



regional galleries

ASSOCIATION OF QUEENSLAND

2015 ANNUAL REPORT

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The Board of RGAQ in 2015

Tracy Cooper-Lavery (President)

Director
Rockhampton Art Gallery

Anna Thurgood (Vice-President)

Director
Artspace Mackay

Brian Tucker (Secretary/Treasurer)

Chartered Public Accountant / Individual Member

John Walsh (until November 2015)

Gallery Manager
Gold Coast Art Gallery

Karina Devine

Director
Warwick Art Gallery

Nina Shadforth

Director
Noosa Regional Gallery

Claire Sourgnes

Network Coordinator – Art Galleries, Moreton Bay Regional Council
Caboolture Regional Art Gallery
Redcliffe City Art Gallery
Pine Rivers Art Gallery

RGAQ Staff in 2015

Membership Officer

Natasha Lewis Honeyman (until June 2015)
Karike Ashworth (from July 2015)

President's Report

The Regional Galleries Association of Queensland Board continued to meet regularly throughout 2015 to discuss programs and membership, develop ways to grow our services for our members and raise the organisation's profile, and the profile of our member galleries, within the sector.

Our main objective in 2015 was the upgrade and development of a new RGAQ Website and Facebook page. I am pleased to report that our new website is live (www.rgaq.org.au), and our Facebook page continues to grow in popularity and relevance. Both initiatives have resulted in increased membership engagement and opportunities.

Once again, in 2015 RGAQ's professional development programs funded through membership income provided numerous opportunities for organisations and individuals, and continue to be our most valuable benefit. I am pleased to say that RGAQ provided \$4,370 (+GST) to individual and organisational members for professional and exhibition/program development activities, and note that Diana Warnes' valuable opportunity as volunteer attendant at the new Australian Pavilion at the 56th Venice Biennale, is profiled in this year's report.

Throughout the year RGAQ met with Museums Australia Queensland and Museums and Galleries Queensland through joint meetings to discuss partnered activities and joint membership promotions. 2015 was the year that planning commenced for the Museums Galleries Australia National Conference being held in Brisbane in May 2017, where a spirit of partnership and collaboration is vital for successful delivery of this conference. RGAQ's main objective is to ensure adequate and relevant coverage of gallery content at the conference (#mgaconf2017). www.mga2017.org.au.

In its second year of operation, I would like to thank the 2014-elected RGAQ Board for their continued support and contribution throughout 2015, and acknowledge retiring Director John Walsh for his dedicated service to RGAQ over the years including his tireless role as President of RGAQ for 16 years between 1998 and 2013. I also acknowledge the services of Natasha Lewis Honeyman (Membership Officer 2013-2015), and wish her well in her future role. In 2015 we welcomed back Karika Ashworth into the Membership Officer role in an extended capacity of one day per week.



Museums & Galleries Queensland continued to deliver high-quality programs and initiatives to the sector throughout 2015, and I would like to thank all the M&G QLD staff for the ongoing services they provide for RGAQ throughout the year. Most notable was delivery of the M&G QLD Conference at The Workshops Rail Museum, Ipswich. Through 2013-2015 RGAQ was proud to partner with M&G QLD on the presentation of the Energy Efficiency Information Resources for the Public Museum and Gallery Sector. The final stage of this program was concluded in 2015.

Your support and input as members is crucial to the ongoing vitality of RGAQ as an organisation that represents the interests and concerns of the public gallery sector in Queensland. Through regular review and consultation, RGAQ strives to ensure that its membership services meet the changing needs of our members.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'TCL', located below the President's report text.

Tracy Cooper-Lavery
President

RGAQ Professional Development Bursary Program

In 2015, RGAQ allocated \$5,000 (plus GST) for Professional Development Bursaries as part of the RGAQ Board 2015 budgeting process. RGAQ offered two programs to address the training and professional development needs of galleries/museums, their staff and their volunteers:

Individual bursaries to attend seminars, conferences or courses for volunteer staff, and paid staff.

Organisational Grants to assist public galleries/museums to undertake various organisational initiatives.

In 2015, the following bursaries were awarded to:

Angela Cheung	Umbrella Studios	Attend the 8th Australian Print Symposium 2015	\$800
Alison Shaw	Tambo Arts Council Inc. (Grassland Art Gallery)	Towards exhibition fees for the Francis Reiss's <i>On the Sheep's Back</i> touring exhibition.	\$800
Deborah Bailey	Cobb & Co Museum, Queensland Museum	2015 Getty Leadership Institute Museum Executive Program	\$1,000
Diana Warnes	Rockhampton Art Gallery	Volunteer Gallery Attendant at the Australian Pavilion of the 2015 Venice Biennale	\$500
Angelique Coetzee	Moreton Bay Regional Council	Attend the M&G QLD Conference, Ipswich	\$270
Shanna Muston	Banana Shire Council (Biloela Library Artspace)	Attend the M&G QLD Conference, Ipswich	\$500
Justin Bishop	KickArts Contemporary Arts	Attend the M&G QLD Conference, Ipswich	\$500

TOTAL

\$4,370



Photo: Diana Warnes

Bursary Profile

In 2015, Diana Warnes (Curator of the Rockhampton Art Gallery) had the opportunity to work as a Volunteer Gallery Attendant at the brand new Australian Pavilion at the 56th Venice Biennale. Diana received funding from Rockhampton Regional Council plus a \$500 RGAQ bursary to assist with her international flights and travel insurance costs. She also received support for her accommodation and per diem costs from the Australia Council.

Undertaking the role of Volunteer Gallery Attendant was a unique opportunity to participate in promoting contemporary Australian art to an international audience. I learnt a variety of skills, including: exhibition display; curatorial decision-making; participatory audience engagement; networking; and how to communicate with diverse audiences.

At the request of the Rockhampton Art Gallery Director, I wrote a weekly written report of my time at Venice, which was posted on the Gallery's website, and promoted via the Gallery's Facebook page. I also presented a talk to Friends of the Gallery at 'Good Brew Chats', a monthly conversation about visual arts topics to the general public.



Photo: Diana Warnes



Photo: Diana Warnes

I am confident my experience as a Volunteer Gallery Assistant has broadened my knowledge, and understanding of exhibiting contemporary art. This will benefit my role as Curator at Rockhampton Art Gallery, where I am able to provide unique visual art experiences to regional Queenslanders.

RGAQ Sponsorship

Through 2015, RGAQ continued as a partner of the Energy Efficiency Information Resources for Public Museum and Gallery Sector Project being delivered by Museums & Galleries Queensland and Museums & Galleries of New South Wales and the Public Galleries Association of New South Wales.

The project was delivered between 2013 and 2015, comprising:

- an industry seminar
- a suite of fact sheets
- an e-publication
- two revisions of the *Technical Industry Report: Museum and Gallery Lighting and Air Conditioning*
- four regional workshops/information sessions
- a Pilot Gallery Lighting Design Project which will form a valuable case.

Museum & Gallery Services Queensland Ltd.

MAGSQ, trading as Museums & Galleries Queensland [M&G QLD], the joint company of the Regional Galleries Association of Queensland [RGAQ] and Museums Australia Queensland [MAQ], completed its eleventh full year of operations in 2015.

Board of Directors

In 2015, the M&G QLD Board comprised:

- Jill Brennan, Independent Director
- Tracy Cooper-Lavery, Sector Director
- Edith Cuffe, Sector Director
- Karina Devine, Sector Director
- Andrew Moritz, Sector Director
- Katrina North, Independent Director/Deputy Chairperson/Company Secretary
- John Waldron, Sector Director/Chairperson/Public Officer

Staff

During 2015, the Staff of M&G QLD comprised:

- Rebekah Butler, Executive Director
- Debra Beattie, General Manager
- Leisha Lawrence, Training and Professional Development Program Officer
- Deannah Vieth, Training and Professional Development Manager
- Donna Davis, Exhibition Program Officer
- Andrea Higgins, Exhibition Program Officer (from 13 July)
- Bonnie Melrose, Exhibition Program Officer
- Morgan Bundy-Wright, Information Officer
- Sara Dawson, Casual Administrative Assistant

Museums & Galleries Queensland - Highlights of 2015

M&G QLD's number of e-bulletin subscribers grew to **1,327** – an increase of **13.42%** on 2014.

M&G QLD's website registered **149,126** entry page views in 2015. There were **1,533** visits to M&G QLD's Blog; **5,066** 'likes' on M&G QLD's Facebook page, an increase of **487.7%** on 2014; and **374** followers on Twitter, an increase of **28%**.

M&G QLD's publications *source* and "Standards Community Directory" attracted **1,551** downloads from M&G QLD's website during the year.

M&G QLD's 2015 touring exhibition program presented **7** exhibitions to **33** venues in Queensland, nationally and internationally, attracting a total of **95,576** visitors. These exhibitions profiled the work of **91** artists and **6** curators.

M&G QLD toured its major Indigenous exhibition *Saltwater Country* to AAMU, Museum of Contemporary Aboriginal Art, The Netherlands, in 2015, where more than **6,730** visitors engaged with the exhibition. **1,457** of these were education and public programs participants. *Saltwater Country* was developed in partnership with Gold Coast City Gallery and is touring nationally 2015–2017.

272 participants took part in **17** M&G QLD training and professional development activities in 2015.

A further **758** participants took part in **21** Sector Development activities delivered by M&G QLD in 2015.

5 organisations took part in M&G QLD's 2015 Standards Review Program held in the Mackay region and Noosa. **7** Standards Reviewers contributed **471** pro bono hours of their expertise to the program. The Standards Review Program is a joint program with Museums & Galleries of New South Wales.

M&G QLD recognised the achievements of **5** Winners and **7** Finalists at the 2015 Gallery and Museum Achievement Awards. This year's Winners were presented with an exquisite trophy specially created for the event by Queensland artist Madeleine Brown.

M&G QLD completed the final stage of the *Energy Efficiency Information Resources for Public Museum and Gallery Sector Project*, launching the second edition of *A Practical Guide for Sustainable Lighting and Climate Control for Museums and Galleries; A Case Study on Lighting for Museums and Galleries*; and *Clever Custodians* online and hardcopy resources.

Full details of the programs and activities of Museum & Galleries Queensland can be found in the company's Annual Report, www.magsq.com.au.

Acknowledgements

RGAQ's 2015 operations have been made possible through the generosity and support of many individuals and organisations, including:

MUSEUMS & GALLERIES QUEENSLAND

2015 Board Members: John Waldron; Katrina North; Jill Brennan; Edith Cuffe; Karina Devine; Andrew Moritz; and Tracy Cooper-Lavery.

2015 Staff: Rebekah Butler, Debra Beattie, Leisha Lawrence, Deannah Vieth, Donna Davis, Bonnie Melrose, Morgan Bundy-Wright, Andrea Higgins; and Sara Dawson.

MUSEUMS AUSTRALIA QUEENSLAND

2015 Executive Committee: John Waldron (President); Brian Tucker (Treasurer); Suesann Vos (Secretary); Joolie Gibbs; Karen Barrett; and Edith Cuffe.

AUDITING SERVICES

Peter Ryan CA

FINANCIAL ADVICE

Brian Tucker CPA

381 BRUNSWICK STREET

Arts Queensland

Corporate Administration Agency

381 Brunswick Street, Fortitude Valley is an initiative of Arts Queensland, providing arts accommodation for the following organisations:

Artisan (Craft Queensland)

Museum & Gallery Services Queensland (including Regional Galleries Association of Queensland and Museums Australia Queensland)

Queensland Music Festival

Ausdance

Musica Viva

RGAQ thanks everyone who supported and contributed to our 2015 delivery. Our sincere apologies if anyone has been inadvertently omitted.

RGAQ 2015 Membership

artisan - idea:skill:product
Artspace Mackay
Australian Catholic University Gallery
Banana Shire Regional Art Gallery
Bauhinia Bicentennial Art Gallery
Boonah Regional Art Gallery
Bundaberg Regional Art Gallery
Caboolture Regional Art Gallery
Cairns Regional Gallery
Caloundra Regional Gallery
Childers Art Space
Chinchilla White Gums Gallery
Coalface Gallery
Cook Shire Council
Crows Nest Regional Art Gallery
Cunnamulla Fella Centre
Dogwood Crossing, Miles
Emerald Art Gallery
Gatakers Artspace
Gin Gin Regional Courthouse Gallery
Gladstone Regional Art Gallery & Museum
Gold Coast City Gallery
Grasslands Art Gallery
Grafton Regional Gallery
Griffith Artworks, Qld College of Art
Gympie Regional Gallery
Hervey Bay Regional Gallery
Institute of Modern Art
Ipswich Art Gallery
KickArts Contemporary Arts
Kingaroy Regional Art Gallery
Lockyer Valley Art Gallery
Logan Art Gallery
Maranoa Regional Council
Mitchell on Maranoa Gallery
Museum of Brisbane
National Trust of Australia (Queensland) Limited
Noosa Regional Gallery
Outback Regional Gallery
Paroo Shire Council
Perc Tucker Regional Gallery
Pine Rivers Art Gallery
Pinnacles Gallery
Queensland Art Gallery | Gallery of Modern Art
Queensland Museum
Quilpie Museum, Gallery & Visitor Centre
Redcliffe City Art Gallery
Redland Art Gallery
Rockhampton Art Gallery
Roma on Bungil Gallery
Stanthorpe Regional Art Gallery
State Library of Queensland
Surat on Balonne Gallery
Tableland Regional Gallery
Tanks Arts Centre
Texas Regional Art Gallery
The Centre Beaudesert
Toowoomba Regional Art Gallery
Tweed River Art Gallery
TYTO Regional Art Gallery
Umbrella Studio Contemporary Arts
UMI Arts
University of Queensland Art Museum
Warwick Art Gallery
Wondai Regional Art Gallery
World Theatre Gallery

RGAQ thanks all Individual Members who are not listed for privacy reasons.



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Vision statement

To foster excellence in the Queensland public gallery sector.

MISSION

RGAQ's Mission is:

to encourage the community's awareness and enjoyment of Queensland's public galleries by advocating and promoting the sector;
to support Queensland galleries in providing quality services through advice, assistance and research in innovative audience and industry development;
to encourage excellence in Gallery practice through professional development opportunities for gallery staff, volunteers and management bodies;
to promote regional access to the visual arts through a comprehensive touring exhibitions program and professional support services;
to ensure professional administrative services are delivered to members and clients through best practice in human resource management, financial administration and accountability.