

## **Pandora Foundation**

The *Pandora* Foundation was established in Townsville by members of the Townsville business community to raise \$2 million to provide for retrieval and conservation of the contents of the *Pandora* historic shipwreck. The artefacts, including those already raised by the Queensland Museum during previous expeditions, are to be displayed in a new wing of the Museum of Tropical Queensland (MTQ) in Townsville. The project also included the relocation from Brisbane of the Queensland Museum's Maritime Archaeology staff and a Materials Scientist (conservator) to the MTQ.

The *Pandora* Foundation was officially launched on 18 June 1996 at a private champagne reception at the Sheraton Breakwater Casino Hotel in Townsville. It was attended by the Premier of Queensland, Rob Borbidge. During the evening, Mr Borbidge, on behalf of the State Government, committed \$17.5 million to the new wing of the MTQ.

The new building opened in June 2000, displaying and housing the *Pandora* collection. Townsville Mayor Tony Mooney announced a \$500,000 contribution to the *Pandora* Foundation from the people of Townsville. "The campaign attracted significant interest and has been a huge success," said Keith Brazier, campaign chairman. "The City Councils of Townsville and Thuringowa, the State Government and statutory authorities have generously supported this ambitious project. Thuringowa Council has made a \$100,000 contribution. The State Government matched the *Pandora* Foundation's funding with an additional \$1 for every \$2 raised." To date (August 2006) over \$2.3 million has been raised, which is well over the *Pandora* Foundation's target of \$2 million.



Enquiries about supporting the objectives of the *Pandora* Foundation can be made to:

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