

CollectionsCare WA Goldfields Project

The CollectionsCare WA Goldfields Project, initiated in 2010, began as a 2 year pilot project, funded by the Collections Council of Australia, the Myer Foundation and Department of Culture and the Arts. The City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder also made in-kind contributions.

The project, under the CollectionsCare Coordinator Elaine Labuschagne, was an enormous success.

When it was due to close in 2012, the then participating Shires (Coolgardie, Laverton and Leonora, and Menzies) began discussions regarding the continuance of the project. It was agreed that the Shires wishing to participate in the project would fund the project themselves, each Shire contributing towards the delivery of services they require.

The Shire of Wiluna, seeing the success of CollectionsCare project, committed to the project. The City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder agreed to oversee the continuance of the project, contributing not only financially but also in-kind.

In September 2012 the position, 'CollectionsCare Coordinator' was advertised and in January 2013 the successful candidate, Ian Day, took up the appointment.

Ian is from New Zealand, has over 30 years experience within the Arts and Heritage sectors, and is an experienced Museum Director and Curator who is passionate about the role that museums fulfil in rural communities. He is familiar with mining culture, having worked with mining communities in New Zealand.

His new job means that he will be seeing a lot of Western Australia's northern

Goldfields. Ian will continue the work that Elaine began, while ascertaining the current heritage needs of the Shires involved.

