a group of trustees from within the Historical Society.

Since establishment the Museum has also served as a research centre. While both interests are still followed there is now a greater interest within the public and our members towards the collection and display of items of all ages.

Message to new participants

The Standards Program is well worth the effort. This program directs the membership/staff of your organisation to take a close look at how things are being done and how improvements can be made. The skill and knowledge of the reviewers has been beneficial to our museum.

Program outcomes

Volunteers

There is a renewed enthusiasm among the volunteers at the Museum. This in turn has led to an increase in the number of volunteers attending and contributing to the reorganisation of the Museum. A very positive outcome!

Support from M&G NSW

The reviewers were understanding of the limitations of our membership and supportive of our ideas and planning. The reviewers worked with us on suggestions to improve our museum and attract more visitors and volunteers. These suggestions have already benefited our society.

Image: Deniliquin & District Historical Society Museum.



Details

3 Macauley Street, Deniliquin NSW 2710

mgnsw.org.au/organisations/deniliquin-district-historical-society

Opening hours

Tuesday and Saturday, 10am - 4pm

Dunera Museum Hay Prisoner of War Interpretive Centre

Standards profile

The Museum houses exhibits, photographs and stories about the experiences of internees, Prisoners of War and the townsfolk of Hay.

In July 1940, the Commonwealth government agreed to accept 6,000 internees from the United Kingdom. German, Italian and Japanese civilians internees and Prisoners of War were kept in three Prison Camps at Hay between 1940 and 1946 including the Dunera Boys. They were guarded by more than 600 members of 16th Australian Garrison Battalion.

The SS Dunera brought 1,984 German Jewish refugees aged between 16 and 45, who had escaped from Nazi occupied territories. Also on board were 200 Italian Prisoners of War and 250 Nazis. They arrived at Hay on September 7, 1940 as the first internees of the British Government World War II policy in Hay.

The collection comprises various objects including a soccer jumper, newsletters, passport, artworks, a suitcase and documents.

Program outcomes

A future project is to build a new, solar powered, shed to be used as storage and a conservation space. We plan to offer some of the storage space to the other Hay museums.

Image: Outside Dunera.



Details

421 Murray Street, Hay NSW 2711

02 6993 2161

dunera23@bigpond.com

www.hay.nsw.gov.au/Museums/DuneraMuseum/tabid/99/Default.aspx

Opening hours

Daily, 9am - 5pm

Griffith Pioneer Park Museum

Standards profile

Explore the history of Griffith and the Murrumbidgee Irrigation Area as you walk around—and into—an extensive collection of buildings and artefacts from the region.

Within these and throughout the Park are many of the machines, tools and other artefacts from the history of Griffith and the construction of the Riverina's 'food bowl'.

From the 'Mallee Roller' used to clear 1300 acres of scrub through to unique harvesters, there are original inventions and many examples of the ingenuity that contributed to making the region productive.

Recent additions include museums dedicated to Italian migrants and local wineries, as well as an increasing number of historical items from Griffith such as dresses that feature on a national register and the famous Knitted Garden exhibit.

GPPM is staffed by a (part-time) Curator, Business and Administration Coordinator and a Technical Officer.

We also have a management committee who meets monthly and approximately 20 volunteers who undertake the day to day operation of the Museum, including shop front, catering, gardening and general maintenance.

Message to new participants

New participants will only benefit from this program. There is nothing better than a visit from our city peers – they bring with them ideas and encouragement. No question or problem is too big for M&G NSW, they go out of their way to supply you with information and good advice.

Program outcomes

Facilities operations, internal procedures and policy updates

Standards Reviewers reviewed our updated policies and offered several suggestions and invaluable comments. We plan to have these documents completed and passed and are currently working towards utilising volunteer's work hours better in all operational procedures of the Museum.

Networking and professional advice

M&G NSW have passed on achievements and inspirational ideas from rural museums, thus expanding our knowledge of other museums' success stories. Having the opportunity to seek advice from professionals in the museum field has given staff and volunteers a greater understanding of sound museum practices.

Image: Tango Joe's was a focal point for the community at Bagtown. This reconstruction holds the original items from the 'dry' bar. Photo by Jason Richardson.



Details

Cnr Remembrance Drive and Scenic Drive, Griffith NSW 2680

02 6962 4196

Fax: 02 6964 2815

pioneerparkmuseum@griffith.nsw.gov.au

www.griffithpioneerpark.com.au

Opening hours

Daily, 9.30am - 4pm

Griffith Regional Art Gallery

Standards profile

Griffith Regional Art Gallery holds two major collections which include the Griffith Couture Collection by designers Ross Weymouth and John Clarringbold. This collection includes 12 winning garments from the Australian Gown of the Year Awards and the Masters of Fashion Awards. The National Contemporary Jewellery Collection is our other significant collection which includes acquisitions from the Gallery's biennial National Contemporary Jewellery Award.

The size of our exhibition space allows us to show one exhibition at any given time and can include up to ten exhibitions annually. Our program includes collection exhibitions, touring shows, exhibitions by local artists and community shows.

Complementing our exhibitions, the Gallery programs a variety of public and educational programs for our region that caters to all ages. Our public programs include workshops, master classes and artist and curator talks.

The Gallery is located in the right wing of a classic 1930s art deco building designed by Architect Arthur Buckley Long and is situated in the heart of Griffith's city, designed by Walter Burley Griffin. The Gallery is a cultural facility of Griffith City Council and is supported by Arts NSW.

Message to new participants

The Standards Program was a great assistance to our Gallery. At times it can be challenging but it has been worth it.

Program outcomes

Collection

The Standards Program helped us identify areas in our collection management to make working with our collection more time efficient which includes policy development, disaster preparedness and management software.

Community

Being an asset for our community is important to the Gallery and having discussions with our assessors about ideas that have worked for them in their various roles has helped us plan for the future.

Image: National Contemporary Jewellery Award.



Details

167 Banna Avenue, Griffith NSW 2680

02 6962 8338

Fax: 02 6962 6119

gallery@griffith.nsw.gov.au

www.griffithregionalartgallery.com.au

Opening hours

Wednesday - Friday ,10am - 5pm

Saturday - Sunday, 11am - 2pm

Griffith War Memorial Museum

Standards profile

The Griffith War Memorial Museum is managed by a committee of volunteers. The Museum has permanent exhibitions in a heritage building in Banna Avenue Griffith.

A Roll of Honour celebrates and acknowledges those members of the Griffith community who lost their lives in Australia's campaigns. Photos and service records are on display for each of those servicemen.

Each Anzac Day a new exhibition is set up to feature a different aspect of Australia's military campaigns and the involvement of members of the Griffith community. In 2012, the Museum celebrated the 70th anniversary of the Women's Land Army with an anniversary luncheon and launch of a special exhibition. The Land Army permanent exhibition includes service records, photos, letters, uniforms and diaries associated with members of the Land Army who were stationed in Griffith during WWII.

The 2013 Anzac Day exhibition features Australia's participation in the Korean War with an additional exhibition focusing on the contribution of members of the Indigenous community in Australia's military campaigns.

Australia's involvement in military campaigns in WWI, WWII, Vietnam, and Afghanistan are presented with displays of military equipment, uniforms, maps and photographs.

Message to new participants

We have been provided with information and ideas to bring our museum in line with acceptable museum management practice and not been intimidated in the process.

Program outcomes

The Standards Program provided us with information about museum and exhibition management and administration. We have been provided with ideas and projects which will attract volunteers.

We have looked at our record keeping and have decided how to integrate the paper/book records with digital records which we realise are essential for the future of the Museum.

Image: Ammunition on display.



Details

167-185 Banna Avenue, Griffith NSW 2680

02 6962 9716

gwm@westnet.com.au

www.gwm.org.au

Opening hours

Thursday - Friday, 10am - 2pm

Saturday, 11am - 2pm

Hay Gaol Museum

Standards profile

Opened in 1880, the state heritage listed Hay Gaol has an intriguing history. Over the last century, it operated as a gaol, a maternity hospital, a locked hospital for the insane, a prisoner of war detention centre for Japanese and Italian prisoners, an institute for girls and now finally a museum. Come and explore Hay Gaol and find out its history!

Wander through the gaol and discover stories of its past. Learn how the prisoners of war were able to escape from such a tight fortress. See the van that the girls were transported in under the darkness of night. Think about what it was like to spend time in the solitary cell.

Through objects and stories, Hay Gaol Museum explains the social history of the Hay district and its people. See the significant farming and plant equipment in the Nickless collection, marvel at the old Clyde wooden windmills and find out why the National Maritime Museum has one of the region's Aboriginal bark canoes. These are some of the many stories at the Hay Gaol Museum – there is something for everyone.

The Apex Park in the Gaol grounds is a great place for a picnic, and it has play equipment for the kids too.

The Gaol Museum is the hub of Hay's stirring Australia Day celebrations, which start with a hearty breakfast, flag raising ceremony and presentation of the town's citizenship awards.

Message to new participants

You should be in this program! You might think "all this work! What are we going to do?" I am not that good on the computer but there is so much help. You should go for it. It will make a big difference to your museum if you do this program.

Program outcomes

Better networking between the five Hay museums

The Standards Program has got us all up and running again. We have received so much feedback from the reviewers and M&G NSW staff who have lent their expertise and led us along the way. I feel sure this is another step in the right direction for all the museums in Hay.

Image: Cells at Hay Gaol Museum.



Details

Church Street, Hay NSW 2711

02 6993 4045

mail@hay.nsw.gov.au

www.hay.nsw.gov.au/Museums/GaolMuseum

Opening hours

Daily, 9am - 5pm

Hay War Memorial High School Museum

Standards profile

Hay War Memorial High School Museum is located in the original building of the Hay War Memorial High School which was built in 1923 as both a high school and the town's war memorial to honour those who served in World War I. It is managed by the Hay War Memorial High School. The collection preserves stories of Hay and District war service and the life of the school.

The Museum is currently developing a digital project. The HWMHS Museum was chosen as a prototype for the NSW Office of Veterans' Affairs Anzac Community Grant Scheme. The digital project aims to engage school students and young people with their Anzac heritage and promote greater understanding of this. One of the outcomes of the project will be a series of professionally produced video clips about individual Hay service personnel across the twentieth century. The designers are also providing the school with a template for the continued production of these clips. Another aspect of the project has been the development of a comprehensive photographic record of the many HWMHS ex-students who have joined the armed services, from World War II through to the present day.

Message to new participants

The Standards process provides opportunities to reflect and regroup. These opportunities are often difficult to create in small volunteer-run museums.

Program outcomes

Exhibition planning

The action plan for our next exhibition is practical and achievable. It was great to bounce ideas off experienced museum personnel.

Assessment of current state of the Museum

Always good to hear the objective comments from professionals with wider museum experience.

Image: Exterior of Hay War Memorial High School Museum.



Details

Pine Street, Hay NSW 2711

02 6993 1408

Fax: 02 6993 1223

ml.gardam@det.nsw.edu.au

www.haywarmem-h.schools.nsw.edu.au

Opening hours

Monday - Friday, 9am - 4pm in NSW school terms

Holbrook Submarine Museum

Standards profile

Our prize exhibit is a genuine WW II “Jolly Roger” flag from a British submarine, it is one of only three dozen world-wide that remain from over 300 British and Australian submarines that operated in time of war.

We have the original above water line superstructure of the Oberon Class submarine HMAS OTWAY set within beautiful parkland. Also, a large scale model of Lt. Norman Holbrook VC's submarine B11.

We have recently completed re-building HMAS OTWAY'S original Wardroom (Officer's quarters) in front of our control room within the Museum. The 7 original masts are back on the Otway with the Radar mast rotating during daylight hours.

In the Museum you will see the extraordinary Hologram in which Mrs G. Holbrook tells the fascinating story of her husband's brave exploits on B11 in 1914 and the subsequent name change of the town (the theatre seats forty and is wheelchair friendly). You will see an original torpedo tube with a torpedo mounted. Both rooms are full of interesting artefacts and information.

Then to finish (without having to go underwater) you will enter the main passage from HMAS OTWAY and be able to sit in the officers wardroom and experience what it would be like to live in a submarine, before going aft into the red lights of the control room. You may look through the periscope to see 360 degree views of Holbrook and take as many photos as you like.

Near the exit there is a photographic exhibition showing how the Otway was transported and re-built here in Holbrook. Then don't forget to sign the guest book!

Message to new participants

We are at a stage where we needed to be better organised in all departments and lift the Museum's profile. By participating in the Standards Program we have added knowledge to achieve our aims in the future development and running of a quality submarine museum.

Program outcomes

A five year future plan

We will have a document to use and guide us in the right directions to achieve continuity for the Submarine Museum's future development.

Find some major stakeholders

If we can attract some long term sponsors this will help to improve the overall quality preserve and display the collection in the best possible ways.

*Image: HMAS Unsparing Jolly Roger flag.
Credit: Photo by Paul Temple.*



Details

Cnr Albury and Wallace Streets, Holbrook NSW 2644

PO Box 99 Holbrook

02 60362422

Fax: 02 60362422

lryan@greaterhume.nsw.gov.au

www.holbrooksubmarinemuseum.com

Opening hours

Daily, 10am – 4pm

Peppin Heritage Centre

Standards profile

There is a legend in the Riverina that has spread throughout the country. It is the tale of a sheep that evolved in the 1860s on the famous saltbush country - and went on to become the backbone of the nation.

The Peppin Heritage Centre, located in the old Deniliquin Public School, tells the story of the legendary Peppin Merino and the men and women who created them.

The dedication and struggles of these pioneering families is brought to life with the displays and stories throughout the centre. The historic Warrison Ram Shed, old Wanganella Gaol, Struggle for Water exhibit, and the comprehensive history of many of the properties along the Edward River all help tell the story of the incredible Peppin Merino.

Visitors can also reminisce in the authentic old school room complete with original school desks, blackboard and school photos. Memories both good and bad are often told of 'the good old school days'. It is a great resource for today's schoolchildren who are taken back to an era they find hard to imagine.

Our main gallery allows visitors and locals access to excellent travelling and local exhibitions and we strive to have a varied program throughout the year. Exhibitions from Sydney Living Museums, the South Australian Maritime Museum, Australian War Memorial, Museums & Galleries of NSW and the Bald Archy Awards have all been on display in the past. Our local displays have included vintage and high fashion, artworks and district history.

Located on the banks of the Edward River, Deniliquin's Peppin Heritage Centre incorporates the Visitor Centre and Crossing Cafe and is not to be missed when visiting our picturesque town.



Message to new participants

We would recommend the program to all museums as it is a great way to look closely at how your centre is run, where you require help, what you are doing correctly and, above all, the importance of your museum to your community.

Program outcomes

The program allowed us the opportunity to look at the Peppin Heritage Centre as its own entity rather than just part of Deniliquin Tourism. It will allow us to update our policies and procedures and in particular compile a comprehensive collection list of the Centre's acquisitions.

The Centre is strongly recognised by the Deniliquin Council and Deniliquin Community as an important asset to tourism and needs continued support.

Image: Trikes, Trinkets & Treasures temporary exhibition in the Peppin Heritage Centre main gallery.

Details

George Street, Deniliquin NSW 2710

03 5898 3120

Fax: 03 5898 3129

info@deniliquin.nsw.gov.au

www.denitourism.com.au

Opening hours

Daily, 9am - 4pm

Shear Outback

Standards profile

A visit to Shear Outback is a truly unique experience. Learn about Australia's legendary shearers – their culture, their stories, their passion and their language. See a live shearing demonstration in the old historic Murray Downs Woolshed, talk to the shearer and feel the wool straight off the sheep's back.

Wander around the Shearer's Hall of Fame and the Shear Museum where there are hands-on interactives including Jackie's Howe's blades. See if you can beat his unbroken record for blade shearing which has stood for 100 years.

In the grounds, explore the wooden maze based on sheep circling during roundup and marvel at the fully restored James Bennett wool wagon.

The magnificent homestead garden is a real showpiece looked after by an enthusiastic group of volunteers who are proud of their achievement, especially during the drought.

The café opens from 10am – 3pm and offers a nice break to grab coffee and a delicious cake or a meal. Before you leave, drop into the shop to pick up unique Australian gifts, Australia wool products, that special shearer's singlet or an Australian book.

Shear Outback is located at the junction of the Sturt and Cobb Highways in Hay NSW – halfway between Sydney and Adelaide. There is disabled access to all areas, coach and caravan parking, tours and fully catered packages.

Message to new participants

We needed a professional approach to museum practices and dealing with volunteers and the reviewers provided this. Much appreciated.

Program outcomes

Volunteers

Understanding the processes for recruitment of volunteers eg. skills targeting.

Community involvement

Seeing how all five museums in Hay have benefitted from the expertise of M&G NSW reviewers.

Image: Billy shearing at Shear Outback.



Details

Cnr Sturt and Cobb Highways, Hay NSW 2711

02 6993 4000

Fax: 02 6993 4915

info@shearoutback.com.au

www.shearoutback.com.au

Opening hours

Daily, 9am - 5pm

Woolpack Inn Museum

Standards profile

Step into the past.

22 rooms within a historically significant hotel (The Criterion – or the “bottom pub” to the locals!), transport you back to when Germanton/Holbrook was a young town in rural New South Wales.

The Woolpack Inn Museum is the perfect place to learn about this time, when a Rabbito had his horse drawn hut to camp in at night; Grandma used to hand sew, bake and cook, using her wood fired stove, and Granddad ploughed the paddocks with the help of horses and caught the rabbits for dinner.

Wander through the 22 rooms, including the Holbrook room (local Holbrook and district history), the medical room and the old kitchen and dining room, just to name a few. Then head out the back to our re-established garden and have a look at the antique farm machinery, the bakery house and the old schoolhouse. See the “Rabbito’s Hut”!

Message to new participants

We needed a professional approach to museum practices and dealing with volunteers and the reviewers provided this. Much appreciated.

Program outcomes

So many things to do!

If your museum is looking for help, ideas, new directions and great assistance, you’ll find it here with the Standards Program. It’s great to see other museums’ goals worked for and obtained. We’ve so much to do, but at least we now know how to go about it.

2014 – A big year ahead for administration

In 2014 we will be writing, rewriting and collating a comprehensive “Operations, policies and procedures manual”. Having goals is a beneficial key to our future success.

Image: Woolpack Inn Museum windmill.



Details

83 Albury Street, Holbrook NSW 2644

02 6036 2131

info@woolpackinn.com.au

www.woolpackinn.com.au

Opening hours

Daily, 9.30am - 4pm

Closed Christmas, New Years Day and Good Friday

Australian Stockman's Hall of Fame & Outback Heritage Centre

Standards profile

Australian Stockman's Hall of Fame and Outback Heritage Centre is an excellent museum and cultural facility located in Longreach, western Queensland. Welcomed by the impressive bronze statue of the ringer, symbolic of rural heritage, the visitor is taken on a journey into the heart of Australia: 'A vision splendid of the sunlit plains extended and the wondrous glory of the everlasting stars'.

The five high quality displays provide an insight into Australia's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander heritage, the early exploration and rural expansion, the pioneering settlers and their hardships, the development of the great pastoral empires and how the marvellous Royal Flying Doctor Service overcame isolation. For the urban visitor it opens a fabulous window into a significant Australian story.

Significant objects and artefacts include: wool wagon, stockmen's equipment, pastoral property journals, early explorer's artefacts, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander artefacts, artwork, hawker's wagon, rural sports and 16,000 images. Small collections from prominent Australians such as Sidney Kidman, Smoky Dawson, Jimmy Sharman, Hugh Sawrey and R.M. Williams give depth to the collection.

Visitors can take advantage of light refreshments in the Wool Bale Café or a lovely meal at the Cattleman's Bar and Grill. There is also the Outback Traders that carries a range of souvenirs, crafts, hats and books and jewellery.

Message to new participants

The program will be valuable to you in various aspects of the way you manage and promote your museum. It has been very useful for the Stockman's Hall of Fame to develop exhibitions and manage its collection.

Program outcomes

Exhibition improvements

The Hall of Fame now has a better understanding of how it can improve its displays with simple changes to labelling and implementing a methodology of rotating display objects.

Collection management

Advice given by the Reviewers around relocating sensitive items in the collection and the rearrangement of the collection store has proved very useful.

Image: The iconic bronze statue of a Ringer by Eddie Hackman in front of the Australian Stockman's Hall of Fame and Outback Heritage Centre. Photography by David Masel.



Details

Landsborough Highway, Longreach QLD 4730

07 4658 2166

museum@stockmanshalloffame.com.au

www.outbackheritage.com.au

www.facebook.com/Stockmanshalloffame

Opening hours

Monday - Sunday, 9am - 4pm

Springsure Art Gallery

Standards profile

The Springsure Art Gallery, located at the Springsure Library, was built in 1988 by the former Bauhinia Shire Council and is well positioned for locals and tourists in the main street. For 25 years the art gallery has been an inviting community meeting place for cultural and arts events, becoming a cultural icon and focal point for the district.

The art gallery sits within a multi-purpose space incorporating the public library and local heritage collection. The gallery provides an attractive and well-designed venue for local and touring exhibitions. The annual exhibition program includes shows by individual artists, art groups, school groups, and annual competitions.

The gallery manages two important collections: artists' works from the Springsure and Rolleston districts and a local heritage collection of photographs and documents from the 1860s.

A major art piece acquired by council in 1997 by Tracey Dallas titled "Carnarvon Ranges- Land of Rainbow Gold" depicts her father George Dallas on horseback in the breathtaking Carnarvon Ranges. Contemporary acquisitions include a steel sculpture titled "Price of Life" by Wally Peart, the winner of the 2012 Springsure & Rolleston Districts Biennial Art Competition. The gallery also holds a display on a unique local horse stud put together by the Queensland Police Museum titled "Rewan: A Stud Farm for Breeding Police Horses 1909-1933".

Message to new participants

Springsure Art Gallery sincerely thank the Museums & Galleries Queensland team, voluntary Reviewers and local community for their joint efforts in delivery of positive changes.

Program outcomes

Organisational recognition

Through the Standards Review Program the Gallery and associated collections could be recognised as the valuable community assets they are. Standards offered direction as to the best preservation and maintenance practices for these assets, essential to organisational budgeting. The Reviewers were an invaluable resource for the establishment of new organisational frameworks for service delivery and strategic planning.

Community support

The Standards Review Program highlighted the strength of community support for this valuable community space and highlighted the enormous contributions of existing volunteers as well as previously unrecognised associated workload. It emphasised the positive achievements and assisted with practical and strategic management support for best practice into the future.

Image: Acquired by Council in 1997 painted by Tracey Dallas titled "Carnarvon Ranges- Land of Rainbow Gold" (detail) depicts her father George Dallas on horseback in the breathtaking Carnarvon Ranges. Photography by Janine Mahady.



Details

27 Eclipse Street, Springsure QLD 4722

07 4984 1265

www.centralhighlands.qld.gov.au

www.facebook.com/chrclibraries

Opening hours

Monday - Friday, 9am - 1pm & 2pm - 5pm

Saturday, 9am - 12pm

Emerald Art Gallery

Standards profile

Emerald Art Gallery provides the local community with a high profile exhibition space, located in the Central Highlands Regional Council offices in Emerald. The gallery is managed by a group of dedicated volunteers who promote art in the community through programs including exhibitions, floor talks, visiting artists, openings, competitions and workshops.

The exhibition space is large and bright with impressive hanging space and regularly shows paintings, photography and sculpture. The purpose of the gallery is to encourage, stimulate and promote local and regional cultural and artistic activities through an active and diverse exhibition program made up of touring shows and local artists.

The Emerald art collection was established as early as 1970 and has steadily grown through an annual acquisitive art award. The collection consists predominantly of oil or acrylic painting on canvas. The Emerald Art Award, the gallery's premier art event, attracts local and interstate artists and is held annually in November.

Other exhibitions include: solo exhibitions, group exhibitions and exhibitions from organisations and institutions. Exhibitors include: artists, art and craft groups, secondary and tertiary schools, community organisations and people wanting to exhibit social and historical material.

The Emerald Art Gallery has been bringing arts to the Emerald community for more than two decades since a former Shire Councillor recognised the need for arts and culture in the rapidly growing town. The visitors' book records that the gallery is appreciated not only by locals but also by the many visitors passing through Emerald while exploring the Central Highlands.

Message to new participants

By participating in the Standards Review Program the Emerald Art Gallery has a better understanding of their way forward in the future and cemented its relationship with the Central Highlands Regional Council. EAG is also aware of and is utilising the support available to them from M&G QLD.

Program outcomes

The understanding of a need for a MOU between Council and the Gallery Committee

While verbal communication has sufficed in previous years, the importance of having an understanding in writing between the two parties for the future of the Gallery has been realised.

Awareness and Significance of the Collection

A recent valuation on a significant painting in the collection, by a qualified art valuer, has enlightened Council and progress is being made on having the whole collection assessed.

Image: CHRC Offices and Emerald Art Gallery, featuring Margaret Worthington's artwork 'Place-time Sticks'. Emerald's past, present and future are all represented here in every element. The shapes are based on roadside and water markers found throughout the region. Photography by Lisa McNamara.



Details

65 Egerton Street, Emerald QLD 4720

0428 774 687

emeraldqldartgallery@gmail.com

www.centralhighlands.qld.gov.au/facilities-recreation/art-galleries/emerald-art-gallery

www.facebook.com/Emerald-Art-Gallery-466794970060035

Opening hours

Monday - Friday, 9am - 5pm

Grassland Art Gallery

Standards profile

2013 Gallery and Museum Achievement Awards. Special Commendation, Organisations: Staff of under 4

The Grassland Art Gallery is a public exhibition space located centrally in Tambo and is free to visit. The front façade of the building references an historical shop that occupied this site in earlier times.

The Gallery is the only Council-supported, purpose-built, climate-controlled facility within a 300 km radius, extending from Longreach to Roma.

The Grassland Art Gallery has a contemporary cool and inviting exhibition area that has a running space of 40 metres. It has a rotating exhibition program of locally produced and curated displays, regional artists and touring exhibitions.

The Gallery offers a large community workshop and meeting space that is well equipped for a range of events and activities. It is the cultural hub that also connects and interacts closely with the historical precinct in presenting Tambo's rich cultural heritage. A relaxing courtyard connects the Gallery and workshop spaces.

Message to new participants

Initially the program appeared daunting, but it is a logical process that encourages you to examine your procedures and actions and provides access to professional advice and a wealth of information that can only help you to improve your practices and ultimately improve your outcomes.

Program outcomes

Motivation

Participation in the Standards Review Program has provided a renewed motivation and direction for the Grassland Art Gallery. The importance of plans, policies and procedures has been reinforced and we are committed to ensuring these are kept current and 'alive'.

Greater community ownership

The program has reinvigorated the volunteer committee associated with the gallery and reinforced the necessity of current plans, policies and procedures to ensure smooth programming and presentation of engaging exhibitions.

Image: Grassland Art Gallery. Courtesy of Blackall Tambo Regional Council.



Details

30 Arthur Street, Tambo QLD 4478

07 4621 6600

cfo@btrc.qld.gov.au

www.btrc.qld.gov.au/grassland-art-gallery

www.facebook.com/grassland.artgallery3

Opening hours

Monday - Friday, 8.30am - 4.45pm

Longreach Powerhouse Museum

Standards profile

A hidden gem, the Longreach Powerhouse Museum boasts a state-registered heritage complex that showcases the rare technology of gas-fired electrical generation.

Visit the well-preserved generation buildings to see the gas-producers, eight enormous generators from different periods, and explore the plant as it was on the last day of operation. Look out for the quirky details – the works siren, the Shift Manager’s “office” or the only 1600 class Diesel locomotive on display in Queensland.

While visiting the Longreach Powerhouse Museum, you can find out more about the history of Longreach, the capital of the outback. Go back in time at Nogo cottage where the life of yesteryear is seen in all its rustic glory. The local history of Longreach, settled in the 1870s, is presented with a recreated schoolroom, and interesting artefacts from pastoral, commercial, social associations, and an unusual airport control centre from the 1970s. In the grounds we feature a collection of rural machinery with the unexpected extremes of a 1930s Thomson River flood boat and the local fire engine from the 1960s.

Come along Tuesdays to Fridays from April to October, to experience this unique destination or make the most of our vibrant open days, twice a year. Book ahead for informative group tours.

Message to new participants

I started this program to get a better understanding of the Powerhouse Museum with Collection Management and the general overall Management of the Museum. I feel I have now obtained the tools and confidence in what direction and outcomes that I now want to achieve with Powerhouse Museum. The mentors and facilitators of the Standards program made participating so much easier for me and also were available to help with any questions that I had.

Program outcomes

Understanding and direction

The Standards Review Program has helped me gain a better understanding of the direction of where the Powerhouse Museum is heading. It has also helped me gain support from community groups eg. Longreach Historical and Archival Group Inc.

Collection management

Since doing the Standards Review Program I have now recognised that the Powerhouse Museum’s collection data needs to be up-dated so Council can move forward. The Standards Review Program has given Council the tools to do so.

*Image: Generators 1,2 and 3 on the Powerhouse generating floor.
Courtesy of Outback Pics.*



Details

12 Swan Street, Longreach QLD 4730

07 4658 4150

visitinf@longreach.qld.gov.au

www.longreachtourism.com.au/longreach1

Opening hours

April - October, Tuesday - Friday, 9am - 12pm

Qantilda Museum

Standards profile

A visit to the Qantilda Museum is the essential Winton experience. Operating since 1972, Qantilda has been a part of the Waltzing Matilda Centre since 1998, until a tragic fire at the centre in June 2015.

It showcases an extensive collection drawn almost exclusively from the Winton region. Visitors can explore:

- The treasure trove of history within Christina MacPherson Cottage
- The lives of some amazing women of the outback
- Tools for working the land in the Machinery Shed and Vehicle Shed
- How Winton rode 'the sheep's back' in the Shearing Shed
- A BB 18 Class Steam Locomotive resting at the original Chorregon Station
- A mini Reading Room in the Railway Carriage
- The air conditioned Sarah Riley theatre, to view a film telling the story of Waltzing Matilda and plans for the future

In the bottle room you will find a bottle for every occasion – drink bottles, perfume bottles, water filtering and ornamental bottles.

The Chorregon Railway display features the BB 18½ Class Steam Locomotive. Queensland Rail donated this locomotive to the museum. It is situated adjacent to the old Chorregon Railway Siding, which from 1927 until January 1987 was one of the principal sidings situated on the Winton - Longreach Railway Line. The siding was dismantled and moved to the museum in 1994. The carriage, which contains a first and second class compartments, was also donated by Queensland Rail. This carriage and other railway exhibits form part of the display.



Message to new participants

While it involves quite a deal of work, the M&G QLD Standards Review Program offers great benefits to participants in terms of knowledge of your collection and its value to your local community as well as to the community at large. It is also an opportunity for members to realise that as volunteers, they have created displays that rank reasonably well alongside other small museums across the state.

Program outcomes

Significance and relevance

We now have a much better idea of the significance of our collection, both in terms of overall collection and individual items.

Caring for our collection

As a group we received many practical tips and procedures for better conserving and preserving our collection as well as displaying our more fragile objects.

Our knowledge from the Review Program has been invaluable in the treatment of historic artefacts salvaged from the fire. The support received from professionals post-fire has enhanced the skill base of our volunteers.

Image: Merry-go-round made by Eric Bryce c. 1954. Courtesy of Rob McQueen.

Details

50 Elderslie Street, Winton QLD 4735

0427 573 053

museum@matildacentre.com.au

www.matildacentre.com.au/museum

Opening hours

Monday - Sunday, 9am - 4pm

QANTAS Founders Museum

Standards profile

A visit to the QANTAS Founders Museum takes you back to where a national icon began. The Queensland and Northern Territory Aerial Service originated in outback Queensland in 1920. The Museum commemorates the founders of QANTAS and, centred around the original historic 1922 hangar, tells the story of the only surviving airline in the world to have built its own aircraft. This account of struggle, perseverance and success is truly an Australian story.

The Museum houses quality exhibitions that include historic photographs, objects, memorabilia and inspirational stories. Film clips of QANTAS advertising provide an entertaining insight into the fashion and values of past decades. There are also multi-media displays, interactives and flight simulators. You can see everything from wheel chocks to china cups and models to the real thing.

Take one of the amazing tours of the plane enclosure and be awe inspired as you walk under, through and maybe even on, the wing of a 747. Walking through the 707, use your imagination to picture what it would have been like to be on tour with Michael Jackson in this very aeroplane.

Don't leave without visiting the McGinness Restaurant for tasty eats and the Founders gift store for quality souvenirs.

Message to new participants

We went into this process because we believe in the importance of striving to be the best we can be in all parts of our operation. We learnt we're doing well but we now have access to mentors whose knowledge, experience, enthusiasm and support is making it possible to progress to an even higher level than we'd imagined. The work involved, especially in the self-reviews can be challenging but absolutely worth doing. A great program!

Program outcomes

Improved collection management

The knowledgeable advice from our Reviewers has encouraged us to examine and reconsider all aspects of the way we manage our collection and to refocus our priorities and processes.

Ongoing professional support and networking

Being involved in the Standards Review Program has built relationships with experts in the museum field, broadened our professional networks and opened access to a range of funding sources.

Image: Main Exhibition Hall. Courtesy of QANTAS Founders Museum.



Details

Longreach Aerodrome, Sir Hudson Fysh Drive, Longreach QLD 4730

07 4658 3737

info@qfom.com.au

www.qfom.com.au

www.facebook.com/QantasFoundersMuseum

Opening hours

1 December - 1 March, Monday - Sunday, 9am - 4pm

2 March - 30 November, Monday - Sunday, 9am - 5pm

Closed Christmas Day and Boxing Day

Ram Park

Standards profile

Ram Park is an historical complex located in the main street of Blackall, which hosts a number of relocated buildings important to the region including Navena Homestead, Yalleroi Railway Station and the Yalleroi School. Also set in the relaxing surrounds of the complex is the Blackall Visitor Information Centre housed in the historic Blackall Railway Station.

Take a step back in time and visit the Navena Homestead complete with personal objects used by the McLean family during the operation of their extensive property. Relocating buildings is a long established Queensland tradition. In the 1900s the homestead was relocated in four parts from Mount Morgan to Blackall by bullock wagon over a distance of 615 kilometres.

You can also see the Blackall Queensland Ambulance Transport Brigade rail motor, a rare survivor from Queensland Ambulance history. Originally built in 1923 it was used effectively when roads were closed due to flooding.

Displayed at the front of the complex is the Big Ram from whom the complex takes its name. It symbolises the importance of the sheep and wool industry for the development of Blackall and surrounding regions.

A visit to Ram Park is a must when visiting Blackall. It complements other historical attractions including the Black Stump, Jackie Howe Museum and the Blackall Woolscour.

Message to new participants

At first the idea of joining the program was daunting, but the benefits soon became very evident. We have learnt and benefited in so many different areas and the resources and help were always on hand. A most constructive and productive program. Recommended for everyone!

Program outcomes

Collection significance and display

Staff now have a greater understanding of the significance of some of our collection and how to display items to their best advantage.

Organisation and work structure

A better focus on how to plan and structure the work required, as well as the development of documentation and policies and the need to continually update them.

Image: The Big Ram. Courtesy of Blackall-Tambo Regional Council.



Details

145a Shamrock Street, Blackall QLD 4472

07 4657 4637

binfo@btrc.qld.gov.au

Opening hours

Monday - Friday, 9am - 5pm

Adelong Alive Museum

Standards profile

Visitors to Adelong Alive Museum are greeted by unique security screens depicting early Adelong history and inside will find three permanent galleries showing the gold mining era, social and commercial development, and the role of the CWA in the growth of the town since its proclamation in 1858. There is also space for travelling and in-house exhibitions, normally changed every six months.

The permanent collection includes selected objects associated with the main museum themes but concentrates on documentation and photographs to accommodate storage and exhibition space.

A celebration of the museum's first decade included an invitation which listed the major achievements in exhibitions, public programs and funding infrastructure.

The museum is closely associated with the heritage listed Adelong Falls Gold Mills Ruins. One very exciting feature in the museum which attracts visitors of all ages is a scale model of the Reefer processing mill and several items associated with the processing of gold-bearing ore.

Adelong Alive is a volunteer initiated museum founded in 2000 and located in the former Country Women's Association (CWA) rooms in the main street of Adelong.

Its management is by an elected committee with advice from a professional Museum Adviser.

Image: Associated site – Adelong Falls and Gold Mill Ruins. Credit: Photo by Chris Gateley.



Details

86 Tumut Street, Adelong NSW 2729

02 6946 2579

adelongalivemuseum@bigpond.com

www.adelongalivemuseum.org.au

Opening hours

Saturday - Sunday, 11am - 1pm

Visitors welcome at other times - please ring for an appointment

Batlow Museum

Standards profile

Significant items and themes of the collection include:

- Restored 1932 Dennis Fire Brigade
- Mountain Maid Cannery
- Australian Women's Land Army
- Batlow's Hydro Electric Power Supply
- Stained Glass Window from the 1826 Scot's Church Sydney.

The Batlow Museum also commemorates the life and achievements of Herbert Velvin Smith OBE. H.V. Smith, as he was known, was a visionary who made things happen.

His name can be associated with:

- The formation of the first cool store in NSW
- The formation of Co-operative Fruit Marketing
- The development of the railway to Batlow to allow market access
- Mountain Maid Fruits
- Birds Eye Fruits
- Organising the Women's Land Army in Batlow
- Supplying dried vegetables to the allied troops from a cannery in Batlow
- Organising the Lady Wakehurst Hostel for land army girls
- Later turning that Hostel into Batlow Hospital
- Arranging and lobbying for Willigobung soldier settlement blocks
- Lobbying for the abolishment of Compulsory Government Acquisition.

The Museum provides exhibitions for local festivals, dinners and events and recently provided the backdrop for the book launch of local author Sulari Gentill's book Miles off Course.

A major development is about to commence to expand the premises and house the original Batlow Hydro Electric Power Station.

Batlow Museum is operated by Batlow Historical Society in the disused St Andrews Presbyterian Church at 12 Tumbarumba Road Batlow. The Historical Society owns the Church.

Message to new participants

Don't be afraid, only good can come from the Standards Program. At times it seemed daunting, but in the end the help and mentoring received from our Reviewers gave our Society a new lease on life, and inspired us to turn our collection of old objects into a Museum of objects, subjects and significant items.

Program outcomes

Our collection and significant items

The program renewed the enthusiasm of the whole committee. We have started turning our collection of old things and things not so old into a museum collection. The renewed enthusiasm has seen our membership increase by 55%.

Managing the Museum

Standards 2012 has highlighted shortfalls in the way we manage our collection and Society. We see an urgent need to upgrade policies or write policies that did not exist. Working with the reviewers has enabled us to maximise our profile.

Image: 1932 Dennis Fire Engine.



Details

12 Tumbarumba Road, Batlow NSW 2730

Opening hours

During daylight savings
Sunday, 10am - 12pm
Other times by appointment

Greens Gunyah Museum

Standards profile

Our most significant collection relates to Brookong Station; a nationally important story that illustrates changes in land tenure, land use and the character of rural settlements from when they were first settled in the 1840s through to the 20th Century.

Other collection highlights include WWI and WWII memorabilia, garments made from locally developed Bond Wool, farm machinery, a working Lamson Cash Exchange System and an archive of family and district histories.

We are also home to the Doris Golder Gallery of layered wool art, a unique and fascinating art form consisting of portraits and landscapes constructed in natural coloured fleece wool. Donated to the people of Lockhart by the local artist, this collection has become a focal point for tourists to the area.

Message to new participants

We needed practical know-how and support. We certainly received both. The program enabled us to evaluate our strengths and weaknesses and to appreciate and acknowledge the steps we had already taken.

A worthwhile project which we will now be able to put into practice with the support of our new Museum Advisor.

Program outcomes

We were able to evaluate our strengths and weaknesses and to have a clear plan for the years to come for our displays and buildings.

We realised that we needed to do more for our volunteers, to involve them more in the general running of the museum and to maintain interest and recruitment if the museum is to advance.

Image: Doris Golder Gallery.



Details

45 Urana Street, Lockhart NSW 2656

02 6920 5674

Opening hours

Wednesday - Sunday, 9.30am - 4.30pm
Or on request Monday and Tuesday

The Pioneer Women's Hut

Standards profile

The Pioneer Women's Hut (PWH) is recognised nationally as a unique museum dedicated to preserving rural women's heritage. Professor Donald Horne in *The Intelligent Tourist* cites the Pioneer Women's Hut as the most innovative small museum in Australia.

The PWH concentrates on collecting the everyday objects that were used in the home, embracing the many stories from the women who made and used these objects. The collections are displayed in themed displays relating to rural domestic history.

The diverse collection ranges from a "Swaggie's" jam tin pincushion to quilts that have crossed the oceans with stories to tell. The make-do-and-mend-ethic is particularly strong including examples such as a truck driver's rug made in the 1960s, a patchwork dressing gown from around 1920, packing case furniture, decorations made from kerosene tins and the rich collection of quilts from all around Australia.

The strength of the quilt collection led to development and launch of the internationally acclaimed National Quilt Register in 1995, and the opening in 2011 of a new Heritage Quilt Museum and its first exhibition "Gift of Thrift".

Message to new participants

Make the most of every opportunity offered by the reviewers. They understand small museums and the challenges and limitations we face - they are always encouraging, provide sensible solutions and are never disparaging. Museums throughout the state will reach a new, higher and exciting level as a result of Standards.

Program outcomes

We became more organised with the building up of a Policy & Procedures folder. This will be very beneficial for maintaining our standards into the future with new volunteers.

We were encouraged to lift our image. The wonderful reviewers gave us a boost to our morale - to be proud of what we've achieved and to make the most of opportunities for promoting and lifting our profile.

Image: Early childhood display.



Details

Wagga Road, Tumbarumba NSW 2653

PO Box 192, Tumbarumba NSW 2653

02 6948 2635

www.pioneerwomenshut.com

Opening hours

Wednesday, 11am - 4pm

Saturday - Sunday and most Public Holidays, 10am - 4pm

Temora Rural Museum

Standards profile

2013 Imagine Awards.

Winner, Exhibitions: 1-2 Staff

The Temora Rural Museum is the centrepiece of Temora's vibrant new social heritage precinct, the Bundawarra Centre.

Set in landscaped grounds, the Museum offers an amazing variety of exhibits and working examples of rural technology that recall the historical experience of living and working in the Temora community.

The many features of the display include a cottage of hardwood slabs that was the first home of Australia's best known cricketer, Sir Donald Bradman, a one room public school, bush church, country dance hall, printing works, flour mill, ambulance station and fire station.

The memorabilia of noted boxing promoter and showman, Jimmy Sharman, a comprehensive working display of sound technology and a fully furnished pioneer cottage complement a gallery dedicated to the impressive rock and mineral display created by Temora businessman, the late Athol Stean.

Decades of collecting and restoration have provided the Museum with an outstanding array of tractors, vehicles, stationary engines and agricultural machinery, much of which is maintained in working order.

A dedicated temporary exhibition space, named for Temora's first European settler, Valentine Lawler, hosts visiting exhibitions and feature displays drawn from the Museum's large collection of clothing and textiles.

Each year on the second Saturday in March the Museum celebrates its anniversary with a packed program of live exhibitions featuring cottage crafts, bush trades, music and vintage machinery demonstrations.

A highlight of the day is the grand parade of classic tractors led by a 1915 Jelbart.

Message to new participants

Standards helped us appreciate the need to identify and address issues we do not manage as well as we can, even with resources we already have. This timely review will have lasting benefit for us as museum managers.

Program outcomes

The Standards Program highlighted for us the need to formalise our policies and procedures so that they clearly articulate our corporate objectives and can therefore guide our strategic planning.

Image: The interior of the Bradman Cottage.



Details

29 Goldfields Way, Temora NSW 2666

02 6977 1291

ruralmuseum@temora.nsw.gov.au

Opening hours

Monday - Sunday, 9.30am - 5pm

Tumut Historical Society Museum

Standards profile

The focus of Tumut Museum is on our collection of Miles Franklin memorabilia, the Historical Photographic Collection and items of agricultural machinery relating to the Tumut district. We also collect other items of significance to our community.

In the past few years, with grants from the Tumut Community Foundation, we have followed a refurbishment program to update each room in the Museum to improve access to the collection and display areas.

We received a Community Heritage Grant in 2011 for a Significance Assessment of the collection focusing on our Miles Franklin Room. A Heritage Grant from Tumut Shire Council has allowed us to begin to restore an historic Columbus engine which was used in early agriculture.

Recently Tumut Museum launched the Doctors, Nurses & Midwives exhibition and have begun gathering material to publish a book on Tumut – the Early Years.

The Tumut Museum is managed by the members of the Tumut & District Historical Society which was formed in 1964. It is run by a small but dedicated committee of 25 members.

We work closely with the Tumut Shire Council, Tumut Family History Group and Adelong Alive and Batlow Museums. We are supported by Tumut Shire Council and our Museum Advisor, Annette Brown.

Message to new participants

The Standards Program has given us the opportunity to rate our museum practice against national standards. By self assessment and peer review we have gained valuable insights into best practice for community museums. A very worthwhile program.

Program outcomes

Museum practices

The self assessment process set out in the Standards Program has given us the opportunity to rate ourselves against what is considered to be best practice in the museum community.

Pride in our members and our museum

The valuable input of the review team, networking with peer groups and documenting our achievements and shortcomings have been invaluable exercises. The confidence engendered in our members will assist us in planning for the future.

Image: Susan Hoad Sample - 1866.



Details

63 Capper Street, Tumut NSW 2720

02 6947 9899

tumut@tpg.com.au

Opening hours

Saturday - Sunday, 1pm - 4pm

Up-to-Date Store

Standards profile

The Up-to-Date Store and Cultural Precinct, located in the heart of the historic township of Coolamon, is owned by the local Shire Council and managed by a committee of volunteers.

The collections include the:

- Lamson Cash Railway System in the Up-To-Date Store.
- The diary of H.G. Fosse (1886-1960), who landed at Gallipoli on 25th April 1915, in the RSL Museum.
- A John Bull wagon built in 1916 by Bennett Wagons in the Garth Jones Agricultural Exhibition.
- The first garment and a recording of Mavis Furner telling her story in the Mavis Furner Collection of Crochet and Knitted Garments.
- A working scale model of the HV McKay Sunshine Hay Binder which took three years to make in the 1960s and 70s by local farmer, Reg Godde.

Recent achievements include installing the Reg Godde Collection of Working Scale Model farm machinery and the opening of the cultural precinct - which includes a popular café featuring arts and crafts from the Coolamon district.

Image: Up-to-Date Store exterior.



Details

Cowabbie Street, Coolamon NSW 2701

02 6927 3206

www.coolamon.nsw.gov.au

Opening hours

Tuesday - Sunday, 10am - 4pm

Wyalong Museum

Standards profile

The Wyalong Museum is situated in the historic Wyalong Court House. The building, with unique interior and exterior features, was erected in 1900 by renowned architect Walter Liberty Vernon and shows many of his innovative ideas on light and ventilation. The heritage court room with cedar woodwork and holding dock is in its original pristine condition. School children are encouraged to role play in a mock court case to better understand the procedures and legalities of a courtroom.

The Museum features seven rooms with kitchen, dining and bedroom. There are displays of domestic, social and rural objects. Military memorabilia is a key exhibit focusing on local VC winner from World War Two, Corporal Reg Rattery. There are also temporary exhibitions and public programs.

The collection of early wagons, tractor and sulkies are housed in a purpose-built shed on the precinct. The Museum holds extensive archives of the history of the area, including over 2000 photographs of pioneers and early Wyalong streetscapes. Newspapers from 1894 to 2000 are also held at the Museum.

The Mining Room features the town's long association with gold mining including the story of Mr Fred Neeld the founder of gold in 1894, which led to the development of the township.

Message to new participants

We didn't know what we were doing when we first started, however as the Program progressed we began to recognise what we had achieved and what we needed to work on for our Museum to become more professional and successful.

We are aware that this will involve some hard work, however the Reviewers have structured us a program to show us the way and we feel confident of achieving our goal!!

Go for it!!!!

Program outcomes

Recognising our strengths and weaknesses

The Program helped us identify the strengths and weaknesses in our Museum. The Reviewers gave us quality direction to become a more professional organisation, many of the procedures were simple and easy to implement.

Volunteers and marketing

The Standards Program gave us strategies and ideas to improve the service we give to our volunteers and the community. Our goal now is to implement these ideas in our organisation thus becoming a happy and well run Museum.

Image: 1900 Courtroom.



Details

69 Neeld Street, Wyalong NSW 2671

02 6972 3303

www.wyalongmuseum.com.au

Opening hours

Monday - Sunday, 2pm - 5pm

Australian Sugar Cane Railway

Standards profile

At the Australian Sugar Cane Railway, located in Bundaberg's Botanic Gardens, qualified personnel operate restored sugar cane coal fired steam and diesel locomotives hauling cane wagons modified to carry passengers. Accredited with Queensland Transport and registered with Workplace Health and Safety Queensland, their award winning volunteers provide train rides along two kilometres of the narrow gauge track every Sunday, during school holidays and by arrangement.

Skilled members of the Bundaberg Steam Tramway Preservation Society Inc carry out maintenance and restoration of the locomotives largely on site. In 2008 ASCR's four-year restoration of the Invicta won the Association of Tourist and Heritage Rail Australia's Steam Locomotive Restoration Award after members with a myriad of skills contributed in excess of a million dollars worth of labour.

Also operating is the first steam locomotive purchased by Millaquin Sugar Mill to replace horse haulage in 1914, known locally as Germany. Two Bundaberg Foundry built locomotives, No 1 and No 3 complete the steam fleet. A diesel hydraulic locomotive built by E M Baldwin & Sons, Castle Hill, Sydney named Valdora, purchased when Nambour's Moreton Mill closed in 2003, shows the progression of transportation from the field to the mill.

Message to new participants

The meetings with the review committee were well attended by society members most of whom had not been exposed to the ideas of correctly managing a working museum.

Members and management were impressed with the quality of information given to them by M&GSQ reviewers. These discussions certainly changed the doubters in the group and have turned the organisation around in as far as realising the importance of the rolling stock we are preserving.

The society was quite impressed that on review days we were shown items we never had thought of as worthwhile pieces of interest such as old tools that we still use today maintaining the steam locomotives.

We learnt so much from the Standards Program that we would thoroughly recommend it to other museums particularly "Historical Operational Railways".

Program outcomes

Community partnerships

We are involving the regional council with greater understanding of the railways operation and management particularly with regard to interface agreements required for road crossings within the gardens complex.

Disaster planning

Shared responsibilities with the regional council in regards to emergency procedures has been ongoing with good cooperation in the best ways to manage potential disasters.

Image: Invicta with Graham and Reg. Photography by Ross Driver.



Details

Young Street, Bundaberg QLD 4670

07 4152 6609

secretaryascr@yahoo.com.au

www.qldrailheritage.com/ascr

Opening hours

Sunday, 10am - 4pm

Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday and Sunday during school holidays

Bundaberg and District Historical Museum

Standards profile

The Bundaberg and District Historical and Museum Society Inc. collects and preserves the heritage of the Bundaberg region.

The original Museum's collections may have been dispersed in the 1940s but the current Museum keeps memories alive by displaying the heritage associated with Bundaberg's many industries and its social life.

The extensive photographic and archival collections include a wealth of local knowledge from the 1800s to the present day; capturing, amongst other things, people's lives, buildings and events. The archives are available for research and can be accessed by anyone for a small fee.

The collection includes significant objects such as the "World Quilt" sewn in 1933 by Margurite Vuichoud; the unique Lucke Quad's Cyclops designed pram, as well as a magnificent display of birds collected locally and taxidermied by Charles Skyring in the 1870s.

Message to new participants

We enlisted to undertake the Standards Program as a benchmark we wanted to attain for our museum. We were pleasantly surprised to find how much we already had implemented. The Program assisted our members to ensure we were on the correct path to continue improving our museum's practice to preserve our local history.

Program outcomes

Assessing our displays through different eyes

The Standards Program gave members the opportunity to look at our displays in a new way. Improvement ideas were discussed and implemented.

Review of our policies and procedures

During the Standards Program all Policies and Procedures were reviewed and updated. This proved a good refresher to members and reinforced where the Policies and Procedures were to be found.

Image: Bundaberg and District Historical Museum exterior.



Details

Bundaberg Botanic Gardens, Mt Perry Road, North Bundaberg
QLD 4670

07 4152 0101

bberghistorymuseum@bigpond.com

www.bundaberghistoricmuseum.info

Opening hours

Monday - Sunday, 10am - 4pm

Eidsvold & District Historical Complex

Standards profile

Eidsvold Station was taken up in 1848 by the Archer brothers, naming it after Eidsvoll, Norway. In 1887 when the goldfields were proclaimed, the bustling gold mining town of over 2000 was named Eidsvold.

Eidsvold Historical Complex is located in country redolent with memories of sheep, cattle and gold mining days from families whose descendants still live in the district. A highlight is their country hospitality which can be organised for booked groups.

On site is the surviving detached kitchen of Knockbreak Homestead – a slab and shingle hut of the Sinclair family from the 1860s. Guthrie Sinclair worked on the Archer brothers' Eidsvold Station as a shepherd. Paid in sheep, he tendered for a run and moved his family and flocks to Knockbreak, named after his district in Scotland. Other buildings relocated to the complex include the old station buildings of Clonave, the Calrossie store and meat shop and the Riverleigh Railway Fettlers' Cottage.

Amongst the displays in Riverleigh, is the Iris Bancroft Soldiers Corner: a collection of the photographs and memorabilia of the local men and women who served for Australia from the Boer to the Vietnam Wars.

Two extensive collections held in trust in the complex are the George Schafer collection of geological specimens assembled by this local bushman over 50 years and the Schultz/Duncan collection of bottles and tools from rural Queensland post 1880s.

Message to new participants

We started the Program unaware of the massive workload in a year already committed to celebrate 125 years of our goldfields. We realise we have to do more planning, highlight the history of more objects and have prominent signage for our visitors. M&GSQ staff have assisted us with working through the Program. In the long term, as we implement applicable ideas, our museum complex will reap the benefits.

Program outcomes

It is important to identify significant items within our collection and to display the known history with the objects.

Participation in the Standards Program reinforced the need for the museum to have more involvement from Council and the community and to have up-to-date policies guiding the volunteers.

Image: Knockbreak Homestead - a slab and shingle hut from the 1860s. Photography by Connie Dyke.



Details

2 Mt Rose Street, Eidsvold QLD 4627

07 4165 0895

Opening hours

Monday and Friday morning or by prior arrangement

Hervey Bay Regional Gallery

Standards profile

Hervey Bay Regional Gallery was established in 1997 and is a cultural initiative of the Fraser Coast Regional Council. As of December 2012, the gallery operates from a new purpose-built venue, the Fraser Coast Cultural Centre, adjoining a Discovery Sphere. This signature development will set a new standard of activity for the gallery. As the major Category A regional gallery in this area, exhibitions include touring shows from major galleries and museums throughout Australia, and unique state and regional exhibits.

HBRG also provides a professional platform for local artists, creative groups and organisations. Programs include: official opening events and floor talks; ArtChat professional development presentations by visiting artists; children's programs including Mudskippers Art Adventure sessions and Pipis early childhood sessions once a month. The volunteers program involves up to 60 volunteers in reception duties, installation and catering. They also hold up to four bus trips a year to other galleries and cultural events.

The gallery currently has two major business sponsors, one of which supports the Senior Student Art Bursary program initiated by the gallery in 2011. Another highlight is a cultural exchange program of exhibitions and artists visits with sister cities in China and Japan. The Gallery Shop features beautifully created objects by mostly local artists, while the gallery reference library provides art books and periodicals for the community to peruse or borrow. Other community services include lists of art classes, available tutors and Queensland art valuers.

Message to new participants

If you choose to undertake the program we're sure you will find it a very interesting and in-depth process, providing you a plethora of resources to enhance activities and practices at your gallery/museum. Yes, it is a huge commitment, but a very valuable and educative process well supported by M&GSQ staff and their excellent reviewers.

Program outcomes

Highlighting strengths and weaknesses

In working through the Standards program, Hervey Bay Regional Gallery received well deserved acknowledgement of the excellent programs presented, while helping to clarify what areas of museum practice needed some attention, particularly as we move into a new venue.

Working with industry peers

Working with the peer reviewers was an invaluable experience and provided much-needed clarity on areas to focus on as we move into a new venue. It gave us the chance to see things with fresh eyes.

Image: Queensland artist Christopher Trotter talks to guests attending the opening of Animated Steel hosted at the Gallery. Photography by Stewart Riddell, StewArt Photography.



Details

166 Old Mayborough Road, Piabla QLD 4655

07 4197 4210

regionalgallery@frasercoast.qld.gov.au

www.herveybayregionalgallery.org.au

Opening hours

Monday - Sunday, 10am - 4pm

Closed public holidays

Hinkler Hall of Aviation

Standards profile

Hinkler Hall of Aviation is a nationally significant tourist attraction and aviation adventure experience. More than a museum, the Hinkler Hall of Aviation celebrates the pioneer solo aviator Bert Hinkler and the wonders of innovation, spirit and adventure.

Step inside a soaring exhibition hall featuring interactive exhibits, flight simulator, the Globe Theatre and five full-sized replica aircraft. Climb into the Avro Baby bi-plane replica and email a photo of yourself as a flying ace to your family and friends. Engage with the detailed and rich history of Bert Hinkler and see the world through his personal effects, and documents and letters of the time. The powerful archival footage and historic photos bring the story to life.

Brick by brick, Bert's English home, Mon Repos, was moved to Bundaberg from Southampton in 1983 by Hinkler House Memorial Museum and Research Association. Named after Mon Repos beach near Bundaberg, the location of his early aviation experiments, the house links Bert Hinkler's professional endeavours with his personal life.

Hinkler Hall of Aviation and Mon Repos are set in the tropical surrounds of the Bundaberg Botanic Gardens. Visit Café 1928 where you can overlook the lake and lawns. Also home to the Bundaberg Historical Museum, Fairymead House and the Australian Sugar Cane Railway, the Botanic Gardens are a wonderful destination encompassing a broad history of Bundaberg.

Message to new participants

The Hinkler Hall of Aviation has been enriched by participating in the self-review assessment. At the beginning we did not understand we were taking on such an enormous task but, we have been overwhelmed by the facilitators networking support and advice throughout the program. It has been a great experience.

Program outcomes

Collection significance and preservation

Our collection about local hero pioneer solo aviator Bert Hinkler is of national significance and we would like to showcase some of our original artefacts in changing temporary displays for the enjoyment of our community and international and Australian visitors.

Awareness of community

Part of our community engagement is working with local schools and educators to promote the many achievements of Bert Hinkler.

Image: Courtesy Hinkler Hall of Aviation.



Details

Bundaberg Botanic Gardens, Cnr Mt Perry Road and Young Street, North Bundaberg QLD 4670

07 4130 4400

hinkler.front@bundaberg.qld.gov.au

www.hinklerhallofaviation.com

Opening hours

Monday - Sunday, 9am - 4pm

Monto Historical and Cultural Complex

Standards profile

The Monto Historical and Cultural Complex is a well-presented facility, with a pleasant garden frontage located on one of the main thoroughfares into Monto. The overall aim is to preserve and present the culture, heritage and history of the Monto district and its people. The complex includes a museum and art gallery housed in a modern, air-conditioned building. Half of the internal space is dedicated to changing cultural displays of photography, textiles, art and craft from local artists and societies. Historical displays, exhibits and photographs are located in the other half of the building.

The historical collection extends beyond the main building into the grounds of the complex. A group of pioneer buildings include a Cania goldfields slab hut and the Goody family's Birnam Homestead kitchen, which dates from around 1910. The slab hut and Birnam Homestead kitchen are original buildings relocated from surrounding rural properties. There's a lot to see including an unusual timber jack honed from one log, an early railway carriage with historical railway memorabilia and the Cynthia station siding. Also featured is a remarkable array of horse-drawn vehicle replicas, built by Harold Ware, and a wheelwright's workshop where visitors can watch demonstrations by Harold, an enthusiastic and highly skilled member of the Monto Historical Society.

The modern building with its cultural, art and craft displays, the historical collection, the original pioneer structures, Harold's demonstrations and picnic possibilities in the museum's grounds offer the visitor a fulfilling experience to remember.

Program outcomes

We have learnt so much through the review process that we would recommend it to anyone who is trying to run a museum or gallery. Everyone has been so helpful, so easy to talk to and so full of knowledge. Every single activity has held something of interest.

From being completely lost at the very beginning and wondering if it was really for us, we have been converted to eager volunteers ready to take on the enormous tasks ahead of us and feeling like we have direction and an understanding of where we want to be and how to get there. We know where we can access help when we need it. We are no longer alone but part of a whole network of helpful like minded people.

Image: Harold "Spook" Ware poses with his portrait by the late Monto artist, Gil Jamieson, on display in the complex. Photography by Ann Baillie.



Details

20 Flinders Street, Monto QLD 4630

Opening hours

By appointment

Mount Perry Museum

Standards profile

Coffins, Min Min lights, corrugated iron rollers, operating tables, electric washing machines, stamper batteries. Florence Broadhurst, Lieutenant Perry, failed railway lines, corporate scandal, colonial copper, gold and settlers. All this and more at Mt Perry Museum.

Situated in the original 1880s Mt Perry Shire Council Chambers, the Mt Perry Museum houses a collection of heritage objects specific to Mt Perry and the surrounding districts. Mining is an important part of that heritage and our collection features historic and operational mining equipment from across a district where mining heritage is all around, including remnants from the earliest days of the copper mines in the 1860s.

Mining brought new settlers who developed a range of businesses to service the community including an astounding 25 pubs at one time or another, cordial factories, dressmakers, butchers and haberdashers. Elements from some of these businesses can be found on display in the museum. People came from everywhere, from countries across the world and our embroidery collection reflects this wonderful diversity. A scary collection of historic hospital equipment from the renowned Mt Perry Hospital is also on display.

The township of Mt Perry has a diverse collection of original buildings and within the grounds of the museum stands Madsen's kitchen, an original slab structure from nearby Drummers Creek which has been restored. The evocative interior depicts the kitchen as it was when it was used in the 1860s, with domestic objects from across the life of the building.

The Mt Perry Heritage Walk brochure guides visitors along the streets of Mt Perry and identifies where early buildings were once located and the histories of some of these buildings are supported by objects within the museum.

The museum boasts a working stamper battery, curvilinear table and blacksmith's forge, all of which can be seen in operation by prior arrangement. Come and see our wonderful local collection with connections to every part of Mt Perry and districts' past.

Message to new participants

When we attended the first session we thought that this is way too big a job for our small museum. It appeared to be a very daunting project to an extremely small committee that has been running the museum with limited resources. However we found the M&GSQ staff and reviewers enthusiastic to help us with simple and achievable advice and processes that suit our small museum. It also made us aware of what processes we need to put in place to not only be more sustainable in the future but also to conserve Mt Perry's heritage.

Program outcomes

Strategic direction

The program has confirmed our future direction, given us a focus on what is Mt Perry's heritage story, and given us a great knowledge base in museum operations.

Museum operations

For a small museum it was great to be told that some things we are doing are right, and it was great to be shown achievable ways to do other things better.

Image: Madsen's Kitchen. Photography by Jenny Bebbington.



Details

100 Heusman Street, Mt Perry QLD 4671

07 4156 3185

Opening hours

By appointment

The Old Pharmacy

Standards profile

The bustling town of Childers in the North Burnett was first opened up to timber-getting during the 1850s and 1860s. As the township developed, it drew Thomas Gaydon, who opened the chemist shop in the town in 1894. Gaydon was Childers' first chemist, dentist, optician, vet and photographer.

A devastating fire in 1902 destroyed much of the central business district including Gaydon's chemist shop. It was rebuilt later that year and the internal shop fittings were made of local cedar and highly polished. Laid without grout, the decorative tiled floor remains intact today and is a reminder of the beauty added to early commercial premises.

Change was slow in Childers and modernisation kept to a minimum. However, Gaydon continued to improve his business and installed a new National Cash Register, which he purchased for sixty pounds. It cost the same as a three-bedroomed house in Childers at that time.

After Thomas Gaydon's death in 1935, the chemist shop continued to dispense medications until 1982 when the last chemist died suddenly. His wife continued to trade in soaps, perfumes and gift lines leaving the dispensary closed with its contents untouched. She continued trading until 1987 when she retired and sold the intact collection to the local council, who quickly identified its historical importance to the region.

Located in the centre of historic Childers, the chemist shop now operates as a museum named The Old Pharmacy. It houses an enormous collection left over from Thomas Gaydon and is one of only two intact early chemist shops in Australia. Visitors to the Old Pharmacy can now view the mysterious potions and early hand-made medications from 1894 and changes in pharmaceutical practices up to 1982. The internal original fixtures and the beautiful mosaic tiled floor offer a visual escapade into an earlier time. Combined with the guided tour, which presents the history of the shop and dispensary in an interesting and engaging manner, the demonstrations, including pill-rolling and label-making, complete a comprehensive and educational visitor experience.

Message to new participants

We are so pleased to have been involved with this valuable program. A bit daunting at first, but with the help of Museums and Galleries Staff and professional reviewers, we devised a step by step program to follow, which will stand The Old Pharmacy in good stead into the future. If you have the opportunity to become involved - grab it with both hands.

Program outcomes

Collection Management

Being involved with the review of The Old Pharmacy made us aware of the importance of keeping accurate records of all items in our collection. Steps have been put in place to achieve this outcome.

Collection Significance

We really benefitted from the calibre of Reviewers who undertook The Old Pharmacy review and having them confirm what we believed, that our collection is very rare and every effort should be made to retain it for generations to come.

Image: Stocked shelves with bygone era products at the Old Pharmacy.



Details

90 Churchill Street, Childers QLD 4660

childers.oldpharmacy@yahoo.com.au

www.bundaberg.qld.gov.au

Opening hours

Monday - Friday, 9am - 3pm

Saturday, 9am - 1pm

Portside Centre

Standards profile

The Portside Centre reveals the history of the Port of Maryborough and how the City developed around the Port. It is a complex of 3 heritage-listed buildings: Customs House, Customs Sub-Collectors Residence and Bond Store. Located in an enviable area of Maryborough renowned for its wonderful heritage buildings, the Centre is a gateway experience for visitors to the city and further afield into the region.

Maryborough Customs House is an attraction within the Portside Centre. The Customs House delves into Maryborough's eclectic and rich history. Visitors can learn about immigrants who had braved a long sea voyage into the unknown, the city as a place for innovation and national influence in heavy industry, and the birthplace of an internationally loved author.

Next door to the Customs House is the Bond Store Museum. This facility explores a complimentary and distinct history of Maryborough, focusing on the operations of Maryborough as a port. The MV Ella is an important—and large!—part of the experience as a boat that was built and operated for its whole working life out of the Port.

At its location adjacent to Queens Park and the Mary River, the Portside Centre gives visitors the opportunity to discover the significance of the Port and the customs revenues to the growing city.

Message to new participants

The program is a great opportunity to network. I had a chance to bounce ideas off other museum professionals and it renewed my enthusiasm for Council's museums.

Program outcomes

The Standards Review Program enabled me to refocus on Council's museums.

The Standards Program gave a direction to the museums. All management documentation is being reviewed, updated and where necessary, new plans are being put in to place.

Image: Customs House. Courtesy of Fraser Coast Regional Council.



Details

Cnr Wharf and Richmond Streets, Maryborough QLD 4650

07 4190 5730

susan.rogers@frasercoast.qld.gov.au

Opening hours

Monday - Friday, 10am - 4pm

Saturday - Sunday, 10am - 1pm

Bega Pioneers' Museum

Standards profile

Located in a historic hotel built in 1858 the building sets the ambiance of the Museum. As you step through the door, you feel as if you are stepping back in time. The extensive pioneer portrait collection hanging on the walls creates the feeling of days gone by.

With its extensive and varied collection, Bega Pioneers' Museum is a place of discovery. It contains many items of interest and of historical significance.

The Museum has a good collection of war memorabilia, the most significant of which are two flags – one which flew at Gallipoli where a number of local boys were serving. The other flag is from Tobruk and signed by over 200 Tobruk garrison soldiers, 11 of whom were local.

There are numerous rooms to explore in the Museum showcasing the history of early settlement of the Bega valley and surrounds. One room is a beautiful display of textiles and garments.

The grounds surrounding the building hold further treasures. One being the Trad wagon - Bega's first horse drawn ambulance which then became a mobile shop by a Syrian hawker named Trad. When being cleaned after being donated to the museum, 100 ten pound notes were found behind the panelling. The Museum's collection also includes a large wooden wagon believed to be brought to Australia by German settlers in the middle of the 1800s.

The Museum has digitised its extensive photographic collection and has recently reviewed their collection and is transferring the data to the MOSAiC Collection database.

The Bega Pioneers' Museum is managed by the Bega Historical Society. A small number of volunteers carry out the day to day running and the management and preservation of the collection.

Message to new participants

The Standards Program has given us a great opportunity to look at all aspects of our museum with fresh eyes. The suggestions made by our very helpful reviewers were greatly appreciated, especially with regard to displaying our collection to its fullest advantage. Being involved in the Standards Program is without a doubt the best thing that has happened to us, it has given us encouragement and direction and a host of valuable ideas which will enable us to go into the future with a new vigour and enthusiasm, and knowledge that we would not have had if we had not participated.

Image: External view of the Museum.



Details

87 Bega Street, Bega NSW 2550

02 6492 1453

Fax: 02 6492 1453

museum25@tpg.com.au

Opening hours

Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 10am - 4pm

Saturday, 10am - 2pm

Bermagui Museum

Standards profile

Discover the past history of Bermagui at the Bermagui Museum located in the Information Centre. The Museum is the proud owner of approximately 5,000 digitised photographs and documents relating to the life, work and families of the Bermagui district. Step back in time and see through the photographs what life in the town was like, the importance of fishing to the community, what life was like on the goldfields and in the local timber industry and the ships that stopped at its port. The photographs can be searched on a database by topic or name.

The Museum also displays some intriguing artefacts including an Elizabethan whipping stool (c. 1870) believed to be used at the Montreal Goldfields. Also on display is the recently restored sulkie from the early 1900s that belonged to local icon Sam Sinclair. Sam owned and operated the general store and amongst his professions was town's blacksmith, dentist and undertaker.

The Museum has produced books on local history which are for sale along with a walking tour and a driving tour of the area. Copies of the old local photographs are for sale along with calendars using archival photos to depict life in Bermagui during earlier times.

To involve the community the Museum runs film nights for visitors, as well as hosting evenings with a traditional authentic Aussie hot meal.

The Museum is owned and operated by Bermagui Historical Society and is opened by volunteers.

Message to new participants

Don't be scared or put off in the beginning!!! We were for a while and didn't think it was relevant to our Museum. It's a lot of work but worth it in the end. Try it and you will see.

Image: School Children visit with the Bermagui Historical Society President.



Details

Community Centre, Bunga Street, Bermagui NSW 2546

dave_cotton@bigpond.com

rondenmac@bigpond.com

lynntimmis@spin.net.au

Opening hours

Friday - Sunday, 10am - 2pm

Corrective Services NSW Museum

Standards profile

2012 Imagine Awards.

Winner, Collection Management: 1-4 Staff.

The Corrective Services NSW (CSNSW) Museum at Cooma prides itself in being a link between its staff, inmates, and the community at large. By interacting with the community, the Museum aims to preserve and present the history of Corrective Services in New South Wales. The Museum strives to provide an inviting, educational and welcoming environment for its visitors.

The Museum holds a significant collection of Corrective Services NSW artefacts, participates in community events and sets up displays at various locations. The management of heritage assets and all things related to the organisation remains the focal point. Apart from having a display unit for its valuable collection, the Museum also has a repository unit where all valuable historical items and artefacts are stored.

Visitors to the Museum are provided with a learning experience on the past and present history of Corrective Services NSW. The Museum also has displays of a variety of inmate crafts, a large photographic collection, textiles, and a significant range of quality historical publications dealing with the correctional history from the transportation period to date. Objects on display include timber items, decorative ornaments, contraband items, plaques, machinery, Aboriginal and landscape paintings, as well as leather crafts and ceramics.

Inmates are involved in a coordinated manner in the collection, inventory, restoration, identification and storage of heritage items. They also serve as tour guides to visitors.

*Image: Entrance to Corrective Services NSW Museum.
Credit: Photo by Les Strzelecki.*



Details

1 Vale Street, Cooma NSW 2630

02 6452 5974

Fax: 02 6452 7590

leszek.strzelecki@dcs.nsw.gov.au

mgnsnsw.org.au/organisations/corrective-services-museum

Opening hours

Tuesday - Friday, 12.30pm - 3pm

Saturday, 9.15am - 3pm

Eden Killer Whale Museum

Standards profile

2011 Imagine Awards.

Highly Commended, Collection Management: 1-4 Staff.

The Eden Killer Whale Museum has consistently developed over its 80 year history. Their “raison d’etre” and main attraction is the skeleton of the killer whale “Tom”. The story is told of the cooperation between the orcas and the whalers in the local Twofold Bay. In season, whales can be seen from the museum balcony. Other stories told include the local importance of Morse code, local fishing and local timber gathering. Touring exhibitions from metropolitan museums are regularly featured.

The Museum’s collection comprises many thousands of items with the most significant being from local shore based whaling, coastal shipping and local timber and fishing industries including indigenous history, reflected in the themes of the exhibitions. The collection was recently assessed as having national significance and a large percentage is recorded digitally. The Museum’s library boasts a comprehensive collection of maritime/local history books and has information on locally significant families.

The Museum is an integral part of the local community and is involved with organising Australia Day activities, book launches, community art and craft exhibitions and even has a siren to announce to the locals when the whales are in the bay.

The Museum is a publicly owned, self-funding, not for profit facility managed by a small and enthusiastic voluntary committee. The volunteer Friends of the Museum assist by guiding, researching, catering and gardening along with exhibition development.

Image: Skeleton of Old Tom in the original Eden Museum circa early 1960.



Details

184 Imlay Street, Eden NSW 2551

02 6496 2094

Fax: 02 6496 2024

promo@killerwhalemuseum.com.au

www.killerwhalemuseum.com.au

Opening hours

Monday - Saturday, 9.15am - 3.45pm

Sunday, 11.15am - 3.45pm

Extended hours over Christmas and New Year

Moruya & District Historical Society Museum

Standards profile

The Moruya Museum, based in a pioneer house, displays a wealth of memorabilia of the everyday life of the town's local population and their occupations from earliest pioneering days until the mid-twentieth century.

The geographical breadth of the collection ranges across original cheese moulds for the famous Bodalla Estate 40lb cheeses to relics from the goldfields of Araluen.

The collection also reflects Moruya's most famous export, 'Moruya Granite', used for many prominent monuments in Sydney, including pylons for the Sydney Harbour Bridge.

The Moruya and District Historical Society (founded in 1970) is a non-profit organisation run by dedicated volunteers.

Located on the site of a heritage listed two-storey brick home built by pioneers in 1875, the Society has almost completed a microfiche record of the Moruya Examiner from 1881 to the present, and has archived many other maps, documents and photos of the area, as well as publishing an extensive pioneer directory and other local history works.

The Society's genealogy section provides Eurobodalla Shire's only specialised facility for family history research.

Message to new participants

We found the Museum Standards Program a comprehensive and informative program that inspired reinvigoration of our Museum's presentation.

The program enabled us to work systematically, using the mechanisms of updated museum management, to reinvigorate our approach to our collection, develop a clearer focus on what needed improvement, and plan how best to achieve desired changes given our circumstances.

Image: Museum view from the street.



Details

85 Campbell Street, Moruya NSW 2537

02 4474 3224

www.mdhs.org.au

Opening hours

Wednesday, Friday and Saturday, 11am - 1pm

The Old Courthouse Museum

Standards profile

Though he didn't actually land, Lt James Cook appreciated a good Bay when he saw one, named it Bateman after a colleague, and sailed on. The Walbunga peoples remained in peace until 1821 when Lt Robert Johnston discovered the Bay to be the estuary of a fine river, which he called the Clyde. Imagine the wow factor on recently discovering we not only hold Johnston's maritime trunk – but his great great great granddaughter works three doors away.

Our collection focuses on local and social history, providing a key resource for our community. Housed in the town's former courthouse and police residence, we are located adjacent to the town's Water Gardens. Collection themes include, costume, education, healthcare, domestic life, forestry and timber tales, Men's Tool Shed, crime and punishment. We maintain a keeping place for our local Aboriginal Land Council. 2013-14 will focus on documenting the Clyde oyster industry and extensive cataloguing in MOSAiC.

As forestry and fishing fade, tourism and retirement service industries become major economic forces. We are the storehouse of our community's history, so encourage school visits, have an outreach programme to community groups, and support heritage events throughout the year.

The Museum is operated by Clyde River and Batemans Bay Historical Society Inc.

Message to new participants

The program initially required more paperwork than most of our team had seen since school days! But the end result has been the establishment of a benchmark for our ambitions against which we can proudly match our recent achievements, and develop strategic plans to ensure a viable future for this key community resource.

Program outcomes

The program forced a review of policies and revealed member skills in project management. It demonstrated the value of volunteer training and encouraged more be undertaken.

Finally, it provided an objective 'pat on the back' for work achieved by our members, which can be overlooked in the hurly burly of daily operations.

Image: External view of the Museum.



Details

Museum Place, Batemans Bay NSW 2536

02 4472 8993

b.baymuseum@optusnet.com.au

www.oldcourthousemuseum.com

Opening hours

Tuesday and Thursday, 12pm - 3pm

Sunday, 10am - 1pm

Other times by appointment

Old School Museum

Standards profile

The Old School Museum is located in a beautifully restored heritage listed stone building dating from 1873 that is unique as it is one of the few surviving school buildings in which the school master's cottage is attached to the class room.

Collections on display consist of objects and photographs that tell the stories of Merimbula. It is unique as it was developed as a private town based around the "Maizena" to grind fine cornflower developed by Matthew Munn. The story of the Munns is told at the Museum. Other industries of importance were grazing, dairying, gold mining, oyster fishing and forestry.

A key feature is the importance of Merimbula as a port and the history of the steamship that travelled down the coast from Sydney.

Items of interest in the collection include an 1857 ambrotype of the mutineers from the American ship "Junior", a writing desk owned by Sym Covington, who sailed on the "Beagle" with Darwin and subsequently lived in Pambula, and a day dress from the 1860s, of which few examples remain today.

Members of the Merimbula-Imlay Historical Society have managed the Museum from the mid 1970s and mount annual displays to celebrate Heritage Festival and History Week.

To connect to the community the Museum mounts historical displays from various groups in the community through a display cabinet at the local RSL. It also collects local histories, and collects these in a research archive.

Image: External view of the Museum.



Details

Main Street (Opposite the RSL), Merimbula NSW 2548

02 6495 4844

www.merimbulahistoricalsociety.webhive.com.au

Opening hours

Sunday, Tuesday and Thursday, 1.30pm - 4pm

Queanbeyan Museum

Standards profile

2012 Imagine Awards. Winner, Collection Management: Volunteer.

Queanbeyan Museum's mission is to express the sense of history, place and identity in the Queanbeyan region. It does this by operating a museum, developing a collection and promoting historical activities that are interesting, educational and relevant to both residents and visitors.

The Museum has a strong focus on the history of Queanbeyan and surrounding district, with a collection of over 5,000 items that includes furniture, textiles, technological objects, costumes, pictures, maps, objects, and photographs. There is an active program of changing exhibitions with regular opening hours and events. A series of exhibitions to tell Queanbeyan's Story has been developed: The Ngambri and Early Settlers, Bushrangers, and From Settlement to Town.

Queanbeyan Museums' treasures include William Farrer's piano, JJ Wright's Store Journals from 1860 and Mick Jagger's armour from the film Ned Kelly.

Recent achievements are the construction and fit out of a collection store and renovations to the Museum building.

The Queanbeyan Museum was established in 1969 by the Queanbeyan and District Historical Museum Society and is located in the historic Police Sergeant's Residence, 10 Farrer Place, Queanbeyan, constructed in 1876. The Museum is managed and operated by QDHMS members, in partnership with the Queanbeyan City Council.

Message to new participants

We have been busy developing the Museum and we found the independent review and positive feedback about our displays and museum valuable for future strategic development and morale.

Image: Queanbeyan Museum.



Details

10 Farrer Place, Queanbeyan NSW 2620

02 6299 7449

Fax: 02 6298 4675

qbnmuseum@yahoo.com.au

www.queanbeyanmuseum.org.au

Opening hours

Saturday and Sunday, 1pm - 4pm

Other times by appointment

Closed Christmas Day and Easter

Queanbeyan Printing Museum

Standards profile

'Preserving the Past for Future Generations'. The Queanbeyan Printing Museum is understood to be one of the few museums in New South Wales with fully operating printing machines. It was officially opened on 23 October 2004 and generous support comes from the Queanbeyan City Council.

The Queanbeyan Printing Museum displays letterpress printing technology spanning over 100 years and traces the history of Queanbeyan's first newspaper.

First published as "The Golden Age" on 15 September 1860, the paper was renamed "The Queanbeyan Age" in 1864, and has been published continuously for 150 years.

Important pieces of printing equipment on display are the Linotype machine, the Wharfedale flat-bed press and the Chandler & Price platen press.

The Alexandra Hand Printing Press is similar to that used to print the first edition of "The Golden Age". Built in 1887, this printing press was badly damaged in 1890. Kept in storage, the Alexandra press was donated "as is" to the Museum in 2009 and fully restored to working order by volunteers.

The Museum has established a background of expertise in the restoration of printing equipment.

The authentically outfitted photographic darkroom highlights the importance of photo-journalism in the production of newspapers.

A library of printing industry publications has been established, which together with the printing "hardware", provide the facilities for research into printing industry history.

Message to new participants

The Standards Program provided the framework for documenting the collection and operation of the Queanbeyan Printing Museum. Analysis of this documentation by our Reviewers (Ellie McFadyen and Sam Malloy) is greatly appreciated as we now have a clearer direction for the future.

Image: The Wharfedale Printing Press.



Details

20 Farrer Place, Queanbeyan NSW 2620

02 6299 7505

Opening hours

Saturday and Sunday, 2pm - 4pm

Closed Christmas and Easter

Snowy Scheme Museum Adaminaby

Standards profile

The building of the Snowy Mountains Hydro-Electric Scheme was a pivotal event in Australia's history. Whilst creating one of the engineering wonders of the modern world, it also laid the foundations of a uniquely multicultural nation. The Scheme allowed the development of Murrumbidgee Irrigation Area, and generated clean renewable electricity for the eastern states, along with giving migrants from a devastated Europe a fresh start.

The Snowy Scheme Museum Adaminaby is the first comprehensive attempt to pay tribute to this truly awe-inspiring project and to tell its stories. We aim to do this through exhibits ranging from equipment like the Le Torneau Scraper and a TD 24 Bulldozer, a fully restored "Utah" Ute, Tunnel Train, "Surveyors Camp" through to laboratory testing equipment and a Surveyor's tent camp to memorabilia, photographs and the Commissioners private collection.

At the official opening on 15 October 2011, the Governor-General Quentin Bryce paid tribute to the 10 year commitment to build and open the museum and was genuinely engaged by the history on display and the warmth of the old snowy workers and locals who were part of the opening ceremony.

The Adaminaby Snowy Scheme Collection Association is an incorporated body with tax-deductible gift recipient status. The Committee and sub-committee members are all volunteers.

The Museum is located on the Snowy Mountains Highway in the township of Adaminaby in the NSW Snowy Mountains.

Image: Tunnel Train.



Details

1599 Snowy Mountains Highway, Adaminaby NSW 2629

info@snowyschememuseum.com.au

www.snowyschememuseum.com.au

Opening hours

Saturday - Sunday, 10am - 2pm

Other times by appointment

Thredbo Ski Museum

Standards profile

2011 Imagine Awards. Highly Commended, Exhibitions and Public Engagement: Volunteer.

The Thredbo Ski Museum displays a wide collection of historic items covering areas such as significant dates, geography, alpine pioneers, personalities, skis and alpine equipment, photos, clothing and fashion, films and books. It also has an expansive research library including a comprehensive set of Ski Year books.

In addition to the permanent displays of the above items, the Museum features changing exhibitions depicting the rich history of the development and progress of Australian alpine history, Thredbo Village and the NSW Alpine regions generally.

Museum features include an early Kiandra ski, an Australian 1976 Winter Olympic uniform designed by Prue Acton and Laurie Seaman's camera from his ill-fated trip to Mt Kosciuszko.

The Thredbo Ski Museum is operated by volunteers of the not for profit Thredbo Historical Society. It is centrally located in the Thredbo Village square and easily accessible by resort holiday makers, day tourists and bus groups.

The Society conducts annual social events with a historical theme in Thredbo and at RAHS History House in Sydney, for members and the public.

Message to new participants

By participating in the comprehensive program, we gained valuable information on museum management. The experienced reviewers were very helpful especially in the areas of conservation and presentation. The knowledge acquired during the program enables us to bring our exhibitions in the museum to a higher standard thus providing an important cultural asset in the Snowy Mountains region and value adding to the tourism experience.

Program outcomes

Participating allowed us to share and learn from the experiences of other rural and regional museums in the program. It also contributed to raising our standards, resulting in achieving The Highly Commended Award in the Exhibitions and Public Engagement category of the 2011 IMAGinE awards.

Image: External view of the entrance to the Museum.



Details

Village Square, PO Box 6, Thredbo NSW 2625

02 6457 7410

aab5@bigpond.com

www.thredboskimuseum.com

Opening hours

26 December - 26 January

Monday - Sunday, 1pm - 5pm

February - April, June and September

Saturday, Sunday and public holidays, 1pm - 5pm

July - August

Tuesday - Sunday, 1pm - 5pm

Atherton Chinatown

Standards profile

The National Trust property, Atherton Chinatown, incorporates an interpretive centre and the Hou Wang Temple. The museum is located in the old Atherton Post Office building.

The exhibitions orient visitors to the Atherton Chinatown site. Information panels, images, objects and interactive displays give the visitors relevant historical insight into Chinese culture and adaptations to day to day life in far north Queensland. Important temple objects including the official temple seal are also on display.

The Hou Wang temple is the only remaining Chinatown building. It is also the only original timber and iron Chinese Temple in Australia and New Zealand. Guided tours of the temple are a highlight of a visit to Atherton Chinatown, however visitors are also able to stroll the grounds and gardens as part of a self guided tour following the interpretive signs at their own pace.

Message to new participants

Nothing is gained without effort. The Standards Program will allow a comprehensive view and pin point those areas of museum management which need to be improved. It will also provide the means or examples of answers to these problems so that future pathways are planned, accountable and progressive.

Program outcomes

The Standards Program provided access to a more comprehensive and accountable approach to collection management. A more succinct focus on exhibition and display development and future acquisitions has resulted.

Current organisational structures were reinforced but also extended to include a broader more efficient volunteer policy which clearly defines the expectations, roles and responsibilities and obligations of both volunteer and host organisation.

Image: Hou Wang temple at night. Photography by Tim Nemeth.



Details

86 Herberton Road, Atherton QLD 4883

07 4091 6945

Fax: 07 4091 6946

info@houwang.org.au

www.houwang.org.au

Opening hours

Wednesday - Sunday, 11am - 4pm

Closed public holidays

Cooktown History Centre

Standards profile

The Cooktown History Centre resides in the former Shire Offices in Charlotte Street. Built in 1876 as the first Post and Telegraph Office in Cooktown, it is the oldest surviving building in Charlotte Street.

The Centre is the location for a number of functions and facilities of the Cooktown and District Historical Society (CDHS): Cooktown through the years: A comprehensive display details the history of Cooktown's establishment; archives and research facility; storage for original materials; a library of publications about Cooktown and District; staff office and facilities; local publications and souvenirs for sale.

The archive and research centre is the key function of the CDHS. It stores originals and copies of images and documents pertaining to Cooktown and Palmer River history, dating from 1874. All information continues to be entered into databases for ease of searching. To date, there are about 50 tables with over 60,000 names. CDHS offers research assistance for anyone enquiring about family history and also local history.

The display is a more recent addition to the function of the CDHS. The current exhibition is a product of all of the research by the CDHS into Cooktown's events, natural disasters, people, local Indigenous history and involvement in the First and Second World Wars, using over 600 images. A diorama of Cooktown in 1874 brings together a collection of 14 images of Cooktown's beginning, gathered from a number of Australian libraries for the very first time.

A dedicated team of 14 volunteers undertakes the work of the Centre, including the management.

Message to new participants

The Cooktown Historical Society was quite sure that the Standards Program would not be relevant to our small organisation. But all volunteers have benefited from the program with knowledge gained and networks established. Take the challenge it will be worth it.

Program outcomes

There has been reinforcement of the structure and plans of the Centre. The knowledge base of the volunteers has been enhanced so that future decisions are better informed.

Image: The wonderful band of volunteers who do everything from pest control and gardens to reception and administration. Courtesy of Cooktown Local News.



Details

121 Charlotte Street, Cooktown QLD 4895

07 4069 6640

historical_society@cooktowns.com

cooktownhistory@gmail.com

www.cooktownhistory.org.au

Opening hours

Monday - Saturday, 9am - 3pm

Herberton Mining Museum

Standards profile

Herberton Mining Museum is located on the historic Great Northern Mine site where a tin-rush took place in 1880. Within a year over 150 mines were being worked and Herberton became the first town on the Tablelands. The site is recognised for the rarity and intactness of the surviving steam haulage machinery, which surpasses any other mining place in Queensland.

The Great Northern Mine has a significant place in Queensland's mining history for its central role in the development of the mining industry on the Atherton Tableland and the development of Cairns as a major port in far north Queensland.

The Museum explains how tin mining developed in Herberton via an interpretive mine walk through the adjacent bush and a diverse collection of mining objects in its displays. The Museum's collections illustrate Herberton's mining history from the 1880s when tin ore was discovered and the 'tin rush' started, until commercial operations ceased in the 1960s. Both alluvial and hard rock tin mining are displayed and interpreted for visitors. The Minerals room houses several collections of minerals, rocks, precious metals and gemstones. A unique rock collection of tin ore specimens has recently been installed. This is a geologist's collection which contains cassiterite samples in many forms from all over the world.

Hands-on activities are located in the outdoor courtyard, where visitors and school groups can try their hand at rock drilling (by hammer and chisel) and tin panning.

Although its primary focus is tin mining, the Museum also includes displays on supporting industries, such as timber and transport, as well as Herberton social history - which reflects the continued support and interest in heritage values in the local community and their desire to see their heritage preserved for the benefit of future generations. A local archives area is available for more in-depth research.

Outside the Museum building, in addition to the impressive GNM archaeological remains, visitors can also enjoy the Gordon Gardens which feature a Tom Risley sculpture, a miner's cottage garden, a botanical walk, explorers' memorial plaques and the Women's Seat- a traditional lookout point across the picturesque, historic and hilly town of Herberton.

Message to new participants

We enrolled in the M&GSQ Standards Program keen to learn where we could make improvements. Our anticipations were rewarded with a wealth of information and advice. The trainers helped us focus on the collection themes; visitor participation; the values of the heritage listed site and the importance of interpreting our collection as integral to the site. The program provides excellent value for your effort.

Program outcomes

We now realise that the heritage listed site with its mining equipment and cultural landscape is the most valuable asset. The museums collection complements and interprets the site.

Our museum is not just a collection of facts and objects, but it is about interpreting them by telling stories of history and people in various ways.

*Image: Visitors learn about 'tin panning' in the Museum courtyard.
Photography by Veronica Weal.*



Details

1 Jack's Road, Herberton QLD 4887

PO Box 41, Herberton QLD 4887

07 4096 3474

info@herbertonvisitorcentre.com.au

www.herbertonvisitorcentre.com.au

Opening hours

Monday - Sunday, 9am - 4pm

Closed Good Friday, Christmas Day and Boxing Day

James Cook Museum

Standards profile

Housed in a stunning 19th Century convent building, the James Cook Museum in Cooktown showcases the fascinating history of this remarkable town. The museum follows the story of Captain James Cook's enforced seven week stay at the Endeavour River, during which the first meaningful contact between Europeans and Indigenous Australians took place, to the days of the Palmer River gold rush, as well as personal stories from Cooktown's early residents.

The museum's exhibits are rich and varied. The Endeavour Gallery gives a fascinating insight into the time Cook and his crew spent at the site of modern Cooktown repairing their ship after their catastrophic grounding on nearby Endeavour Reef. The highlight of the gallery is the original anchor and cannon from the Endeavour, jettisoned from the ship in 1770 and only retrieved from the reef in the early 1970s. The Endeavour Gallery not only explores the fight for survival Cook and his men faced on the reef, but also documents the many discoveries made by the scientific team during their stay at the Endeavour River. Integral to Australian history and identity is the interaction between Cook and the local Guugu Yimithiir people – the most extensive he experienced in Australia – and this story is told from both perspectives.

Other galleries explore the changing face of Cooktown. The galleries on the first floor – former classrooms and the school hall – house objects from pupils and sisters who called the convent home, tales from the Palmer gold rush and a display dedicated to the rich Chinese heritage of the region. The Nun's cells and student's dormitories on the upper floor are home to exhibits detailing the strong maritime history of Cooktown and the personal stories and objects from local families who endured hardship, loneliness and isolation but who nevertheless carved out a life in this remote location. The Indigenous Gallery gives a unique insight into the culture and history of the Guugu Yimithiir people.

The museum is surrounded by the Sir Joseph Banks Garden, in which can be found some of the 170 species Banks identified and named in the region in 1770.

Message to new participants

The opportunity to take part in the Standards Program not only gives access to expert advice and assistance, but also enables participation in a wider cultural heritage network. For small or regional and remote museums, this is invaluable.

Program outcomes

A significant outcome for us has been access to funding to target areas raised during the review process. This has enabled us to purchase environmental monitoring equipment (data loggers and light/UV meters) to more effectively monitor the environmental conditions in our display and storage spaces. Already this is yielding significant data which will inform exhibition planning and impact long term on the management of the collection.

Image: Indigenous Gallery. Photography by Tim Nemmeth.



Details

50 Helen Street, Cooktown QLD 4895

07 4069 5386

Fax: 07 4069 6699

jamescookmuseum@nationaltrustqld.org

www.nationaltrust.org.au

Opening hours

April - October

Monday - Sunday, 9am - 4pm

November - March

Monday - Friday, 9.30am - 3.30pm

Saturday - Sunday, 10am - 3pm

Closed February

Mareeba Heritage Centre

Standards profile

Mareeba Heritage Centre is a vibrant museum and visitor information centre established in 1995 and well supported by its diverse multicultural community. Its collection of over 5,000 items owned, used and proudly donated by members of the community form the basis of its comprehensive and ingenious displays reflecting the heritage and culture of Mareeba and its district.

Mareeba Heritage Centre is the custodian of Australia's best tobacco industry collection. Mareeba-Dimbulah was the centre of tobacco growing in Australia. A new display tells this powerful story of hard work, ingenuity and entrepreneurial spirit. Anonymous donations of homemade tobacco 'chop-chop' and the farmers locally invented machine, used to chop tobacco for home use and in some cases for the black market, capture the reality of local experiences of cat and mouse with authority.

Another rare item of state significance is the Mareeba Hospital Board's Rail Ambulance, which continued to operate until the 1970s. Of the 29 operating in Qld, it is a surviving example all the more significant because of its original condition.

The Museum presents a timeline of their district through their Heritage Walkway including Aboriginal artefacts, early explorers and settlers, early 20th century school room, the railway, mining, tobacco, timber, WWI, Elegant Living between the Wars, the Mareeba Rodeo and Mareeba Hospital Board's Rail Ambulance. Also included are the early 20th century local businesses such as Fenwick's Blacksmith, Sherning's Saddlers, Kelly Peters Butchery, the Carriers Arms Hotel, J C Jacobsen Watchmakers, the Jack & Newell General Merchants and other local Mareeba businesses.

Message to new participants

At the beginning of this program the ground work seemed daunting but we persevered and found it well worthwhile. We obtained a better understanding of our organisation and therefore we were in a better position to identify our key strategic objectives for our management plan.

Program outcomes

Refocusing our museum on its key strategic objectives and guidelines to formulate a 'Strategic Management Plan' for the next three years.

The Standards Program has given us guidance with regard to our museum policies and procedures, which will be reviewed and included within our 'Strategic Management Plan'.

Image: Converted AEC powered rail motor used from 1949 to the mid 1970s as a Rail Ambulance by the Mareeba Hospitals Board. Courtesy of Mareeba Heritage Centre.



Details

07 4092 5674

info@mareebaheritagecentre.com.au

www.mareebaheritagecentre.com.au

Opening hours

Monday - Sunday, 9am - 5pm

Closed Good Friday, Christmas Day and Boxing Day

Mareeba Historic Society

Standards profile

The Mareeba Historic Society was formed in 1993 to seek out, preserve and conserve the history of all areas encompassed by the original Mareeba Shire as well as neighbouring towns and shires.

Our research centre holdings include images, objects and archives, which describe the social, economic, industrial and agricultural history of the area.

We are an excellent resource for researchers and family historians. Our holdings include lists of burials and monumental inscriptions and cemetery lists for most of the 38 cemeteries; a large image collection; a maps and plans collection; an extensive library and archive which includes published works on Mareeba's history.

The collections also include artefacts and information concerning the First and Second World Wars. Our website about Jack & Newell, concerning local store owners from 1893 to the mid-1970s, is well worth a visit.

Message to new participants

We were not too sure if this program would be suitable for our organisation but knew any and all information would be of benefit. We now realise the program helped to bring new ideas and change our way of thinking into our society. We are very pleased we took up the challenge.

Program outcomes

While we had started on up-dating all our documentation, the Standards Program helped us to focus fully on what was needed and to implement changes to be made when necessary.

Standards Program made us focus on what is significant in our collection and how to care for it.

Image: Part of the Mareeba Rodeo Collection. Courtesy of M&GSQ.



Details

345 Byrnes Street, Centenary Park, Mareeba QLD 4880

07 4092 6599

sec@mbahistsoc.org.au

www.mbahistsoc.org.au

Opening hours

Tuesday - Wednesday, 8am - 4pm

2nd Saturday of the month, 7.30am - 12pm

Or by appointment

Nature's Powerhouse

Standards profile

Nature's Powerhouse is an innovative building located in the beautiful, heritage listed Cooktown Botanic Gardens and includes the Cooktown and Cape York Peninsula Visitor Information Centre, Vera's café, a gift shop, Charles Tanner Gallery and the Vera Scarth-Johnson Gallery.

The Cooktown and Cape York Peninsula Visitor Information Centre is the most northerly accredited visitor information centre on the east coast and provides comprehensive visitor information 7 days a week.

The Vera Scarth-Johnson Gallery displays the only collection of original botanical illustrations of flora from the region. Many plants can be found in the adjoining Botanic Gardens.

The Charles Tanner Wildlife of Cooktown Display offers visitors a close look at some of Cape York Peninsula's more notorious reptiles along with specimens of birds and butterflies.

Nature's Powerhouse also hosts a wide range of community events and activities including concerts, nature presentations, educational programs and walking trails and tours in the Botanic Gardens.

Message to new participants

A rather unwieldy discussion overseen by M&GSQ and Standards Reviewers early in the program initially highlighted the many problems involved in better promoting and utilising the wonderful facilities and displays which make up Nature's Powerhouse.

The major underlying factors were how to operate at a financially sustainable level and to better promote the strengths of the facility. The Standards Program has assisted greatly in focusing our planning and has built confidence to embark on implementation of new directions.

Program outcomes

The program has brought together all stakeholders in Nature's Powerhouse to determine the identity and form a shared vision for the future direction of the facility.

A review of the use of space within the facility is planned. This will define the physical space and determine how to maximise efficiency, make the facility more sustainable and broaden the market appeal.

Image: Nature's Powerhouse entrance. Photography by Beverley Grant



Details

Cooktown Botanical Garden, Walker Street, Cooktown QLD 4895

Freecall: 1800 174 895

07 4069 6004

Fax: 07 4069 5423

info@naturepowerhouse.com.au

www.cooktownandcapeyork.com

Opening hours

Monday - Sunday, 9am - 5pm

Tableland Regional Gallery

Standards profile

The Tableland Regional Gallery is situated in a region of diverse landscapes including World Heritage Wet Tropics, expansive Savannah country along with a variety of agricultural and pastoral farmlands. This environment has attracted a thriving arts community of fibre artists, potters, photographers, sculptors, artists and teachers. The Tableland Regional Gallery was established in March 2008 to promote regional art and to encourage both emerging and professional artists. It is the only regional gallery in an area slightly larger than Tasmania with a population of 42,000 and it has become an important part of cultural life in Atherton and on the Tablelands.

The Tableland Regional Gallery is operated by the Tableland Regional Council with one paid staff member and a large team of volunteers. It is situated in a Library-Gallery complex with a common entrance off the new workshop space extension. Staff and volunteers also operate the Foyer Art Gallery and Old Atherton Post Office Gallery.

The annual exhibition schedule provides a regularly changing program of local artists work and travelling exhibitions across the three gallery spaces. The newly created undercover open access space at the Tableland Regional Gallery will host a dynamic series of workshops, opening events and performances.

Message to new participants

The Standards Program provided a great brainstorming process for the team. Our volunteers benefited immediately by training which in turn has increased their enthusiasm for volunteering. The facilitators of the program are incredibly helpful and always available if required.

Program outcomes

The Gallery has formed a volunteers group who will meet informally once a month. A handbook is being collated that will include all policies and procedures to ensure smooth operation of the volunteer program.

The Standards Program reinforced the positive direction of the gallery and made suggestions such as curating local artists' responses to notable historical events eg: war artists who worked on the Tablelands during WWII.

Image: Tableland Regional Gallery.



Details

16 Robert Street, Atherton QLD 4883

07 4091 5261

trcartgallery@trc.qld.gov.au

www.tablelandgallery.trc.qld.gov.au

Opening hours

Tuesday - Saturday, 10am - 4pm

Sunday, 10am - 2pm

Brewarrina Aboriginal Cultural Museum

Standards profile

The Brewarrina Aboriginal Cultural Centre (BreACC) offers visitors and community members the chance to experience Aboriginal culture first hand in the very spot where local tribes have gathered for thousands of years.

School groups, families and individuals can visit the museum to learn about Dreamtime, tribal language, local culture, and traditional artefacts. Tours can also be arranged for hour or day-visits, as well as special week-long camps during school holidays.

The Centre is housed in two purpose-built gunyahs; domes shaped to represent traditional Aboriginal housing. The displays include the story of Balame's Ngunnhu—you can see the footprint and understand the shape of the country as the Ngemba people know. It will increase the knowledge of every visitor to the way of life that existed here in the time before European settlement.

The Cultural Centre stocks a range of paintings, crafts, artefacts and books for sale with all proceeds going to support the ongoing operation of the Centre. Local Aboriginal artists are paid for their artistic endeavours by the Centre. The Centre also has products from national and regional Aboriginal companies, making it one of the most versatile Aboriginal retail outlets in the country.

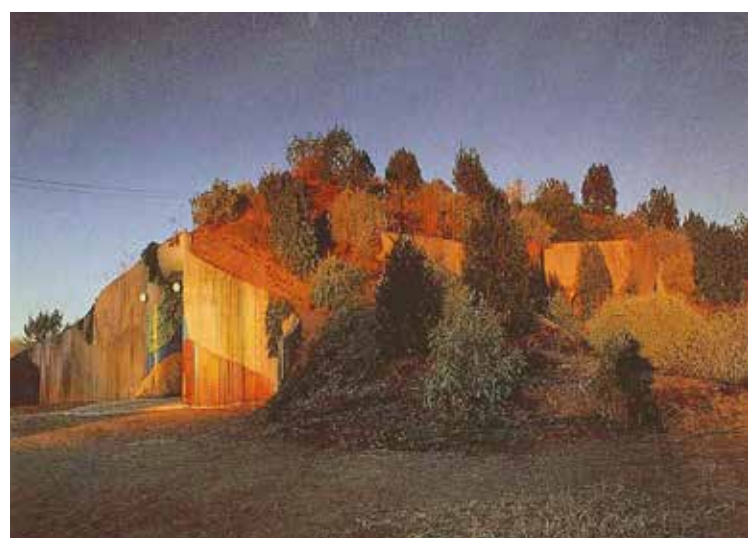
The Brewarrina Business Centre is proud of the Aboriginal Cultural Centre and the opportunity it affords indigenous and non-indigenous people alike to celebrate a rich, ancient culture and Aboriginal spirit.

The Centre is dedicated to the Aboriginal people, their heritage, and their pride in it.

Program outcomes

With the reopening of the Brewarrina Aboriginal Cultural Museum in 2010, it was always very important to us to achieve and maintain a high standard. This was important not just for the displays and what the public sees but for all that goes into running a quality museum well. The Standards Program has been fundamental in assisting us to do this. One of the most important results of the Program is the relationships we have gained with other museums within our region and the wider museum industry.

Image: Brewarrina Aboriginal Cultural Museum exterior.



Details

88 Bathurst St, Brewarrina NSW 2839

02 6839 1800

museum@brebc.com.au

<http://mgns.org.au/organisations/brewarrina-aboriginal-cultural-centre/>

Opening hours

Monday - Friday, 9am - 5pm

Saturday, 10am - 2pm

Other times by appointment

Cottage Museum, Rylstone

Standards profile

The Rylstone and District Historical Society precinct is located in the main street of Rylstone and consists of the Cottage Museum, the Thyme Out Community Garden and the handsome heritage listed Bridge View Inn.

The Rylstone district was explored soon after the settlement of Bathurst in 1818. In search of good grazing land, explorers pushed north and found the rich Capertee, Cudgegong, Lue and Bylong valleys. Flocks and settlement followed. The village developed as a centre serving large pastoral properties. By the 1870s and 80s, wealth from fine wool, horse breeding, fat cattle and the nearby Turon River gold fields saw Rylstone become a social and government centre, with numerous Victorian sandstone buildings that continue to give it great charm today.

The Cottage Museum is housed in a simple 1890s weatherboard home built for local blacksmith, James Nash. The museum displays focus on domestic and rural life. They include costume, rustic furniture, kitchen and small farming tools, schooling and musical instruments. Also on display are photographs of pioneers, the town and district encompassed by the old Rylstone Shire boundary.

The Bridge View Inn hosts a yum cha café, wine tasting room, barbershop and B&B. Built in 1871, the dining room features one of Australia's few surviving murals of the period. The mural is believed to have been painted by Augustus Baker Peirce (1840 - 1919) and has been recently conserved.

The Society hosts lectures, workshops and exhibitions; organises excursions and heritage events; and continues to research local and family history drawing on the resources of the community as well as the Society's archives and collection.

Program outcomes

The Museum Standards program activities certainly challenged us and changed our perspective regarding our collection.

The Committee appreciated the feedback from our museum reviewers who were very generous in sharing their time, experience and knowledge.

*Image: Thyme Out Community Garden, RDHS Precinct, Rylstone.
Photography by F MacDonald.*



Details

28-30 Louee Street, Rylstone NSW 2849

PO Box 66, Rylstone NSW 2849

02 6379 1840

Fax: 02 6379 1840

rylstonehistory@westnet.com.au

www.rylstonehistory.org.au/cottage-museum/

Opening hours

Sunday, 10am - 3pm

Other times by appointment

Coo-ee Heritage Centre

Standards profile

The Coo-ee Heritage & Visitor Information Centre won the 2006 Most Outstanding Visitor Centre at the Inland NSW Tourism Awards and more recently was the NSW winner in 2009 ABC Regional Museums Award.

It aims to entertain and educate by representing the cultures and lifestyles, past and present, of the people of the Gilgandra district. The Centre demonstrates themes of local, regional, state and national significance.

The Centre houses three permanent exhibitions and a changing exhibition gallery.

The Joy Trudgett Gallery exhibits "The Australian Collection" a unique collection of Aboriginal and natural history artefacts from Queensland and Northern Territory. Collected by local couple Gwen and Snow Collison between 1964 and 1989 and later acquired by the Gilgandra Shire Council.

The Coo-ee March Gallery depicts the journey of 35 men who left Gilgandra in 1915 to attract recruits for service in WWI. It includes artefacts of national significance including The Union Jack Flag carried by the marchers.

The Allan Wise Gallery is devoted to the history of local families. Of significance is the Gilgandra and District WWII personnel service records.

The Federation Gallery is a changing exhibition space that provides opportunity for artists to exhibit their work and hosts travelling exhibitions.

Program outcomes

The M&G NSW Standards Program has proved an invaluable resource for us to continually utilise and draw upon when facing the many challenges museums and galleries face in small communities. The Standards Reviewers were excellent in understanding our needs and gave us a clear direction and provided useful information which we will incorporate into our five year plan. Overall an excellent program in which the benefits will be seen for many years to come.

Image: Joy Trudgett Gallery.



Details

Coo-ee Memorial Park, Newell Highway

PO Box 23, Gilgandra NSW 2827

P: 02 6817 8700

Fax: 02 6817 8707

council@gilgandra.nsw.gov.au

www.gilgandra.nsw.gov.au

Opening hours

Monday - Sunday, 9am - 5pm

Closed Christmas Day

Gilgandra Rural Museum

Standards profile

The large windmill at the front of the building easily identifies it. This large Southern Cross windmill is one of the biggest in NSW with a 7.3m (24ft) mill head.

An extensive and exciting range of agricultural plant and machinery is housed in the Museum. Items of interest include Howard Rotary hoe, Ridley stripper, Rushton Proctor steam traction engine, Titan tractor, Ajax gas producer, McKay harvester and McCormick Deering tractor. A display of Aboriginal history is also included.

Within the grounds of the Gilgandra Rural Museum can be found Tooraweenah Police Gaol, Uargon Subsidised School, the famous Berida Sheep Station bookkeeper's office and residence and the Bullagreen Station shearer's quarters.

These buildings contain local items from bygone days from kitchenware to doctor's instruments and hospital equipment. In the display/meeting complex can be found many local photographs, musical instruments, and sewing machines from past times. Local history books, such as Marion Dormer's *The Bushman's Arms*, are also available for sale.

The Rural Museum is located on the Newell Highway (Dubbo Road) on the southern approach to the town of Gilgandra. There are toilets on site, including disabled access. Entry to the Museum - adult \$5 and school aged children and under, free. Variations are negotiable for groups, with catering available by prior arrangement.

Message to new participants

Get your team together and, with assistance and encouragement from M&G NSW staff and reviewers, all your efforts will be worthwhile. Enjoy the journey!

Program outcomes

The suggestions and ideas provided during the Standards Program have made us examine our operations more objectively, with the realisation that ongoing changes need to be made to ensure the Museum's sustainability.

The contacts made and advice received have been and continue to be invaluable in moving forward with confidence into the future.

Image: Front Entrance of Rural Museum.



Details

6 Castlereagh Street, Newell Highway Gilgandra NSW 2827

P: 02 6847 0806

jefferyandshirley@bigpond.com

www.ruralmuseum.org.au

www.facebook.com/gilgandrururalmuseum

Opening hours

Monday - Sunday, 10am - 2pm

School Holidays, 9am - 4pm

Closed Christmas Day

Gulgong Pioneers' Museum

Standards profile

We believe the most significant items in our collection are our buildings. We have three original relocated buildings, and an original in situ streetscape.

These buildings capture the essence of the early history in Gulgong in a far stronger way than any of our artefacts.

We have a vast and diverse collection of horse drawn vehicles, machinery, textiles, printing equipment and photographs. The Museum also has a first rate local history research facility.

An exciting recent development has been the enlargement of our museum property to include an interesting variety of precincts. Our new front entrance allows for better access for coach groups and visitors with physical disabilities.

Our current projects include the upgrading of exhibitions, on-going conservation, volunteer recruitment and maintaining our research/archives facility.

Our museum is run by volunteers as members of the Gulgong Historical Society Inc, with a management committee and people who specialise in conservation and information management.

Program outcomes

We have learned so much from the Standards Program. It gave us a really objective viewpoint as a foundation for future development. We understand so much more about significance and as a result are improving our displays to make them more meaningful for our visitors. It was such a worthwhile experience and our reviewers were very patient and encouraging.

Image: Cobb & Co. Coach.



Details

73 Herbert Street, Gulgong NSW 2852

02 6374 1513

Fax: 02 6374 1513

Opening hours

Monday - Sunday, 9am - 5pm

Closed Christmas Day and Anzac Day morning

Lightning Ridge Heritage Cottage Hospital Gallery

Standards profile

"Lightning Ridge Population?" is the sign welcoming you to the opal fields. At the historical society we research, record, maintain and share local history to explicate the "?". People come to the Ridge seeking opal, the landscape and legends. It's a lifestyle.

Our complex is located just past the Crocodile Caravan Park at the beginning of town. The 1932 miner's hut – Heritage Cottage – is 'a step back in time' when you walk through the front door onto dirt floors then follow the cat's footprints in concrete into the kitchen. It is bulging with memorabilia of the era and we sell our historical booklets plus select craft.

You are at the correct Cottage if Brett Garling's life-size bronze of Charlie Nettleton, founding father of the Black Opal Industry, stands in front. He looks as if he just walked out the door and people passing, have even been known to greet him, "Good'ay Mate!"

The relocated and refurbished 1915 nurse's cottage in the backyard – Heritage Cottage – is a tribute to all bush nurses. The lit Nurse Lucy tableau in the front windows attracts attention daily and permanent and changing displays extend onto the wide verandah as a place for reflection. The patio is spacious with comfortable seating and the backyard features mining icons in a garden setting. This is a quiet place off the main street for conversation and/or lunch.

The 1932 miner's cottage (Heritage Cottage), furnished in the era, is a shop for the Society's and locally-written historical publications, also original post and note cards plus select local craft. The 1915 Bush Nurse Association cottage (Hospital Gallery) was relocated to the back and restored as a tribute to the bush nurses of Lightning Ridge and holds other permanent displays. Each building collection has one item but hundreds of 'props'. Photographs and family history are managed from the on-site office.

Program outcomes

I am so glad we could participate and be sure we are on-track with what we are doing. I have a lot of fine-tuning now, behind the scenes organisation – nose to the grindstone! I know where I am headed with this nudge towards professionalism.

Image: Charlie Nettleton at the Lightning Ridge Heritage Cottage.



Details

7 Morilla Street, Lightning Ridge NSW 2834

0419 639 120

Fax: 02 6829 0527

barbemiz@lrhs.org.au

Opening hours

Easter - October

Tuesday - Friday, 10am - 4pm

Other times by appointment

Molong Museum

Standards profile

The Molong museum is housed in a delightful stone building on the corner of Riddell & Gidley Streets and was built in 1860 as an hotel. It was then called "The Golden Fleece". It is known that a rubble mason and also his son lived in Molong at that time and were responsible for several other stone buildings in the town.

The building has had a checkered life as after being a hotel it later became home and surgery for several doctors over many years. Some of the old surgical instruments of one doctor, Doctor Andrew Ross, are in the Museum's collection. After the doctors exit from there it was turned into flats by the then owners and was this way for many years and in time was sold to the Molong historical Society for the rates owing.

The building is large and accommodating and in 2009 received a Federal Government Jobs Funding Grant of \$89,000 which was used to repair and refurbish the building using local tradespeople. During this time everything needed to be packed up and then replaced. It is still said that we have a "work in progress" as there are still repairs needed but from the structural work carried out it is hoped that it will be sound for many years to come.

Apart from the building itself, the display attracting the most interest is the Fairbridge Room. Fairbridge was farm and home for children from the United Kingdom from the early 1930's until 1975 and was located approximately 5 ks on the Mitchell Highway towards Orange. Research was done by interviewing old identities from Fairbridge and older Molong people who remember the farm and school as a thriving little community.

One of the interesting questions asked, by people in the know is, "have you ever seen the ghost?" - No we haven't but several members have had some strange experiences so on leaving the building at lockup time we usually talk to "her" and say goodnight. There is a lovely atmosphere throughout the building so we think "she" is happy and content as "she" can see care for the building.

Message to new participants

Always welcome visitors and members are only too happy to be of help with any questions so hope to see many more in the coming years.

Program outcomes

Since the Standards Program we have gone from strength to strength. We won a NSW Government Heritage Award in 2012 and it gave all members some excitement when the local member for Clare Andrew Gee MP presented the award.



Details

20 Riddell St, Molong NSW 2866

02 6366 9622

molongmuseum@hotmail.com

www.users.on.net/~quincejam/mhshome.html

Opening hours

Open on the last Sunday of each month or by special arrangements.

Narromine Aviation Museum

Standards profile

Visit Narromine Aviation Museum, a captivating exhibition of artefacts, documents and photographs which tell the story of aviation as it unfolded on one of Australia's most historic aerodromes.

Many people are surprised to learn that flying at Narromine started as early as 1919. Australia's first regional aero club, which is still active, was formed there ten years later. A host of famous aviators made regular visits during the 1920s and 30s, and were enthusiastically hosted by the townspeople.

During the Second World War, the aerodrome was upgraded to host firstly a large RAAF flying school, and in 1945 a unique RAF Mosquito bomber squadron. The post-war years saw QANTAS conduct much of its pilot training there, as well as using the aerodrome as an alternative to Sydney's Mascot for international flights.

The sport of gliding, too, has roots at Narromine which go back to the 1940s. Today, the region is considered to be among the world's best soaring sites.

The Museum is managed by the Committee which comprises representatives of community organisations plus members elected by the members of Narromine Aviation Museum Inc. The daily operation of the Museum is by a group of about sixty-five volunteers who assist visitors and are available to explain the displays.

Program outcomes

An excellent program which provided much useful information. The advice of the reviewers was pertinent and put us on the correct method of accepting donations.

Two significant pieces of information we have learned from the Program include:

1. A museum is a business and has to run as such.
2. The administrative procedures are as important as the displays - if the admin is sloppy the ability for the Museum to fulfil its educational role is in jeopardy.

Image: Narromine Aviation Museum display.



Details

Trangie Road, Narromine NSW 2821

02 6889 7131

ewdavies@bigpond.net.au

www.narromineaviationmuseum.org.au

Opening hours

Wednesday - Monday, 10am - 5pm

Other times by appointment

Old Dubbo Gaol

Standards profile

With a history spanning over 150 years from 1847-1966, the Old Dubbo Gaol is a snap-shot in time of a bygone era. Stepping through the gates of the Gaol you are taken back to a time of bushrangers and pioneers, down on your luck stories, and of villainy. The Gaol is home to a large display of animatronic models that provide a realistic and fascinating insight into the hardship of prison life.

Old Dubbo Gaol holds NSW's largest collection of Hangman's ropes, the only complete hangman's kit, and a state of the art holographic exhibition which is based on the NSW Executioner Robert 'Nosey Bob' Howard and the art of hanging. On site are a large number of artefacts ranging from a whipping stool and cat-o'-nine tails, to a strait-jacket.

Visitors are able to experience the loneliness and solitude of the dark cell, view the condemned cell where eight men waited their final punishment at the gallows, view the padded cell and walk into the "bird-cage" remand yards. A fully erected gallows stands in the middle of the Gaol. Group tours and guided night tours are also available.

The Old Dubbo Gaol is a facility managed by Dubbo City council.

Program outcomes

The Program has offered a fresh perspective from industry professionals, people with vast experience in the field. We got very valuable advice on a range of subjects, particularly the important area of volunteering. Another positive outcome is the tremendous contacts that have been developed.

Image: Reenactment at the Old Dubbo Gaol.



Details

90 Macquarie Street, Dubbo NSW 2830

02 6801 4460

Fax: 02 6801 4469

odg@dubbo.nsw.gov.au

www.olddubbogaol.com.au

Opening hours

Monday - Sunday, 9am - 5pm (last entry is 4pm)

Closed Christmas day

Oxley Museum

Standards profile

Oxley Museum's collection reflects the European settlement of Wellington and its district and features a Chinese room, a military room, trades and commercial room, medical room and a room with a display of costumes. Several rooms on the ground floor have been set up as a Victorian House – bedroom, kitchen, pantry and laundry. In the grounds of the museum, the visitor can see a one room school house which was removed from Windora and reconstructed, and a slab cottage once occupied by the Stinson family on a property outside Wellington and subsequently removed and re-erected on its present site. There are also two sheds with farm machinery, horse drawn vehicles and large items (printing press etc).

A feature item on display is the Centenary of Federation Signature Quilt with over 700 signatures of Wellington residents which was completed in 2002.

Thanks to a generous bequest, new display cases have been installed in the museum, giving a much better visitor experience. We also hope in the very near future to have a "virtual tour" facility for visitors who cannot climb the stairs to our first floor displays. Members are working on the cataloguing, conservation and digitisation of photographic proofs and negatives from the "Wellington Times" newspaper.

Oxley Museum is managed by members of the Wellington Historical Society who work on a volunteer basis.

In recent years, the Historical Society has published three books: Pictorial History of Wellington in 2003, Pictorial History Booklet in 2008, and Gould League Centenary Booklet in 2010.

Message to new participants

Highly recommend participation for a more professional approach to museum management, especially for small volunteer-based museums.

Program outcomes

We gained confidence in the knowledge that we are on the right track. Some achievements already, some still to come. We can approach the future more positively and professionally.

The Program also allowed us to network and meet with other people whose museums have similar problems eg. volunteer shortages and lack of funding etc.

Image: Oxley Museum, Wellington NSW. Photography by Dorothy Blake.



Details

Cnr Percy and Warne Street, Wellington NSW

02 6845 3562

oxleymuseum@gmail.com

www.oxleymuseum.org.au

Opening hours

Monday - Friday, 1.30pm - 4.30pm

Brisbane Tramway Museum

Standards profile

The Brisbane Tramway Museum is set in beautiful bushlands in a park with picnic facilities in the northwest of Brisbane. The unique feature of the museum is the collection of Brisbane tramcars and trolley buses.

A tramcar collection dates from a 1901 California Combination four wheel tram through the mighty twelve ton Dreadnought (or Centre aisle tramcar), to the well known Dropcentre tram which many visitors remember riding from the city to the Valley to the modern streamlined four Motor (FM) tram. The museum holds a collection of 22 tramcars of which 6 have been restored and available for people to ride on when the museum is open to the public. Many visitors comment on remembering the days when these tramcars supplied public transport to the people of Brisbane and the efficiency with which they moved people to and from the city centre.

Museum volunteers are in the process of restoring the prototype FM car built in 1937 and a Dreadnought tram built in 1913. The museum also has a trolley bus display, of which one has been restored and visitors can walk through.

The power supplied to the trams at the museum is by Mercury Arc Rectifiers which is the only one operating in a museum in Australia. The museum also holds a large collection of uniforms and other tramway memorabilia from the tramway era for public viewing. The volunteers proudly wear period tramway uniforms when operating tramcars for the public.

Message to new participants

We were not sure at the beginning of this program if this program would suit our museum but the information supplied and help given was fantastic. It has given our museum the chance to re-examine itself and for outside people not connected with the Museum to look at how the museum operates. This has assisted our collection, recruiting of volunteers and running of the museum. We would encourage any other small or medium museum to participate within this program.

Program outcomes

The Standards Program has helped our organisation to identify the significant items within our vast collection and to assist our organisation to focus on the preservation needs of these items.

The Program has helped the museum to re-evaluate our recruiting of volunteers and to look at new ways of recruitment and reinforce this recruitment with job statements.

Image: Tramcar 65 heading up the hill to depot Terminus.



Details

50 Tramway Street, Ferny Grove QLD 4055

07 3351 1776

info@brisbanetramwaymuseum.org

www.brisbanetramwaymuseum.org

Opening hours

Sunday, 12.30pm - 4pm

Please phone ahead if raining

Other times by appointment

Commissariat Store Museum

Standards profile

The Commissariat Store Museum is housed in the only occupied convict-built structure in Brisbane and holds a significant collection spanning Moreton Bay's penal colony, early free settlement in Queensland and social history in Brisbane and Queensland up to the 20th Century.

We offer a hands-on heritage experience to our visitors and provide informative and interesting guided tours detailing Brisbane during the years of convict settlement. Aside from a significant collection of convict items on display and available for handling, such as leg irons, keys, cooking utensils and convict made bricks, our collection also includes various items from St Helena Island, a substantial collection of furniture and household items bought to Queensland by our early free settlers, significant arts and craft items, such as pieces by L. J. Harvey and Muriel McDiarmid which reflect Queensland's unique arts movement in the early 20th Century, and various items which uncover the state's early shipping and maritime history, such as items from the Government paddle steamer *The Lucinda* and the *Queen of the Colonies* shipwreck.

Additionally, the building itself is the star feature of our museum as it is the only occupied convict-built building in Brisbane. The Commissariat Store was constructed in 1829 through convict labour under the direction of Captain Patrick Logan; an individual who played a significant part in the establishment of the state of Queensland through his role as commandant of the penal colony between 1826 – 1830.

Message to new participants

The Standards Program can seem like a daunting challenge at first but it is well worth the hard work. The expert advice and guidance you will receive from the reviewers and M&GSQ staff is invaluable.

Go into the program with an open mind and make the most of the opportunity as the year will fly by!

Program outcomes

Participating in the Standards Program was a productive exercise for our museum volunteers to recognise our significant achievements with the museum so far, despite limited resources. This can give all involved a confidence boost and the assurance that we are heading in the right direction.

The Standards Program has made us aware of the opportunities presented by other organisations and individuals, such as M&GSQ, Museums Australia, our reviewers and university students, to assist us with the operation of the museum and specific projects.

Image: The Commissariat Store Museum from Queen's Wharf Road.



Details

115 William Street, Brisbane QLD 4000

07 3221 4198

info@queenslandhistory.org.au

www.queenslandhistory.org

Opening hours

Tuesday to Friday, 10am - 4pm

Diamantina Health Care Museum

Standards profile

The Diamantina Health Care Museum Inc. is housed in the oldest building in the grounds of the Princess Alexandra Hospital: the heritage listed former Dispenser's House which was built in 1909. The site was originally used as an Aboriginal healing place by the Koorpooroo people of the Jagara group.

The museum celebrates and interprets a rich history of health care, the people and staff of hospitals built on the site. The museum displays a variety of photographs of previous years, furniture and equipment dating back to the Diamantina Hospital for Chronic Diseases days and makes available information booklets about the hospital's past, its people and equipment.

The Museum has John Kemp's bark realism of "The Lords Last Supper" which was the largest bark artwork in Australia, and made with bark collected from Wynnum Creek and the surrounding area. It was donated to the Hospital in 1973 for the newly built chapel.

Message to new participants

We were unsure if the program would be suitable for us, but found the reviewers were so helpful and we have been so encouraged by the knowledge gained that we feel we will be more professional in the future.

Program outcomes

Acting on knowledge received during the Standards Program, we have greatly improved our practice:

- The InMagic Cataloguing program was purchased and we are now actively cataloguing our items.
- A Donation Form was designed and is now used for all donations, it is also helpful in collecting the history of the item. A Loans Form was also designed.
- A handout of the Floor Plan was made to assist Visitors.
- A column was added to the Visitors Book asking how they had heard about the museum to assist us with advertising.

Image: The Diamantina Health Care Museum. Photography by Claire Lees.



Details

Cornwall street Entrance, Princess Alexandra Hospital, Woolloongabba QLD 4102

07 3176 2702

stinger5@optusnet.com.au

www.health.qld.gov.au/pahospital/history/pah_museum

Opening hours

Sunday, 12pm - 2pm

Wednesday, 11am - 2.30pm

Other times by appointment

Gympie Regional Gallery

Standards profile

The Gympie Regional Gallery promotes the development of the arts as an integral part of the local community bringing educational opportunities, cultural enrichment, economic and social benefits to the entire region. The Gallery is housed in the heritage listed School of Arts Building built in 1905. The stories of the building are told through the twelve “Windows of Memories” display boxes produced by artist Nyria King.

It presents a dynamic range of exhibitions and public programs tailored to the interests of the community. The Gallery has a Category A Rating, meaning that it has the professional staff and facilities to cater for everything from major national travelling exhibitions to locally curated exhibitions that highlight the artists and local stories of the region. The Gallery supports a range of community initiatives such as the Gold Rush Art Competition and the Heritage Art Competition as well as showcasing the works of local secondary students at the annual Hi-Artworks exhibition.

A range of public programs are developed by the Gallery to engage a broad cross-section of the community in arts and culture. Art groups actively utilise the workshop space to share, learn and create. The popular and long running school holiday programs of the Gallery offer children and youth an opportunity to experiment with different artforms.

The Gallery also supports the development of public art, housing two public art pieces in the grounds of the building – “Crate” by Richard Newport and “Pinnacles” by Stephen Newton.

The Friends of the Gallery (FOG) are a vital part of the organisation providing volunteer resources to support the gallery’s programs. The FOGlets is a wonderful regular arts program for children over 6 years.

Program outcomes

The Standards Program reinforced our direction for the future as a non-collecting institution focused on dynamic public engagement. The Action Plan guides our Strategic Business Plan which defines the core business of the gallery and provides a framework into the future that builds resources and capacity.

Staff have identified the need to look at tapping into different areas of the community to extend and develop new audiences. One strategy that is already in place is to extend the length of the exhibitions to offer quality over quantity and reduce strain on resources.

Message to new participants

It is when you see your business through other peoples eyes and especially peers in the industry, that you really see the amount of work we do as something special. Being part of the Standards Program and being under the microscope has enabled the Gallery to take a good look at its operations and plan for the future. We encourage other galleries and museums to think about being involved as it is a very cathartic and rewarding experience.

Image: Gympie Regional Gallery.



Details

39 Nash Street, Gympie QLD 4570

07 5481 0733

gallery@gympie.qld.gov.au

www.gympie.qld.gov.au/gallery

www.facebook.com/GympieRegionalGallery

Opening hours

Tuesday - Saturday, 10am - 4pm

Mercy Heritage Centre

Standards profile

Step into the atmospheric Mercy Heritage Centre and explore the life and work of the Sisters of Mercy in one of Brisbane's oldest surviving buildings. The core of the existing building, Adderton, was built in 1858 by John Petrie for Dr George Fullerton.

Purchased as the first permanent home of the Sisters of Mercy in Queensland, Adderton was renamed Convent of Our Lady of Mercy, All Hallows', on 1 November 1863. It was the Mother House of the Brisbane Congregation, and the base for a broad network of health, education, and social welfare programs throughout the state. With extensions to the original building in 1891, 1913, and 1919, it remained a major residence of the Sisters of Mercy until 2007. Visitors now have the unique opportunity to explore this historic convent, gaining insights into the Sisters of Mercy daily life through intimate encounters of the nun's living conditions and instructional training.

The Sisters of Mercy are a group of religious women, dedicated to serving the poor, sick and uneducated. The order began in Ireland in 1831, and the Brisbane group was founded shortly after Queensland's separation from New South Wales.

The mission of the Mercy Heritage Centre is to continue the legacy of the Sisters of Mercy through interactive and educational exhibitions, demonstrations and guided tours. Revealed is the full breadth and depth of the rich and diverse history of the Sisters of Mercy Brisbane. The Mercy Heritage Centre also reveals the origins of the Mercy Order and its key ministries, All Hallows' School and rare aspects of Catholicism.

In addition visitors can discover the different layers of the building's history, the magnificent Chapel and an extensive and diverse collection of religious relics.

Message to new participants

Think hard about what it is your museum really needs to achieve, then go for it. The expertise is there to ensure there is something to gain in this program for every museum regardless of size, funding or collection.

Program outcomes

The Reviewers were invaluable at guiding us through the process of bringing 2 major projects to fruition. The result being that we have now completed our education kits and final stage of exhibitions.

We also continue to develop different marketing and communications strategies - another recommendation from our Reviewers.

Image: Mercy Heritage Centre, All Hallows' Convent.



Details

All Hallows' Convent, 547 Street, Brisbane QLD 4000

07 3831 2252

www.mercyheritage.com

Opening hours

Tours Tuesday and Wednesday at 9.30am, 11am, 1pm, 2.30pm

Other times by appointment

Miegunyah - The Queensland Women's Historical Association

Standards profile

Built in the 1880s when local tradition was at its most opulent, Miegunyah is one of Brisbane's most accessible Heritage Homes. Richly decorated with iron lace balustrades, filigree columns and friezes, and furnished in the style of the late 19th century, Miegunyah is a living example of Victorian elegance and charm. Step through the wide cedar doorway into the House Museum, be fascinated by exotic collectables from travels afar, learn about the people who lived at Miegunyah and ghosts that never left. Even glimpse the labours of 19th century housekeeping

Miegunyah is open to the public for tours and morning / afternoon teas.

Miegunyah is also available for group visits, special interest groups, corporate and private functions. The Queensland Women's Historical Association (QWHA) monthly talks are held in the formal dining room. The QWHA archives and research facilities are held at the House Museum in a secure climate controlled environment. Access to these is available to researchers by appointment. The QWHA also produces a range of books and other publications.

Miegunyah House Museum, the archives, research and publishing activities are maintained by The Queensland Women's Historical Association as a Memorial to the Pioneer Women of Queensland.

Message to new participants

The Standards Program has given us valuable insights into our organisation and its management. It has shown us what we do well and where we need improvements. It allows for review of policies and procedures in a positive way.

Program outcomes

Improved communication

The Standards Program led us to examine our purpose and our mission statement. We have developed subcommittees to improve communication pathways between volunteers and the management committee.

Managing the collection

We have planned an audit and data base of our collection. We have implemented a de-accessioning policy and procedure. We have reduced our insurance running costs. We have planned and scheduled a training day for volunteers.

Image: The dining room where QWHA lectures are held and featuring an 1837 convict made sideboard.



Details

35 Jordan Terrace, Bowen Hills QLD 4006

07 3252 2979

Fax: 07 3257 4235

qwha@miegunyah.org

www.miegunyah.org

Opening hours

Wednesday, 10am - 3pm

Saturday - Sunday, 10.30am - 4pm

Museum of Nursing History

Standards profile

The Museum of Nursing History is a rich object and archival collection of the practice of nursing and health care at the Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital. 9331 records of all nurses trained at RBH from 1886 to 1993 comprise a comprehensive archive of nursing training and practice on the site.

The personal collections of nurses contain archival material such as competency and registration certificates, lecture notes, diaries, scrapbooks, poems, newspaper clippings, texts, small reference books such as nursing dictionaries, photographs of individuals and groups, small items of uniform such as caps and aprons and artefacts including badges, medals, and small pieces of nursing equipment such as thermometers, watches and syringes. They denote the experiences of individual nurses but they also illuminate the general process of training itself and how it changed over time.

10,000 images, 850 reference books, 50 uniforms, 1200 objects and the extensive archival collection provide a wonderful resource for the telling of stories of nursing and medical care. The gold pocket watch presented to Sister Annie Miller in 1868 by the Duke of Edinburgh for her nursing care of him following an assassination attempt is a fine example of the quality of the collection.

Strong provenance and valuable research material provide a great resource for interpretive displays of the significance of the site and the development of nursing practice in Queensland and makes a valuable contribution to the history of health care in Australia.

Message to new participants

The Museums Standards Program is an excellent program for increasing one's knowledge in museum practice. It was an unknown journey but through the guidance of the professional staff of Museum & Gallery Services Queensland and the Reviewers, it culminated in the production of an action plan. We would recommend the program.

Program outcomes

A revised collection policy and procedures

The Standards Program reinforced the need for a revised collection policy and procedures.

More participation from volunteers in the management of the Museum

The Standards Program highlighted the need to formalise the role of the volunteers, listing the different activities carried out in the museum and instituting a recruiting and training program.

Image: Nurses at Brisbane Hospital 1910. Photo taken in the garden of the Lady Lamington Nurses' Home.



Details

Northern Wing, Lady Lamington Building, Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital, Bowen Bridge Road, Herston QLD 4006

07 3634 8702

Opening hours

Tuesday, 11am - 2pm

Queensland Police Museum

Standards profile

The Queensland Police Museum includes 25 displays describing police heritage, Queensland crimes, police investigative techniques, medals, the history of police women, operational equipment and transport, amongst others. Our simulated murder scene is a popular attraction - come in and try your hand at solving this crime.

We are the only official Queensland Police Museum in the state and are the repository for police related memorabilia, images and archives from around the state. Other small collections exist but are usually focused only on uniform, badges and patches.

Our research library is home to a monograph collection, as well as archival material and images that date back to 1864. Our education programs are linked to the new Australian Curriculum for Science and cater to students in years 5 - 12.

Message to new participants

We were eager to partake of the Standards Program because of its excellent reputation for partnering reviewers skills and knowledge with the needs of participants. Although it's quite a lot of work, we feel that the Program helped us bring all of our collection management resources and policies together and has given us a fresh outlook on what we have been accomplishing and where we hope to be in the future.

Program outcomes

Organisational worth

The Standards Program reinforced the direction the Museum was taking. It gave us the tools to better communicate the worth of the Museum to the Queensland Police Service as a whole.

Future proofing

The Standards Program gave us the impetus to reinvigorate our education program and to realign it to the Australian National Curriculum.

Image: Some of Police Museum's 25 displays.



Details

Ground Floor, 200 Roma Street, Brisbane QLD 4000

07 3364 6432

07 3364 4652

museum@police.qld.gov.au

www.police.qld.gov.au/museum

Opening hours

Monday - Friday, 9am - 4pm

February - November

Last Sunday of the month, 10am - 3pm

Wondai Regional Art Gallery

Standards profile

2013 Gallery and Museum Achievement Awards. Winner, Organisations: Volunteer run

The Wondai Regional Art Gallery collection is housed in the town's original Station Master's residence which is an historic building dating back to the early 1900s.

The Gallery provides emerging and established artists the opportunity to exhibit within the three gallery spaces. These exhibitions change monthly, with an Opening Night on the first Friday of each month. In addition, a Kidz Korner is made available to the schools in the region for display of student's work. There are three competition months per year including the October Acquisitive, with the winning artwork being acquired by the Council. This collection is growing.

The Gallery has grown steadily over the last twelve years through the enthusiastic support of volunteers. The gallery has evolved from a small community run gallery to being a cultural hub for the whole community. From day one the Gallery has opened 7 days per week providing visitors and community members access to the facilities.

The Gallery has been fortunate to have gained support from community sponsorship activity/opportunities.

A new addition is our multi-purpose built studio, which serves the whole community.

Message to new participants

We thoroughly recommend this program. The Gallery entered in anticipation and gained more than we imagined. The help and the support from the facilitators was outstanding, and the networking opportunities immense.

Program outcomes

The Standards Program has highlighted the direction that we have to take for the preservation of our collection in the future.

It has made us more aware of the art gallery's role within the community and how we can improve.

Image: Workshop activities.



Details

40 Haly Street, Wondai QLD 4370

07 4168 5926

wondaiartgallery@southburnett.qld.gov.au

Opening hours

Monday - Sunday, 10am - 4pm

Closed Christmas Day, Boxing Day and Good Friday

The Arms of Australia Inn Museum

Standards profile

The Arms of Australia Inn Museum in Emu Plains was once a coaching inn. It was first licenced to John Mortimer as the Australian Arms in 1841. The Inn catered for travelers heading across the mountains to Bathurst and the gold fields. The Cobb & Co. coaches that plied the road day and night stopped at the inn, as did many bullock team drivers taking stock and provisions over the mountains.

Today, the Inn is operated by the Nepean District Historical Society as a museum. It has artefacts, some dating from the 1790s, including many objects found under the floor during restoration work, objects depicting lifestyles in the Nepean district and a collection of Aboriginal and South Pacific artefacts, known as the Bunyan collection.

On display in and around the adjoining barn are agricultural equipment, early farmhouse paraphernalia, old grindstones, hand washing mangles, wood stoves, ice boxes, a blacksmith's forge and general early farm equipment.

The Museum's education program makes history a living experience for school students. Students take part in 'hands on' activities using equipment from the early days.

Each July, the Museum has a festival and open day to commemorate the day William Cox started the road across the Blue Mountains in 1814. The museum also conducts ghost and area tours, and is a unique venue for weddings, corporate functions, special occasions and meetings.

Program outcomes

To gain the knowledge and assistance to enhance all the operations and facets of the Museum. To become a more professionally run museum. To be able to plan for the future of the Museum development in line with the vision in the N.D.H.S. mission statement.

Image: Front of the Museum.



Details

Cnr Gardenia Avenue and Great Western Highway, Emu Plains
NSW 2750

02 4735 4394

info@armsofaustraliainn.org.au

www.armsofaustraliainn.org.au

Opening hours

Monday, Wednesday and Thursday, 9am - 2pm

First and third Sunday of every month, 1pm - 4pm

Carisbrook House Museum

Standards profile

Carisbrook House Museum, built in 1884 at Lane Cove, is Sydney's only 1880s house museum.

Built from local sandstone, heritage-listed Carisbrook is Italianate in style, its asymmetrical façade, faceted bay window and low-pitched slate roof being motifs that were popular with Victorian architects and clients.

Carisbrook's magnificent gardens and grounds still run down to Burns Bay, connecting the house with the river which was such a vital element in settlement and transport in its earlier days.

Lane Cove Council purchased Carisbrook in 1969 for the benefit of the community and continues to maintain the house, garden and grounds. The house is managed by the Lane Cove Historical Society through the Friends of Carisbrook.

Furnished to the Victorian period, the house features an extensive collection of antiques including many fine Australian cedar pieces, an 1822 Tomkison piano and the Radke family collection of household items.

The Friends of Carisbrook are responsible for guided house tours, exhibitions, recitals and other special events. The gardens are available for hire through Lane Cove Council.

Image: Carisbrook House Museum exterior.



Details

334 Burns Bay Road, Lane Cove NSW 2066

02 9428 1364

tea04055@bigpond.net.au

www.carisbrookhouse.com.au

Opening hours

Saturday and Sunday, 11am - 4pm

Other times by appointment

City of Canada Bay Museum

Standards profile

Ever wondered where the iconic Victa, Aussie rotary mower, originated?

Mervyn Victor Richardson took “borrowing your neighbour’s lawn mower” to a whole new level when he laid eyes on the petrol-driven rotary mower designed by neighbour Lawrence Hall, a Marine Engineer, in 1948. Hall invented it so he could easily mow his mother’s lawn and the grounds of the Cabarita Speedboat Club. It was the first of its type made in Australia and the one on which all modern mowers are based. Richardson was so impressed he gained permission to “borrow” the idea and went on to build and develop the Victa Mower, the Aussie icon which “turned grass into lawn”.

Visit our museum and see both the original Mowhall mower and the 128th Victa made.

The Parramatta River is over half of the City of Canada Bay’s boundary and played a very important part in the region’s early history. Being able to bring supplies in and ship finished products out made the area very enticing for the many industries, such as AGL and Nestles, that set up along the shore, and later the railway brought in many others such as Arnotts and Bergers.

The rest of the boundary is the Parramatta Road, originally a rough bush track between Sydney Cove and Parramatta. The Longbottom Stockade, a halfway stopping place for convicts walking to Parramatta, also played an important part in our history. It was at times a prison, police barracks, government farm and timber mill. It was here, in 1840, that the French Canadian Exiles were housed following the uprising in Canada.

Message to new participants

We needed ‘know how’ and, oh boy, did we get it!! It showed us the direction we needed to go and how to get there. It was hard work but results were worthwhile. We’ve certainly benefited in so many ways.

Program outcomes

As a museum that had been in limbo for many years, the Standards Program gave us greater clarity to guide its future development and we now have the knowledge and means to pass on this information to future volunteers.

The program showed us how to better present displays in order to tell the area’s history and heritage and gave us practical advice on assessing the significance of our collection and documenting it.

Image: Interior of the Museum.



Details

1 Bent Street, Concord NSW 2137

02 9743 3034

Fax: 02 9744 7591

chs@concordheritage.asn.au

www.concordheritage.asn.au

Opening hours

Wednesday and Saturday, 10am - 4pm

Don Bank Museum

Standards profile

In the midst of modern bustling North Sydney, surrounded by high rise office buildings, sits Don Bank; a place where visitors can escape into the 19th century.

This timber slab cottage built circa 1840s was saved from the bulldozer by community support and opened to the public in 1981. A heritage listed community-based museum, staffed by volunteers, it is managed by North Sydney Council's Historical Services Department.

Wandering through the rooms of the house will give a taste of earlier times with permanent displays interpreting the fabric of the building and telling the stories of its former residents. Regular exhibitions of community art and photographs are held throughout the year.

Don Bank is the starting point for a self guided walking tour of North Sydney and Crows Nest which explores the house's association with the early land grants of Edward Wollstonecraft and Alexander Berry. Group bookings can also be made for conducted tours of the museum and gardens.

The facilities of Don Bank offer a venue for the regular meetings of a variety of community groups.

A database of artefacts donated to Don Bank Museum and stored at the North Sydney Heritage Centre at Stanton Library is available online. This contains over 1,000 images of costumes, textiles, domestic objects and other items relating to the history of North Sydney from the 19th century through to the present day.

Image: White family outside Don Bank, circa 1919.



Details

6 Napier Street, North Sydney NSW 2060

02 9936 8406

Fax: 02 9936 8440

library@northsydney.nsw.gov.au

www.northsydney.nsw.gov.au

Opening hours

Wednesday, 12pm - 3pm

Sunday, 2pm - 4pm

Outside opening hours contact Stanton Library

Eryldene Historic House & Garden

Standards profile

Eryldene was the home of scholar and connoisseur Professor Eben Gowrie Waterhouse, his wife Janet and their four sons. The house was designed by architect William Hardy Wilson in 1913 who continued to work with the Waterhouse family over twenty years to create the property that you see today. Waterhouse, professor of German at the University of Sydney, earned world renown for his work on camellias, especially their classification, naming and propagation.

Eryldene demonstrates the particular life and interests of Professor and Mrs Waterhouse with their support of art, architecture, horticulture, linguistics, and their own lively cultural circle of friends and international visitors. It is also typical of middle class suburban life in the first half of the 20th century where self sufficiency, careful management of the household budget and the upbringing and scholastic achievement of the four Waterhouse boys was nurtured and encouraged. Eryldene is listed on the NSW Heritage Register and the National Heritage list.

It comprises the house, garden, other buildings and structures including Hardy Wilson's teahouse, garden study, pigeon house, walled fountain and tool shed, the furnishings comprising plant material, artefacts, art works and the collection of documents and photographs. In 1979 the Eryldene Trust was established to purchase the property and to conserve, manage and present it for public education and enjoyment. It is open on the second weekend of every month between April and September, when the camellias are at their best, and is available for booked tours, weddings and functions.

Eryldene celebrates its centenary in 2014.

Message to new participants

Few of us were willing to commit to this exhaustive program. However, the outcomes have been far reaching - focus of endeavour and confidence in our way forward.

Program outcomes

Volunteers

The realisation that our most urgent need is to better organise the sourcing, training, management of volunteers, and to better celebrate their achievements.

Housekeeping and archives

To better organise our housekeeping and archives, through the implementation of housekeeping books and disaster plans, accession and deaccession records, and to clarify the parameters of our archives/collection. Significance assessment of the collection implemented with a grant from the National Library of Australia.

Image: Eryldene Historical House & Garden.



Details

17 McIntosh Street, Gordon NSW 2071

02 9498 2271

Fax: 02 9499 2636

eryldene@eryldene.org.au

www.eryldene.org.au

Opening hours

April - September

Second weekend of every month, 10am - 4pm

Group midweek and weekend tours require a booking

Fitzroy Falls Visitor Centre

Standards profile

Fitzroy Falls is a magnificent waterfall located in the Southern Highlands of NSW, within Morton National Park. The waterfall is accessible from the Southern Highlands and Kangaroo Valley. It is on a popular tourist drive through this area.

The Fitzroy Falls Visitor Centre is a National Parks and Wildlife Service Visitor Facility managed by the Office of Environment and Heritage - NSW State Government. Each year 250,000 local and international visitors enjoy the well presented Environmentally Friendly Visitor Centre.

The centre is designed on Eco-Tourism principles using solar power and environmentally friendly building materials including recycled bridge timbers and local Bundanoon sandstone.

Visitors enjoy extensive bushwalks around the waterfall encountering many beautiful native plants and animals, including the musical lyrebird that is regularly sighted on the walk to the Falls.

The Visitor Centre provides visitors with a window into the National Parks of NSW and the local area, providing interesting up to date information on all things environmental.

An Eco-Tourism principle of involving local artists/craftspeople and small cottage industries of the Southern Highlands and South Coast Region to exhibit work at the centre, provides the visitor with the opportunity to enjoy and purchase local products including photography, ceramics and silk that are displayed and changed monthly.

Major touring exhibitions such as Nature Personified by Helen Leitch, the Wollemi Pine display and Indigenous art exhibitions offer the visitor a wider view of current environmental and cultural delights. The centre provides guided tours with Discovery and Indigenous Rangers, fees and bookings are applicable.

Image: Silk textiles display.



Details

1301 Nowra Road, Fitzroy Falls NSW 2577

02 48877 270

Fax: 02 48877 203

beth.boughton@environment.nsw.gov.au

www.environment.nsw.gov.au/nationalparks

Opening hours

May - August

Monday - Sunday, 9am - 5.30pm

September - April

Monday - Sunday, 9am - 5pm

Hornsby Shire Historical Society Museum

Standards profile

What was school like for your great-grandparents? What games did they play? How did their mothers cook and wash? Did they shop at a supermarket and carry the groceries home in a plastic bag?

Visit the Hornsby Shire Historical Society (HSHS) Museum in Kenley Park, Normanhurst to experience hands-on living in the 1930s.

Managed by members of the Society, the Museum's permanent displays focus on a typical childhood in a rural district, while the temporary displays highlight the changes in work and leisure in Hornsby Shire. Together they provide a memorable experience for families, leisure groups and schools (HSIE appropriate program available on request).

Exhibiting objects from both domestic and work spheres, our collection includes a silk wedding dress with tiny matching shoes, a Metters revolving pantry and a schoolroom display of the 1930s.

Our extensive collection of photographs has recently been digitised and is now easily accessible to both casual viewers and researchers.

Adjacent to the Main Northern Railway and sited in a large shaded park with a children's playground and public toilets, the Museum is easily accessible by rail and bus and has plenty of free parking.

Message to new participants

Our museum approached the five tasks with a positive outlook, and gained enormously from the opportunity to analyse our museum, volunteer and collection management practices. The guidance from our knowledgeable reviewers and the staff at M&G NSW made the year achievable, enjoyable and productive.

Program outcomes

A two year strategic plan with goals and action plan has been achieved by HSHS Museum management with help from our reviewers. This addresses an identified need for document review, ongoing training for volunteers and management, and a significance assessment of the current collection.

Image: Silk wedding dress (detail).



Details

Joseph Collingridge Hall Kenley Park, Kenley Road, Normanhurst
NSW 2069

02 9489 7543

Opening hours

Tuesday, 10am - 2pm

Third Sunday of the month, 1.30pm - 5pm

Hunters Hill Museum

Standards profile

The Hunters Hill Museum is working at creating a seamless link between the community and its history. The Museum's program of history walks guided by volunteers is popular with visitors from all over the state. The Broadband Internet Kiosk has brought more participants.

The contribution of the Italian community to Hunters Hill was celebrated with a commemoration of the Garibaldi Hotel and its founders the Cuneo Family with a museum display and a street walk ending at the former hotel for refreshments and Garibaldi biscuits.

The discovery in the Museum archives of an album of cartes-de-visit compiled by a young woman in Hunters Hill from 1864 became the subject of a display featuring life-size enlargements of some of the people of the album. This has created interest for family researchers.

The resources of the Museum were used by a number of groups, including the Hunters Hill Council, in the celebration of the municipality's sesqui-centenary in 2011.

The new opening hours (five mornings a week) made it possible for visitors to call and have their research queries attended to by volunteers using the archives.

The council sponsored the publication of a Historical History of Hunters Hill by Linda Emery and this is made up almost entirely from the Museum's collection of images and files.

With financial assistance from a sponsor, forty bronze plaques were commissioned by the Society for installation by the council at historic sites commemorating both heritage houses and the persons who founded the suburb. A booklet was published and this has led to a greater awareness of Hunters Hill's unique past.

The centenary of the birth of the artist Nora Heysen, first woman to win the Archibald Prize for portraiture was celebrated by the Society commissioning a bronze bust. Heysen spent more than half her life in Hunters Hill and the bust, sponsored by a donor, was installed in the courtyard of her favourite coffee shop.

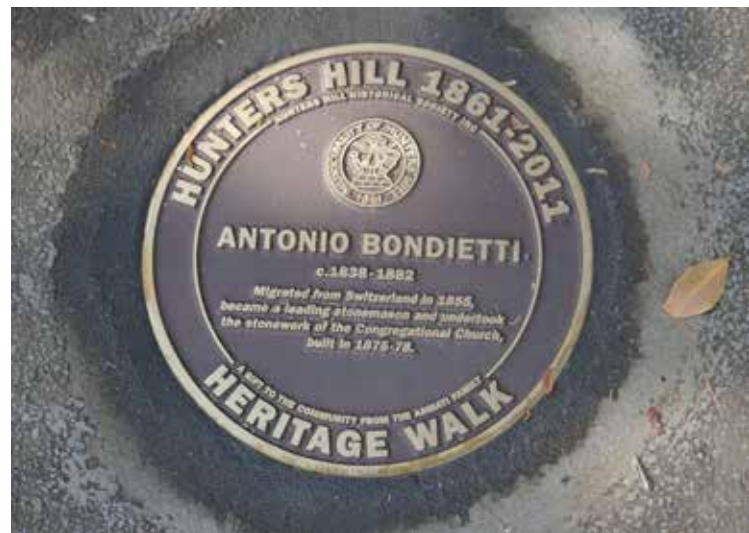
Message to new participants

The Standards Program shows how your museum can relate to its community.

Program outcomes

The Society has expanded its role as a repository of items and documents of historic interest to one of activity in the community, literally taking history to the streets with its plaques program. The museum was able to interest financial sponsors in two projects and believes that marketing to sponsors is important to growth.

Image: One of the forty heritage plaques.



Details

Town Hall, 22 Alexandra Street, Hunters Hill NSW 2110

02 9879 9443

history@huntershill.nsw.gov.au

Opening hours

Monday - Friday, 10am - 12pm

Hurstville Museum & Gallery

Standards profile

2010 Imagine Awards. Winner, Exhibitions: 1-6 Staff.

Hurstville Museum & Gallery (formerly St George Regional Museum) in MacMahon Street, Hurstville opened in 2004 and is maintained by Hurstville City Council. Located in the centre of the Hurstville CBD, it is the only regional museum and gallery in the St George district.

A popular destination for thousands of local and interstate visitors each year, the Museum & Gallery is a hub of continuous community activity presenting talks, programs, special events and ever changing exhibitions.

Hurstville Museum & Gallery is dedicated to preserving the unique history of the St George region as well as working with local multicultural communities to develop exciting art and history exhibitions and public programs. The particular emphasis is on the domestic and working lives of the St George community in the 19th and 20th centuries with a permanent exhibition titled *Living on the Water's Edge: Stories of St George*.

Our collection includes Indigenous objects, Packham's Bakery objects, collection items from World War II, examples of household items from large ovens to refrigerators, a sugar art and cake decorating collection (one of three in the world!) and even a child's sampler from 1794.

The Museum & Gallery is accessible for people with a disability. Public and education programs are designed for all ages from preschoolers' to seniors. Admission is free.

Message to new participants

Join the program to raise awareness and standards of your facility! M&G NSW staff were helpful and very knowledgeable. They were a constant source of encouragement for us.

Program outcomes

The Standards Program raised awareness of the Museum & Gallery within Hurstville City Council and raised awareness within our team of the areas in which we could improve.

Image: Hair Jewellery c. 1900s.



Details

14 MacMahon Street, Hurstville NSW 2220

02 9330 6444

Fax: 02 9330 6440

museumgallery@hurstville.nsw.gov.au

www.hurstville.nsw.gov.au/lmg

Opening hours

Tuesday - Saturday, 10am - 4pm

Sunday, 2pm - 5pm

Other times by appointment

Laperouse Museum

Standards profile

The Laperouse Museum sits within a spectacular historic landscape on the northern headland of Botany Bay within the Botany Bay National Park. The dramatic view extends east to the Pacific Ocean, south across the sheltered waters of Botany Bay to the landing place of Captain Cook at Kurnell, and west to the distant industrial landscape of Port Botany. The Museum is located in the historic 1881-1882 Cable Station on the headland at La Perouse. The building originally provided accommodation for Cable Station staff. At different periods it provided a home for nurses and soldiers. From 1944, it was a Salvation Army refuge for women and children.

The Museum opened in 1988 and tells the story of the Laperouse expedition, its arrival in Botany Bay in 1788 and encounter with the First Fleet, and eventual shipwreck in the Solomon Islands. Through a program of changing temporary exhibitions, the Museum also looks at the Aboriginal, environmental and local history of La Perouse. The Laperouse Museum collection contains nearly 2,000 items, relating to either the Laperouse expedition, French 18th century maritime navigation, the Cable Station building itself, or local history.

One of the most significant collection items is a complete atlas of the voyage of Laperouse, consisting of 72 coloured drawings and maps, featuring places the expedition visited between 1785 and 1788. Significant heritage items may be visited in the immediate vicinity of the Museum and include the Macquarie Watchtower, the Laperouse Monument and the tomb of Father Receveur, the first Catholic priest to be buried on mainland Australia. Nearby is the historic Bare Island Fort, and several idyllic beaches and walking trails.

The Laperouse Museum is managed by the NSW National Parks and Wildlife Group within the NSW Department of Environment and Climate Change.

Image: Laperouse Museum.



Details

Anzac Parade, La Perouse NSW 2036

Museum tour bookings

9311 3379

Cadmans Cottage

9247 5033

Fax: 9241 3303

cadmans.cottage@environment.nsw.gov.au

Opening hours

Wednesday and Sunday, 10am - 4pm

Manly Art Gallery & Museum

Standards profile

A cultural facility of Manly Council, Manly Art Gallery & Museum is magnificently situated on Sydney Harbour and four minutes walk from Manly Wharf. Opened in 1930 as the first metropolitan based regional gallery in NSW, extended in 1982 to house the museum, the facility has become a popular destination for thousands of visitors each year.

The Museum is dedicated to preserving Manly's unique history as one of Australia's most loved beach resorts. The collection includes historical photographs, maps and documents relating to the Manly area, as well as a collection of swimwear, surf craft, and beach memorabilia.

The Gallery houses several collections: Australian Ceramics since 1945 on permanent display; the largest collection of paintings by Antonio Dattilo Rubbo in Australia from 1909-1955; a collection of 20th and 21st Century works on paper including prints, watercolours, photographs and drawings by Australian artists. Two new websites are also being created to make all of our collections more accessible to the public.

The Gallery holds exhibition related public programs on Sundays@ the gallery as well as special activities such as Kid's Art Adventures, public art tours and the Manly Arts Festival events.

Many volunteers assist the staff at the gallery as receptionists and as curatorial and exhibition assistants. The Manly Art Gallery & Museum Society raises funds through social events to acquire artworks for the gallery and other needs of the gallery/museum.

Image: 'Kairos' (moment of truth) Paola Talbert, 2000, Type C LED print 47x47cm. MAGAM Collection, purchased 2004.



Details

West Esplanade Reserve, Manly NSW 2095

02 9976 1420

artgallery@manly.nsw.gov.au

www.manly.nsw.gov.au/attractions/gallery

Opening hours

Tuesday - Sunday, 10am - 5pm

May Gibbs' Nutcote

Standards profile

Nutcote is the former house and garden of May Gibbs, creator of Australia's classic children's story, Snugglypot and Cuddlepig.

Nutcote was designed by prominent architect Bertand James Waterhouse and built for May Gibbs and her husband James Ossili Kelly, in 1925. May occupied the house for 44 years until her death in 1969.

The house has been listed on the New South Wales State Heritage Register and the National Estate and has been furnished to reflect the style of the 1920s and 1930s and includes effects owned by May Gibbs, such as her easel, paint box and folio stand.

Nutcote is open to the public Wednesday to Sunday, and staff provide guided tours of the house to visitors. Nutcote provides refreshments to visitors through the Bib and Bub Tearoom, run by volunteers, and offers children's activities such as monthly story and rhyme time for toddlers, regular school holiday programs and children's birthday parties on Saturdays.

Group bookings are available by appointment. Private hire of the garden for functions is also available.

Image: Nutcote Dorothy Perkin Rose Gate.



Details

5 Wallaringa Avenue, Neutral Bay NSW 2089

02 9953 4453

Fax: 02 9953 0302

admin@maygibbs.com.au

www.maygibbs.com.au

Opening hours

Wednesday - Sunday, 11am - 3pm (last admission is 2.30pm)

Museum of Fire

Standards profile

The Museum of Fire aims to be the foremost Australian museum on the understanding of the experience of fire. Most prominently the Museum stands as a testimony to the heroic efforts of firefighters in our community, guarding their history and heritage for future generations.

Housing one of the finest collections of its kind in the world, the Museum has over 80 large moveable objects in its care dating from the early 1800s through to modern times reflecting the changing technology, the desire to overcome fire and its role in the Australian community. Many of the vehicles are heritage listed and coupled with the countless pieces of ephemera, memorabilia, archives and photographs the collection is second to none.

The Museum is integrally linked to the community through its hosting of major local and regional events, its participation in heritage and community days and its ability to present a wide variety of operational vehicles for display at these events. The Museum of Fire presents an extensive range of education programs, heritage tours, activities and tours for all ages and levels and is a popular venue for school excursions, family outings and a view into the fascinating world of fire and fire fighting.

Image: Penrith Power Station celebrates an ongoing life as The Museum of Fire.



Details

1 Museum Drive, Penrith NSW 2750

02 4731 3000

Fax: 02 4731 2983

mail@museumoffire.com.au

www.museumoffire.com.au

Opening hours

Monday - Sunday, 9.30am - 4.30pm

Penrith Museum of Printing

Standards profile

The Penrith Museum of Printing is a unique “working museum” established in Penrith NSW in 2001.

The Museum is managed and staffed by volunteers who are primarily printing tradesmen. The aim of the Museum is to collect, conserve and showcase letterpress printing machinery and equipment from around the world so as to keep alive the knowledge and skills of letterpress printing for present and future generations.

The Museum has been designed to give the appearance of a 1940s Australian printing establishment. Our collection showcases 22 pieces of working printing machinery and equipment as well as pre-press “composing room” equipment that includes many different type fonts gathered from Australian print shops.

Some of our most significant items include a Wharfedale flat bed printing press (1890s), Model 5 & Model 8 linotypes type setting machines (1920s), Chandler & Price platen presses (1905 – 1912) and an 1864 model Albion Press.

Museum management are particularly proud of a number of achievements in our short history, that include:

- The recent complete restoration of a Model 5 linotype type-setting machine.
- The recent introduction of a number of typography courses for those interested in learning hand type-setting techniques.

The Museum hosts group tours that are particularly enjoyed by community groups, service clubs & schools that are designed to provide the participant with a unique glimpse into the world of letterpress printing.

Message to new participants

Our involvement in the Standards Program has helped us enormously in our endeavours to further develop the Museum. We really appreciated the facilitators knowledge and experience.

Image: 1890s Wharfedale Press.



Details

Penrith Showground, Penrith Raceway, Cnr Mulgoa Road and Ransley Street, Penrith NSW 2750

printingmuseum@optusnet.com.au

www.printingmuseum.org.au

Opening hours

Saturday, 10am - 2pm

Other times by appointment

Sutherland Shire Historical Society Museum

Standards profile

Operated by volunteers, Sutherland Shire Historical Society's Museum serves the schools, families, leisure groups and visitors to our Shire. We aim to preserve the history of our unique place in Australia's past as the location of Captain Cook's landfall in nearby Botany Bay.

Come and view, and touch if you wish, a section of the actual ballast from Captain Cook's ship the HMB Endeavour. Experience our 'journey in time through Sutherland Shire' when you can follow the evolution of our area from prehistoric times to the present day.

Step back from the busy world of today as you discover the history of our Shire. From the early formation of our coastline 250 million years ago, to the Indigenous lifestyle and thence the arrival of the seafarers, settlers and all that followed.

We have an extensive photographic collection. Past members, Rupert Gough and George Heavens have contributed material dating back to the late 19th century. Nearby Royal National Park is the oldest in Australia, second in the world, its evolution from untouched bush to recreational parkland has been lovingly recorded by them.

The entire Shire has been photographically recorded by our members and we have a valuable archive which is available to all.

The building itself is typical of early 20th century architecture and situated conveniently two minutes walk from Sutherland railway station and opposite the main bus shelters. Street parking is available.

2013, has seen a completely new presentation of our museum. With the assistance of Museums & Galleries of NSW we have brought our display up to contemporary standards.

The Shire's history has now been put in perspective, with displays highlighting pre and post colonial history, pioneer settlement, and the post war boom in population that transformed its bucolic existence into a vibrant part of the modern city of Sydney.

Remember the famous quote 'the past is a foreign country, they do things differently there' ...come and experience the past with us.

Program outcomes

Raising professional standards

Due to a grant from M&G NSW for professional expenditure we were able to hire a consultant to assist with our museum refurbishment. They were pivotal during this process. We have also started cataloguing our collection.

Greater staff involvement in developing policy and activity

The Standards Program has fostered wide ranging discussion about the role of the Museum. Museum opening hours have increased 400% meaning we have expanded our number of volunteers (Friends of the Museum).

Image: The refurbished Sutherland Shire Historical Society Museum.



Details

East Parade, Sutherland NSW 1499

Opening hours

Saturday, 9am - 1pm

Sydney Tramway Museum

Standards profile

Sydney Tramway Museum (STM) aims to provide tourists with a heritage tram travel experience and is committed to meeting all internal and regulatory safety requirements in order to create a safe environment for STM passengers and personnel.

Recently a tramcar was restored from a body which was a “workshop” for the past 40 years. Other tramcar “wrecks” are also being restored.

Trams are totally staffed by STM volunteers. All staff involved in tramway operations, have the mandatory qualifications and experience required for all tram operations on the tramlines.

South Pacific Electric Railway Co-Operative Society Limited (SPER), under the trading name ‘Sydney Tramway Museum’ (STM), restores and operates heritage tramway rolling stock to provide a tourist attraction for people visiting the Loftus museum which is located in the Sutherland Shire of New South Wales.

STM is operated by a Board of Directors with the Chairman managing the Museum.

Image: Sydney Tramway Museum.



Details

Pitt Street, Loftus NSW 2232

02 9542 3646

Fax: 02 9445 3390

robert.merchant@bigpond.com

www.sydneytramwaymuseum.com.au

Opening hours

Wednesday, 10am - 3pm

Sunday, 10am - 5pm

Willoughby Museum

Standards profile

2011 Imagine Awards. Winner, Exhibitions and Public Engagement: Volunteer.

2010 Imagine Awards. Highly Commended, Collection Management: Volunteer

The Willoughby Museum interprets the local history of Willoughby City, the first local government area on Sydney's North Shore (from 1865). Housed in Boronia, a 1913 Federation cottage in the South Chatswood Conservation Area and located adjacent to the Chatswood central business district.

Feature items in the collection include displays of Regal Mashman artware pottery, a wide range of traditional trades tools and the iconic products of Willoughby industries, such as a Hallstom 'Silent Knight' refrigerator, Buz meccano sets and Speedo swimwear.

The Museum is owned and operated by the Willoughby District Historical Society Inc. The Society researches, interprets and documents the rich social, industrial, commercial and environmental history of the City of Willoughby and advocates this history within our community and to policy-makers.

The Society's website provides updates on current activities and documents the history of Willoughby.

The Museum is only a short walk from Chatswood railway station, the bus interchange and the shopping precinct.

Message to new participants

Our participation in the Standards Program provided a watershed between existing and becoming a dynamic museum that attracts visitors and promotes our history effectively.

Program outcomes

Improved collection management

A comprehensive Collection Management Policy was adopted in 2010. With support from M&G NSW, museum volunteers worked with a museum consultant to develop a Collection Management Manual.

Effective museum displays

With guidance from the museum consultant, our volunteers have enhanced the presentation of displays, with the 2011 exhibition, Tales of Flat Rock Creek, winning the 2011 IMAGinE Award for volunteer-run museums and galleries.

Image: Boronia, home of the Willoughby Museum, celebrates its centenary in 2013.



Details

Boronia, 58 Johnson Street, Chatswood NSW 2067

02 9410 3203

willoughbydistrict@bigpond.com

www.willoughbydhs.org.au

Opening hours

Sunday, 1pm - 4pm

Group visits are welcome by appointment

Chinchilla Historical Museum

Standards profile

2012 Gallery and Museum Achievement Awards. Special Commendation, Organisation: Volunteer Run

Chinchilla Historical Museum is dedicated to the natural resources of the Chinchilla area and the history of their use. It offers a glimpse into farming and local industry with key displays including: the 'Cypress Pine Centre', which tells the story of the saw milling industry that established the town of Chinchilla (it is believed that the town name comes from the Aboriginal word 'Jinchilla' which means Cypress Pine); the 'Green Plague' exhibit, explaining the devastation caused by the Prickly Pear cactus and the development of the local cactoblastus moth breeding program; and, the Melon Festival display, celebrating Chinchilla as the 'melon capital' of Australia, and telling the story of this important industry and its contribution to the economic and tourist growth in the town.

The Museum has strong social history collections and buildings on site include Chinchilla's very first homestead 'Wongongera Cottage' (built in 1880) and Goombi Hall. Once the hub of community life, the Hall captures the atmosphere of country social life: the dances, weddings, kitchen teas, balls, meetings and sporting events that were central to the cultural and social life of many small country towns.

The Museum also interprets the area's natural history. Highlights include: living tree specimens, the Chinchilla White Gums; the Field Naturalists Display, of the indigenous botany and wildlife in the area; Beneath Chinchilla's Soils - an extensive display of petrified wood, some unique to the area, such as Chinchilla Red; and, the Jurassic Mural and Garden - developed in conjunction with local TAFE students.

Message to new participants

The Standards Program allows you to question your beliefs of how things should be run and attitudes as to whether you are prepared to make the changes to meet National Standards. No longer is "near enough good enough" - if you want to meet the benchmarks set by other organisations. It's confronting but, hey, it is also rewarding so go for it.

Program outcomes

Organisational structure

The Standards Program has emphasised the importance of policies, procedures and documentation. It has refocused our attention on the purpose of the Museum and has enabled us to identify the significant portions of our collection and the areas that require attention.

Significant stories

We have gained a better understanding of our significant stories, particularly in relation to the natural resources collection.

Image: The Chinchilla Melon Festival. Courtesy of Chinchilla Historical Museum.



Details

17-33 Villiers Street, Chinchilla QLD 4413

07 4662 7014

chinchillamuseum@bigpond.com

Opening hours

Thursday - Monday, 9am - 4pm

Carbethon Folk Museum & Village

Standards profile

The Crows Nest Historical Society manages the Carbethon Folk Museum & Village. The Society was formed in 1973 and volunteers have developed the museum to the present. Comprising over 20 buildings including memorabilia, both domestic and agricultural from the area.

“Carbethon” built circa 1890 was moved to Crows Nest in 1978 and officially opened as a folk museum in September 1979. The original Ray White shed was the first office of Ray White when he started his business at Crows Nest in 1902 and is of national interest. The shed was moved to the Carbethon Folk Museum & Village in 1994 by the Ray White family. The shed was refurbished in 2010 providing panoramic displays of the Ray White business. The Ray White shed has been accepted for inclusion in the Heritage Treasures booklet through the Toowoomba Regional Council. Ray White’s family home has also been located at the village and has been themed as a period display. The house also includes a photo gallery of local people.

Other buildings include the replica one-teacher school, wireless shop, printery, photographic studio, butchers and an ecumenical church. The members are currently undertaking a refurbishment program by updating and extending displays.

The Crows Nest Historical Society undertook a significance assessment in 2011, with RADF funding. Training was provided by the Museum Development Officer for Southern Inland Queensland. Members are currently implementing and working on the recommendations from that assessment.

Message to new participants

Our museum put Standards to the side while people were not able to work on them and now that there are people who want to use the Standards process we are able to continue.

Program outcomes

Following changes in the executive, there will be a return to focus on meeting standards.

Upgrade displays to follow themes and upgrade labelling. A new storage shed will thin out our displays. The Program has highlighted the need for a display plan to identify the key themes and thus to upgrade the interpretation of the site to enhance the visitor experience.

Image: The original Ray White Office, business commenced in 1902 in Crows Nest Qld. The White family and associates still visit on a frequent basis, most recently 110th anniversary.



Details

42 Thallon Street, Crows Nest QLD 4335

07 4698 1776

info@crowsnestmuseum.org.au

www.crowsnestmuseum.org.au

Opening hours

Thursday - Sunday, 10am - 3pm

Discover Eumundi Heritage & Visitor Centre

Standards profile

Discover Eumundi Heritage & Visitor Centre is housed in the old Methodist Church and is one of the most visited museums on the Sunshine Coast with an estimated 10,000 visitors per year.

The museum displays start with its collection of Aboriginal artefacts. Significantly, two local Aboriginal groups, the Undambi and the Dalungbara, have given their agreement for the Eumundi Museum to be a keeping place for their artefacts.

Well designed and produced displays depict the area's natural and social history including early white settlement, development of the area and many industries such as timber getting, dairying, the railway and the hospital. Eumundi's world famous markets, established 1979, feature in the museum's contemporary history displays.

Discover Eumundi's extensive collection of historic photographs is accessible for family research and reference. Over 3,500 photos capture the natural, social and commercial environment of Eumundi and surrounding districts from the 1880s to the present.

Message to new participants

The Standards Program is a fabulous way to remind us how a museum should be run, in a perfect world, and the practices and standards we need to maintain for the future sustainability of our museums and those who follow on from us.

Program outcomes

Increased feeling of ownership of Discover Eumundi by volunteers

Volunteers now have a better understanding of museum practices and an increased motivation to be more involved in all levels in the day to day running of the museum and the management of the collection.

Greater awareness of the importance of museum policies and procedures

Involvement in the Standards Program has emphasised to our museum staff, volunteers and stakeholders the need to update all museum forms, policies and procedures regularly and to implement them properly.

Image: Discover Eumundi Heritage & Visitor Centre in Eumundi's old Methodist Church.



Details

Cnr Gridley Street and Memorial Drive, Eumundi QLD 4562

07 5442 8762

manager@discovereumundi.com

www.discovereumundi.com

Opening hours

Monday - Friday, 10am - 4pm

Saturday, 9am - 3pm

Sunday, 10am - 2pm

Dogwood Crossing, Miles

Standards profile

2008 Gallery and Museum Achievement Awards. Special Commendation, Organisation: Staff of up to 6.

Dogwood Crossing, Miles is a centre for Community, Creativity and Inspiration. Offering an A class Regional Art Gallery, Library, IT centre, event space, workshop room and social history displays, it is the premier cultural institution for the Western Downs Region. The centre and its staff play a key leadership, advocacy and advisory role in the region's arts and cultural development.

Dogwood Crossing offers a number of permanent programs such as Toddler Tuesday in the Gallery and the Library, the Forget-Me-Not program of guided conversational tours through key exhibitions for people in the community living with Alzheimer's disease and regular school holiday programs. Many exhibitions are supported by artist and curator talks, school group activities, tours or hands-on workshops. Other programs such as Artiz@ Miles, a young artist development camp produced in partnership with Flying Arts Alliance demonstrates the institution's connection to wider cultural development organisations and initiatives across Queensland.

The John Mullins Memorial Art Gallery presents a vibrant annual program of exhibitions that rotate every 6-8 weeks. From in-house curated exhibitions presenting the work of local and Queensland-based artists, to national touring exhibitions and collection shows, this gallery enhances regional access to significant arts programs and resources.

Managed by Western Downs Regional Council as an integrated cultural facility, Dogwood Crossing focuses on participation, educational programming and community engagement to ensure that quality arts and cultural experiences are available to the Western Downs community and visitors to the region.

Message to new participants

The Standards Program is a great tool to use in taking stock of your organisation and planning for the future. It can be used in such a way that encourages all stakeholders to be involved.

Program outcomes

Recognising our Value

The Standards Program reinforced the leadership role we can play in our region, and the broader community, and encouraged us not to underplay our value.

Creating a Significant Collection

The Standards Program broadened our understanding of the importance of collection priorities both locally and throughout our region.

Image: Dogwood Crossing, Miles at night. Photography by Liz Willis.



Details

Cnr Warrego and Leichhardt Highways, Miles QLD 4415

07 4679 4430

dogwood.crossing@wdrc.qld.gov.au

www.dogwoodcrossing.com

Opening hours

Monday - Friday, 9am - 5pm

Saturday, Sunday and Public holidays, 10am - 4pm

Miles Historical Village

Standards profile

2013 Gallery and Museum Achievement Awards. Special Commendation, Organisations: Staff > 4

The Miles Historical Village was officially opened in 1971, and over the years has developed into one of the premier tourist attractions within the region: a place for connecting to memories of early 1900s rural lifestyle. There are currently over 35 buildings in a streetscape with amazing collections and links to a bygone era...if you remember it, we have it!

Featured original buildings include the Hippong Slab Hut Homestead from just north of Miles, a property whose name is derived from an early Chinese shepherd, Hip Pong, and the Columboola Hall, Dalwogan Railway Siding, Andersen's Smithy, Jimbour CWA, Village School, Dairy, Gaol, Dulacca Presbyterian Church and the Australian Bank of Commerce. Recreated buildings in the streetscape include The Red Rose Café, a replica of the first Greek café built in Miles in 1925, the Boot Maker, Union Hotel, Hospital, Butcher, Barber Shop, Laundry, Garage, Post Office, Bakery and Printery – The Murilla Express.

Other significant collections displayed include:

- The War Museum: a tribute to Australian service men and women from the Boer War to Vietnam displaying photos, documents, uniforms and life size models.
- The Morgan Shell collection: one of the largest collections of shells in a regional museum in Australia, presented by Mr & Mrs G Morgan, former Miles residents.

Message to new participants

Initially we were very daunted and reluctant as to how we would shape up! However the Standards Program has been nothing but outstanding and positive. It has enabled us to look more closely at ourselves, our facility and where we are headed. We were able to identify the areas we need to work on, but more importantly our vision and insight was strengthened in terms of our own perceptions. Being involved in the Program helped us to realise what wonderful things we are achieving, as often we feel very overwhelmed by the massive task ahead. Having skilled, supportive and encouraging relationships also strengthened our experiences. We feel very confident in recommending the Standards Program to one and all!

Program outcomes

Greater understanding

We now have a much clearer picture in terms of how we perceive our extensive Museum and its Collections. We now realise that our streetscape style is extensive and significant, as well as the specific collections (Lapidary, War Museum, Shell, Condamine Bell etc). This will in turn assist us with significance, interpretation and marketing.

Interpretation

We identified through the Standards Process that interpretation was of a high priority. We have been working hard to continue development and progress in this area as we know this will help with the visitor's experience and, as word of mouth is one of our major marketing strategies, experience and interactions mean a great deal.

Image: Miles Historical Village streetscape. Photo: Miles Historical Village.



Details

141 Murilla Street, Miles QLD 4415

07 4627 1492

mileshistoricalsoc@bigpond.com

www.mhv.org.au

Opening hours

Monday - Sunday, 8am - 5pm

Milne Bay Military Museum

Standards profile

Milne Bay Military Museum, the official 25/49 Battalion History Room as recognised by the Army History Unit, began as a collection of artefacts belonging to 25th Battalion veterans who had served during World War I and II and in the Battle of Milne Bay in 1942. The collection has grown over the years to include all theatres of World War II, as well as the Boer War, World War I, the Korean and Vietnam Wars, and more recent conflicts.

Interesting features of the Museum include:

- Individual soldiers' stories.
- Full size replica World War I trenches including a soundscape of exploding shells, and showing the command post and hospital bay.
- A replica of the Red Barron's Fokker DR1 tri-plane, with lifelike imitation machine gun fire and theatrics.
- An extensive collection of uniformed mannequins, providing a strong reminder of the human face of conflict.
- A large display of firearms, daggers, swords and knives dating from the late 1800s.
- The Conflict Gallery displaying weapons, uniforms, medals and aircraft used in conflicts between 1951 and 1972.
- A dedicated 25th Battalion History Room and Wall of Remembrance with its Roll of Honour above a stained glass window commemorating the members of the 25th Darling Downs Regiment who died in battle at Milne Bay and Bouganville.

Message to new participants

The Milne Bay Military Museum would strongly recommend the Standards Program to any museum, that is if you want a revamped operation that will echo your achievements within the community.

Program outcomes

Updated policy documents

The Standards Program has strengthened the resolve of the committee to update its collection policy and business plan.

Planning for a healthy future

This program gave us the assistance to enable us to plan for our future and support the old adage that 'if you do not plan then you plan to fail'.

Image: WW I Trench System.



Details

O'Quinn Street, Toowoomba QLD 4350

07 4631 4482

museum25battalion@westnet.com.au

www.milnebaymilitarymuseum.com

Opening hours

Monday - Sunday, 10am - 4pm

Stanthorpe Regional Art Gallery

Standards profile

Opened in November 1987, Stanthorpe Regional Art Gallery came into being from the hard work and dedication of the Stanthorpe Art Gallery Society, created in 1972. The collection has been developed progressively. Key pieces include early works by Gordon Bennett, William Robinson, Suzanne Archer, David Rankin and David Aspden, with donations by Pamela Bell OAM of texts from her personal art library, and by William Bowmore AO of works by Pablo Picasso, Charles Blackmore, Margaret Olley and Sam Fullbrook.

The gallery is also fortunate to hold five ceramic works by Gwen Hanssen Pigott from across a 20 year working period, demonstrating the diversity in the practice of Australia's most acclaimed potter.

Stanthorpe Regional Art Gallery frequently contributes works from its collection, for example Green Grapes by Margaret Olley, early 2013, to touring and single venue exhibitions across the country. Works in the collection by Picasso, William Robinson and Andrew Sibley have been noted in the national press 2012-2013. The Gallery hosts exhibitions of both national and local importance and fosters a strong program of regional artist exhibitions and displays that are relevant to the history and character of the Granite Belt region. These include shows especially curated from the Region's wide-ranging permanent collection of traditional and contemporary paintings, works on paper, ceramics, sculpture, fibre and textile artworks. Much of this strong collection of noted artists' work is sourced from acquisitions made during the long-running biennial Stanthorpe Art Festival. The next festival will be in 2014.

Quality national touring exhibitions encompass displays varying from contemporary jewellery, textiles, ceramics, painting, sculpture, and mixed media installations displaying the work of noted Australian artists and talented emerging and young artists.

Message to new participants

The Standards program was of immense value to the Gallery. The process of self-examination requiring total honesty was demanding but worth it. It was a clear reminder that galleries must strive constantly to be not only relevant but also indispensable to their communities.

Program outcomes

Greater community access to the collection

The collection as a resource for education, research and inspiration was under utilised. We are developing facilities and programs to give the community a sense of ownership, with the aim of creating lifelong audiences for the gallery.

Organisational development

Through serious self-examination, with the tools that the Standards Program provided, we continue to identify where operational improvements are desirable.

Image: White walls inside the gallery, improved facilities, installed since Standards Program.



Details

Weeroona Parl, Lock Street, Stanthorpe QLD 4380

PO Box 211, Stanthorpe QLD 4380

07 4681 1874

admin@srag.org.au

www.srag.org.au

Opening hours

Tuesday - Friday, 10am - 4pm

Saturday - Sunday, 10am - 1pm

Transport and Main Roads Heritage Centre

Standards profile

Take a journey through time with the only road-building museum in Australia.

Located on Mutze Street opposite the Toowoomba Airport Terminal, the Transport and Main Roads Heritage Centre offers a unique perspective of road building history in Queensland. One of a handful of museums in Australia that exhibits the history and culture of a state government department, the museum showcases all facets from administration to construction. The collection ranges from photographs to survey equipment providing stark contrast to the working machinery of graders and rollers. Representing the human element, the museum's oral histories from employees and volunteers (past and present) compliments the collection.

Exhibition areas provide the visitor with an understanding of the processes involved in building roads – then and now – targeting audiences of all ages with cartoon characters and interactive children's trail helping to teach kids about what has gone into making 'the black stuff'. Volunteers have restored a number of 'show piece' vehicles indicative of types used by the department and have reconstructed structures found in many road camps including working blacksmith shop and bridge pile-driving scale model.

Looking to learn something different? Come and discover how Queensland's road network has been developed over the past 94 years, from the conditions under which road workers laboured, to the modern plant and equipment you see on roads today.

Let the museum tickle your memories. You'll be surprised at what you'll discover.

Message to new participants

The program is a great 'crystallising tool' and helps you identify key areas of need in your organisation. The resulting Action Plan provides a clear map for the future - very useful for gaining support from those with the money! The subsequent review 'One Year On' is a great way of looking back at what has and hasn't been accomplished.

Program outcomes

Future plans

Now that we have a publicly accessible museum, the Standards Program provided an excellent forum to develop the future direction of the museum, particularly regarding our marketing and public programs.

Peer recognition of a job well done

The Program enabled us to critically review our general museum practices as well as our newly developed exhibitions and ask for critical review from our peers in return. The positive feedback was a welcome confirmation that we are on the right track.

Image: It takes a lot of concentration - just ask Makaela Frank and Liam Smith of Fairview Heights States School as they figure out how simple machines work. Courtesy of Transport and Main Roads Heritage Centre.



Details

2-22 Mutze Street, Toowoomba QLD 4350

07 4633 2506

Fax: 07 4633 2810

heritagecentre@tmr.qld.gov.au

www.tmr.qld.gov.au/heritagecentre

Opening hours

Monday - Friday, 10am - 4pm by appointment only

Warwick Art Gallery

Standards profile

Warwick Art Gallery is at the forefront of cultural activities in the Southern Downs region of Queensland. Especially committed to community activities, the Gallery aims to identify, promote and celebrate the community's artistic and cultural identity and support community based festivals, exchanges and events. The Gallery's major event is an outdoor winter festival called 'Jumpers and Jazz in July'. The festival has a focus on textile arts and jazz music and showcases more than 100 artworks made for bare trees in the CBD. Since 2008 the Gallery has acquired a number of the most popular and/or stunning examples of this art form.

In addition the Gallery program brings to Warwick traveling exhibitions set to inspire and educate, with exhibitions changing every 3 to 6 weeks.

In recent years the Gallery has created strong links to local art groups in the region by encouraging exhibition partnerships and supporting new group initiatives.

The Gallery provides meaningful opportunities for local children to participate in and exhibit art in the Gallery. A variety of exhibitions celebrate creativity and local stories in a fun way.

Message to new participants

The long-term benefits far exceed the short-term pain of the questionnaire (self-review survey). You see your organisation through the eyes of the experienced and supportive facilitators. In the end you are refreshed, enthused and equipped to serve your community and achieve your goals.

Program outcomes

Planning for the future

The Standards Program highlighted the potential of the Gallery's built environment and organisational capacity to provide a regular program of inspirational and inclusive art experiences for the community.

Understanding of our audience

The Gallery has conducted visitor surveys to assist in finding out more information about our current audience. Identifying our existing clients' views about the Gallery and its operations will help us create strategies for expanding our audience. This work has provided a catalyst for the Gallery to undertake further research, such as a volunteer skills audit.

Image: Connect Exhibition 2009. Photography Ron Hildred.



Details

49 Albion Street, Warwick QLD 4370

07 4661 0434

warwickart@southerndowns.qld.gov.au

www.warwickartgallery.com.au

Opening hours

Tuesday - Friday, 10am - 4pm

Saturday - Sunday, 10am - 1pm

Armidale Aboriginal Cultural Centre & Keeping Place

Standards profile

The Armidale Aboriginal Cultural Centre & Keeping Place is the place where you can experience the diversity of Australian Indigenous arts and culture.

The Centre is located in the beautiful city of Armidale, in northern New South Wales. The region is renowned for its friendly communities, rich Aboriginal culture, sporting facilities, entertainment venues and educational excellence.

The Cultural Centre has four collections including the Artefact, Painting and Photographic Collections, and the Green Valley Collection. The Centre has regular art exhibitions, art conferences and exhibitions of works from local artists and artists from around the region. In addition, the Centre focuses on launching artist's careers, and is interested in improving professional art practice and working with other galleries.

The Armidale Aboriginal Cultural Centre & Keeping Place sells artwork from exhibitions, has rooms for hire, can cater for functions, and has a retail outlet.

Image: Armidale Aboriginal Cultural Centre & Keeping Place.



Details

128 Kentucky Street, Armidale NSW 2350

02 6771 3606

director@acckp.com.au

www.acckp.com.au

Opening hours

Monday - Friday, 9am - 4pm

Saturday, 10am - 2pm

Armidale Bicentennial Railway Museum

Standards profile

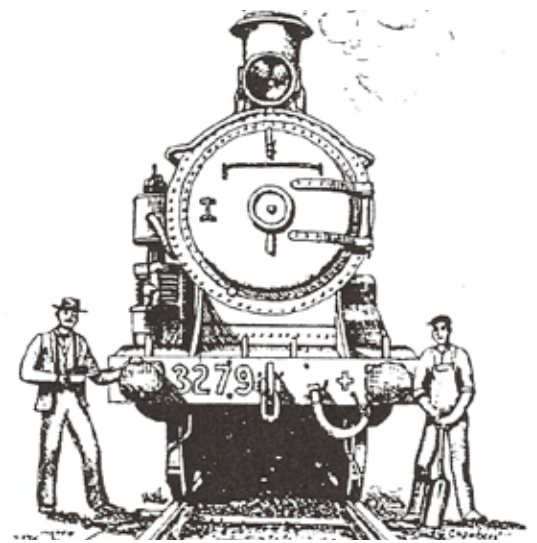
The Armidale Bicentennial Railway Museum is managed by Armidale Dumaresq Council. It commemorates the vital role that the railway played in Armidale's social and economic history.

Until the 1960s, the railways were the city's largest employer and, at one stage, employed almost 10% of its breadwinners.

The Museum depicts the days when the railway was the nation's common carrier, transporting "everything from a needle to an anchor". It also looks at the everyday work of railwaymen – you can try your hand with the hand operated rail saw, or drill a hole with a "ratchet and post".

A comprehensive collection of fettlers' track vehicles shows how employees went to work on the most isolated stretches of line. They range from the hand pump tricycles of the 1880s to modern powered vehicles. The Museum gives a real insight into the skills required to operate the Main Northern Line in the heyday of railways.

Image: Illustration of railway.



Details

Railway Station, Armidale NSW 2350

02 6771 4398

Fax: 02 6772 6667

council@armidale.nsw.gov.au

Opening hours

Exterior

Daily, 8am - 11pm

Interior displays

Daily, 11am - 11.30am

Armidale Folk Museum

Standards profile

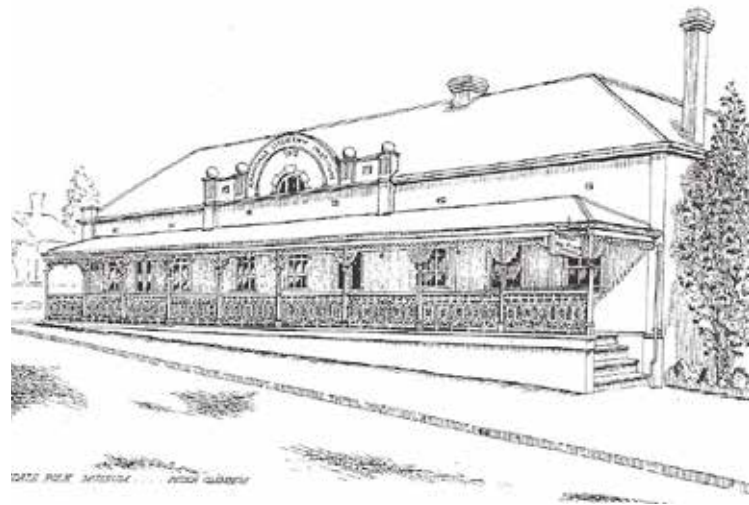
The Armidale Folk Museum is managed by Armidale Dumaresq Council and traces its origins back to 1933.

It is housed in the magnificent 1863 Armidale Literary Institute and showcases the history of this New England city.

Visitors marvel at the White family's large English coach, used by the State Governor during his tour of Armidale more than a century ago. A wide range of exhibits shows everyday life and work in the past, and of the citizen's solemn sacrifice in times of war.

From the humble child's doll carved in wood by her settler father, to the grand Buchanan Silver Tea service, presented by grateful citizens in 1879, our museum has something for everyone.

Image: Illustration, Armidale Folk Museum.



Details

Cnr Faulkner and Rusden Streets, Armidale NSW 2350

02 6771 4398

Fax: 02 6772 6667

council@armidale.nsw.gov.au

Opening hours

Daily, 1pm - 4pm

Other times by appointment

Australian Country Music Hall of Fame

Standards profile

The Australian Country Music Hall of Fame's goal is to collect, preserve and display the heritage of Australian country music.

It features a museum, archive and resource centre and is responsible for the Australian Country Music Roll of Renown, the Hands of Fame, Broadcasters' Hall of Fame and the Eric Watson Award.

It is a volunteer-managed, non-profit organisation. Resources have been devoted to the organisations' nationally and internationally recognised collection.

Message to new participants

Organisations of volunteers do not make progress until they set themselves goals and achieve them. That has been our experience.

Program outcomes

Standards Program helped us to realise that we had made progress and that future developments were within our capacity.

After achieving the assessment of significance for our collection, we have now been able to begin the process of digitising the collection with confidence that the goal is achievable.

Image: Australian Country Museum Hall of Fame building.



Details

93 Brisbane Street, Tamworth NSW 2340

02 6766 9696

Fax: 02 6761 2612

secretary@acmf.org.au

www.countrymusicchalloffame.com.au

Opening hours

Monday - Friday, 10am - 4pm

Saturday, 10am - 2pm

Bingara Museum

Standards profile

The Museum complex comprises several significant buildings in a very pleasant setting. The buildings include the Post Office Hotel, where Sir Henry Parkes stayed in 1893 on his tour drumming up support for the federation process.

The Boonda one teacher school transported from its original location gives us a glimpse into how country children went to school. Interestingly, this school opened with 12 pupils in 1915 and closed with 12 pupils in 1960.

The Bingara Blacksmith's Shop was dismantled and reassembled at the Museum. Significant gem and mineral items are housed in their own building.

The Bingara Museum also contains a large photographic collection, many other objects and comprehensive local family history records. The Bingara District Historical Society can provide assistance with local family history research. It is also fortunate in having a significant range of quality publications dealing with the local history and people.

Image: Gil Craig Gem and Mineral Collection.



Details

16 Maitland Street, Bingara NSW 2404

02 6724 0000

bingaramuseum@digisurf.com.au

www.bingara.com.au/index.cfm?page_id=1047

Opening hours

Tuesday and Wednesday, 9am - 1pm

Other times by appointment

Emmaville Mining Museum

Standards profile

The Emmaville Mining Museum currently has over 4,000 mineral specimens and covers nearly every mineral sample in the world. In addition, the Museum has a large gem display.

430 photographs are on display dating back to the 1880s. These photographs consist of mine workings and machinery with local history events and people.

A replica general store originally established in 1895, with groceries, clothing, hardware and tools dating back to the early 1900s, is on display. There is also a comprehensive exhibition of 1,500 bottles of various shapes, sizes and ages.

The Museum's achievements include winning the 2007 Glen Innes Community Tourism Business Award, and the District Exhibit Award at the 2008 Glen Innes Show. Our current program is to construct a machinery shed to restore and display old mining machinery in working order.

The Emmaville Mining Museum is managed by a 355 volunteer committee under Glen Innes Severn Council, comprising of twelve members. The committee members are all local, dedicated people interested in promoting the Emmaville community.

Image: Foley's General Store.



Details

86 Moore Street, Emmaville NSW 2371

02 6734 7025

Fax: 02 6734 7025

emmavillemuseum@northnet.com.au

www.miningmuseum.emmaville.net

Opening hours

Friday - Tuesday, 10am - 4pm

Hillgrove Museum

Standards profile

Hillgrove was a town which grew, flourished and died in the Eastern New England district between 1880 and 1920.

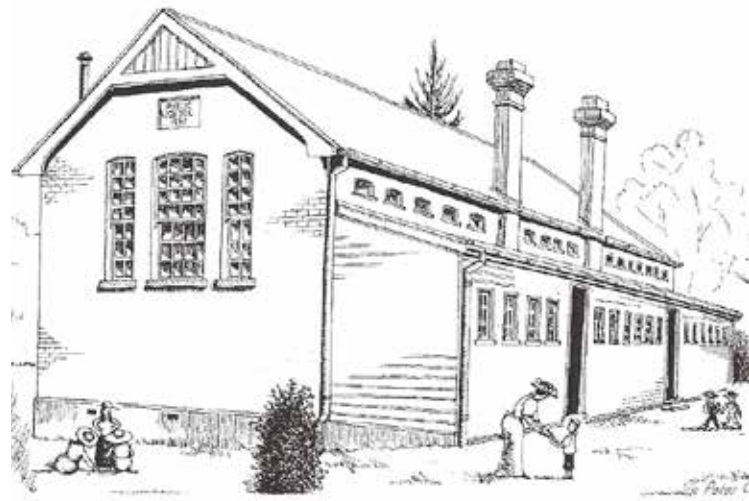
The deep underground gold mines which it serviced showed great promise but their eventual closure sealed the fate of this once-busy settlement.

The Hillgrove Museum which is situated in the former Public School, tells the story of the town, its 3,000 inhabitants and its glittering array of facilities.

There are many stories of families who came to Hillgrove, worked, married, raised families and, sometimes, died there and lie in the leafy cemetery.

Visitors can see the working conditions of miners toiling deep underground, and the impressive rope-hauled tramways which gave access to the spectacular Baker's Creek Gorge.

Image: Artist's impression of Hillgrove Museum.



Details

Scouler Street, Hillgrove NSW 2350

02 6771 4398

Fax: 02 6772 6667

council@armidale.nsw.gov.au

Opening hours

Friday - Monday, 10am - 5pm

Other times by appointment

Land of the Beardies History House Museum & Research Centre

Standards profile

Want to see what early health services were like? How we lived when horse power predominated? Enjoy a complimentary cup of tea? This and much more in the fascinating exhibits that fill the former hospital building that started life in 1877 as a six bed men's ward and was continually extended until 1956.

Now the 2,000 square metre museum, only a few minutes from the town centre, displays thousands of items. They include dioramas like the Victorian dining room, parlour and bedroom, a colonial kitchen, a school room, and original slab cottage from the 1850s, the original hospital kitchen. Other exhibits include themed medical equipment, tools of trade, and the services memorial room. On our 1.5 hectares are also two agricultural machinery sheds.

The vast research centre houses some 350,000 index cards, 10,000 photographs, local newspapers from 1874, maps, Government Gazettes, property business, mining and family records etc.

Coach groups are welcome to book for tours, with morning, afternoon teas or lunch. And that free cuppa at 10am and 3pm!

Message to new participants

It is very hard and time consuming and needs commitment. However, particularly with the resources we now have access to, it was worth it!

Program outcomes

It made us look very closely at and consider all aspects of our operation and all of this is now filed in the one place for future reference.

Image: Services Memorial Room.



Details

Cnr West Avenue and Ferguson Street, Gwydir Highway West, Glen Innes NSW 2370

02 6732 1035

Fax: 02 6732 1035

www.beardieshistoryhouse.info

Opening hours

Monday - Friday, 10am - 12pm and 1pm - 4pm

Saturday - Sunday, 1pm - 4pm

Public holidays, 9am - 4pm

McCrossin's Mill Museum

Standards profile

McCrossin's Mill Museum and Function Centre is owned and operated by the volunteers of Uralla Historical Society Inc. The Museum's primary exhibit is the precinct, three superbly restored buildings: the Flour Mill (1870), the Stables/Store (c 1878) and the Chaff Shed (1881). The exhibitions have an unusual empathic quality and tell compelling stories...moving, thought-provoking, even slyly and wildly humorous. Our philosophy is that a museum should be vibrant, stimulating and educative. Our museum is not a mausoleum.

Significant space is devoted to the life and legend of Thunderbolt, the last of the NSW bushrangers. The Chinese exhibition is of national significance, as is Trickett's Triumph, a tribute to Australia's first world sporting champion. Corporal Cecil Stoker, which honours a young soldier's sacrifice, is particularly moving. An evocative diorama offers a subtle but heartfelt apology to the Aniwan people, traditional owners of the land. She'll Be Right Mate is a typical 'folk museum' exhibition, but with unusual artefacts and a laconic sense of humour. The Museum includes other exciting, insightful exhibitions, some of which are currently being redeveloped.

The Society operates an increasingly popular Function Centre on the ground floor and gardens.

Message to new participants

We were nervous as kittens, but finished the program like tigers! All credit to the staff of M&G NSW for their patient, understanding assistance. In the process our team rediscovered itself, is making refreshing new plans, and earned its stripes. Grrr! Grrr!

Program outcomes

Museum profile

We had long and fruitful discussions about what museums should be all about, with the result that we've taken a new confidence in the direction our museum has chosen.

Care of the collection

We are far more committed to the crucial matter of conservation of artefacts and buildings.

Image: McCrossin's Mill Museum.



Details

Salisbury Street, Uralla NSW 2358

02 6778 3022

Fax: 02 6778 3303

museum@uhs.org.au

Opening hours

Daily, 10am - 5pm

Quirindi Historical Cottage and Museum

Standards profile

With varied displays of domestic, social and rural exhibits, the Quirindi Historical Cottage and Museum has something for all interests and all ages.

Owned and managed by the Quirindi & District Historical Society, the 1887 Cottage is one of the main exhibits, having been built from bricks made locally at Price's Brickworks.

The collection and records reflect the Quirindi district – the pastoral beginnings, followed by closer settlement and broadacre farming, the mining ventures, and the development of Local Government in this area. Visitors interested in amateur radio, military memorabilia, medical history, bridal or christening gowns and toys will be fascinated by these exhibits.

Unique displays include a 19th century bell from Warrah Station, the MacLennan-Phillips Collection of Aboriginal artefacts, the former Quirindi Town Clerk Percy Pryor's collection of gifts presented to him during his 42 years of service, a model of Quirindi railway yards, and mementoes of Kingsford Smith's 1935 visit to Quirindi.

School children are made aware of how it was possible to live comfortably before electricity. Those searching for family are frequently surprised and delighted at the Society's extensive archives of family histories and district records, including published local histories and all Quirindi newspapers.

Message to new participants

We have found there are short term and long term benefits from the program, and the facilitators are helpful and encouraging. The Quirindi & District Historical Museum is now a member of the Powerhouse Museum Dress Register.

Program outcomes

Collection significance

The program has made us assess the significance of our collection and the presentation of items on display. We have developed a training program and provided an information folder for our volunteer guides.

Record keeping

The Standards Program reaffirmed the importance of record keeping, to have accession details, location of items on display or in storage, and condition. A database for our collection has been initiated.

Image: Bridal gowns of 1855 and 1900, with display of wedding accessories and photographs (detail).



Details

44 Station Street, Quirindi NSW 2343

Opening hours

Friday, 10am - 4pm

Other times by appointment

Tamworth Powerstation Museum

Standards profile

The Museum is owned and operated by the Tamworth Regional Council. It is a working re-creation of the Tamworth Borough Council's 1888 steam power station on its original Peel Street site. It permanently marks Tamworth's place as the first municipality in Australia to light its streets using electricity.

The Museum houses a comprehensive collection of historic, domestic, industrial, trade and commercial electrical items from the 19th and early 20th century. An archive contains a collection of historical books, catalogues and records pertaining to the development of the electrical industry.

The two restored John Fowler semi-portable under-type steam engines of the same type and era as the 1888 originals are the only two of their type surviving in the world which are operational.

The Museum is a popular tourist attraction for visitors to the region and is used as an educational resource for primary, secondary and university students. The Museum's volunteers are always available to provide comprehensive guided tours, including times outside regular opening hours, by prior arrangement.

Winners of the 2009 NSW Cultural Heritage Award of Keeping Australia Beautiful, the Museum was assessed in 2010 by professional historians and museum curators who reported that this museum has national significance for its conservation of Australian heritage.

During 2011 an intern completing a Masters in Museum Studies produced an oral history book *The Night the Lights Went On*. This was launched at the Museum on its 23rd anniversary open day – 9 November 2011, while also celebrating the 150th anniversary of the electric telegraph in Tamworth on 9 November 1861.

Message to new participants

Be diligent and honest with completing the self review survey. It will reveal things you need to know that have not yet occurred to you.

Focusing on the 'Key Areas for Future Achievement' has enabled several of the desirable outcomes identified by the Program to be achieved since 2008. This has raised both the profile and the inherent quality of the Museum.

Program outcomes

Oral history program

An oral history booklet *The Night the Lights Went On* launched in 2011. A comprehensive guided tour has been captured on video.

Additional volunteers

Seven new volunteers were recruited in 2011.

Business action plan

This has been approved by Council and is being implemented.

Image: Tamworth Powerstation Museum.



Details

216 Peel Street, Tamworth NSW 2340

02 6766 8324

Fax: 02 6767 5249

powerstation@tamworth.nsw.gov.au

www.tamworthregionalgallery.com.au/museum.php

Opening hours

Wednesday - Saturday, 9am - 1pm

Tenterfield Centenary Cottage

Standards profile

Built as a private residence in 1871, Centenary Cottage is a fine example of colonial architecture. The Cottage was constructed by Thomas McGauran for Michael Egan on land bought in the first sale of town land on 9 March 1854.

The Cottage now houses a large collection of memorabilia and historical material relating to Tenterfield and its surrounding district, with the Cottage building being the nucleus of the complex.

Within the complex is the General Sir Harry Chauvel Gallery. It was built with money donated by his sister Lillian Chauvel, a famous and talented artist. Lillian also gave 38 of her own paintings to be displayed in rotation.

The Museum tells the story of the formation of the NSW Mounted Infantry, whose headquarters were in Tenterfield. The story of the Light Horse Volunteers who went to the Boer War and WWI is told in detail. Tenterfield's three professional soldiers in WWI were General Sir Harry Chauvel, Lieut Colonel Charles Lee, and Colonel Michael Bruxner DSO, a Captain at Gallipoli. All three men served at Gallipoli. Lieut Colonel Charles Arthur Lee served as leader in the Camel Corp, but died in Tenterfield in 1918. He suffered from gas and influenza. Sir Harry Chauvel continued his career in the Army and Colonel Michael Bruxner went on to be MLA for New England for 41 years.

Petrie Cottage, an 1860s cottage, is also a part of the complex. With its two front rooms made of local pitsaw hardwood, sassafras slab and battens with board roof, this Cottage reflects a typical workman's lifestyle of the 1860s.

Message to new participants

Please join in, we can all learn something.

Program outcomes

The Standards Program reinforced the direction our association was and is taking.

Strategic and action plans put in place were encouraging.

Image: Centenary Cottage.



Details

136 Logan Street, Tenterfield NSW 2372

02 6736 2844

Fax: 02 6736 2844

Opening hours

Wednesday - Sunday, 10am - 4pm

School holidays
Daily, 10am - 4pm

Beaudesert Historical Museum

Standards profile

Beaudesert Historical Society, a volunteer organisation, was founded in 1961 to collect and record the history of the shire. Today they operate the Beaudesert Historical Museum and Visitor Information Centre in Brisbane Street Beaudesert. The site houses a number of buildings from the area and a collection of more than 10,000 donated objects, photographs and archival records relating to local settlement, industries and community history.

A favourite photographic opportunity for visitors is the Milbanks Pioneer Cottage built in 1875 by Patrick Milbanks on his Kerry district selection out of local timber. The cottage was donated to the society by the grandchildren of Patrick and Margaret Milbanks (the local midwife) and relocated to its present site in 1979.

In 2008 another significant building was acquired for the site - a tent hut used for the accommodation of railway workers. In 1888 when the Beaudesert Branch Railway opened, the town became a prosperous transport hub for the region's industries. The tent hut is an example of an individual detached bed-sitter tent hut for single men, prefabricated and portable, of a size readily transportable on narrow gauge railway wagons. The ventilated roof structure is of technological interest as an example of practical climate control.

Message to new participants

When first starting the Standards program we thought what have we got ourselves in for?! Well after doing the Standards Program we can recommend that if you have a museum or gallery, it is in your best interests to do this wonderful program. We have learned so much and the support given by M&GSQ's team, has been fantastic. We have many goals to work towards over the next five years and M&GSQ services have made things much easier with their resources and support. Go on do it, it's a bit of hard work, but with a great return at the end of the program.

Program outcomes

Committee structure

Through the assistance of M&GSQ we developed a working Executive Committee. This means that we could work on the recommendations made on the field visit. Outcomes since then include:

The tent hut now houses a display of railway-ana highlighting the Beaudesert Tramway and the Kyogle to Brisbane line history.

A digital index of local history and a digital catalogue of artefacts are both now well established.

Image: Big Thing "Aussie Bee" from Rice's Honey Bee Farm. Photography by Anne Baille.



Details

54 Brisbane Street, Beaudesert QLD 4285

07 5541 3740

hsb@hotmail.net.au

www.beaudesertmuseum.org.au

Opening hours

Monday - Sunday, 9am - 4pm

Beenleigh & District Historical Society

Standards profile

Old Beenleigh Town (previously known as Beenleigh Historical Village) has over 20 buildings on site with historical significance to the local area. These include the original church, school, boot-makers shop, railway station, post office, jail, council chambers, and several historic cottages from the Beenleigh area.

The heritage buildings and village grounds contain: local farming & sugar machinery; artefacts connected to pioneer families; family photos and histories; a Beenleigh rum distillery display; a photographic record of Beenleigh Shire and Albert Shire; original war documents including a POW dog tag from Changi and an American Civil War display linking to the Beenleigh area.

Old Beenleigh Town encourages school groups to visit by providing hands on activities for children including old-fashioned washing, blacksmithing, bush-painting, caring for farm animals and lessons in the late 1800s school.

Old Beenleigh Town caters for weddings in the historic St. George's church, and runs other events throughout the year. These include an annual Celtic Day and Oktoberfest. The entry point to Old Beenleigh Town is the Beenleigh Visitor Information Centre, an accredited visitor information centre offering a one-stop shop for travel information.

Message to new participants

The Program was hard work but things drop into place at unexpected moments. All museums should do this program. It gives your museum meaning!

Program outcomes

Planning

We learnt the value of planning projects and research before all else. We are currently setting up different sub-committees so that basic work can be planned and big things achieved.

Networking

We found our involvement in the Program invaluable for the networking opportunities, particularly visiting other museums and seeing how they do things. We gained new ideas, many of which were so simple, we wondered why we hadn't thought of it!

Image: 'Bosun Bill', the Beenleigh Rum Distillery mascot, which appeared on rum bottles, coasters and other Beenleigh Rum paraphernalia.



Details

199 Main Street, Beenleigh QLD 4207

07 3382 0608

bvillage@tpg.com.au

www.oldbeenleightown.com

Opening hours

Monday - Sunday, 9.30am - 3.30pm

Garden Hill at Lost World Museum

Standards profile

Garden Hill at Lost World Museum is situated on a small property located in the Lost World Valley, about 32km south of Beaudesert. The Museum buildings are mainly split slab and galvanised iron and have been re-erected. These have been adapted for use as exhibition spaces for historical displays and art.

The Museum has a wide-ranging collection drawn from the Kerry Valley and rural Queensland which includes farming machinery, timber industry equipment, horse drawn vehicles, harness and saddles, tools, household items, toys and photographs.

One building is used as a refreshment room, and a second accommodates changing displays drawn from the collections. Artworks on consignment are featured. The Museum is open to the public for special events or by appointment.

Message to new participants

Your participation in the Standards program will be very worthwhile. It allows you to look at all aspects of your museum's operation. The outcomes achieved will be enhanced by working with the team from Museum & Gallery Services Qld and the helpful reviewers.

Program outcomes

Collection management and documentation

The Standards Program has given practical advice to the Garden Hill at Lost World Museum on how to document our collection and connect some of the items to the stories of our community.

Museum planning and management

By discussing aspects of planning and management with the Reviewers on site we were able to focus on the priorities and create a timeline for what needs to be achieved.

Image: The saddle shed and gallery space. Courtesy of the Garden Hill at Lost World Museum.



Details

3268 Kerry Road, Darlington QLD 4285

07 5544 8126

gardenhill@active8.net.au

www.gardenhillatlostworld.com.au

Opening hours

Open by appointment

Gold Coast & Hinterland Historical Society Museum

Standards profile

The Gold Coast & Hinterland Historical Society museum is situated on Gold Coast heritage listed land in a side street off Bundall Road creating an oasis from the hustle and bustle of traffic using this busy major traffic thoroughfare less than two kilometres from the Surfers Paradise coastline.

The grounds were the site of an Aboriginal gathering place and are positioned on a remaining section of an extensive section of a sand dune that was formed 120,000 years ago. In addition to being the site of an Aboriginal midden, and a developing historical garden, the grounds were used as a cemetery for local sugarcane workers and remain a consecrated site though rezoned in 1972 for use as a Historical Society.

The gardens have been developed to represent pre & post European history on the site. These include wallum, littoral rainforest and banksia woodland and an edible plant path is planned. The museum was involved with the ABC Open Garden scheme in 2009.

The Museum precinct consists of specialist display buildings, replica pioneering home and an original heritage building.

These include the original studio of Vincent Sheldon, a prominent Queensland etcher; "Boowaggan" a reproduction of the Veivers family home, pioneers from the area; Dolan's Barn, housing a collection of farming tools and machinery; Steam Engine building that displays two sawmill engines from the original Johnston and Freeman sawmill established in Southport in 1876; John Elliott building, which is the museum's principal display area and new extension that houses items from the Pacific Cable Station Bauer St, Southport and is the display area for the extensive photo collection.



Message to new participants

We undertook the Standards Program with trepidation but we have benefited tremendously, and we have certainly moved forward, achieved a lot and enhanced our image.

Program outcomes

Cataloguing our museum collection

Cataloguing of the collection was started following our participation in a series of Collection Management Workshops (funded by a Community Heritage Grant), and has been assisted greatly with the expertise and diligence of volunteers from the Gold Coast community, Volunteering Gold Coast and Griffith University.

Strategic planning

Our planning has resulted in the completion of a new building late 2011. With the guidance from important M&GSQ Reports undertaken in 2011 and 2012, we have begun a long term project to upgrade the John Elliott Building to appropriate Standard levels.

Image: Paula Stafford historic bikini collection. Courtesy of Gold Coast & Hinterland Historical Society.

Details

8 Elliott Street, Surfers Paradise (Off Bundall Road), QLD 4217

0417 622 321

histsocbun@bigpond.com

Opening hours

First Sunday of every month 10am - 4pm

Other times by appointment

Rathdowney Historical Museum

Standards profile

The Rathdowney Historical Museum was opened in November 1984 and is housed in the Information Centre building, formally the Commercial Bank of Australia, Rathdowney Branch 1911-1978.

The collection relates to local history including pioneering families, pioneering women, timber and dairying industries, and artefacts from the local region since settlement from the 1860s onwards.

A collection of historic buildings from around the local area include the Rathdowney Tramway Station, Glenapp & Dulbolla Railway Sidings and a Hut from the Palen Creek Prison Farm. These buildings house an interesting range of objects that were used in everyday life and include a horse-drawn buggy, bullock wagon, drays and wagons.

The annual Rathdowney Heritage Festival celebrates the region's pioneering days with demonstrations including a working bullock team, wood-chopping, tent-pegging, working sheep dogs, whip cracking, blacksmithing, wheelwrighting, steam engines, leather work, washing and ironing the old way, working horse gear (cutting hay into chaff), shelling and cracking corn, butter churning, paper making, spinning, weaving and tatting. Displays include period costumes, old tools, machinery, historical photographs (including local families, education and industries), dairy and kitchen.

The Museum is located approximately 90 kilometres south of Brisbane on the Mt Lindesay Highway within the Scenic Rim Regional Council.

Message to new participants

Rathdowney Historical Museum (RADHA) has been motivated by the Standards Program even though we began with trepidation. We can thoroughly recommend it to all.

Program outcomes

Significance

The Standards Program has helped us to refocus and identify significant items in our collection, which has assisted us in the development of a marketing strategy.

Documentation

Being involved in the Standards Program has reinforced the need for documentation, cataloguing, identifying and recording the provenance of objects in the collection.

Image: Rathdowney Historical Museum from the Mt Lindesay Highway.



Details

82 Mt Lindesay Highway, Rathdowney QLD 4287

07 5544 1222

info@rathdowney.org.au

www.rathdowney.org.au

Opening hours

Monday - Friday, 9am - 2pm

Saturday, Sunday, Queensland school holidays and public holidays, 9am - 4pm

Closed Christmas Day, Good Friday and Anzac Day morning

Tamborine Mountain Heritage Centre

Standards profile

The Tamborine Mountain Heritage Centre is dedicated specifically to the history of Tamborine Mountain. The collection is housed thematically in a number of buildings: Pioneer Hall (a weatherboard re-located church), the Auditorium (meeting space, storage for documents and archives), Machinery Hall, Shop, Dairy and Blacksmith, Slab Cottage and an open style machinery shed. The shop, slab cottage and blacksmith shop are reconstructions of typical structures of the period of early settlement, from the 1880s onwards. The dairy is an actual relocated dairy typical of the structure and machinery used on Tamborine and in much of Southeast Queensland.

Pioneer Hall incorporates a "Fashion House" with a significant collection of early clothing worn by settlers on the mountain including a dress worn to the opening of federal parliament. There is also a scale model of the water-wheel which drove the Curtis sawmill, ingenious displays representing pioneer settlement lifestyles.

The historical society's collection includes a number of early photographs, documents and tape recordings of interviews of the families of early settlers.

Message to new participants

This program provides a valuable opportunity for museum workers to really assess all aspects of museum management, including collections and public interaction. It is highly recommended.

Program outcomes

The Standards Program has emphasised the need for more documentation regarding the collection including details of acquisition, preservation and restoration of particular items, as well as significance.

We have realised the need for a consistent approach to interpretation of the buildings and displays. We are developing standardised signage to aid visitors to better understand the buildings and displays in terms of the chronological context of the settlement of Tamborine Mountain.

Image: Scale model of the Curtis sawmill which was driven by a waterwheel. Photography by Ron Pokarier.



Details

Wongawallan Road, Eagle Heights QLD 4271

07 5545 3929

tamborinehistorical@hotmail.com.au

Opening hours

Sunday, 11am - 3pm

Upper Clarence Historical Society Pioneer Cottage & Bicentennial Museum

Standards profile

The Upper Clarence Historical Society was established to collect and record the history of the region and to provide a resource of knowledge, ideas, stories and memories of its early settlers.

The Upper Clarence Historical Precinct contains two buildings: a pioneer cottage and the bicentennial museum. The cottage of Cuthbert and Mary Lamb was constructed of local timbers at Legume in 1892 and was moved to its present site in Urbenville in 1977. In 1980 (in time for the cottage's centenary celebrations in 1982) its separate kitchen building was also brought to the site. The cottage buildings display a collection of early pioneer local domestic life and memorials of local World War I servicemen.

The Bicentennial Museum houses collections reflecting the region's gold mining, timber and dairy industries as well as the social history of the local communities. The historical society is currently researching the significance of the collections in order to better display the objects and their local stories.

The Society is looking forward to celebrating the centenary of Urbenville in 2012 and also the 120th birthday of the Pioneer Cottage.

Message to new participants

We became aware of the Standards Program in 2007 and eagerly sought to become involved. This program was to be a source of information, networking and more importantly guidance as the new committee for the reformed Upper Clarence Historical Society struggled with the complexity and enormity of its task as custodians of its collection. We are from a small village in northern NSW close to the QLD border and were welcomed into the Program by Museum & Gallery Services QLD.

Join the program. It may appear daunting sometimes but it is very rewarding.

Program outcomes

Collection significance

Through being involved in the Standards Program we have received help in identifying significant items in our collection and assistance with understanding object files and significance statements. This has benefited the Society greatly allowing a starting point to be established for cataloguing.

Museum management

The Standards Program has enabled us to focus and define our goals, to update our collection policy and to implement a strategic plan.

Image: Pioneer Cottage, belonging to the Lambs, constructed of local timbers at Legume 1892.



Details

Urban Street, Urbenville NSW 2475

02 6634 1352

kreggy2bea@yahoo.com.au

Opening hours

Sunday, 2pm - 4.30pm

Closed the first Sunday of the month

Other times by appointment

Yugambah Museum Language & Heritage Research Centre

Standards profile

2013 Gallery and Museum Achievement Awards. Winner,
Organisations: Staff of under 4

2008 Gallery and Museum Achievement Awards. Winner,
Organisations: Staff of up to 6

The Yugambah Museum is committed to the conservation and promotion of the cultural heritage of the traditional Aboriginal people of the Yugambah Language Region. The region extends from the Tweed River in the south to the Logan River in the north and west.

The Museum's collections include ancient and contemporary artefacts, art pieces, family histories, archival records and photographs and an extensive library of books, audio and video tapes and CDs relating to the shared Aboriginal and European history of the region. Great emphasis has been given to the collection of records relating to Yugambah and other languages of southeast Queensland. It prides itself on being a keeping place for information relating to the local Yugam language, which Museum founders have gathered since it was thought extinct in the 1980s.

Research by the Museum's founders has also led to the establishment of a number of "modern" traditions including an annual Black Diggers Remembrance Ceremony honouring Aboriginal men and women from the frontier wars of the 1800s to Australian military service in world wars and overseas campaigns since the Boer War. The Drumley Walk is another major event for the Museum. This three day walking pilgrimage through the traditional lands of the Yugambah Aboriginal peoples includes story-telling and interpretive guiding. Participants in 2008 reached into the hundreds.

Message to new participants

The Standards Program has helped us to identify the strengths and weakness of our organisation and to maximise the opportunities that are available to us. A great return for the time and effort.

Program outcomes

Museum management

The Standards Program brought home to us the importance of formal guidelines for management. The Yugambah Museum will regularly review and update its Policies and Procedures Manual and ensure it is readily accessible to all staff.

Significance assessment

We have realised that the significance of an object can be greatly enhanced by the addition of relevant data eg provenance, type of material, ownership, age etc. In the future the Yugambah Museum will ensure that all known information about an object is recorded on the database for curator use.

*Image: Grindstone from the Yugambah archaeological collection.
Courtesy of Yugambah Museum, Language & Heritage Research Centre.*



Details

2 Plantation Road, Beenleigh QLD 4207

P: 07 3807 6155

Fax: 07 3807 6144

admin@yugambah.com

www.yugambah.com

Opening hours

Wednesday, 10am – 2.30pm

Other times by appointment

Australian Motorlife Museum

Standards profile

The goal of the Australian Motorlife Museum is to display to the public the history of motoring, especially in the era pre 1940. Later vehicles will also be exhibited and collected, keeping the overriding quantities of the exhibitions to this period. Collections will include motor accessories, tools, service station and motor garage equipment, photographs and literature including books.

Alongside the motor vehicles, exhibitions of typewriters, telephones, gramophones and early radios will be displayed, as items which also had a major impact on everyday life and the way it was lived. Displays will aim at providing a perspective view of parallel technological development, particularly of the period 1880 to 1940.

The Museum will continue to build on its library of motoring and related books and other literature, and to make the information therein available to historians and restorers. During early 2009 the museum's 16 year battle to save the 'Paul Butler Collection' from dispersal ended. The collection is now stored at the museum and will very soon be moved into a purpose designed conservation and storage area (480sqm) which has been added to an initial 2000sqm. Further exhibition space (750sqm) is to be constructed.

Message to new participants

Dive in! You will enjoy the experiences of Standards – eventually! Good luck.

Program outcomes

Completing the M&G NSW 'Standards Program' has provided a credible base indicating to our members and to Wollongong City Council that our goals are appropriate.

There are occasions when some of our volunteers may consider a 'short cut', perhaps an inappropriate one. 'Standards' provides them with credible guidelines.

Image: The Australian Motorlife Museum.



Details

Integral Energy Park, Darkes Road, Kembla Grange NSW 2530

02 4261 4100

Fax: 02 4260 9142

motorlifemuseum@bigpond.com.au

www.motorlifemuseum.com.au

Opening hours

Tuesday - Sunday, 9.30am - 4.30pm

Berrima District Museum

Standards profile

2008 Southern Highlands Business Award for Excellence in an Attraction

2009 IMAGinE Awards Winner, Exhibition: Volunteer.

2015 IMAGinE Awards Winner, Sustainability Programs: 0-2 staff

2015 IMAGinE Awards Winner, Engagement Programs: 0-2 staff

Berrima District Museum was established on the present site in 1976.

One of Berrima's most significant and fascinating stories is that of the WW I internment camp for German Mariners. This exhibition 'Prisoners in Arcady' occupies our largest gallery. It received a 2009 IMAGinE Award.

Fitz Roy Ironworks, Mittagong was the first iron works in Australia. A scale model of the top works, created by a retired mining engineer of Mittagong, is the centrepiece of stage one of our new exhibition 'Early Industries in the Berrima District'.

Message to new participants

Dedicate a core group and allocate a regular weekly meeting time. Take it in bite size pieces and digest slowly. You will be very proud of the outcome.

Program outcomes

Assisted in attracting more volunteers to the Museum and to ascertain and maintain best practice

We confirmed that our methods were on the right track and highlighted areas needing attention.

Determined and documented our performance

We compiled all pertinent documents relating to the running of our museum. This is a valuable resource for all current and future volunteers.

Image: Artwork by German internee Otto Monkediack on decorative shield presented to the 20th Berrima Guard, April 1916. Photography by Gloria Williams.



Details

Market Place, Berrima NSW 2577

P: 02 4877 1130

berrimamuseum@bigpond.com

www.berrimadistricthistoricalsociety.org.au

Opening hours

Saturday - Sunday, NSW Public School holidays and most public holidays, 10am - 4pm

Illawarra Museum

Standards profile

The Illawarra Museum represents late 19th century Illawarra. The collection is housed in the 1882 Post and Telegraph Office, a very fine example of late colonial architecture.

The Museum collection conveys a sense of life in the days before Wollongong was dominated by heavy industry. The upper floor is furnished in the period when the postmaster was in residence. A bedroom and parlour have been furnished to display late 19th century life. The Museum also has displays of crafts, agricultural machinery, a blacksmith's workshop and school room typical of the period. There are also objects including the massive Telegraph Office desk in the foyer.

The Museum is conducted on a voluntary basis by members of the Illawarra Historical Society who, through collection, preservation and exhibiting material, present a picture of the past to the general public, school groups and visitors.

Message to new participants

Welcome to the Standards Program. Our members found it easier to do than anticipated. We hope you find it worthwhile and have a successful outcome.

Program outcomes

We are happy to have completed the program.

We are making every effort in bringing the Museum to a higher standard.

We are happy to see results from participation in the Standards Program.

Image: Illawarra Museum. Photography by Carol Herben.



Details

11 Market Street, Wollongong NSW 2500

02 4228 7770

Fax: 02 4228 7770

info@illawarramuseum.com

www.illawarramuseum.com

Opening hours

Wednesday - Thursday, 12pm - 3pm

Saturday, Sunday and Public Holidays, 1pm - 4pm

Old Wollongong Court House

Standards profile

The Old Court House is the oldest public building in Wollongong and represents the era when Wollongong Harbour was the main port. Built in 1858, it is a rendered brick building with an elegant sandstone arched portico. In 1885, the building was used as a customs house servicing the coastal shipping trade. Following federation, the site was transferred to the Wollongong City Council and a management committee was established to oversee the building's restoration and on-going management.

The site includes the Weatherboard Customs Office built on Brighton Lawn in c1880 and moved across Cliff Road to the Old Court House site in 1938. The restored buildings house the offices of the Illawarra Shoalhaven Branch of the National Trust and Conservation Volunteers Australia.

The Old Court House is within the Belmore Basin Conservation Area, which includes Wollongong Harbour, Flagstaff Hill, Osbourne Park, Smiths Hill Fort and the North Beach Precinct. Plaques provide information for a self-guided walking tour of this historically significant and visually impressive Conservation Area.

Program outcomes

Site interpretation

The Program provided an opportunity to discuss possibilities for site and building interpretation with experienced peers.

Image: 2007 National Trust Timber Workshop.



Details

Cnr Harbour Street and Cliff Road, Woollongong NSW 2500

02 4227 4614

nt_oldcourthouse@bigpond.com

Opening hours

Tuesday - Wednesday, 1pm - 3pm

Other times by appointment

Port Kembla Heritage Park

Standards profile

Step into the past, present and future at Port Kembla Heritage Park. Located adjacent to the Eastern Breakwater of Port Kembla Outer Harbour, the heritage park precinct has been and remains an observer of the development of the region from Aboriginal times through to the present and into the future. Overlooking the working port of Port Kembla, the park incorporates Maritime, Military and Aboriginal Heritage that all belong on the site.

The Aboriginal middens on the site are being linked by a new Aboriginal trail connecting them with other important Aboriginal sites nearby.

The Breakwater Battery building and gun emplacements are key structures of the command centre for Fortress Kembla used during World War II. The pilots and signal station represent maritime heritage, with an interpretive exhibit to be completed by mid year.

A self-guided Heritage Trail with explanatory signage is accessible seven days per week with a brochure guide available from Tourist Centres at Wollongong, Shellharbour and Kiama, or by contacting us directly.

Message to new participants

In spite of the work involved, the Standards Program allows our museum to provide a quality experience to visitors and volunteers.

Program outcomes

Improved policies and procedures

A number of policies and procedures have been developed, including a Collections Policy, Acquisitions Procedures, and a Conservation Policy and procedure manual. Additional policies are being produced this year.

Improved relationship with Council

The relationship with Wollongong Council has developed during the Standards Program, particularly involving contact with the Museum Development Officer.

Image: Breakwater Battery Military Museum, Port Kembla Heritage Park.



Details

Gloucester Boulevard, Port Kembla NSW 2505

02 4275 2888

abbatid@hotmail.net.au

www.pkhpi.org.au

Opening hours

2nd and 4th Sunday of each month, 10am – 2pm

Tongarra Museum

Standards profile

Explore the history of Shellharbour through changing exhibitions of local Aboriginal and European culture. Collect a heritage trail map and take a walking tour of historic Albion Park.

Tongarra Museum endeavours to record the history of the settlement of the City of Shellharbour: its people, their way of life, and development and progress in relation to the natural, cultural, social and historical environments of the area. The Museum collection features artefacts, photographs, oral histories, maps, lithographs and historic documents that form a comprehensive representative sample of items pertaining to the history and development of the Shellharbour City area and its people.

Significant items include a 1900s Victoria Automatic Sock Knitting Machine used to knit socks for WWI soldiers, a hand-made cot quilt sewn by pioneer Sarah Thomas (c 1830s) and framed hand-coloured photographs of Lake Illawarra in 1928.

Shellharbour City Council operates the Tongarra Museum with the assistance of the Tongarra Heritage Society.

Message to new participants

Good luck to all participants! Tongarra Museum is happy to have participated in the Standards Program. Thanks to the staff at M&G NSW and the great review team – we now have a clearer direction for the future and the motivation to achieve these goals.

Program outcomes

Purchase of MOSAiC Plus through funding from M&G NSW

Tongarra Museum will soon begin digitising our collection through the MOSAiC software. This large undertaking has been made much easier for us through the development of our Object Files for collection items; a suggestion from the M&G NSW Standards team. This database will be an invaluable tool for our Museum.

Developing our online presence

Tongarra Museum has updated its web pages on Shellharbour City Council's website to include information on our museum programs, resources and local history information. This has seen a boost in information requests we received from international patrons. We are also developing a local history blog using free software from Blogger. With this tool we aim to promote the history of Shellharbour and its people to a wider audience. It will be launched in 2012.

Image: Henrietta Bush (nee Lewis) of the Ocean Beach Hotel, Shellharbour. Courtesy of Shellharbour Council.



Details

Russell Street. Albion Park NSW 2527

02 4256 6698

www.shellharbour.nsw.gov.au

Opening hours

Monday and Wednesday, 9am - 4pm

Wollondilly Heritage Centre

Standards profile

2010 Imagine Awards. Winner, Education and Public Programs: Volunteer.

2008 Imagine Awards. Winner, Award of Excellence: Volunteer.

Wollondilly Shire is located between the mountains and the sea. Contemporary displays tell the thought provoking stories of the D'harawal and Gundungorra and of the working lives of the men and women from many nations who worked on the land, in mines and homes and villages.

The museum holds the unique indexed Burraborang Valley Scrolls which document the amazing history of the Valley & Yerranderie. The Catholic Bushwalkers had a retreat in the area which held an unusual Welsh Folding Bed for use by the visiting priest. This now has a central position together with the story of St Joseph's convent school.

Coal mining is represented in an interactive display and beautiful painted Nattai Union Banner. Visitors can see eggs and apples graded and packed for market and see a display of local apple box labels. This includes the stories of Estonian migrants who made a significant contribution to the poultry industry.

The centre is operated by volunteers from the Oaks Historical Society and has excellent access for people with disabilities, a large car/coach park, a community access room with audio visual and P/R facilities, a kitchen, shady verandahs and landscaped native gardens, a reference library, catalogued archives and a well stocked Museum Shop. We are famous for our home cooked Devonshire teas which are available to pre-booked coach groups!

Message to new participants

We recommend this program which provides a valuable opportunity for museum volunteers to really assess their progress against best practice.

Program outcomes

Development of new strategic plan

This gives all members access to clear directions for future developments of all aspects of museum management and planning.

Increased awareness of unique features of our museum

Discussion with Standards Review Committee helped us to reach an understanding of what we have which others find unique and interesting.

Image: Wollondilly Heritage Centre entrance Photography D Lyon.



Details

43 Edward Street, The Oaks NSW 2572

02 4657 1796

tohs1988@bigpond.net.au

www.oaksheritagecentre.com

Opening hours

Saturday, Sunday and Public holidays, 10am - 4pm

Closed Christmas Day - Australia Day and Good Friday

Australian Fossil and Mineral Museum

Standards profile

Situated in the heart of Bathurst, the Australian Fossil and Mineral Museum is the home of the internationally renowned Somerville Collection. Housed in the 1876 Public School building the Museum features some of the finest and rarest examples of minerals and scientifically significant fossils from Australia and around the world.

Warren Somerville (AM) found his first fossil at Borenore near Orange when he was just nine years old, an event which inspired him to embark on a lifetime of collecting. Now, more than sixty years later, the Somerville collection of fossils and minerals is one of the most spectacular in the world.

Hundreds of different mineral crystals are beautifully displayed in the Mineral Gallery. From the largest—a metre tall geode lined with large Amethyst crystals, to the smallest of over 100 tiny, perfectly formed thumbnail specimens—all the colours and shapes imaginable are on show.

In the Fossil Gallery you can see fossils from every stage of life on Earth, from the first single-celled life in the ancient oceans billions of years ago, to the egg of Madagascar's extinct Elephant bird only thousands of years old. The main attractions of the gallery are the Tyrannosaurus rex skeleton, Australia's largest collection of fossils in amber and a collection of Australia's unique opalised fossils.

The Museum has a temporary exhibition space with a regularly changing program.

Image: T-Rex at the Australian Fossil and Mineral Museum.



Details

224 Howick Street, Bathurst NSW 2795

02 6331 5511

somerville@bathurst.nsw.gov.au

<http://www.somervillecollection.com.au>

Opening hours

Daily, 10am - 4pm

Bathurst District Historical Society Museum

Standards profile

The Bathurst District Historical Society Museum and Archives is located in a wing of the heritage classified courthouse, designed by Colonial Government Architect James Barnett in 1880.

Formed in May 1947 the Society's first collections document important regional developments such as the growth of the garrison town, contact with explorers and surveyors, the first gold discovery in NSW, the formulation of Cobb and Co., and the region's colourful bushranging history.

It is home to the Penzig Collection and comprises paintings, pictures, drawings, objects and costumes amassed by renowned bushranger enthusiast Edgar Penzig and his wife over a lifetime of collecting.

Highlights of the collection include a selection of Chifley memorabilia acquired from long term resident of Bathurst, Joseph Benedict Chifley (1885-1951), Australia's 16th Prime Minister.

Additionally over 65,000 photographic images, glass plate negatives, and other related ephemera form a significant part of the collection.

There are also two carved trees or dendroglyphs in the collection which are a unique feature of traditional Australian indigenous culture. The Wiradjuri carved ceremonial tree was found near O'Connell about 25 kilometres east of Bathurst and is thought to have marked a ceremonial site or grave.

The second carved tree is a River Red gum that once stood at the mouth of the Mandagery Creek at the junction of the Lachlan River. In June 1815, explorer and surveyor George Evans marked this tree to show he had reached the furthest westward point of any British explorer at the time.

Image: The exterior of Bathurst District Historical Society Museum.



Details

East Wing, Bathurst Court House, Russell Street, Bathurst NSW 2795

02 6330 8455

info@bathursthhistory.org.au

<http://www.bathursthhistory.org.au>

Opening hours

Tuesday - Saturday, 10am - 4pm

Sunday, 11am - 2pm

Bathurst Regional Art Gallery

Standards profile

2013 Imagine Awards, Winner

Education: 3-20 Staff

2015 Imagine Awards, Highly Commended

Engagement Projects: 3-10 Staff

2015 Imagine Awards, Highly Commended

Gallery Exhibition Projects: 3-10 Staff

Bathurst Regional Art Gallery (BRAG) is a modern, highly celebrated regional art gallery which generates state-of-the-art exhibitions of contemporary art.

Built in 1989, it was the first purpose built regional gallery in NSW. It is a well-equipped and professionally staffed facility owned and operated by Bathurst Regional Council.

The Gallery is a creator of quality in house and touring exhibitions, and operates the nationally renowned Hill End Artists in Residence Program.

BRAG enjoys wide spread community support and continues to develop a reputation as one of the leading regional galleries in New South Wales.

From 1955 the collection has grown to include more than 1,900 works in a wide variety of media and is valued at over \$8.6 million. The collection features paintings, sculpture, works on paper, photographs and ceramics by four hundred Australian artists, including significant works by artists such as Jean Bellette, Donald Friend, James Gleeson, John Olsen, Lloyd Rees, Grace Cossington Smith and Fred Williams.

BRAG's exhibition program features a diverse range of incoming touring exhibitions, specially curated exhibitions, community exhibitions, Local Artist Projects, exhibitions curated from the permanent collection and the work of Hill End artists.

Image: Philip Spelman, redjar redbottle, 2013, steel, automobile paint. Acquired from Sculpture by the Sea, Bondi 2013, made possible through Sculpture by the Sea, and the Regional NSW Acquisition Program supported by the NSW Government through Arts NSW and Bathurst Regional Council. Photo: Emma Hill



Details

70-78 Keppel Street, Bathurst NSW 2795

02 6333 6555

www.bathurstart.com.au

www.hillendart.com.au

Opening hours

Tuesday - Saturday, 10am - 5pm

Sunday, 11am - 2pm

Chifley Home

Standards profile

Discover the life of one of Australia's great Prime Ministers and the challenges of the 1940's in a World War II house museum.

Chifley Home at 10 Busby Street in Bathurst was the only residence of Prime Minister Ben Chifley and his wife, Elizabeth. Today, this modest semi-detached terrace still contains its original collection of household furnishings and personal effects dating back to when the Chifleys first occupied the house in 1914.

The home is located in the working-class railway district of Bathurst where Ben himself served twenty-five years as a railway worker before entering Federal Parliament in Canberra in 1928.

Ben and Elizabeth's home is a testament to the frugality of the times when the hardships of the Great Depression, wartime rationing and austerity measures, dictated how people led their ordinary lives. The collection also contains an assortment of ceremonial gifts presented to Chifley in his roles as Prime Minister and Treasurer.

After Ben died in 1951, the house continued to be occupied by Elizabeth, until her death in 1962. The house, with its collection, was bequeathed to the Presbyterian Church until it was later sold in 1972 to Bathurst City Council.

Image: The modest living room at Chifley Home.



Details

10-12 Busby Street, Bathurst NSW 2795

02 6332 1444

tim.pike@bathurst.nsw.gov.au

www.chifleyhome.org.au

Opening hours

Saturday, Sunday and Monday tours at 10am and 12pm

National Motor Racing Museum

Standards profile

The National Motor Racing Museum is located alongside the world famous racing circuit, Mount Panorama.

While Mount Panorama and the Bathurst 1000 is at the heart of its displays, the Museum looks across the spectrum of Australian Motor Racing.

The histories of speedway, solar, drag racing, rally cars, open wheelers, sports cars and touring cars are on display.

Motorbike racing and its history is featured in the Museum.

Here at the National Motor Racing Museum the history, personalities and achievements of Australian Motor Sports are celebrated. If you're interested in motor racing, come and visit us!

Image: Some of the cars on display at the National Motor Racing Museum.



Details

400 Panorama Avenue, Bathurst NSW 2795

P: 02 6332 1872

nmrm@bathurst.nsw.gov.au

www.nmrm.com.au

Opening hours

Monday - Sunday, 9am - 4.30pm

Cairns & District Chinese Association

Standards profile

The Cairns and District Chinese Association is the custodian of the Lit Sung Goong Temple Collection, a significant collection of over 240 items from the temple which operated in Cairns between 1886 and 1964.

The Lit Sung Goong Temple collection is an outstanding example of the material culture of Chinese-Australian religious practices. It comprises a range of artefacts, most produced in China and brought to North Queensland in the late nineteenth century. Objects include timber furniture, deity statues, decorative panels, altar table and canopy, printing and fortune telling materials and metal incense burners and processional items. The collection is accessible to the public by appointment and enquiries welcome.

This fantastic collection does not have a permanent home. It is our goal to establish a contemporary Chinese Cultural & Heritage Centre in Cairns to permanently store and exhibit the collection with the North Queensland Chinese heritage stories for the enjoyment of all.

The North Queensland Chinese Cultural and Heritage Fund, established in 2009 enables us to accept tax deductible donations. In 2010 the fundraising committee developed a website for this project.

They also established the name and logo for the proposed centre, check it out on the website. We look forward to growing this building fund.

'One generation plants the trees, and another gets the shade' - Chinese Proverb.

Message to new participants

This program helped us lay the foundations for our organisation to plan appropriately for the future. Enjoy your growth!

Program outcomes

Strategic planning

This program has given our group direction on how to achieve our goal of developing a permanent space for the collection. The Strategic Plan is a working document guiding our priorities and essential tasks.

Collection management

Our collection management systems continue to guide our work and object preservation planning. Currently transferring our data from the Queensland Museums Historical Database to Mosaic - because it is a more broadly used database and possibly the new 'standard'!

Image: Deity Statue, Kuan Yin: Goddess of Compassion & Healing. She is one of the most popular deities in all of Asia. Her name in Chinese roughly translates as "The One who Hears the Cries of the World". Photography by Michael Marzik.



Details

PO Box 5951 Cairns QLD 4870

07 4056 5325

marylow.contrary@gmail.com

www.cadcai.org

Opening hours

Open by appointment

Cairns Historical Society Museum

Standards profile

The Cairns Museum, part of Cairns Historical Society, is housed in the School of Arts building, one of the oldest heritage listed buildings in Cairns. The School of Arts building celebrated its one hundred year anniversary in 2007 and was originally established as a library and a place of education for the Cairns public. The Historical Society was established within this framework to collect and preserve Cairns' written, photographic and oral history. The museum continues this charter by displaying the history of the region.

The Museum displays a unique collection of Aboriginal rainforest artefacts, including swords and shields found only in the North Queensland area, photographs of Aboriginal people with their weapons, basketry and dwellings taken by a well-known photographer of the time, Alf Atkinson and photographs of the construction of the Cairns to Kuranda railway. The Cairns Historical Society Library has an extensive collection of over 20,000 documents and 16,000 photographs, available to researchers. Many of these have been digitised and are available on a searchable database.

Message to new participants

We started this program with great trepidation but found it to be of great benefit not only to the Museum but mostly to our volunteers, giving them a better understanding and appreciation of the work they are doing.

Program outcomes

Improved storage and acquisition policies

The storage of our artefacts is now being reorganised. Artefacts are being sorted and excess items will possibly be offered to peer organisations.

Improved display and exhibition labelling

All labels in the Museum are being redesigned, enlarged and colour printed to make them more visitor-friendly.

Image: School of Arts Building – home of the Cairns Historical Society Museum. Photography by Alan Broughton.



Details

School of Arts Building, City Place, Cnr Shields and Lake Streets, Cairns QLD 4870

07 4051 5582

histsoc@cairnsmuseum.org.au

www.cairnsmuseum.org.au

Opening hours

Monday - Saturday, 10am - 4pm

Croydon Heritage Centre

Standards profile

Croydon Downs, a 19th century Queensland Gulf cattle station, became a bustling centre of fortune, progress, industry and hope when it was declared a goldfield in 1885. Its living legacy is a 19th century heritage precinct containing civic and government buildings that are restored as museums; magnificent displays of steam machinery; historic cemeteries; a reconstructed railway station and unique heritage rail lines; the last hotel and General Store from the goldfield; replicated and original street lights, hand hewn sandstone gutters and bridge ramparts and an in situ mining museum - all free to the public.

Croydon's status of being one of the largest rural Chinese settlements in Queensland during the gold rush is interpreted in the museum displays, at the Chinese Temple archaeological dig site and lives on in the remaining descendants of Chinese families.

Croydon True Blue Heritage Centre has a Croydon family genealogy database dating from 1886, a movie shown in the theatrette and more museum information and archives. It has sculptures, machinery, antique cars and mining architecture in its botanical gardens.

Message to new participants

Be prepared to learn lots, so absorb plenty and enjoy the experience!

Program outcomes

Access to collections

Croydon Shire Council's large collection of historic documents and objects are being recorded, preserved, displayed and archived in the Croydon True Blue Visitor Information Centre and other Croydon museum locations.

Organisational structure

Croydon Shire Council has employed a Cultural Heritage Coordinator to undertake heritage and interpretive projects and to assist in the maintenance of the Standards Program.

Image: External Displays at the Croydon True Blue Visitor Information Centre.



Details

Croydon True Blue Visitor Information Centre, Samwell Street,
Croydon QLD 4871

PO Box 17, Croydon QLD 4871

07 4748 7100

info@croydon.qld.gov.au

www.croydon.qld.gov.au

Opening hours

April to October

Monday - Sunday, 9am - 4.30pm

November to March

Monday - Friday, 9am - 4.30pm

Innisfail Library

Standards profile

The Library collects newspapers, photographs, printed and audiovisual material relating to the history of the old Johnstone Shire area, including the hard copy of the "Innisfail Advocate" newspaper, as well as a microfilm version, from 1928 to 1980.

The Library collects modern reference books on Art Deco design, including architecture and other topics such as Art Deco jewellery. They are a useful reference for understanding the development of this style of architecture, which is prevalent in the design of public buildings in Johnstone Shire.

The Library collection includes photographs of the aftermath of cyclones from 1918, 1986 and 2006. Innisfail has suffered the effects of several major cyclones and these photos show the power of such events.

The Library also collects works produced by local authors and organisations. The collection includes original photographs of the local area including photos relating to northern area Cassowary Coast Regional Council staff and activities.

Message to new participants

Despite our initial fears this was so worthwhile in refocusing our energies. Do it!

Program outcomes

Awareness of community

We have come to recognise that telling the stories of the community will involve a greater involvement of community members and organisations in developing and researching local history material.

Action plan development

The development of a prioritised action plan will allow staff to focus their efforts to achieve an accessible and usable local history collection in a reasonable time frame.

Image: Allan Maruff House – home of the Innisfail Library.



Details

Allan Maruff House, 49 Rankin Street, Innisfail QLD 4860

07 4030 2249

innisfaillibrary@ccrc.qld.gov.au

www.cassowarycoast.qld.gov.au

Opening hours

Monday, 10am - 5pm

Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday, 8.30am - 5pm

Thursday, 8.30am - 6pm

Saturday, 9am - 12pm

Lit Sing Gung Temple

Standards profile

The Lit Sing Gung Temple is an original art deco building constructed in 1940 by the renowned construction firm the Romano Bros. after the original Temple was badly damaged in several cyclones, flood & fire. Most of the Temple artefacts date from 1896 and originate from China. They represent deities of the Taoist, Confucian and Buddhist traditions.

Until recent years the Temple was the home of Ah Buks, elderly Chinese men who lived out their lives in exile in Australia, supported by the Chinese community, as they had failed to make their fortune from the gold rushes and could not rejoin their families empty handed.

The Temple is still open 365 days a year and is the only one in Far North Queensland providing an authentic haven for worship and celebrations. On appropriate days, candles and joss sticks are lit and gifts of symbolic paper money are burnt in the offering urn (ding) in the Temple garden.

Message to new participants

Go ahead and join the program. There is a wealth of information to be accessed. The facilitators of the Standards program are helpful, knowledgeable and are available to answer any queries. It's also a great opportunity to network.

Program outcomes

Stronger networks

By building stronger networks we will be able to pursue the proposal to work on the history of the local Chinese community. We have commenced work on this project and will meet with the local librarian to assist us.

Expanding volunteer program

We plan to run a feature article in the local newspaper and invite members of the community to become involved in volunteer work with Friends of the Temple Inc.

Image: Lit Sing Gung Temple, Innisfail. Courtesy of Innisfail Friends of the Temple.



Details

10 Owen Street, Innisfail QLD 4860

Opening hours

Temple

Monday - Friday, 9am - 3pm
Saturday - Sunday, 9am - 11.30am

Tai Chi

Monday, 4pm - 5pm

Chinese Goods Shop

Saturday - Sunday, 9am - 11.30am

Mulgrave Settlers Museum

Standards profile

2005 Gallery and Museum Achievement Awards. Winner, Organisations: Volunteer.

The volunteer operated Mulgrave Settlers Museum is set amongst the sugar cane fields of Gordonvale, next to the Mulgrave Central Mill. The museum displays objects, photographs and stories relating to the settlers of the then Mulgrave Shire. Displays depict objects, photographs and stories from the Aboriginal people of the area, the early gold miners and the timber cutters. These are set against a rainforest backdrop painted by Ivy Zappala, a well known artist. The settlers home features furniture and homemaker's aids in the pioneering women's domain, demonstrating the ingenuity and craftsmanship of the era.

Significant objects in the collection include a fully equipped blacksmith's shop; a hundred year old gunpowder log splitter; a linen tablecloth from a church function held during the Second World War bearing signatures of guests and some of the 503rd Paratroopers. The collection also includes memorabilia from both World Wars together with a display of artefacts from the time the 503rd Parachute Infantry Regiment trained in Gordonvale.

Message to new participants

It really is an enlightening journey and I thoroughly recommend it to all.

Program outcomes

Improved interpretation

We secured a grant and had a Significance Assessment done. Recognition of our blacksmith's shop and other artefacts including records from the Mulgrave Central Mill were recorded. All of our material is recorded on the computer under the MOSAIC Program and we are working on object files to complement this. Community interaction has bolstered our American 503rd Parachute Infantry Regiment records and recently we published a book recording these. Another book, titled "From Plain Camp to Gordonvale", will be available in 2013.

Improved practice

We intend to have regular planning meetings and to improve communication. We have selected five objects of significance that will be of assistance in promoting the museum.

Image: Elephant from Wirths circus on the footpath of Sheppards Street, Gordonvale. Courtesy of Mulgrave Shire Historical Society.



Details

60 Gordon Street, Gordonvale QLD 4865

07 4056 1810

settlersmuseum@bigpond.com

Opening hours

Monday - Saturday ,10am - 2pm

Closed public holidays, December - January school holidays

Alumny Creek School Museum

Standards profile

This heritage award winning School Museum is a tribute to the bygone era of one-teacher schools of the 1930s. Retaining much of its original character and charm, the classroom experience comes complete with desks and chairs, a Metters Fuel Stove, and teacher's aids, including the much feared cane! In addition, the teacher's residence houses an extensive school library and memorial heritage room dedicated to the school community's two World War honour rolls.

Groups are welcome for a tour and a unique morning tea in the museum's beautiful grounds, which are also available for hire for outdoor functions including weddings. School groups can enjoy a HSIIE-focused education program designed for schools' visits, or simply experience a change of classroom atmosphere for a day.

Reminisce or be enlightened by the school experience of yesteryear and enjoy country style hospitality in the beautifully landscaped grounds and oval surrounding Alumny Creek School Museum, a State finalist in the 2009 NSW/ACT Regional Achievement and Community Awards.

Message to new participants

No museum is too small or too large. Join in and reap the benefits that best suit your group. The results are well worth the effort.

Program outcomes

Improved collection management

Through appropriate advice and funding assistance the Trust has instigated a computerised collection management system.

Networking with local and regional museum community

Through the Standards Program we have developed a good relationship with other local and regional museums and local, regional and state museum advisors.

Image: The Metters Fuel Stove, circa 1900s.



Details

Alumny Creek Reserve, 465 Lawrence Road, Grafton NSW 2460

Opening hours

Last Saturday of every month, 8am - 12pm

Other times by appointment

Ballina Naval & Maritime Museum

Standards profile

What is the origin of the term “knot” in relation to a ship’s speed, and why do sailors have seven creases across their trousers? All this and more can be discovered at the Ballina Naval & Maritime Museum. Operated by volunteers, many of whom served in the navy RN and RAN, Ballina Naval & Maritime Museum presents the visitor with the opportunity to see and learn first-hand from those who helped create history.

The museum is dedicated to the collection, preservation and presentation of material reflecting the rich maritime history of the Port of Ballina.

Take a voyage of discovery, the exhibitions include battleships of the allies and their opponents from WWI to now, depictions of life at sea during WWII on the NSW South Coast, one of the largest collections of model ships and the expedition of the Trans Pacific journey in 1973.

The Museum with its changing displays provides a fascinating visitor experience for families, schools and leisure groups, and of course navy aficionados.

Ballina Naval & Maritime Museum: Preserving Naval History.

Program outcomes

Awareness of funding opportunities

Ballina Naval & Maritime Museum has identified some items that would improve the Museum’s activities (including collection management software, office equipment and organising visits from a conservator), and have a better idea of the types of funding available to volunteer museums.

Image: La Balsa Raft.



Details

8 Regatta Avenue (behind the Visitor Centre), Ballina NSW 2478

02 6681 1002

Fax: 02 6681 1002

ballinamaritimemuseum.org.au

Opening hours

Monday - Sunday, 9am - 4pm

Casino Folk Museum

Standards profile

Casino Folk Museum houses a diverse collection of historic objects dating back to early settlement of the town and surrounding district. The Museum reflects the people, events and stories that have made Casino so unique, with significant items including the cricket bat used by the great Don Bradman when he played in a social game while visiting Casino in 1929, historic photographs, farm implements and household items.

Message to new participants

We hope all new participants find the program as beneficial and rewarding as we did. We now have a more professional outlook on all our museum work.

Program outcomes

Increased opening time

Improved newspaper advertising brought new members who enabled extra museum opening times – thus encouraging more visitors to the museum.

Liaising with M&G NSW staff and other museums

Providing better ideas for showing exhibits, work on which has now commenced with new labelling, and was also helpful in improving general management.

Image: Musical instruments and historic photographs.



Details

Walker Street, Casino NSW 2470

02 6662 2893

mybat@dodo.com.au

www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~auscdhs/

Opening hours

Sunday and Monday, 10am - 12.30pm

Wednesday, 1.30pm - 4pm

Crawford House Museum

Standards profile

An early 20th Century historic house, Crawford House Museum was owned by the Crawford Family from 1910-1980. The recently restored home and contents are typical of a pioneer farmhouse and reflects the change in décor and technology from 1910 to 1950. The collection includes everyday items once belonging to Forman, Ambrose and Olive Crawford, ranging from dripping jars and ration posters to wedding cake decorations.

Learn more about the Crawfords and how people lived in the first half of the 20th Century. At your leisure, peruse the Society's extensive list of publications on the local district. In addition, take advantage of the archive facilities, photo collections and research support offered at Crawford House Community Resource Centre.

Crawford House Museum is operated by Alstonville Plateau Historical Society.

Message to new participants

The program encourages you to rethink your museum management and become more professional. Working with other museums is very beneficial.

Program outcomes

Developing policies

We have revised our Strategic Plan, constitution, collection and research policies and donor form. We have developed display, educational and significance policies. A Disaster Plan has been developed.

Rethinking our museum's promotion

We have widened our exposure through conducting bus tours, open gardens and attending local markets. Quality publications have been produced. An active part was played in developing a brochure of Northern Rivers museums.

Image: From an archeological 'dig' conducted as a result of the construction of the Alstonville By-Pass.



Details

10 Wardell Road, Alstonville NSW 2477

02 6628 1829

info@pahsmuseum.org.au

www.aphsmuseum.org.au

Opening hours

Friday, 10am - 4pm

Sunday, 1pm - 4pm

Other times by appointment

Evans Head Living Museum

Standards profile

The Evans Head Living Museum is staffed by dedicated volunteers who are involved in the collection, identification and interpretation of the rich human and natural resources which make up the history and development of Evans Head and area.

The collection focuses on seven major themes: World War II including the state heritage listed Evans Head Memorial Aerodrome, Aboriginal history and culture, the natural environment, agriculture, fishing, sport and mining.

The Evans Head Living Museum encourages research into the history of the Evans Head area through its extensive collection of historic photos and other documents. It also serves the local community as a Community Technology Centre.

The Museum offers networked computers with internet access and Skype. Addition facilities include a large format colour printer, scanners, laminating machine and supporting digital equipment.

Message to new participants

The Standards Program is a 'must do' for your museum. The more effort you put into the Program, the more you will get out of it.

Program outcomes

Greater understanding of Indigenous issues

Reviewers highlighted the importance of direct Aboriginal involvement. A Bandjalang Elder is to curate a photographic exhibition of the recent Native Title Tribunal Hearing held at Evans Head.

Improved strategic focus

The Museum has benefited from advice regarding strategic focus. We are reviewing currently where we are going in with the of development of a new aviation museum at Evans Head and acquisition of a propeller/engine from a Hudson Bomber which crashed in 1942

Image: Nine cylinder Cyclone engine and propeller from RAAF Hudson Bomber A16-198 which crashed into the ocean near Broken Head on 6 July 1942 with loss of 10 lives shown here being unloaded from the trawler Markane II at Ballina. Photography by Dr Richard Gates.



Details

19-25 Woodburn Street, Evans Head NSW 2473

02 6682 6410

ehlmuseum.ctc@westnet.com.au

Opening hours

Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 9am - 1pm

Glenreagh Memorial Museum

Standards profile

Glenreagh is the oldest village in the Orara Valley, and has retained much of the atmosphere from its early years as a gold mining and timber area. The Glenreagh Memorial Museum is located in the School of Arts building, dating back to 1915. Our collection embraces the many aspects of life as it was in the valley from the heady days of gold mining to the thriving early timber industry, education and social events. Many visitors enjoy their walk down memory lane, whilst visiting children have fun with the butter churns and pats.

Next to the Museum is the restored Australia Post Office (itself unique because of its size) which houses an Australia Post and communications display, including an operating party line and the original post office boxes.

With the aid of our Heritage Walk brochure, visitors are encouraged to take a leisurely stroll through the village and browse amongst the craft and bric-a-brac galleries or have refreshments at the hotel, bakery or coffee shop. Aboriginal artefacts, made by local Aboriginal Victor Neville, include a ceremonial shield, axes and boomerangs. The Museum offers ample parking, access for people with a disability, and is close to parks and gardens for picnicking.

Message to new participants

Congratulations on being part of the Standards Program. As you embark on what will be a very busy year we wish you every success and hope your experience is as positive as ours.

Program outcomes

Improved relationship with Council

We have an awareness of who to contact in Council, and they are aware of the Museum and its needs now and for the future.

Improved management and policies

We have developed a strategic plan, and are using MOSAiC to manage our collection.

Image: Party Line System.



Details

41 James Street, Glenreagh NSW 2450

02 6649 2001

Opening hours

Saturday, 1pm - 3pm

Other times by appointment

New Italy Museum

Standards profile

The New Italy Museum was developed as a tribute to the courage and strength of early Italian pioneering families, who through hard work and great spirit, realised their dream of establishing a prosperous home and community in Australia.

The Museum is custodian to the original travelling trunk of one of New Italy's first settlers. Evidence of the industry on which the New Italy settlement was developed includes an impressive silk collection and everyday farming implements such as a grass spreader. While a quilt made from men's suit material and a collection of Bocci balls provides an insight into how men and women liked to spend their leisure time.

The Italian Pavilion tells the story of 200 years of Italian immigration and its impact on the development of this great nation.

Message to new participants

Welcome, and good luck! Don't be afraid to ask for help!

Program outcomes

Addressing our storage concerns

We have been successful in applying for two grants to purchase storage equipment, and have designated one room as a storage room for objects not on display.

Accessing help and developing relationships in our local area

The assistance we received from staff at Evans Head Living Museum was invaluable to us. It will not be forgotten.

Image: New Italy Museum.



Details

8275 Pacific Highway, Woodburn NSW 2472

02 6682 2622

Fax: 02 6682 2622

www.new-italy.com

Opening hours

Monday - Sunday, 9am - 4pm

Coach tours and group bookings welcome

Yamba Museum - The Story House

Standards profile

2011 Imagine Awards. Highly Commended, Exhibitions and Public Engagement: Volunteer.

2012 Imagine Awards. Winner, Exhibitions and Public Engagement: Volunteer.

2013 Imagine Awards. Winner, Education and Audience Development: Volunteer.

The award-winning Yamba Museum – the Story House is a popular destination for local and interstate visitors each year. It is a centre of community activity, presenting visitor and school programs, special events and exhibitions, making the Museum the hub of cultural activity in Yamba.

Locals and tourists who visit Yamba Museum leave with a strong impression gained through the diverse displays of photographs and artefacts, some of which pre-date white settlement of Yamba's township and its subsequent strong maritime history.

Yamba Museum – The Story House – “Saving a Little of Yesterday for Tomorrow”

Message to new participants

It's hard work, there's no doubt about it! But the benefits far out way the toil!

Program outcomes

Marketing our museum

We have been able to focus on attracting more visitors to our museum through developing a colour brochure, website and improving our signage.

Development of policies and plans

The Standards Program has been the catalyst for the development of a strategic plan, volunteer policy, handbook and a review our constitution.

Image: Ghosts of WW I Exhibition. Winner of the 2012 IMAGinE Award in the Exhibitions - Public Engagement Category - Volunteer Run.



Details

River Street, Yamba NSW 2464

PO Box 100, Yamba NSW 2464

02 6646 1399

yambamuseumnsw@gmail.com

www.pyhsmuseum.org.au

Opening hours

Tuesday - Thursday, 10am - 4.30pm

Saturday - Sunday, 2pm - 4.30pm

Abbey Museum of Art & Archaeology

Standards profile

2005 Gallery and Museum Achievement Awards. Special Commendation, QTCU Education Initiative.

2009 Gallery and Museum Achievement Awards. Special Commendation, Organisation: Staff of under 5.

The Museum is a fine arts and archaeology museum with international collections derived from Britain's first social history museum (1934-45).

It contains significant and varied collections of medieval, renaissance and Pre-Raphaelite stained glass (including glass from Winchester Cathedral); prehistoric antiquities dating back 500,000 years; Egyptian, Mesopotamian, Persian and classical antiquities; Old Masters including works by School of Sassetta, Rubens, Van Honquist, Tintoretto and others; some fifty 19th century paintings by the Royal Watercolour Society; Japanese swords and armour; picture books by Shigemasa and Hokusai; wooden sculpture from Cheveley Manor, a post-Stuart ducal house; masonry from the Rosary Palace of Edward II (c. 1320); a large collection of British Bronze Age weapons; 12th century sandstone sculptures from Java; a series of medieval illuminated manuscripts from Europe and Asia and a rare miniature of Charles I following his execution (1649).

The Museum also hosts its famous winter event – the Abbey Medieval Festival that annually attracts over 30,000 visitors and participants.

Message to new participants

The results of the Standards Program continue to assist and guide the Abbey Museum in its strategic development. Participation is highly recommended.

Program outcomes

Collections management

The Abbey Museum was successful in a grant application for funding to undertake a Preservation Needs Assessment.

Upgrade of digitised registration forms is nearing completion. Volunteers have been sourced to input data once forms are completed.

Image: Red-figure ware plate decorated with a woman's head, c. 330-320 BC, Apulia, South Italy (detail).



Details

1-63 The Abbey Place, Caboolture QLD 4510

07 5495 1652

admin@abbeymuseum.asn.au

www.abbeymuseum.asn.au

Opening hours

Monday - Saturday, 10am - 4pm

Kingaroy Heritage Museum

Standards profile

2007 Gallery and Museum Achievement Awards. Special Commendation, Organisations: Staff of 1 to 6.

Kingaroy's landmark "Peanut Silos" tower over the Museum, creating a magnet for the visitor seeking information about these giants and the industry they symbolise.

The Museum is housed in the old Kingaroy Power House Building (1925-1952), and the main focus of the museum is the history of the peanut industry. This is depicted by the collection of agricultural machinery showing the ingenuity and inventiveness of local farmers and tradesmen.

The Museum's comprehensive collection includes machinery invented by locals out of a need for suitable implements to plant and harvest the peanut crops. Machinery includes a Bicycle Powered Thresher, built in 1909, an American made wheat thresher, converted by a local farmer to thresh peanuts, and a Stationary Peanut Thresher designed and built on a local farm by the farmer Mr Harry Young, in the late 1920s.

The collection also includes a rare and unusual boomerang, which was presented to the first Kingaroy Stationmaster in 1904, by the local Aboriginal people.

Along with photos and objects relating to the people who founded the town and those who grew up under the shadow of the silos, the Museum provides an experience of Kingaroy's significance in Australia's History.

Message to new participants

I recommend that you take part in Standards with enthusiasm. It will be hard work at times, but once you look at the bigger picture it is worth it.

Program outcomes

Collection significance and marketing

Refocusing on significant items in our collection, relating to the peanut industry, to develop and market the museum.

Relationship with Council

Through the program we have been able to portray to our shire council and community a degree of professionalism in the way the Museum is managed.

Image: Young's Peanut Thresher, c 1928, designed and manufactured by local peanut farmer, Harry Young.



Details

124 Haly Street, Kingaroy QLD 4610

PO Box 272, Kingaroy QLD 4610

07 4189 9151

kingaroymuseum@southburnett.qld.gov.au

Opening hours

Monday - Friday, 9am - 4.30pm

Saturday - Sunday, 10am - 4pm

Public holidays, 10am - 2pm

Landsborough Museum - Landsborough & District Historical Society

Standards profile

The Landsborough Museum and Stan Tutt reading room are located in the heritage listed Landsborough Shire Chambers which were designed by noted Architect Walter Carey Voller and constructed by Alf Round in 1924, using local timbers. The museum and research collections relate to all aspects of the history of the Landsborough area, and are open and accessible to everyone.

The Museum collections include treasures such as the Frank Nicklin, William Landsborough and John Tytherleigh collections, the first Caloundra typesetter, significant examples of historical costume and textiles, and a one legged spade.

In addition the exhibition space features a mural by local artist Gundars Eglantals. The Stan Tutt reading room holds a wealth of archival material including publications, images and research data that allow specialisation in local and family history.

Message to new participants

Undertaking the Standards program may seem a little daunting but provided you keep an open mind and appoint someone to steer the process the outcomes will be well worth the effort.

Program outcomes

Improved response from volunteers

This has been brought about by a change in structure, as well as involvement in the Standards Program. It has assisted in empowering volunteers to take the reins.

Planning

New ideas for financial support have arisen from the drafting of an action plan.

Image: Cash register used in the Tytherleigh Store in Landsborough.



Details

4 Maleny Street, Landsbrough QLD 4550

PO Box 184, Landsborough QLD 4550

07 5494 1755

landsboroughmuseum@aapt.net.au

www.landsboroughmuseum.org.au

Opening hours

Wednesday - Friday and Sunday, 9am - 3pm

Logan City Historical Museum

Standards profile

**2009 Gallery and Museum Achievement Awards. Winner,
Organisation: Volunteer.**

The Logan City Historical Museum Society Inc, a volunteer organisation, shares the old Kingston Butter Factory building with a Craft Centre, performance space and a refreshment kiosk. The Kingston Butter Factory was built in 1906 with production of butter commencing in 1907. Peak production was reached in 1934, with 3,367 tons of butter produced in that year. Production ceased in 1983 owing to urbanisation, ending an important era in the development of Logan City.

The most important items in the collection are without doubt the full set of Southern Queensland Dairy Cooperative records from 1906 through to close of operations.

Message to new participants

The three interventions that underpin all of civilisation are the rubbish bin, the table and the shelf. If you have those, all other things are possible.

Program outcomes

The development of a comprehensive record-keeping process.

Procurement of archival shelving and solander boxes for the historic document collection.

Developing the use of online blogging and social networking applications to create an online searchable collection website.

Image: Kingston Butter Factory complex – the home of the Museum.



Details

Kingston Butter Factory, Milky Way Lane, Kingston QLD 4114

07 3208 3943

lcchms@bigpond.com

Opening hours

Monday - Sunday, 10am - 4pm

Queensland Ambulance Museums - Wynnum

Standards profile

Queensland Ambulance Museums – Wynnum is the first of its kind to be established in Australia and is now one of several within Queensland. The museums demonstrate a tradition of close reciprocal support between the Ambulance Service and the community, through the presentation of the story of close community relations, community operations, clinical links, educational links and strong community support that feature in the history of Queensland Ambulance.

The exhibits show the progress of ambulance development, which has taken us from the simple first aid kits, and basic clinical practices of the nineteenth century to the defibrillators and complex clinical practices of the twenty-first century. The museum shows the transition from the hand held stretcher, through the hand-wheeled litter, jingles towing litters, to motorised ambulances.

The Museum has several historic ambulance vehicles in the collection, including a 1926 Arrol Johnson (Scottish) ambulance.

Message to new participants

Welcome to the Standards program. May I reassure you that this will be a highly beneficial decision for the long-term management of your collection. The Standards program gave us valuable guidance and direction in the management of the Queensland Ambulance Collection.

Program outcomes

New and improved policies and collection management standards

We now have a preservation policy to guide decisions between preservation and restoration.

Better planning documents

Our planning documents now reflect the language and principles of collection management.

Image: 1926 Arrol Johnson Ambulance.



Details

33 Tingal Road, Wynnum QLD 4178

GPO Box 1425, Wynnum QLD 4001

07 3635 3027

Fax: 07 3247 8282

mick.davis@dcs.qld.gov.au

www.ambulance.qld.gov.au

Opening hours

By appointment - group bookings preferred

Redland Museum

Standards profile

The Redland Museum was officially opened in 1970, and since then has grown through eight stages of expansion to its present size of 1 450 square metres. The Museum and research collections relate to all aspects of the history of the Redland Shire from 1842 until the present.

The Museum collection of 13 000 objects includes treasures such as a rare working example of a wooden Halladay Standard pumping windmill that has been lovingly restored; a bell from an historic local sugar cane plantation; Captain Louis Hope's harmonium; an early example of a Cleveland Bakery cart; a 1930s railcar of the type which ran the Brisbane to Cleveland Line, and a working Garrett portable steam engine from 1900. Temporary exhibitions change every six to eight weeks.

Redland Museum is a non-profit community association, with a membership base of over 280, including 60 active volunteers and 3 paid staff. Our mission is to preserve the heritage of the local community, to operate an excellent museum with outstanding displays, and to entertain and inform the public.

Message to new participants

At the start, this program seems overwhelming, but as you work through it the more you learn and realise how much the program has to offer. I consider it a "must do", and it is well worth the time and effort.

Program outcomes

Improved management structure

We developed a much more functional management structure for our organisation, relieving the management committee of most of the routine tasks which have now been delegated to functional managers.

Revised collection management procedures

We revised our procedures for collection management, and are introducing new procedures and training for object significance assessment and preservation.

Image: A very rare Halladay Standard wooden windmill. Photography by Bob Gray.



Details

60 Smith Street, Cleveland QLD 4163

07 3286 3494

admin@redlandmuseum.org.au

www.redlandmuseum.org.au

Opening hours

Monday - Friday, 10am - 3.30pm

Saturday, 1pm - 4pm

Sunday, 10am - 4pm

Age of Fishes Museum

Standards profile

2012 Imagine Awards. Highly Commended, Education and Audience Development: 1-4 Staff.

2013 Imagine Awards. Winner, Education and Audience Development: 1-2 Staff.

150 million years before dinosaurs roamed the earth, almost all backboned animals lived in water, not on land. This was the Devonian Period, or the 'Age of Fishes'. A chance find near Canowindra in NSW in 1956, and a major excavation of the same site in 1993, uncovered a remarkable fossil site. This site contained well preserved remains of thousands of bizarre, long extinct fishes encased in bony armour, other fishes with lungs and huge predators with crocodile-like jaws, many of them new to science.

The most important fossil treasures are now on display at the Age of Fishes Museum in Canowindra. They display a unique 'window in time' that allows visitors to study what happened there 360 million years ago. They are supplemented by aquarium displays, permanent exhibitions, gift shop, geological time line, sculpture garden and an outdoor picnic area. The audio tour will lead visitors through the exhibitions using an exciting and informative tour by Dr Robyn Williams and Karina Kelly. The audio tour is inclusive with admission and caters for adults and children. Large groups are given a guided tour of the exhibitions.

Message to new participants

Don't panic—I did! It was an excellent program with productive results for the Age of Fishes Museum. All members of the Age of Fishes Museum community encourage others to participate in the Standards Program.

Program outcomes

The Collection Management Policy was developed as a result of the Standards Program. This policy has since been updated and is in hardcopy and electronic format.

Due to developing long term plans the Age of Fishes Museum has been able to increase the annual visitation to the Museum. Additional exhibitions and activities have been added and include; a geological time walk, picnic ground, large games board, fossil stands and interpretation.

Image: coustiguide opening, left to right: Russell Hill, Catchment Management Authority, Forbes; Troy Grant, Member for Dubbo and Parliamentary Secretary for Natural Resources; Dr Alex Ritchie, founder of the Age of Fishes Museum; Hon. John Cobb MP, Federal Member for Calare, Shadow Minister for Agriculture and Food Security; Ms Paula Dell-McCumstie, Community Relations Officer, Newcrest mines; Ms Karina Kelly; Councillor Kevin Walker. Karina introduced the Australian people to the Canowindra fossil find through the ABC Quantum Program. Photography by R Pearce.



Details

Cnr Gaskill and Feguson Streets, Canowindra NSW 2804

02 6344 1008

Fax: 02 6344 2450

aof@colourcity.com

www.ageoffishes.org.au

Opening hours

Monday - Sunday, 10am - 4pm

Closed Christmas Day and Good Friday

Boorowa Museum

Standards profile

Boorowa Museum is housed in what is believed to be the last commercial pisé building in Australia, built by George Patterson (c 1860) as his undertaker's premises.

Prominent displays include "Windows on Wool", an historical and contemporary tribute to the Boorowa wool industry, and the Hume family display featuring the significant Hume Costume Collection. Another significant collection item is the "Star of Murrungal" and related documentation; a locally built bullock wagon (c 1900).

The Museum, operated by Boorowa and District Historical Society Inc, is an active partner in the Lachlan Museum Trail website and promotes the "Shamrock Trails" walking trail around Boorowa.

Program outcomes

Museum education sheets and hands-on displays

"Don't touch" is a byword in museums. We have set up specific displays where visitors can touch and even play (if you're musical) selected objects. These are accompanied by quiz sheets. A series of five museum education sheets have also been introduced. These cover our five display areas/themes and are suitable for visitors 12 years of age.

Preparation of a museum cleaning manual

We propose to implement a building and collection cleaning regime. Inspired by another former Standards participant, Hambledon Cottage, preliminary work has commenced on a version applicable to Boorowa Museum.

Image: Boorowa Museum exterior.



Details

35 Marsden Street, Boorowa NSW 2586

02 6385 3184

boorowamuseum@gmail.com

Opening hours

Saturday, 11am - 2pm

Other times by appointment

Closed June - August

Canowindra Museum

Standards profile

2012 Imagine Awards. Highly Commended, Collection Management: Volunteer.

Canowindra Museum is situated in the main street between Memorial Park and the Age of Fishes Museum. The entrance is via a pioneers wall and commemorative walkway. The museum depicts the development of Canowindra from its beginnings as a 1840s frontier settlement through to its growth as a centre for a rich agricultural district.

The collection comprises vehicles of the horse drawn era, vintage farm implements and machinery that reflects the importance of lucerne, wheat and wool. An authentic slab hut, school room, woolshed and tiny weatherboard shop have been relocated and house thematic displays. The main building displays household items, textiles and wedding gowns of local brides from 1886 onwards and a complete dental surgery.

Message to new participants

Welcome to the Standards Program. We hope you gain great knowledge and assistance to enable you to carry out new projects and consolidate others.

Program outcomes

We were able to implement our collection policy and have continued to develop collection management strategies while also developing new interpretive displays.

With the support of Cabonne Council and the Sustainable Collections Project we have also completed Stage One of a permanent display featuring the lucerne growing industry and its importance to Canowindra's economic development.

Image: Display of wedding dresses.



Details

Memorial Park, Gaskill Street, Canowindra NSW 2804
02 6344 1747

Opening hours

Saturday, 10am – 12pm
Other times by appointment

Cootamundra Heritage Centre

Standards profile

Cootamundra Heritage Centre (CHC) was opened 18 August 2001. It is housed in the former Cootamundra Railway Barracks/ Rest House, built in 1927. The collection, which relates specifically to Cootamundra and district (a changing display of items), is exhibited in one large gallery and 14 individual galleries.

Admire the 19th Century reredos rescued when the Cootamundra Christ Church was rebuilt in 1973; a unique set of 163 dioramas depicting facets of Cootamundra's past; a magnificent Carlton harness on wire-framed horse returned from National Museum of Australia; a cell door from the old Cootamundra gaol; an immaculate RAAF WWII uniform, the brass name plate, wheel and scale model of HMAS Cootamundra and lots more!

The Cootamundra Heritage Centre is operated by a small committee and a team of dedicated volunteers.

Message to new participants

From the Cootamundra Heritage Centre – don't be daunted by the apparent enormity of the task. The benefits will be tremendous. Good luck and enjoy the learning experience.

Program outcomes

Development of policies and plans

Previously the CHC had only a mission statement and collection policy. With the completion of its disaster plan, the CHC now has all recommended policies and statements in place, along with its strategic plan and budget.

Greater recognition of volunteers

The CHC now has a training program, including training volunteers in small groups, provision of a security pendant, installation of air-conditioning, volunteers' lockers, updated computer facilities and an emergency exit door.

Image: Some of the 163 hand-made dioramas.



Details

Hovell Street, Cootamundra

02 6940 2190

bettipunnett@bigpond.com

Opening hours

September - May
Daily, 9am - 5pm

June - August
Daily, 9.30am - 4.30pm

Forbes Museum

Standards profile

Forbes Museum is housed in Osborne Hall, a former dance hall attached to the Osborne Hotel, which was built in 1878.

The Museum features a comprehensive display of items and documents connected with the bushranger Ben Hall and his life. The Museum also includes many items reflecting the early history of Forbes including furniture, clothing, household items and a large collection of photographs of the town, including Dame Nellie Melba's visit to the town.

A special feature is farm machinery including an Ivel tractor and a timber jinker and other improvised objects relating to mining and farming.

The Forbes Museum is operated by the Forbes & District Historical Society.

Message to new participants

Go for it! The Standards Program creates momentum which lasts a long time.

Program outcomes

Improved collection management

Through appropriate advice and funding assistance the Trust has instigated a computerised collection management system.

Improved relationship with Council

Council continues to provide support of Council officers and financial assistance.

Collection significance and marketing

Our museum contributed to the Sesquicentenary Celebrations of Forbes by producing a wonderful DVD, Forbes - Our Town, using hundreds of images from our on-line photographic database, Pictorial Forbes.

Image: Curling Clips.



Details

11 Cross Street, Forbes NSW 2871

P: 02 6851 6600

fhsmuseum@westserv.net.au

Opening hours

Monday - Sunday, 2pm - 4pm

Grenfell Museum

Standards profile

Grenfell - poet's birthplace and bushranger's haunt!

Grenfell Museum, located in the heart of NSW's bushranger country, celebrates the exciting stories of this historic town. From gold-mining to the golden granary, the Grenfell Museum showcases significant displays about local son and poet, Henry Lawson, Ben Hall and bush ranging in Grenfell, and life in Grenfell's early days.

War has had a major impact on the town of Grenfell. Visitors can explore the effect of war and Grenfell's honored fallen through a detailed display featuring a Japanese flag from the fall of Singapore.

The Above the Shaft exhibition explores the birth of Grenfell and the cultural diversity of a gold mining town in the late 1800s.

Message to new participants

Embrace the program and the wonderful support given by M&G NSW. Your museum will reap the benefits for years to come.

Program outcomes

Enthusiasm

The Program allowed us to change direction and this in turn produced new enthusiasm from our volunteers.

Professionalism

As the Museum becomes more professional it is attracting younger volunteers with new skills. These skills are evident in new approaches to displays.

Image: The printing press used to produce the first newspaper in Grenfell on 15 June 1867.



Details

71 Camp Street, Grenfell NSW 2810

02 6343 1930

grenfellmuseum@yahoo.com.au

Opening hours

Saturday and Sunday, 2pm - 4pm

Other times by appointment

Lambing Flat Folk Museum

Standards profile

Lambing Flat Folk Museum, situated in the Young Community Arts Centre in Campbell St, is crammed full of artefacts highlighting Young's past.

The main focus of interest at the Museum is the 'roll up' banner, one of the oldest in Australia, which was carried during the riots of 1861, where European miners on the Lambing Flat goldfields rose up with the intention of driving Chinese miners from the diggings.

Located in the historic 1883 Young Public School, visitors have the opportunity to explore the history of gold mining, fashion, the First and Second World War, and topics from agriculture to entertainment.

Lambing Flat Museum: Where Young's history comes alive!

Message to new participants

We hope that your participation in the Standards Program will be as beneficial to you as the Lambing Flat Museum found it to be!

Program outcomes

Museum management

By participating in the Standards Program we gained a better understanding of how to run the Museum (though our policies were on par with recommendations.)

Raising our profile

The Standards Program helped us raise the profile of the Museum with the Shire Council.

Image: Some examples of the mining equipment used in mining operations on the alluvial gold fields of Lambing Flat.



Details

Campbell Street, Young NSW 2594

02 6382 2248

Fax: 02 6382 6764

young.museum@bigpond.com

Opening hours

Monday - Sunday, 10am - 4pm

Closed Good Friday, Christmas Eve and Christmas Day

Yass & District Museum

Standards profile

The Museum provides a fresh approach to the past featuring historical aspects of the Yass district.

A major exhibit, *Parallels*, uses scale models to draw comparisons between the 1895 streetscape and that of 1995, complemented by artefacts, photographic and illustrative materials.

A recent addition to the museum is the 50 years, 50 treasures exhibition which highlights treasures from the collection that are not on permanent display.

Other exhibits include Hamilton Hume - Australian Explorer and Burrinjuck - the Lost City.

Additional displays on local military involvement, religious presence, social, domestic and rural life broaden the visitor's appreciation of the district.

Image: Yass & District Museum.



Details

Comur Street, Yass NSW 2858

02 02 6226 4966

info@yasshistory.org.au

www.yasshistory.org.au

Opening hours

Museum

Saturday, Sunday and public holidays 10am - 4pm

Other times by appointment and closed during winter months

Archive

Tuesday, 2pm - 5pm

Australian Country Hospital Heritage Association

Standards profile

2010 Gallery and Museum Achievement Awards. Special Commendation, Organisations: Volunteer

2007 Gallery and Museum Achievement Awards. Winner, Organisations: Volunteer

The Australian Country Hospital Heritage Association Inc (ACHHA) was formed in 1998 with the aim of collecting and preserving a wide range of materials reflecting hospital life in country hospitals in the latter part of the 19th century and the first half of the 20th century. The collection includes artefacts, memorabilia, photographs, records and stories from nursing, medical, dental and pharmaceutical sources covering 150 years of nursing history.

On 21 November 2009, the Association opened a permanent home, the Country Hospital Museum at the Rockhampton Heritage Village. This building, formerly the Mt Morgan Hospital Nurses' Quarters, enables the Association to better display the collection in a hospital context featuring typical rooms and facilities found in country hospitals in the past.

The displays feature an equipped general ward, an operating theatre, a doctor's office, a dentist's treatment room, a pharmacy display, an infant care room, pan and treatment rooms and a typical nurse's bedroom. An operational Iron Lung donated to the Rockhampton Hospital by the Nuffield Foundation in 1938 takes pride of place on the veranda, as was often the case in hospitals when these were vital equipment items. A selection of historic photographs is displayed throughout the building, and a doll display of typical uniforms is a notable feature.

With the general museum displays well established, the Association's priorities include digitisation, documentation and recording of the Association's paper, video and audio tape records and the photograph collection. This will ensure the future availability of the archival collections which include important oral history interviews.

The Association has embarked on a program of changing displays featuring particular aspects of the collection. These will be renewed approximately quarterly to encourage return visits. Examples so far are nurses in wartime, poliomyelitis, Indigenous health at Woorabinda and Christmas in hospital wards.

Message to new participants

Don't be daunted – be enthusiastic and involve as many of your members as possible in this exercise. The results will surprise you. Best wishes and good luck.

Program outcomes

Organisational structure

The Standards Program reinforced the direction our association was taking. All management documentation eg. strategic and action plans, policies and procedures are being reviewed and updated biannually or as needed.

Management Committee support

Involvement in the program has helped management committee members to understand the importance of good governance which is a product of open and informed discussion followed by accurate documentation and follow through on decisions reached.

Image: Two bed ward display in the Country Hospital Museum.



Details

Rockhampton Heritage Village, 296 Boundary Road, Parkhurst QLD 4701

PO Box 4035, Rockhampton QLD 4700

P: 07 4928 5443

ejpayne@bigpond.net.au

www.achha.org.au

Opening hours

Monday - Sunday, 9am – 4pm

Calliope River Historical Village

Standards profile

The Calliope River Historical Village is a collection of buildings from around the local area, housing an interesting range of displays used in everyday life.

The exhibits range from horse-drawn wagons and farm equipment, hand tools, gramophones, dolls and hats to household items and furniture.

The Gladstone Railway Heritage Centre collection has been relocated from the railway yards in Gladstone to the Village with the assistance of Queensland Rail. The display is housed in purpose built quarters and has been receiving positive comments from visitors.

Regular country markets are held throughout the year to help raise money for the Village.

The Village - located by the Bruce Highway on the bank of the Calliope River, 6km north of the Calliope Crossroads and 100km south of Rockhampton.

Message to new participants

Congratulations on joining the Standards Program. You have just given yourselves a lot of extra work, but the outcome will make it all worthwhile.

Program outcomes

Improved Council relationship

We have had the opportunity to talk with Council representatives with the knowledge and expertise to be able to assist the various aspects of our organisation.

Stronger networks

Through meeting and getting to know the people involved in similar projects we've been able to develop a better working relationship with other Museums in the area - benefiting everyone.

Image: The Gladstone Railway Heritage display.



Details

Bruce Highway, Calliope QLD 4680

PO Box 1038, Gladstone QLD 4680

07 4975 7428

harveyh@bigpond.com

www.callioperiverhistoricalvillage.com

Opening hours

Monday - Sunday, 8am - 4pm

Capricorn Coast Historical Society

Standards profile

The Capricorn Coast Historical Society (CCHS) possesses a mainly print collection of material relating to all aspects of the Capricorn Coast region: photographs, publications, documents & records. The Society holds only a small number of objects. Increasingly, new material is being digitised to facilitate storage.

Items of significance include photographs taken by Rutherford Armstrong, last Manager of the Yeppoon Sugar Company; manuscripts, photos and correspondence of prolific Central Queensland poet and writer Mary Rattenbury; the Walls Family collection recording their 60 years as prominent leaseholders on North Keppel Island; archives of settler James Atherton; and papers of local firms and organisations such as the Coastguard. Over recent years, the CCHS has concentrated on building the photograph collection and, thanks to donations by local people, this is now a very significant record of the Coast's history.

In addition to building the collection and making it available to users, our activities include coach and boat tours to historic sites; workshops on preservation of collection items and recently on oral history interview techniques; a very successful publishing program of local history books and an annual calendar; and regular displays and community involvement. CCHS is part of the Central Queensland Museums Network.

We have now returned to our home at the Bunker following refurbishment of the building by Council. The Society also has undertaken considerable upgrading of storage and equipment facilities to ensure quality preservation of the collection and improving working conditions for our volunteers.

Message to new participants

The CCHS was unsure whether the Standards program would be relevant to our small organisation, but we benefited in many ways, focusing our goals and procedures. Accept the challenge!

Program outcomes

Develop policy documentation

We have worked to create a range of policy documents relating to the collection and management of the Society and the training of members. These will be reviewed on a regular basis.

Improved skills and awareness of collection conservation

With the move to the new premises, there has been an opportunity to greatly improve our storage, care and documentation of material in the collection.

Image: CCHS Magical History Tour travellers crossing the last remaining swinging bridge at Mount Morgan, 2012.



Details

The Bunker, Normanby Street (behind the Town Hall), Yeppoon QLD 4703

PO Box 1900, Yeppoon QLD 4703

07 4939 2491

cchistsoc@yahoo.com.au

www.cchs.org.au

Opening hours

Tuesday and Saturday, 9.30am - 12.30pm

Other times by appointment

Central Queensland Military Museum

Standards profile

2006 and 2009 Gallery and Museum Achievement Awards. Special Commendation, Organisations: Volunteer

The Central Queensland Military Museum is an all-volunteer, non-profit regional museum covering our abundant local military and associated history.

We have a large collection, and participate in community events, as well as being a focal point for all things military, a local venue for artefact identification and assistance with family military research.

We have a great team of energetic volunteers, doing research, model making and display preparation.

Message to new participants

We were somewhat daunted at the start, but once you look at the real nitty-gritty parts [outlined in the Self-Review Survey] you are probably doing most of them, and there is support and guidance for the other problem areas.

Program outcomes

Self-Review and audit

The Standards Program gave us a good reason to look at our standards and procedures, and provided an opportunity to bring them up to an acceptable level.

Recognition of our achievements

After the Program, we found - given the resources at our disposal - that we had quite a lot already in place, and were proceeding fairly well towards our long-term goals.

Image: The latest addition to the museum is our 'Lighthorse Display'.



Details

The Drill Hall, 40 Archer Street, Rockhampton QLD 4700

07 4921 0648

Fax: 07 4921 0648

cqmm@dodo.com.au

cqmm.tripod.com/index.html

Opening hours

Monday, Wednesday - Friday, 9am - 4pm

Tuesday, Saturday - Sunday, 9am - 12pm

Group visits by appointment

Gladstone Maritime Museum

Standards profile

The Gladstone Maritime Museum is operated by volunteers. Our role is to collect, conserve and display the region's maritime history.

The bicentenary was the catalyst for founding the Museum in 1989. Since then an impressive collection has been amassed.

A historical display features from a time prior to white settlement, continuing to near the present day. An interesting display is the end wall depicting shipwreck sites in the 1800s and 1900s.

Other displays include naval and recreational vessels.

Message to new participants

We saw the program as a means of continuous improvement. If we don't improve we go backwards as the world moves on.

Program outcomes

We continue to progress in our management of the Museum. Our most recent outcomes are:

Improved cataloguing system

We have re catalogued the Library to the Dewey-Decimal system. This was a lot of work but we are now compatible with the system used more or less universally.

Improved management procedures

We have arranged the Management Committee so that members are allocated a portfolio of tasks for which they are responsible ie. Coordinator - Repairs and Maintenance. Next we will add an 'Advisory Board' of eminent business and community people to make sure we have a wide enough vision and don't fall in to the trap of only doing what we enjoy doing.

Image: The Fremantle Class Patrol boat HMAS Gladstone will become the Museum's focus Exhibit when set up ashore.



Details

1 Frances Ward Drive, Auckland Point, Gladstone QLD 4680

PO Box 1802, Gladstone QLD 4680

07 4972 0810

nbbowley1@bigpond.com

www.gladstonemaritime.com.au

Opening hours

Wednesday, Thursday and Sunday, 10am - 4pm

Rockhampton & District Historical Society

Standards profile

The Rockhampton & District Historical Society Inc. is the second longest running Society in Queensland. We are a family history museum.

Our strengths include our paper and photographic collections, useful for research, and our materials connected with the Fitzroy River and related activities as well as our large documented textile collection.

Accessibility to the extensive collection of maps, photographs and documents has now been enhanced by upgraded indexes.

Program outcomes

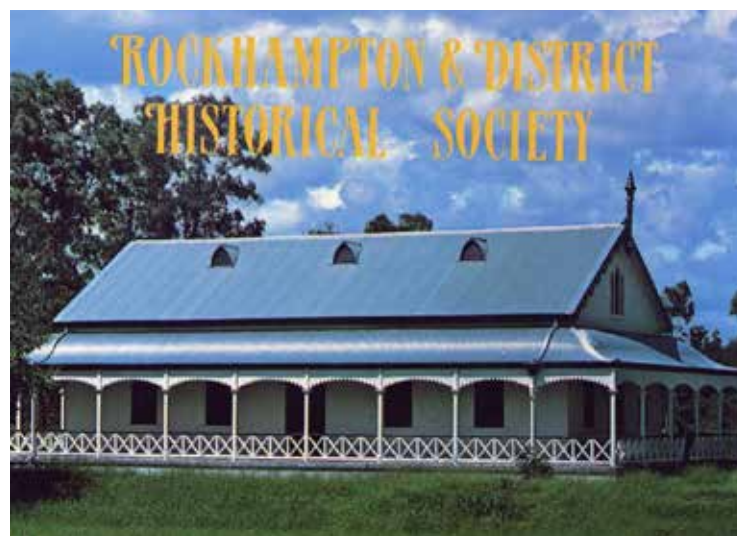
Improved policies and an action plan

We took a long look at how we are structured and how best to make use of all members' skills. The Action Plan has allowed the Society to focus more clearly on what needs to be done to improve our organisation.

Increased community and media presence

In response to a request from the local community the Society now has a regular segment on local ABC radio every fortnight, broadcasting to all of central Qld. The Society has also made presentations to local community groups including pensioner groups and U3A.

Image: Rockhampton & District Historical Society.



Details

Borough Chambers, Stapleton Park, North Rockhampton QLD 4701

PO Box 169, Rockhampton QLD 4700

07 4927 8431

jfletch92@bigpond.com

Opening hours

Tuesday and Thursday, 10am - 2pm

Rockhampton Heritage Village

Standards profile

The Rockhampton Heritage Village is a township museum where visitors can experience the local region's rich and colourful history, from the 1850s to the 1950s.

Situated on 11.5 hectares of native bushland off the Bruce Highway just north of Rockhampton, the Village is a unique township of restored and recreated buildings, including homesteads and businesses once operating in and around Rockhampton. Some of these buildings were created from original photographs or plans. Highlights of the village include a collection of clocks, dolls, vintage cars and tractors, steam and stationary engines and horse drawn vehicles, as well as regular demonstrations of heritage trades.

Program outcomes

Audience development

We will develop an exhibition program as a way of attracting repeat business from the community and touring parties. This may be achieved by hosting a touring exhibition from Queensland Museum, or creating different displays other than what is currently available within the Village.

Interpretation and community engagement

We will also develop a multi-media presentation aimed at showcasing local people and their stories. This presentation will enable the Village to retain local information and history not only about the district, but also on some buildings and displays within the Village itself.

Image: The Lakes Creek meatworks fire engine.



Details

296 Boundary Road, North Rockhampton QLD 4701

PO Box 1860, Rockhampton QLD 4700

07 4936 8688

rhv@rrc.qld.gov.au

www.rockhamptonregion.qld.gov.au

Opening hours

Monday - Sunday, 9am - 4pm

Closed public holidays

Camden Museum

Standards profile

Camden Museum was established in a former School of Arts and Municipal Council building in 1970, and is operated by the Camden Historical Society.

Situated in the centre of Camden's historic precinct the Museum features displays highlighting the local Aboriginal community, the Macarthur family, agricultural industries, the Nepean River and its place in the community and women's history. The collection is particularly strong in photography, archives and has over 2,500 objects.

Camden Museum has an active education program covering several key learning areas of the school syllabus. A Federation grant has facilitated new and improved exhibitions and site interpretation.

A lift has been installed allowing easier access to the first floor.

Program outcomes

Upgrade of building

Our location in a civic area has resulted in a building upgrade funded by Local Councils.

Continued local Council involvement with building

The Library has now been incorporated into the Museum and has meeting rooms with all amenities, as well as wheelchair access to all levels of the Museum.

Image: Display at Camden Museum.



Details

40 John Street, Camden NSW 2570

02 4655 3400

info@camdenhistory.org.au

www.camdenhistory.org.au

Opening hours

Thursday - Sunday, 11am - 4pm

Fairfield City Museum & Gallery

Standards profile

Bring your family and friends to spend the day at Fairfield City Museum & Gallery where you can immerse yourself in the fun and breathtaking exhibitions programs and events. Fairfield City Museum & Gallery is known for its strong history of community involvement and is the largest exhibition space in Fairfield City. With a national reputation as a gallery that stages quality textile exhibitions - Fairfield City Museum & Gallery is unlike any other.

Fairfield City Museum & Gallery incorporates the Stein Gallery showcasing local artists and national textile artists, the 1913 council building with the permanent exhibition *Fairfield Many Faces, Many Stories* and a community space set within an adjoining vintage village.

The village includes a schoolhouse, working blacksmith, printery, general store, a garage, a slab hut and an 1880 cottage. All buildings are furnished with items from 1880 to the mid 1900s.

The vision of the Museum & Gallery is to involve and strengthen the changing local community through arts, culture and heritage. Through an extensive program of changing exhibitions both the Stein Gallery and the community space and associated public programs the Museum & Gallery endeavours to provide access to all of the Fairfield Community and also showcase its unique cultures and heritage to the wider Australian community.

Fairfield City Museum & Gallery is in partnership with Arts NSW and Fairfield City Council.

Program outcomes

Review by experts

Participation in the Program gave us the opportunity to have two professionals review our collections and our practices, and give very worthwhile feedback.

Image: General view of the Museum & Gallery. Photography by Danny Huynh.



Details

Cnr The Horsley Drive and Oxford Street, Smithfield NSW 2164

02 9609 3993

Fax: 02 9757 4357

museumgallery@fairfieldcity.nsw.gov.au

www.livingmuseum.com.au

Opening hours

Tuesday - Saturday, 10am - 4pm

Glenalvon House and Museum

Standards profile

Glenalvon Museum is housed in a classic two storey Georgian townhouse complex (circa 1831-40) which stands in half an acre of heritage gardens, a glimpse of a way of life long vanished. The fine sandstone buildings include the townhouse, original cottage, coach house, stables, smokehouse and a slab agricultural exhibition building. Knowledgeable volunteers guide visitors through the house and displays.

The Museum features changing exhibitions from the Campbelltown and Airds Historical Society Inc's collection of significant local items, and themed slideshows from our extensive photographic collection.

Our society has a large local history research library, which complements the collection. Our excellent publications on facets of local history are also available for sale in our small bookshop.

Message to new participants

Improvements to exhibitions encourage visitors from the local community and broader Sydney area.

Program outcomes

Collection management and marketing

By focusing on our collection we have been able to mount changing exhibitions illustrating facets of Campbelltown's social history and attract more visitors.

Networking

We recognise the importance of networking with volunteers and professional museum staff, and other community organisations to present a more effective visitor program.

Image: Agricultural equipment display. Photography by Jackie Green.



Details

8 Lithgow Street, Campbelltown NSW 2560

02 4625 1822

Fax: 02 9605 8695

secretary@cahs.com.au

www.cahs.com.au

Opening hours

February - mid December

First Monday, second Saturday and third Monday of the month,
10am - 1pm

Other times by appointment

Hambledon Cottage

Standards profile

Hambledon Cottage was built by John Macarthur in 1824 on the grounds of his Elizabeth Farm Estate. This elegant cottage is built of sandstock brick in the Colonial Georgian style, and boasts a verandah enclosed by French doors and a beautiful, vaulted ceiling.

Hambledon Cottage is presented as a house museum in the domestic style of the 1820-80s, and contains many pieces of the era. The building was leased to the Parramatta and District Historical Society (est. 1913) in the 1960s after restoration work was carried out by Parramatta City Council.

Highlights of the collection include an 1836 Broadwood square piano, the Rev. Samuel Marsden's desk and an elegant circa 1840s four-poster bed.

Program outcomes

Self-review and planning

The main outcome for Hambledon Cottage, from participating in the Standards Program was to give us a snapshot of how our procedures related to best practice. As a result, we created an action list of matters to be addressed to improve our museum/society and try to ensure its sustainability. Most items on this list have been completed.

Image: Hambledon Cottage.



Details

Cnr Hassall Street and Gregory Place, Parramatta NSW 2124

02 9635 6924

Fax: 02 9635 6924

parramattahist@tpg.com.au

www.parramattahistorical.org.au

Opening hours

Thursday - Sunday, 11am - 4pm

Other times by appointment

Parramatta Heritage Centre

Standards profile

2009 Imagine Awards. Winner, Exhibition: More Than 6 Staff.

2009 Imagine Awards. Co-Winner, Award for Excellence, More Than 6 Staff

The Parramatta Heritage Centre has collections of art, archaeology, social history, local studies and Parramatta City Council archives. These collections cover from early colonial settlement to the present day. With a Visitor Information Centre, Local Studies & Family History Library and exhibitions, the Centre is the ideal starting point for a journey through Parramatta's heritage.

The exhibition Parramatta, People & Place; explores the story of our city and a changing program of community, partnership, in-house and touring exhibitions offers visual arts and social history of local and national significance.

Public and education programs are designed for all ages from preschoolers to seniors. The Centre is operated by Parramatta City Council.

Message to new participants

Welcome! The program provides more opportunities to connect with others and to reflect and improve. It is challenging and rewarding.

Program outcomes

Working with our network of volunteer museums

The Standards Program gave us the opportunity to work with Western Sydney's volunteer organisations & community museums, as well as reflect on current practice and make improvements to service and results for our visitors.

Image: Bell from the third HMAS Parramatta, c 1960.



Details

346A Church Street, Parramatta NSW 2150

02 8839 3311

Fax: 02 9683 5608

discoverparramatta@parracity.nsw.gov.au

www.parracity.nsw.gov.au

Opening hours

Daily, 8am - 3pm

Valley Heights Locomotive Depot Heritage Museum

Standards profile

Our museum and historical society is located within an historic locomotive roundhouse on the lower Blue Mountains. We are dedicated to the restoration and operation of a Sydney steam tram and railways.

On display are rolling stock, small exhibits and Blue Mountains railways exhibitions.

Facilities include a retail outlet, model railway layout, barbeque/picnic areas and handicapped toilets.

Visitors can also see restoration at work, enjoy rides and interactive exhibits.

Message to new participants

Participation in the Standards Program is most necessary if you desire to improve and develop all facets of museum presentation and operations.

Program outcomes

Planning and policy development

Standards was a most valuable exercise, and addressed presenting exhibits, planning policies, volunteer succession planning and conservation strategies.

Interpretation and programs

Standards gave us the advice and encouragement needed to confidently operate a working museum!

Image: The steam train at Valley Heights with the crew ready for another trip into history.



Details

Tusculum Road, Valley Heights NSW 2777

02 4751 4638

www.infoblueMountains.net.au/locodepot

Opening hours

Second and fourth Sunday of each month 10am - 4pm

Steam train/tram rides operate on open days

Dobell House

Standards profile

Situated in Wangi Wangi on the shores of Lake Macquarie, is national heritage listed Dobell House, home and studio of the late artist, Sir William Dobell.

Owned and operated by the Sir William Dobell Memorial Committee, Dobell House contains prints, important originals, furniture, memorabilia, an exhibition of interpretive panels illustrating over 250 recorded images of his art from 1920 – 1970 and a rich archive including films, videos and recorded interviews.

Message to new participants

Congratulations for having the courage to become involved in the “Standards Program” – an independent review benefits everyone. We are happy to help in any way.

Program outcomes

Strategic plan

A 5 Year Strategic Plan was developed providing a clear focus for the Committee. Numerous goals highlighted by the Strategic Plan have already been achieved, many with the aid of grants/and or community support.

Improving museum management

An Executive Management Group now meets separately. The Executive reports to the monthly members which has time available for in-service programs like first aid, fire safety and Workplace Health & Safety (formerly Occupational Health & Safety).

Image: Dobell House.



Details

47 Dobell Drive, Wangi Wangi NSW 2267

PO Box 75, Wangi Wangi NSW 2267

02 4975 4115

admin@dobellhouse.org.au

www.dobellhouse.org.au

Opening hours

Saturdays, Sundays and Public Holidays, 1pm - 4pm

Other times by appointment

Dungog Museum

Standards profile

The Dungog Museum is located in the heritage listed 1898 former School of Arts building. The collection includes professional, sporting, trade and farming equipment, and items and photographs from Dungog and district. Our core display is Dungog: Making the Community, which tells the story of Dungog through different themes. There is an introductory exhibition about the local Aboriginals and the coming of the Europeans to the area. One room is kept for changing exhibitions. The Museum is run by volunteers from the Dungog Historical Society.

Message to new participants

Welcome to Standards! It was a lot of hard work but participants learnt a lot and it helped locate strengths and weaknesses and where grants or other assistance should be sought to improve standards.

Program outcomes

Relationship with Council

Through Standards we have been able to demonstrate to Council that we are raising the quality of our exhibitions, and that Dungog Museum plays an important role in the community.

Strategic planning

Participation in the program helped us to identify that we needed a new strategic plan with an emphasis on marketing. With a VIM grant our new plan was completed and is being implemented.

Image: 'Pills and Potions', Panels telling the stories of Dungog through local health systems.



Details

103 Dowling Street, Dungog NSW 2420

02 4992 2094

mkingston5@bigpond.com

Opening hours

Tuesday, 10am - 2pm

Saturday, 10am - 4.30pm

Opening times by arrangement

Morpeth Museum

Standards profile

Morpeth Museum explores the rich heritage of the region through displays in the former Courthouse.

Exhibition displays feature early explorers, the cedar cutting industry, the growth of a private town on land granted to the Lt. E.C. Close and the establishment of a major river port and its industries. Morpeth Museum is managed by a small group of dedicated volunteers.

Message to new participants

Participation in the Standards Program provides guidelines for future planning and brings rewards to all who participate.

Program outcomes

Museum marketing

A digital camera has enabled us to start photographing the collection and a new overhead projector means we can now show it to the community via external presentations.

Museum restoration

Maitland City Council is undertaking a program of restoration to stop rainwater affecting the building. This will mean roof and drain repairs.

Image: The Morpeth Riverboat Story.



Details

123 Swan Street, Morpeth NSW 2321

PO Box 43, Morpeth NSW 2321

02 4934 4301

FAX: 02 4934 3393

morpethmuseum@idl.com.au

maitland.nsw.gov.au/GalleryLibraryMuseum/MorpethMuseum1

Opening hours

Thursday - Sunday, 11am - 2pm

Newcastle Art Gallery

Standards profile

Newcastle Art Gallery began in 1957 in the War Memorial Cultural Centre in Newcastle's CBD, following a donation of over 100 works of art by benefactor Roland Pope. The Gallery moved next door to its current location in 1977 and was officially opened by Queen Elizabeth II. Today, the Gallery presents a diverse program of over 300 public events and education programs annually, and over 30 events for members of the Newcastle Art Gallery Society. Events include art workshops, guided tours, film screenings, music performances, toddler family days, lectures, seminars, teacher previews and study days.

Exhibition program

The Gallery presents a diverse, changing program of up to 20 local, national and international exhibitions a year, 90 percent of which are curated in-house. The exhibition program primarily draws on the permanent collection, as well as public and private collections, and includes the presentation of major touring exhibitions.

Collection

Newcastle Art Gallery's collection presents a comprehensive overview of Australian art from colonial times to the present. It includes important Indigenous barks and poles along with a growing collection of Indigenous contemporary paintings. The collection also includes works on paper, photography and sculpture. The Gallery has the only Australian regional collection which includes a group of Rodin sculptures. It also holds the largest collection of modern Japanese ceramics in the southern hemisphere.

Society and support

Newcastle Art Gallery Society is an integral part of the cultural life of Newcastle and aims to promote and support the Gallery and the development of its collection. There are over 1,300 members who attend exhibition previews and special events including lectures and films. Members receive the society magazine *Artemis*. In addition, the Newcastle Art Gallery Foundation, comprised of over 140 members, raises money and manages invested funds to support the development of the collection. Since its inception the Foundation has donated works of art in excess of \$5.5 million.

Image: Newcastle Art Gallery exterior.



Details

1 Laman Street, Newcastle NSW 2300

02 4974 5100

artgallery@ncc.nsw.gov.au

www.nag.org.au

Opening hours

Tuesday - Sunday, 10am - 5pm

Newcastle Museum

Standards profile

Newcastle Museum opened on its new site in August 2011 and is made up of three main elements. A Newcastle Story invites visitors to explore the natural environment, early Aboriginal life and Newcastle's history and beliefs. In Fire and Earth, the hot and heavy industrial heart of the Hunter is explored in a spectacular showcase of the region's two major industries, coal mining and BHP steel. This is not only a story of industry; it is a story of immigration, religion, resilience and family. Supernova is our interactive science centre. Science, maths and engineering are the nuts and bolts of life, so we challenge visitor's brains with fascinating interactive exhibits.

The City of Newcastle provides a comprehensive museum experience through the Newcastle Museum; preserving our collection, educating and entertaining our community and of benefit to all visitors, both real and virtual.

The Museum is maintained and run by the Newcastle City Council.

Message to participants

The Museum chose to be involved in the trial accreditation because the trial gave us an opportunity for self-assessment across a range of topics.

Program outcomes

Improved awareness of access faults

Often when you are faced with problems on a daily basis, you can get to the point where you just don't see them anymore. It was good for us to have outsiders with a critical eye tour the entire museum to give us a wake up call in certain areas.

Image: Supernova Science Centre, Newcastle Museum.



Details

Workshop Way, Newcastle NSW 2300

02 4974 1400

Fax: 02 4974 1405

www.newcastlemuseum.com.au

Opening hours

Tuesday - Sunday, 10am - 5pm

Closed Good Friday, Christmas Day and Boxing Day

Sketchley Pioneer Cottage & Museum

Standards profile

Sketchley Cottage is the only known example of an 1840s colonial building in the Port Stephens Shire.

There is a blacksmith shop used for demonstrations and displays of hand made tools, an early timber jinker, a 1930 Massey Ferguson tractor, and other agricultural equipment.

The cottage houses a collection of handmade underwear, clothing and bed linen and is run by the Raymond Terrace and District Historical Society.

Message to new participants

DO IT!!! You won't regret it.

Program outcomes

Appointment of Museums Advisor

A Museum Advisor has been appointed by the Council, and is working with Port Stephens museums and history groups. This has resulted in more networking and closer relations with Port Stephens Council.

Successful in attracting funding

A grant has been awarded from M&G NSW to work with a consultant to prepare a Management Plan for the next 5 years. We have a greater awareness of future needs, particularly with volunteers and providing more marketing tools to attract visitors.

Image: Sketchley Cottage.



Details

Cnr Pacific Highway and Sketchley Street, Raymond Terrace NSW 2324

02 4987 7661

Opening hours

Sunday, 10am - 4pm

Wingham Museum

Standards profile

Wingham Museum and Archives is operated by the Manning Valley Historical Society, and is located in a National Trust listed building dating from the 1870s.

The building has operated as a store for much of its life and this identity is still preserved in many of the exhibits. The store sold a diverse array of goods ranging from clothing to ironmongery, crockery, patent medicines, wire netting, rope and saddlery. The collection today is just as diverse featuring photographs, furniture and household items from the lives of the early settlers in Manning Valley.

The Museum also displays material relating to the life of Jimmy Governor (immortalized in "The Chant of Jimmy Blacksmith") including the cell in which he was held before his transfer to Sydney.

Message to new participants

This program provides a valuable opportunity for museum workers to really assess all aspects of museum management, including collections and public interaction. It is highly recommended. We agree with the Cairns Historical Society's comment of creating a better understanding for our volunteers.

Program outcomes

Greater understanding and the necessity for volunteers to learn more conservation techniques.

Has given a greater understanding of the museum world and the needs for this society to maintain our high standards.

Image: Cedar model of Pit Sawing.



Details

12-14 Farquhar Street, Wingham NSW 2429

02 6553 5823

mvhs@internode.on.net

www.manninghistorical.org

Opening hours

Monday - Sunday, 10am - 4pm

Closed Christmas Day, Boxing Day and Good Friday