

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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### **Hospital buildings on the move to new home**

Nanango town residents may have noticed some rather large cargo being transported through their streets this week.

The precious load was two buildings from the Nanango Hospital on their way to their new home at the Nanango showgrounds.

The buildings known as the seamstress building and the old end of the community health building had been scheduled to be demolished to provide better access at the hospital for patients and visitors.

However, discussions between the Darling Downs Hospital and Health Service (DDHHS), Nanango Show Society, Nanango Historical Society and local MP Mrs Deb Frecklington produced an even better outcome.

DDHH Board member Ms Cheryl Dalton said the move was a win for both the hospital and the town of Nanango.

“The relocation of the buildings will give the hospital more parking space as well as better building entry and exit points to meet disability access requirements,” she said

“However, given the history of the buildings, it is great that they can be kept in the town for future generations to visit and enjoy.”

Mrs Frecklington acknowledged the work of all parties to come up with a great solution.

“The Nanango Historical Society contacted me when they learnt these hospital buildings were to be removed. I agreed with them that it was important to preserve this piece of Nanango’s history,” Mrs Frecklington said.

“I took the opportunity to contact the hospital Board and negotiate the buildings being moved to the Nanango showgrounds.

“It is excellent this has been achieved and these buildings will remain for the use of the Nanango community for many more years to come.”

Representatives of the DDHHS, Nanango Show Society and Nanango Historical Society gathered at the Nanango Hospital to farewell the buildings before they began their journey across town.

The buildings were loaded onto two prime movers and escorted by Ergon Energy vehicles and police who assisted with the delicate operation to manoeuvre the buildings through the streets and under low-hanging power lines.

The spectacle brought residents and local school students outside to watch as the buildings rolled by.

Nanango Historical Society president Roslyn Gregor said she was thrilled to bits to see the move happening.

“Nanango was such a big timber town so it’s great to be able to preserve these old timber buildings,” she said.

The smaller of the two buildings will be set up as an office for the show society while the larger former community health building will be converted into meeting rooms for the show society and community groups to use.

## **Ends**

Caption: (from left) Nanango Show Society president Leslie Schloss, Nanango Historical Society president Roslyn Gregor, Nanango Show Society representatives Victor Maxwell and Len Buchanan, DDHH Board member Cheryl Dalton and Nanango local Reg McCallum in front of the old community health building.

Caption 2: The buildings make their way slowly through town.

More photos are available on request.

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