



# Media release

13 August, 2010

## **A sustainable future with a grand history**

The region's leading natural resource management group, Fitzroy Basin Association Inc (FBA), has officially opened its new premises at the former post office building in East Street.

FBA Board members, staff and special guests celebrated the official opening with drinks and finger food on the top floor verandah of the building on the evening of August 12, with Federal Member for Capricornia Kirsten Livermore cutting the ceremonial ribbon.

FBA are the first occupants of the building in more than 10 years since it was vacated by Australia Post in 1997. The grand two-storey brick building with sandstone facing was erected in 1892 for the Queensland Post and Telegraph Department.

The building was recently refurbished by new owners CBD Property Trust, and FBA has taken residence of the whole top floor.

FBA Chief Executive Officer Suzie Christensen said the new premises provide space for almost 25 staff, as well as a new board room.

"We are proud to move forward in our efforts to promote sustainable development in such a beautiful and historic building in the heart of Rockhampton," Mrs Christensen said.

"The building offers more comfortable and spacious surrounds for our staff, and will also improve our visibility and availability within the local community," she said.

Mrs Christensen said the FBA was grateful for the continued support from Australian and Queensland Government funding programs which enabled the group to support the achievement of local natural resource management targets.

"Without programs like Caring for our Country, Reef Rescue, and Q2 Coasts and Country, that fund us to work in partnership with land managers to increase the adoption of sustainable land management, we wouldn't need an office."

She said the new office included an area where the group hopes to develop an interactive catchment centre to be available to the public.

"We are currently seeking investment support for an exciting proposal to use some of our new floor space for a catchment care centre that will showcase our region and how it is being managed for the future.

"The centre will provide a dynamic and regionally-focused educational tool for young and old, as well as an attraction for tourists to learn more about central Queensland's geography, diverse natural assets, land uses and management activities."

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**Fitzroy Basin Association Inc.**

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