

Our town

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Call for city Bible museum

TOOWOOMBA resident George Helon has a passion for rare, antique and ancient Bibles and religious texts, and now the keen collector is looking to share his interests in Bibles of all kinds.

Mr Helon is calling for expressions of interest from organisations or persons who would be interested in coming together to discuss establishing a permanent Bible museum in Toowoomba.

He said the museum would be all-inclusive, non-denominational, non-evangelical, non-Pentecostal, non-sectarian and non-fundamentalist.

"Items for consideration would include the provision, or assistance in the procurement, of a permanent venue, funding, advertising, publicity, printing, insurance, security, catering and voluntary staffing services, as well as exhibition display cabinets and facilities," he said.

Mr Helon said the bible museum could be known as the Toowoomba Bible Museum.

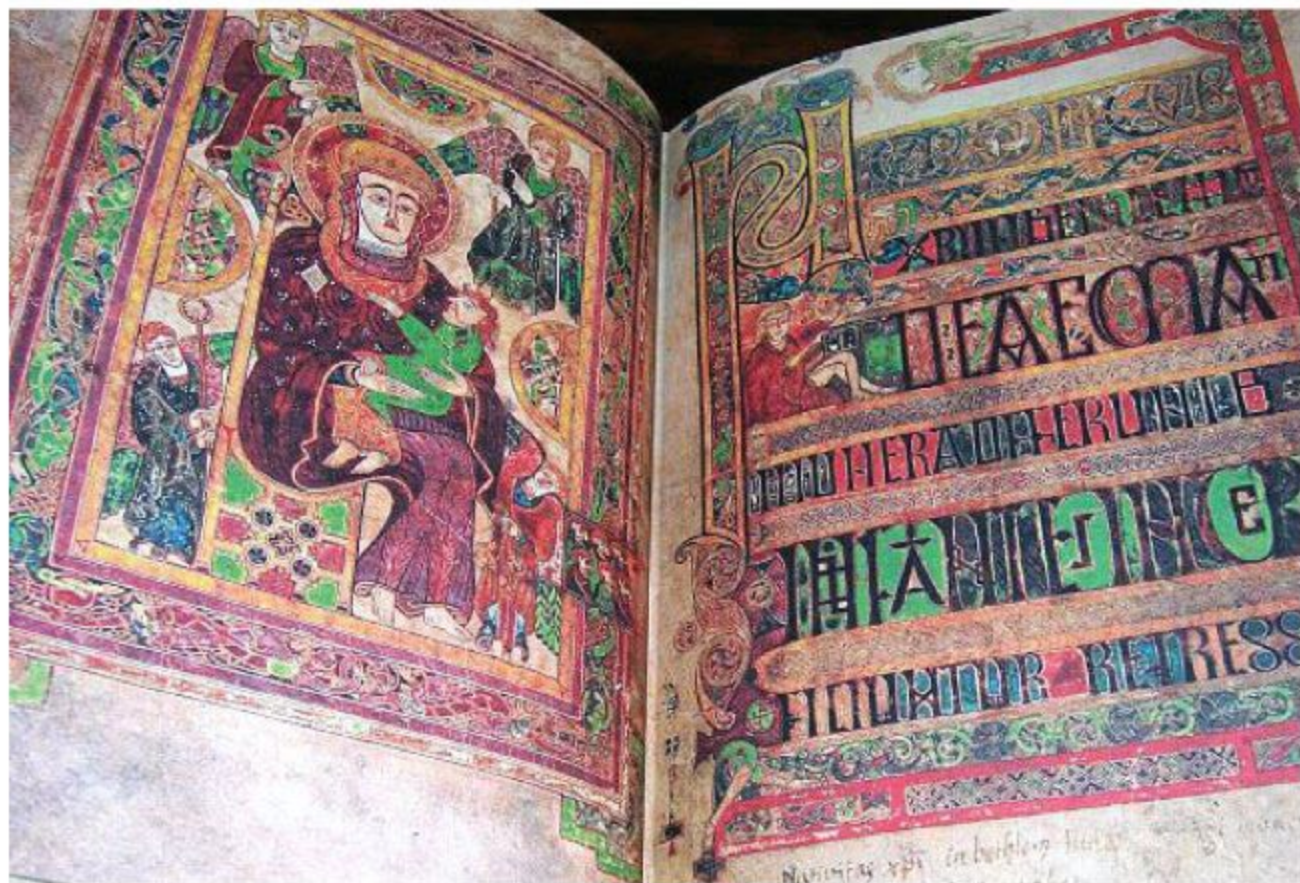
"It would be dedicated to the acquisition, preservation and promulgation of rare, antiquarian, religious and gnostic codices, texts, manuscripts and artefacts in order to be able to confidently provide and make available comprehensive resources and ser-

vices in support of, and for the advancement of biblical and theological appreciation, learning, teaching, and exegetical research and scholarship," he said.

"It would also be a place where visitors can engage with the Bible to learn about its evolution."

Mr Helon's library, the Helon Theology Reference Library, has among its private holdings many full-sized facsimile reproductions of rare and scarce Bibles and manuscripts, as well as a 1:3 scale replica of the Ark of the Covenant.

Parties interested in discussing the possibility of a Bible museum can contact Mr Helon by email at gheleon@yahoo.com.au.



ILLUSTRATED MANUSCRIPT: A copy of the Book of Kells is George Helon's most recent acquisition for his theology reference library. Photos: Contributed

LEFT: This scale replica of the Ark of the Covenant is part of George Helon's theology reference library.