

BICAS Newsletter

From the Board

We've started 2024 well, with an influx of many new members, fresh volunteers and a new-look Cafe courtyard.

*The Working Together Groups are back with a buzz. Some have changed their focus and are looking to cross-pollinate ideas with other groups. That can only be good! The long run of sticky weather has brought some torrid conditions for us here, like everywhere else in Queensland, so the **new roof shade** on the Cafe courtyard cannot come quickly enough. We'd hoped it would be up by February, but construction projects never run smoothly. Delays while ironing out details and requirements is par for the course. Soon, soon.*

*Our **AGM** will be held on **Sunday 5th May**, at 11am in Studio 3. Members who are financial as of 4pm Wednesday 17th April are eligible to vote. If you'd like to nominate to be part of this vibrant BICAS Board, application forms will be at the front desk and online from March. Current Board members are available to discuss the roles. The closing date for Applications is **Wednesday 17 April at 4pm**.*

*It was such a pleasure to see the fun our volunteers had on the **Thank You Day** this month. We can't put a price on the amazing generosity BICAS volunteers show with the time and love they give here. As the refresh morning showed, there are so many facets of the Centre now to manage and remember on the desk, the office and the cafe. The afternoon was a great relax and discovery time for vols to explore new art practices and mix with other vols they might not have met, over a drink and refreshments. Onwards and upwards from here.*

What talents we have in our BICAS Showcase 2024

The 16 Working Together Groups (WTGs) participating this year, include painters, drawers, printers, potters, textile artists, quilters, leadlighters and card makers & scrapbooker. It makes for a magnificent display of what each group has been working on, their talents, innovations and learned skills throughout the year.



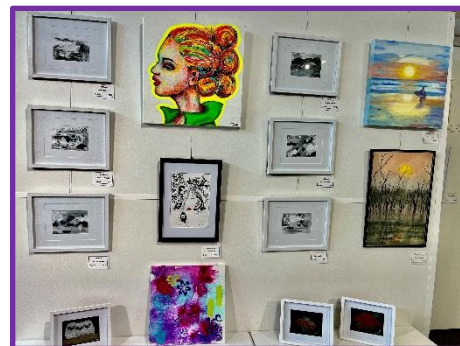
Breathtaking!

Exhibitions Matthew Flinders Gallery

Showcase 2024

January 30 -
February 18

A celebration of
the Arts Centre
groups skills
across the mediums.

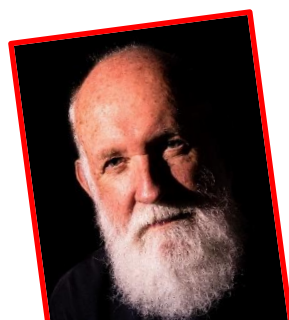


Waters & Budge: A Journey of Mates & their Genres

February 20 - March 10.

Donald James Waters is a high-profile and
OAM awarded painter. Wayne Budge is an

internationally
awarded and
exhibited
photographer.
This exhibition of
works of their
different art
styles and genres
is an exciting and



unusual collaboration between these two mates. The selected works show how the journey of both artists' styles have evolved over the years.

Scratch the Surface

March 11 - 24

Features 11 artists using paper, clay,
fabric, canvas, timber and plastic to
scratch the surface, physically and
metaphorically, to explore what's
beneath.

Scratch the Surface

There is a surface to be scratched and then there is under the surface to be explored. The work in this exhibition scratches the surface in both a literal and metaphorical sense.

All artists like to break the rules and manipulate their chosen media to push the boundaries. So the work on display at the Matthew Flinders Art Gallery will be new and exciting. Many different surfaces have been used including paper, fabric, canvas, clay, timber, and plastic.

11 March - 24 March 2024

These creative, innovative artists invite you to come to the Bribie Island Community Arts Centre to view the results of their "scratchings".

CHERYL MORTIMER
JOHN STEGEMAN
SUE GARDNER
CORRINE PURCEL
KAREN QUINN
SUE DAVY
LYN STOREY
SONIA PATEY
JAN TRUCKSON
JENNY COPE
MATTHEW MORTIMER

Matthew Flinders Art Gallery 191 Sunderland Drive Banksia Beach
BRIBIE COMMUNITY ARTS CENTRE

Bribie Island Community Arts Society Inc.

Exhibitions Matthew Flinders Gallery (cont.)

Sister Concepts **March 26 - April 14**

Sisters Jan Gardiner and Sue Gardner (yes, different spelling) share a gene pool but have very different art styles, as shown in this exhibition. Their parents were artists and ran a Toowoomba art gallery. Jan is an experimental and unconventional artist who came to the practice late, after a career in IT. Sue has been painting since she was 13, using textures, colours and different mediums to explore a connection to nature. The seaside and what is in and around water, combined with the interaction of fish, birds and people in those landscapes, resonates with her.

SISTER CONCEPTS

26 March - 14 April



Sue Gardner





Two sisters - two very different styles of artwork coming from a background of artist parents.



Jan Gardiner





Come in and enjoy this stunning exhibition by two talented artists



In Our Gift Shop



So many *new and different works* to browse in our Gift Shop Gallery, it's more than a day's visit. And venture outside to our **Seasoned** space, too, for garden art ideas.

There's sure to be something among our BICAS members' creations that will take your eye. It could be for your home, a friend or a memento of your Bribie visit.

From textile, painting, wirework, mosaic, pottery, recycled furniture, woven weed baskets, collage and fabric accessories, there's much to excite.

Gift Shop more....



Workshops: learn something new

Bribie Island Community Arts Society Inc.

BEGINNERS PAINTING WORKSHOP

with Libby May

Cost: \$55
Cash or card on the day

Saturday 9th March
9am - 12pm
@ Bribie Island Community Arts Centre

Learn from this turtle

What to expect:

- A complete acrylic painting experience
- Step-by-Step guidance
- Tea/Coffee Provided
- 10" x 12" canvas for you to take home
- Materials will be provided (Canvas, Paints, Brushes...)

Further details or, to book,
Ph: Libby 0423 136 183

Expand yourself with a new & different medium. Try these great classes:

For beginners

Libby Rule takes you by the hand with this complete acrylic painting experience.

Spaces limited, so book quickly with Libby on 0423 136 183.



Workshops (cont.)

Popular tutor Robin Jensen guarantees you a fun and wonderful creative time.



LOOKS LIKE *Resin* WORKSHOP



with *Robin Jensen*

Get the shiny look of resin with special acrylic pouring paint & techniques, without the toxic fumes of resin.

**10am –2pm Sunday 3rd MARCH at
Bribie Island Community Arts Centre**



Requirements

Wooden cutting boards, wooden coasters, small canvases, & tiles.

Cost \$75

Includes all paints, tools, plastic gloves.

Further details, or to book, please contact Robin Jensen

Phone 0421043924 or Email j-robin@aapt.net.au

I am so fortunate to have the support of fellow artist, Shelee Carruthers, to enable me to show my students her unique technique. In addition, I am able to offer my students my Sheleeart Affiliate Discount Code, to purchase her course at a discounted price, should they wish to learn more.



ALCOHOL INK WORKSHOP



with

Robin Jensen

**Sunday 17 MARCH.....10am-3pm
at Bribie Island Community Arts Centre**

Alcohol inks are fast-drying, highly pigmented, alcohol-based inks that are great to use on any hard, non-porous surface including glass, metal, plastic, glass, ceramic, stone, leather and polymer clay.

We will be experimenting with many techniques on a wide variety of surfaces. You will be able to take home many pieces including those items that you bring to class.

All inks, yupo paper, photo gloss paper, isopropyl alcohol & tools supplied. A complete list of resources and where to buy them from, will be given as a handout to each student.

This is a most enjoyable & colourful workshop!

Cost \$80, cash or card on the day. Further details, or to book, Phone Robin Jensen 0421043924 or email j-robin@aapt.net.au



New bike racks will be just the ticket

Bribie Cycle group (BUGS) secretary Isabel (left) has gathered a stash of 35 raffle prizes from businesses all over Bribie to raise money towards the install cost of more bike racks at the Arts Centre. BUGS members patronise Cafe 191 regularly in large numbers and look to secure their

bikes nearby. Support this raffle. **Tickets \$2 each or 3 for \$5.** With 35 draws, your chances of winning are pretty good. **Drawn March 31.**

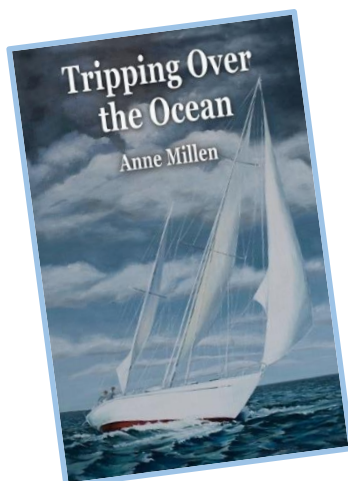


Events to watch for

Book launch:

Tripping Over the Ocean by Anne Millen

Friday February 23; Nibbles & drinks on Arts Centre deck 5pm; Launch 6pm.



Physio, circumnavigator and the mother of two "amazingly brave" kids, Anne's travelled to more than 40 countries. Now she's a writer lucky enough to live on Bribie Island. Her sailing adventure book will take you on a sleek 13m ketch and make a blue water passage in the South Pacific! It will make you feel you're out there, somewhere on the high seas between Auckland and Suva, with little but the wind, the waves and the whales.

RSVP to book your place with Anne on 0498 049 489 or annemillenaauthor@gmail.com



Songbird

with

Sue Wighton

Friday March 8

Matthew Flinders Gallery 6pm

SUE WIGHTON is a solo singer/guitarist and song writer whose strong, heartfelt vocal style takes her easily from folk to jazz and back again.

Her 'SONGBIRD' concert in the Gallery will feature songs of some of her favourite female performers, like Joan Baez, Judy Collins, the Roche Sisters, Linda Ronstadt, Janis Ian, Kate Rusby & many more. A 'songbird' herself, and an avid 'lexiphile' (a lover of words), if the mood takes her, Sue may also perform a couple of originals. Be prepared for a feast of unique musical offerings, with a side serve of irreverent wit.

Tickets \$20 includes bubbles & nibbles. Seats limited. Book on 3408 9288 or <https://www.bribieartscentre.com.au/events/songbird-with-sue-wighton>

Events (cont.)

Medieval High Tea

Fund-raiser for The Abbey Museum of Art & Archaeology

Bribie Island Arts Centre Cafe 191 Courtyard

Saturday April 13, 2.30pm - 5.

Have you ever wondered how women managed their dress, health and beauty regimes in medieval times?

Medieval history enthusiast Rosalie Gilbert, will give an enlightening, detailed talk and demonstration of how a noble lady would prepare her toilette to attend a formal event, and explain her dress and accessories. These include museum reproductions of grooming tools and some actual historic items to see and touch.

You can also WIN a chance to have yourself photographed in medieval regalia!



Rosalie is a best-selling medieval author whose book, *The Very Secret Sex Lives of Medieval Women*, has been translated into four languages. She enjoys living history, running talks, presentations and workshops in medieval life skills.

Tickets \$49* includes delicious high tea & bubbles. Watch for booking details on the Abbey website <https://abbeymuseum.com.au/> *Limited tickets.

JUST NUDES exhibition May 27 - June 10

Are you working on your entry?

What glorious human forms and figures can you come up with to celebrate the wonder of humanity? Only 10 weeks to get your work completed for this **FIRST EVER Nudes exhibition** at the Arts Centre.



Entry forms on the website or at the front desk at the Arts Centre.

Artist of the Month February

BETH MORROW

Beth has loved to create since she was a child, and retirement has meant more time to devote to her loves of sewing, drawing, painting, mosaics and weaving. She enjoys creating intricate designs in all these mediums, incorporating stained glass, leather and tiles into her works. Her other great love is fibre design, making amazing wall hangings, again

mixing all manner of materials into her pieces. Her wall of works here in February is testimony to her skills and imagination



Beth speaking at her morning tea here this month.



In MarchTAHLIA MITCHELL

Tahlia spent much of her childhood at her grandparents' farm in Howard, where her grandmother, Phyllis, introduced her to the wonders of oil paint; the rich, oily paste that can be moved and manipulated, smudged and smeared, applied thick or thin according to the artists' whims. She was captivated. An artist herself and a willing teacher, Phyllis guided her and patiently endured Tahlia's endless questions and constant demands for "more paint!"



She says: Many artists have inspired me, but none as much as Ben Quilty. Thick wads of vibrant paint thrust upon an unsuspecting canvas and transformed into an emotive masterpiece. His work has encouraged me to inch away from the more traditional style and into an expression of my own, bold and alive

with movement and colour. It's unsurprising that humans seek to create, as the desire to manufacture beauty is as natural as the desire to breathe."

Meet Tahlia here at a FREE morning tea and hear her art journey, at 10.30am Friday March 8. RSVP please on 3408 9288 as places are limited.



What I've Learnt Lately...

KIRSTY SAARENPAA Potter:

My journey in pottery is Lifelong Learning. I'm currently fine tuning my plate design skills and bought a Cricut cutting machine to design my own stencils to apply to my plates. I've learnt how to use the Cricut software and a design software to create and upload compatible images. The learning is endless and I love it!



SUE DAVY CAP group, BICAS Board, Cafe volunteer:

Of all the items on the Cafe 191 menu, 95 percent are made in-house by our chef Corey. This includes all 24 baked products. A terrific 'point of difference' for our Cafe!

JUDE BRAZIER Desk volunteer:

With 30 years of solo self-employment under my belt, I've learnt lately how enjoyable and rewarding it can be working with a team in the wonderful community within the Bribie Arts Centre.



Cafe 191

Stage one of the revamped Cafe courtyard has been a hit. The new speckled concrete butts up level against the Gift Shop doorway and cafe decking and it's been a boon for people with wheelchairs and walkers. They can now enter straight from the Gift Shop gallery. **Cafe volunteers**, too, are thankful for the removal of the step up and down, as they carry & fetch between counter and tables. We're eagerly awaiting the new courtyard roof ... won't be long, now.



(Below) It's not often the Cafe vols get to sit on a busy shift. But no one could begrudge Monica, Ann, Jenny, Fiona and Gayle a chance

to rest their legs during a lull in customers. The myriad cakes & tarts continue to be a huge hit here and Corey is expanding his repertoire. What's your favourite?



Menu Special:
Asian inspired
Prawn & Chorizo
salad \$21.



Around the Centre



GOOD TIMES

1. Bluewater Trio musicians were a big hit in the Gallery.
2. Gaye's portrait & figure painting group enjoyed their festive lunch.
3. Concentration; potter at Rob Matheson workshop; and another's fierce water dragon emerged
4. Proud youngsters show their work at Sabine's class here in January.
5. Bev Kelly happy to be one of the live models for her figure painting group.
6. Happy leadlight newbie Jo pretty pleased with her first piece.
7. CAP group experiment with "anything but a paintbrush", e.g. sponges, garden weeds, squeegees, old credit cards, masking tape, small spatulas.

Around the Centre (cont.)

The annual BICAS Volunteers Thank You day this month was a fun occasion for everyone, as Board members, staff and art & craft tutors treated them to an afternoon of creativity, followed by a gathering for drinks & refreshments on the deck. More than 40 vols tried their hand at pottery, painting, Ikebana, sun printing & slow stitching, basket weaving, painting and polymer clay earring making. We love our volunteers and can never thank them enough for the hours & love they give the Arts Centre.



1. Corinne and her paint'n'sippers mighty proud of their Glasshouse scenes. 2. Pottery platters underway. 3. Slow stitchers under Linda's watchful eye. 4. Fiona getting the hang of Ikebana from tutor Lily. 5. Terry and Allan loved learning to weave baskets from weeds. 6. Robin and her colourful polymer clay earring apprentices. 7 and 8: The volunteer gang relax after their creative concentration.

Volunteer Spotlight

JOAN BLANCHETTE Café 191



Why do you volunteer at the Arts Centre?

I moved to Bribie Island in December 2021 from Murrumba Downs. We chose Bribie Island because we had friends here and moved into an Over 50's Lifestyle Resort. I was already volunteering on the Sunshine Coast for Daniel Morcombe Foundation, but I wanted to volunteer locally to feel part of the BI Community.

What do you do at the Arts Centre?

Initially I worked both in Cafe 191 and on the Front Desk but I now work mainly at the cafe, where I like the pace and opportunity to meet many people. I also helped with the Next Generation Art Prize last year. There are so many roles to pick from here.

What do you like about volunteering at the Arts Centre?

I love meeting visitors who stop by to enjoy Corey's magnificent cakes, coffee or delicious lunches. I also love meeting the locals. Working at the Arts Centre makes me feel included in the community. I also enjoy a laugh with my fellow volunteers and staff members.

Why would you recommend others to volunteer at the Arts Centre?

If you want to feel a part of the community, it helps to work or be a part of an activity within it. As a retiree I feel I'm still contributing. It contributes to my well-being and keeps me active.

Do you practise art yourself? I'm a member of the Tuesday Ladies Sewing Circle. We do embroidery, dress making, quilting, bag making and needlework. We welcome new members regardless of their level of experience. The wonderful members can assist you improve your skills or just sit alongside and chat while stitching away.



CAN YOU HELP?

You love our cafe, so why not join the happy band of volunteers there.

You could help.

Just giving a few hours a month as an emergency volunteer here would make a huge difference.

The cafe is a marvellous asset to the Arts Centre. It can be madly busy and it can be quiet. This is 2024. Life is unpredictable, remember?

But one thing that remains the same is the **esteem** our visitors hold us in and the quality of food, beverage and service we are known for.

So please help us keep that intact.

As a Cafe 191 volunteer, you'll have fun, meet other volunteers, make new friendships, have a laugh and probably sit and share a cuppa with fellow BICAS people who are here for the same reason you are.

It's a classic case of many hands lightening the load so, think of yourself as a brick in the wall.

Please get in touch with Di Carr on info@bribieartscentre.com.au or Julie on venuemanager@bribieartscentre.com.au OR pick up a form at the Centre's front desk.

Was this you?

Did you commission leadlighter Keith Barclay to make this lampshade two or three years ago?

If so, please contact Prim Rogers-Walker in leadlighters on pro95444@bigpond.net.au



Goodbye and thank you, Sandra



Colleagues and friends gathered over morning tea this month to farewell and thank long-time admin volunteer **Sandra Winton** (far left). Sandra has been a wonderful & competent barcode creator for thousands of art works in the six years she's been volunteering at BICAS. We will miss her. Sandra and her husband have moved to Burpengary and plan to travel both in Australia and overseas in the coming months.



Dates to Remember

FEBRUARY

February 20: A Journey of Mates & their Genres exhibition Matthew Flinders Gallery

February 22, 5pm: exhibition opening

February 23, 5pm: Book launch *Tripping Over the Ocean* with Anne Millen

MARCH

March 3, 10am: Looks Like Resin workshop with Robin Jensen

March 8, 6pm: Songbird concert in the Gallery with Sue Wighton

March 17, 10am: Alcohol Ink workshop with Robin Jensen

March 12: Scratch the Surface exhibition opens Matthew Flinders Gallery

March 26: Sister Concepts exhibition opens Matthew Flinders Gallery