The Tom Kruse Museum - Credits

In 2010, publican of the Marree Hotel **Laurie Kalms** floated the idea of dedicating a room in the Hotel to the memory of **E.G.** (**Tom**) **Kruse**.

Even though Tom spent considerably more time as an earth moving contractor and dam sinker in the north, it was his time in Marree with wife **Valma** and family as the mail contractor, made world famous by **John Heyer's** docudrama *The Back of Beyond*, that is the focus of this collection.

The room is intended to commemorate the contribution **Esmond Gerald (Tom) Kruse MBE** made as mailman and mail contractor to the Marree community and the people of the Birdsville Track.

The idea took a couple of years to germinate and the current publicans **Phil** and **Maz Turner** turned the idea into a reality in 2013.

The Executive Producer of *The Back of Beyond Collection* **Ian Doyle** and long time believer in and supporter of the **Tom Kruse** story **Mark Metzger** were commissioned to curate the space and draw together photographs from private collections and assemble **Tom Kruse** artifacts from various periods of his life and the recovery and restoration of *The Back of Beyond* 1936 Leyland Badger.

lan and **Mark** received significant and remarkable support from a number of individuals and organisations to build this exhibition.

Frames: Roger La-Grone, retired cabinet maker, Royal Park

Mounts, Glass: Andrew & Ralph Platten,

All Frames & Mirrors, 36 Tapleys Hill Road, Royal Park

Photo replication: Don McLeod & Alan Logue,

Hutt Street Photos, 186 Hutt Street Adelaide

Photographs: Keith Webb, Irene Zada, Mark Brake, Neil Weidenbach,

Leon Mead, Ding family, Heyer family, Kruse family, Mark

Metzger & Ian Doyle Collections

Projector: Dynasty Video Productions

Artifacts: Kruse family, Keith Webb, Mark Metzger & Ian Doyle

AV: Keith Webb, Image Control & Ian Doyle, DMS SA Pty Ltd

Logistics: Mark Metzger, Mark Metzger Building Services

Design & Script: Ian Doyle, Doyle Media Services SA Pty Ltd

Installation: Monday 11th February 2013