



## QUEENSLAND ALUMINA LIMITED

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### QAL BOOSTS CITY'S HISTORY COLLECTION

The city's historical collection of images and memorabilia housed at the Gladstone Regional Art Gallery & Museum has been greatly enhanced with a significant donation from Queensland Alumina Limited (QAL).

The QAL collection, comprising of forty years of local history will boost the city's holdings with close to one thousand photographs slides and negatives of the early town development and establishment of QAL. Highlights of the collection also include the full range of aluminium hard hats worn on site and complete sets of Horizons and Aluminews magazines dating back to 1963.

QAL Health, Safety, Environment and Communities Manager Ross Greenhalgh said the collection was donated to the city as part of QAL's 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations.

"With the 40<sup>th</sup> celebrations last year, it seemed appropriate to gift the collection to the city. The collection will now be more accessible to the community and also kept in a temperature and humidity controlled environment to ensure its survival for future generations," Mr Greenhalgh said.

"The survey work and research conducted prior to QAL's establishment was extensive and many of the images were used as a record to provide a picture of the community in which the industry was to be established," he said.

"A great majority of the collection is very much focussed on the people and township during the 1960's. Of particular note are images of the early Harbour Festivals, the Brisbane to Gladstone Yacht race and also the town as it was before the boom – both at a ground level and from the air."

Gladstone Regional Art Gallery & Museum Director Pamela Whitlock said the QAL collection was a most welcome addition to the city's holdings and would provide a very valuable resource that was much enhanced by being well documented and accompanied with supporting material such as personal recollections.

"The donated collection will assist greatly in closing some of the gaps in the pictorial record of the city's history and development. The rare and valuable donation will provide images and inspiration for many future exhibitions," Ms Whitlock said.

"The collection is already proving its value as some of the images will form part of the upcoming exhibition '*Racing Onwards: Celebrating 60 years of the Brisbane to Gladstone Yacht Race 1949 – 2008*' scheduled for display during Easter."

The Gallery/Museum regularly curates local history focussed exhibitions with photographs drawn from the city collection and is currently working towards increasing accessibility for the general community.

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