

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT ON 2022 FOR AGM 2023

The backbone of any association is the members, volunteers, and staff. In that respect, I congratulate and thank all those who have contributed to the great success of BICAS for 2022.

The myriad events that have been on offer for members has been thanks to the wealth of knowledge of the coordinators and behind-the-scenes workers. It is a credit to them that so many events, excursions, and displays have proudly made the 2022 year one of the best yet.

As has been said before, the whole Arts Centre is like a duck; peacefully skimming on the top of the water, kept afloat by paddling madly underneath. That's how we work.

My Board have put huge efforts in ensuring the maintenance and upkeep of the Arts Centre to provide the best environment for members and visitors, our policies and procedures are always up to date heeding the advice of the authorities to be prepared for any possible requirement. I sincerely thank them all for their time, contributions, and enthusiasm. A couple of Board members will step down from their board position for 2023 and some are moving from their committee positions to Board member. Together with my Board members, I thank those who have made the difficult decision to move in different directions with their lives. They will be missed.

Recapping some of the events held and projects carried out during the year:

- Matthew Flinders Art Gallery held many exhibitions, changing over around 3 – 4 weeks. The first for the year was some of our Working Together Groups who showcased their talent and passion, honed over their weekly meetings. There was “Bright” displayed by 4 wonderful artists, Eclectica displaying 2D and 3D artworks, and of course the fabulous Mathew Flinders Art Prize. Congratulations again to the winner and high achievers that received acknowledgement for their work. Jean Bennet, the winner, has currently a beautiful display here as our May Artist of the Month. We'll see more of her beautiful work around the place, no doubt.
- Café 91 received a new commercial stove, enabling our great chef, Corey Abel to make even better meals and faster and more plentiful wondrous cakes.
- Changes to our constitution were made and voted unanimously to be passed. The laws for incorporated associations were changed and we were required to update accordingly.
- Beginners Bites was created by Sue Davy and Sue Gardner to entice new and existing members to try their hand at a new medium. They have been very well received and bookings are pleasing. If you haven't checked out what's on offer, please do so. New tutors in this program always welcome.
- Our bi-monthly newsletter has a wealth of information for members and friends and I encourage you to read it. Don't risk missing some great art opportunity of which there are many listed each issue.
- Our gift shop overflows with exciting crafts on display which visitors love to scour to take home their own piece of Bribie, whether a lovely pottery item, a piece of beautiful jewellery, a painting, a print, or a book. They are never disappointed.

Membership numbers as at our December 2022 meeting were 618. We encourage new members to make use of our wonderful facility and become part of the BICAS family. If you can volunteer a couple of hours a month, please let us know. It shares the load considerably.

My final thank you is to the Moreton Bay Regional Council through our local councillor, Brook Savige. Brooke attends every special event to which she is invited and is a great supporter of the Bribie Art Centre.

In closing, I thank you all for my re-election for the 2022 year and I look forward to BICAS future and the wellbeing it provides for so many. I feel sure that 2023 will be just as productive.

Regards

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Carolyn Wheeler', written in black ink.

CAROLYN WHEELER
CHAIRMAN