

Heritage Awards

2015

'Commemorating the 100-year anniversary of the ANZAC landing at Gallipoli and the 100-year anniversary of Greenmount Homestead'



BOOK OF
Nominations



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Mayor

It is fitting that the 2015 Heritage Awards are presented in the grounds of the iconic Greenmount Homestead which is celebrating a very special milestone, in the same year we commemorate the centenary of the ANZAC landing at Gallipoli.

This historic building was built by Albert Cook in 1915, with this year's Greenmount Fair marking the property's centenary. The homestead was later passed on to one of Albert's three children, Thomas and wife Dorothy, who managed the property until it was gifted to Pioneer Shire Council, now Mackay Regional Council, in 1984.

Complete with furniture, household items, diaries, letters and photographs, it was always the intention of the Cook family to preserve their home as a museum for future generations. This very special gift has been appreciated by the community over the years and is a great example of preserving the heritage of our region, ensuring important history is not lost.

I am extremely proud of the work of all those involved in preserving and celebrating our heritage and on behalf of Mackay Regional Council, I congratulate all nominees.

Cr Deirdre Comerford

Mayor of Mackay Regional Council



Chairman

The Heritage Awards, first celebrated in 2004, are a biennial event which pay tribute to those individuals, schools and organisations that make an outstanding effort to keep our region's heritage alive.

The quality of nominations received never cease to amaze myself or other members of the Character and Heritage Advisory Committee.

It is with great pleasure that we get to acknowledge and reward those people, schools and organisations who go to marvellous efforts to conserve our region's heritage.

The Heritage Awards are usually held every two years, but since we are celebrating Greenmount Homestead's centenary and the 100-year anniversary of the ANZAC landing at Gallipoli, it was decided the awards would be held again this year. The award categories were also extended to recognise heritage contributions over the past 10 years.

It is fitting that this year's awards recognise a number of projects that have been ongoing for many years and which have seen all people involved working tirelessly for the common goal of raising awareness of and promoting our heritage.





It is with great pride that Mackay Regional Council and the Character and Heritage Advisory Committee present to the community this book of nominations for the 2015 Heritage Awards.

Cr. David Perkins

Chairman of the Character and Heritage Awards Committee





Tom Casey

New or Refurbished Heritage Place or Home

The **'Tom Casey' New or Refurbished Heritage Place or Home** award is open to any refurbishment, redesign or construction, undertaken on a place or home of heritage significance or adjacent property.

This award acknowledges developments that contribute to conservation by respecting and enhancing existing heritage values, and/or through the creative re-use of existing heritage places.





NEW OR REFURBISHED HERITAGE PLACE

Gold Award

Sarina Tourist Art & Craft Centre

The 'Field of Dreams' Parklands, Railway Square, Sarina

The Sarina Tourist Art and Craft Centre is a volunteer-run centre that has been operating at the 'Field of Dreams' Parklands in Sarina since 1996. The centre consists of three restored historic buildings, being the old Sarina Court House, the old Sarina Jail Cells and the old Mount Pelion School House.

The Court House and Police Station which were relocated to the site in 1984 and 2013 have been tastefully restored and are now home to the information centre, display areas and administration offices.





In December 2014, the old Mount Pelion School House was relocated to the site and completes the centre's slice of history. The building is currently being restored and when complete will be used as an office, teaching workshop and a meeting room.

The centre attracts over 10,000 visitors each year and is a fantastic example of the opportunities presented through the restoration and adaption of historic buildings. As expressed by a member of the Character and Heritage Advisory Committee, the Sarina Tourist Art and Craft Centre is a '*credit to the community*'.





NEW OR REFURBISHED HERITAGE HOME

Gold Award

David and Dianne Watt and Urban Trend Constructions
15 Hinton Street, West Mackay

The renovations to this Inter-war Queenslander are a perfect example of what the judging panel was looking for in a Gold Award recipient.

The house was built in 1931 and has a long history, previously being used as a doctor's residence and surgery rooms, rooming units and more recently a family home.

The project brief for the renovations was to 'restore the existing façade and streetscape, whilst catering to the needs of a modern 21st century family'. The outcome is a fantastic example of what can be achieved when care is taken to retain the heritage character of a home while also providing a tasteful modern touch.



Berenice Wright

Heritage Champion - Individual or Organisation

The '**Berenice Wright**' Heritage Champion – Individual or **Organisation** award is open to any individual or organisation that has made a valuable contribution to the promotion, conservation and / or understanding of local history or heritage in the Mackay region.

Works can include, but are not limited to, voluntary work or other contributions to raising awareness and interest in the conservation of heritage in the Mackay region.





FREE Heritage Walk of Mackay

Join Mackay Tourism Volunteers, John & John, on this guided walking tour of Mackay City Centre's heritage and art deco buildings. Immerse yourself in the history of Mackay through story telling and humour.

When: Every Wednesday from May - September

Time: Arrive at 8:45am for 9am departure

Where: Paxtons Warehouse,
Corner River and Carlyle Street

The walk takes approximately 90 minutes and finishes with complimentary tea and coffee.

Bookings are advised but not essential.

Mackay Visitor Information Centre: 1300 130 001



Proudly sponsored by Mackay Tourism and supported by our local volunteers

HERITAGE CHAMPION - INDIVIDUAL OR ORGANISATION

Gold Award

John Cant and John Blackwell Heritage Walk

Since 2010, between the months of May and September, local Mackay Tourism volunteers John Cant and John Blackwell (affectionately known as 'the Two Johns') have been providing free weekly walking tours of the Mackay CBD.

Embarking from Paxton's warehouse at 9am every Wednesday, the Two Johns take participants on a 150-year journey through the history of the vibrant streets and buildings of Mackay's city centre. The Two Johns are renowned for their story telling and provide an engaging walk which offers a historical account that cannot be read about in a book.



Over three hundred people, including locals, school groups and visitors to the region, attend the walks each year, which are continuing to grow in popularity.

Without the Two Johns, John Cant and John Blackwell, the Heritage Walk would not be possible and this award proudly acknowledges and pays tribute to the tireless work that both men continue to put into the promotion of Mackay's Heritage.

*“John Cant and John Blackwell’s continued support and dedication to the Heritage Walk means that legends and stories of historical and cultural importance are not lost”
April 2015, Mackay Tourism*





HERITAGE CHAMPION - INDIVIDUAL OR ORGANISATION

Silver Award

Mackay Musical Comedy Players

Formed in 1965, the Mackay Musical Comedy Players is a not-for-profit community theatre organisation that is an ongoing component of the region's living cultural heritage.

For over 50 years the Mackay Musical Comedy Players has traditionally produced two yearly performances and numerous smaller shows such as theatre restaurants and 'gold coin' charity concerts.

The organisation maintains an extensive collection of costumes and vintage pieces dating back to its first production, 'The Boyfriend' in 1965. Historical records including photos, newspaper clippings, telegraphs, letters, programmes, posters, set drawing and the like are also actively maintained.

SANDY WILSON'S
Musical Play
"THE BOY FRIEND"
SEASON
COMMENCING APRIL 27th



The Mackay Musical Comedy Players actively promote their history through the production of a weekly column on their *Facebook* page which details a historical account of a bygone year in the life of the organisation.

In the organisation's 50 years of operation they have brought over 150 shows to the stage and have firmly entrenched themselves as a part of the region's living history.



Meet us at

Sunset

For a

"Commemoration by Hurricane Lamp"

Wednesday 13th May 2015

From 5:15pm to 6:45pm

BLUEWATER QUAY, SUGAR CUBES, (Leichardt Tree) River Street, Mackay
(If inclement weather, venue changes to **PAXTON WAREHOUSE**, River Street, Mackay)

This is an annual event to reflect on our local Australian South Sea Islander history. 2015 marks 148 years since the first Pacific Islanders arrived in the Mackay district

LIVE MUSIC – Willie Kii, Phil & Trudy Edgeley

Don't forget your chair, blanket & Hurricane Lamp (no live flames, please)

Donations will also be collected for the Vanuatu Cyclone Pam Relief

Hosted By Australian South Sea Islander Heritage Organisation, Mackay Inc

HERITAGE CHAMPION - INDIVIDUAL OR ORGANISATION

Highly Commended

Australian South Sea Islander Heritage Organisation Mackay

The Australian South Sea Islander Heritage Organisation Mackay (ASSIHO) is a local organisation actively working towards promoting and educating younger generations and the wider community of the rich history of Australian South Sea Islanders in the Mackay region.

ASSIHO have been involved in a number of community events including Mackay's 'Wantok' Australian South Sea Islander National Conference, displays at the Gordon White Library, singing groups and most notably the 'Commemoration by Hurricane Lamp'.

The 'Commemoration by Hurricane Lamp' which commenced in 2013 is an annual community event held at the Bluewater Quay. This sacred event is open to the wider community and provides the opportunity to reflect on Australia's history of Australian South Sea Islanders and their forefathers.



Step Back In Time

Gathering Eungella's Past

HERITAGE CHAMPION - INDIVIDUAL OR ORGANISATION

Highly Commended

Sharon Naylor

Step Back in Time: Gathering Eungella's Past

The 'Step Back in Time' project was launched in 2009 with the purpose of gathering photographs and stories of past places and residents of the Eungella area.

The group has a website which contains stories, personal accounts and publications relating to Eungella's history.





Heritage Champion - School

The **Heritage Champion – School** award is open to any public or private school in the Mackay region which is making a significant contribution to promote conservation and understanding of local heritage among their students.

Nominated activities can include, but are not limited to, proposed classroom activities, outdoor activities, study tours, a whole course plan, or other efforts to stimulate students interest in local history.



HERITAGE CHAMPION - SCHOOL

Gold Award

Mackay North State High School

'Lest We Forget'

The 'Lest We Forget Project' is an ongoing history project undertaken by senior History students from Mackay North State High School.

The project involves students researching fallen soldiers from the Mackay region and the undertaking of biennial overseas commemorative tours to Gallipoli, France, Belgium and Singapore, where the fallen soldiers are commemorated at their graves. Each tour produces a commemorative booklet which is presented to relatives of the fallen and local history organisations. The project commenced in 1998 and to date the school has undertaken eight overseas tours and honoured over 700 soldiers.

The Lest We Forget project is a 'one of a type' project that has been far reaching throughout the Mackay region. The lessons and memories which the project has gifted its students are invaluable and will be something that will remain with them forever.





Heritage Media

The **Heritage Media** award was open to any form of written, visual or technological media or art that contributes to the promotion and understanding of heritage throughout the Mackay region.

Nominated works can include, but are not limited to, heritage studies, publications or other written, visual or audible materials that promote the region's heritage.



HERITAGE MEDIA

Gold Award

Carissa Morgan and Simon Nichols - Seven Local News

Rewind: The Leap

'Rewind: The Leap' is a long form news story which was aired as part of Seven Local News' weekly 'Rewind' program in July 2014. The piece delves into one of the most talked about stories in the region – the iconic 'Kowaha' statue at the Leap Hotel.

The piece seeks to create an awareness of the true story behind the statue in order to separate fact from fiction in regards to the local legend.

The script was researched and written by local Mackay journalist Simon Nichols and camera operation was undertaken by Carissa Morgan.





HERITAGE MEDIA

Silver Award

Mackay and District Italian Association

Ongoing work towards publication of Mackay's Italian history

The Mackay and District Italian Association is a not-for-profit organisation whose aim is to support, help and develop Italian cultural awareness among descendants of Italian immigrants and the wider community.

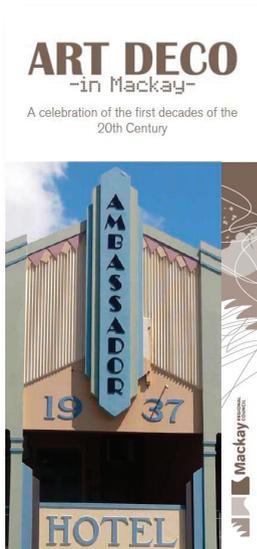
Members of the group have dedicated countless hours towards their goal of publishing a book which captures the history of Italian migration to the Mackay region. To date over 40 stories are ready for publication and a further 100 are in the process.

Once complete the book will provide a valuable contribution to the promotion and understanding of the history of Mackay's Italian community.



Mackay Regional Council

Heritage Publications





2015 CHARACTER AND HERITAGE

Advisory Committee

The judging of the 2015 Heritage Awards was proudly undertaken by the Character and Heritage Advisory Committee.

Cr. Dave Perkins

Chairperson, Character and Heritage Advisory Committee,
Mackay Regional Council

Cr. Greg Martin

Mackay Regional Council, Tourism & Economic Development portfolio

Cr. Chris Bonanno

Mackay Regional Council, Festival, Events and the Arts portfolio

Gerard Carlyon

Mackay Regional Council, Acting Director Development Services



Berenice Wright
Senior Local Historian

Carolyn Scott
Sarina Historical Society/Museum

Norma Lang
Sarina Historical Society/Museum

Phil Martin
Mackay Historical Society and Museum

Anna Thurgood
Mackay Regional Council, Artspace

Brian Osborn
Mackay Regional Council, Community Lifestyle

Jaco Ackerman
Mackay Regional Council, Strategic Planning

Michael St Clair
Mackay Regional Council, Strategic Planning

Kate Balderson
Mackay Regional Council, Community and Client Services

Lara Clarke
Mackay Regional Council, Community Lifestyle

Tony DeBrincat
Mackay Regional Council, Property Services

Yevonne Sullivan
Mackay Regional Council, Strategic Planning





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