

BICAS Newsletter



from the Board...

As I write, there are only four weeks to Christmas so I hope you've all started your shopping.

The Arts Centre has had a solid financial year to date. Figures for the Café for the year have been increasing steadily and it has reached capacity numbers often. Of course, great outcome for our revenue, but a heavy workload on Corey and our volunteers. Increased sales of artworks and crafts have risen with the number of visitors to the Centre, both singular and on the many bus groups stopping in.



As of November, we have 707 members, so that's a lot of activity – and leans heavily on the working and parking facilities available. There is no opportunity to expand, so wherever you can, please ride share or car pool with your fellow creatives.

Our good takings have meant we can make improvements like the new admin office refit, which Stacey and the volunteers are enjoying. When our great new groundsman volunteer Colin Neu, wields his paintbrush there next week, it will look a treat.

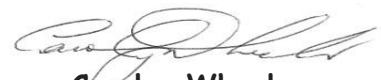
We're looking forward to some other big improvement works over the December/January period.

Some of this will be done while we are closed for business and some will carry over into January, so we ask for your patience if some of this disruption affects your activity here. The lovely but pesky leopard tree in the café courtyard will be removed next week and concreting in this area will begin December 18. This is to make way for the new roof covering over this seating area. It will eliminate the dusty and sometimes muddy conditions underfoot and provide a lovely weatherproof area for members and visitors and open the way for future events. Steph White is patiently managing this transformation and has plans in place for a green and leafy ambience to set it all off.

As well as this, maintenance and clean of the Centre's air conditioners, floors and carpets will all happen in this time. It all takes some considerable organization and planning and big thanks to Steph for her work here.

The Bribie Island Art Centre Board and staff wish you a wonderful and joyful Christmas and New Year. **The gallery will be closing on 20th December and re-opening on 9th January. The Café will be closing on 17th December re opening in January** date to be decided, based on the courtyard renovations.

Our last event, "Christmas in the Gallery" concert will be held on Saturday 16 December at 3.30pm. Tickets are \$15 and include the concert, a glass of bubbly and Christmas nibbles. Book now to come along to share some festive cheer and enjoy sweet sounds of Christmas ringing through our Gallery.



**Carolyn Wheeler
Chairman BICAS**



Corey has picked a fresh menu item for the December/January Cafe customers to enjoy.

It's Asian inspired Prawn and Chorizo Salad - \$21

Take a break over a cuppa while you're Christmas shopping here...

Cafe 191 is closed from Sunday 17 December to Tuesday 9 January, 2024.

big changes planned at our Cafe in the new year.. see page 7.



Exhibitions in the Matthew Flinders Gallery

A Touch of Red December 4 – January 14

Red-i alert...

The 2023/24 BICAS Members exhibition will be a red letter day for the Gallery...

Themed to include the bright end of the colour spectrum, it will be an eye-catching show



Upcoming Exhibitions

U3A Masters & Apprentices January 16 – 28, 2024

Masters, our U3A volunteer tutors, have assisted their Apprentices, students in their groups, to prepare and present a piece of their art, often displaying publicly for the first time. The emphasis is learning together, as tutors, who are all volunteers, share their expertise to extend the students' independent art journeys.

The display will cover the wide range of mediums covered in the classes and include pen and pencil drawing and watercolour, acrylic, mixed media, silk painting. A welcome addition this year is oil painting. With nearly 200 pieces from beginners to advanced level, it is sure to be a lively, colourful and challenging exhibition.

Pics: U3A groups plan their entries in 2024 Masters & Apprentices exhibition



Arts Centre Showcase January 30

A magnificent display of all the magnificent works created by our Working Together Groups here.

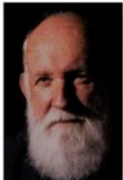


Exhibitions in the Matthew Flinders Gallery continued

Upcoming exhibitions more:

EXHIBITION

A JOURNEY OF MATES AND THEIR GENRES

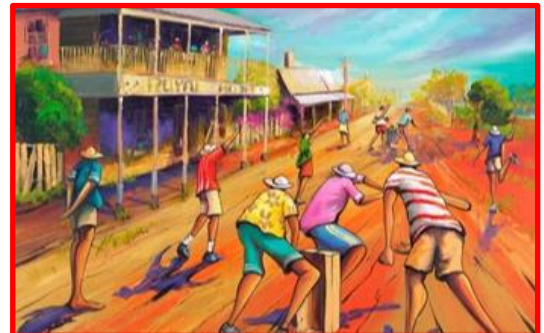


MATTHEW FLINDERS GALLERY
BRIBIE ISLAND ARTS CENTRE

DATE: 19th February 2024
until
10th March 2024



DONALD JAMES WATERS OAM - ARTIST + WAYNE BUDGE - PHOTOGRAPHER



And much more to look forward to in 2024

| | |
|---------------------------------|--|
| Scratch the Surface: | Printmakers March 12 - 24 |
| Sister Concepts: | Sue Gardner March 26 - April 14 |
| Colour Paper & Thread: | Painters, Textile & Pen & Pencil artists April 16 - 28 |
| Sacred Ground: | Glenda Charles April 30 - May 12 |
| Refocus: | Diane Flint & Sue Duffy May 14 - 26 |
| Just Nudes: | May 28 - June 9 |
| Eclectica 9: | Ellie Williams June 18 - July 5 |
| Matthew Flinders Art Prize | July 13 - August 2 |
| Arts Alliance: | Karan Gerard August 4 - 16 |
| Next Generation Art Prize | August 17 - September 8 |
| Canvas & Clay: | Carol Smedley & Jacki Moon September 10 - September 22 |
| Inspiration Through Art: | Art group mixed September 24 - October 6 |
| Print.ed: | Printmakers October 8 - October 20 |
| Bribie Woodcrafters Exhibition: | October |
| Colour, Form & Reflections | Gail Greening, Shirley Heapy & Sue Rothbrust November 5 - 17 |
| Art Tarts: | Mixed artists of various mediums November 19 - December 1 |
| BICAS Members: | December 3 - January 2024. |

Artist of the Month - December / January 2024

Young Artists at Bribie?

Hell Yeah!

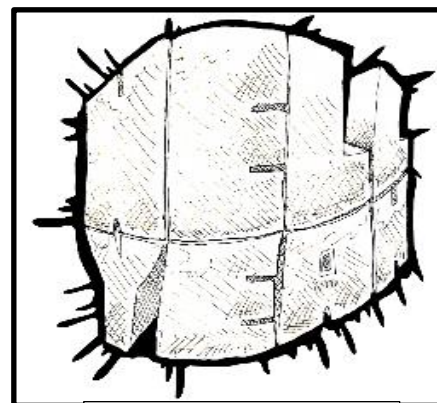


Image by Magnus Dreyer

December and January sees the inauguration of **YOUTH Artists of the Month at the Arts Centre.**

It will be exclusively for artists aged 15-21 who have demonstrated serious practice as well as a high standard of skill.

The first of these in December/January showcases three artists in an exhibition titled HELL YEAH!

They are Magnus Dreyer, 15, Olya Ignatovich, 16 and Nicole Gulwell, 18.

Watch for their works and come meet them at the Centre over morning tea on **Saturday, 9 December at 10.30am**, where they will speak about their art and what it means to them.

RSVP please on 3408 9288 as spaces are limited

Christmas - New Year timetable

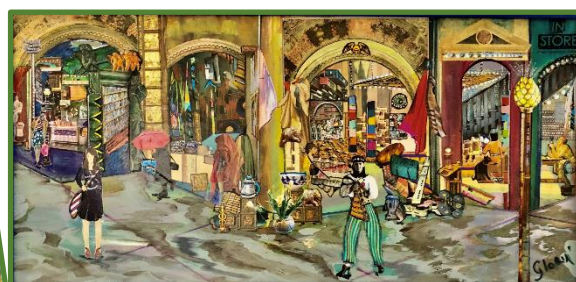
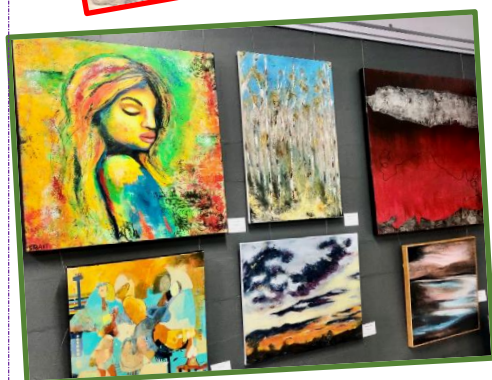
The Arts Centre will close for Christmas break from COB Wednesday December 20 until 9am Tuesday January 9, 2024.

Cafe191 will close 1pm Sunday December 17 and reopen 9am Tuesday January 9.

During the recess, there will be some major works, maintenance, deep cleaning and repairs carried out, so there will be **NO ACCESS to the studios or spaces at this time**. We hope all members understand that in order to upkeep the facilities and rooms in good condition, we need to schedule work around available contractors over Christmas and New Year to fit this in, so intermittent entry by art groups in this period is problematic.

In the Gift Shop

Lots to see, love and buy....



Around the Centre



What a year that was - and recent activity and creativity at the Centre has been stimulating, fun and fruitful.



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GOOD TIMES

1. Kitty & KG hit the high notes at the Pumicestone Piano event.
2. Kieren Watts shows a leadlighter his soldering technique.
3. Isabelle was an enthusiastic participant in the Pumicestone Piano event.
4. Brother Julius held his nerve at the keyboard too.
5. Leadlighters working on their star attractions.
6. Potters Christmas ornament workshop which proved great fun.
7. Tactile Textile group were heads down on their projects.
8. Sgraffito technique class produced some lovely pottery results.
9. Robin Jensen's Christmas wreath workshop saw some wonderful and varied creations emerge.



Around the Centre continued



10



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13



14



15



16



17



18

GOOD TIMES

10. Steph White, Prim Rogers-Walker and Di Carr enjoyed the opening night of Arts Tarts in the Gallery.
11. CAP group members Cheryl, Tina and Ann let Melbourne Cup Day fun go to their head.
12. Helen Mitchell, Molly Galpin and Noelene Machan were three Arts Tarts in fine form at their exhibition opening.
13. Lyn Buck pretty pleased with her glass works in the Arts Tarts show.
14. Cr. Brooke Savage opens the Art Tarts exhibition.
15. Glass worker Bridie loving the learning curve.
16. Island Quilters Christmas market was a big hit in October.
17. Arts Tarts were presented with Dragon Boat appreciation roses. Art Tarts donated art works for the local Pink Dragon breast cancer survivors for a fund-raising raffle during the exhibition.
18. Faye Clark from Thursday Quilters took some of Wendy Lynch's Little Golden Books diary/journal/notebooks to Cambodia recently, where she did a teaching stint and the students loved them. . These are available in our gift shop.



Cafe 191 continues to run hot as an island favourite coffee stop.

Visitors come for the art and stay for the coffee - or is it they come for the coffee and?

Whatever, it's more and more difficult to get a seat there at morning tea. .

There are some big changes for this space coming in 2024.

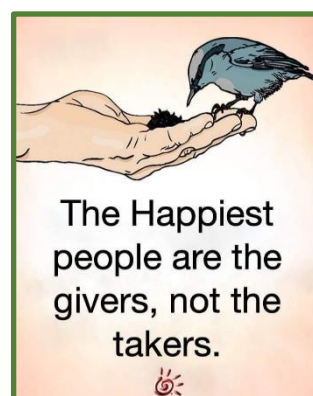
The large leopard tree that has been a mixed blessing (falling seed pods, clogging awning gutters and invading roots) in the cafe courtyard is going; an extensive lined shade with fans will be erected over the outside tables, under and around which will be concreted and landscaped.

Steph White, BICAS treasurer, has been planning and managing the project which is timed for January.

Works will be a bit disruptive during the build, but the end result will be wonderful, increase significantly dining comfort - and art event opportunities here.

A recent Bribie Nature Festival gig here, the Pumicestone Piano weekend, was a great success and took the Cafe to a high note.

Pianists came from near and far to show their keyboard skills on a funky painted piano, designed by artist and which she painted with the Bribie Kindergarten children.



Our Cafe vols continue to be a fun, albeit hard working lot and welcome newcomers each week. They were delighted recently with the arrival of smart new aprons which claim to be fadeproof and need no ironing !!!

We're always keen to engage new Cafe helpers. Shifts run to about 3.5 hours and can be weekly, fortnightly or as an emergency help. No experience needed.



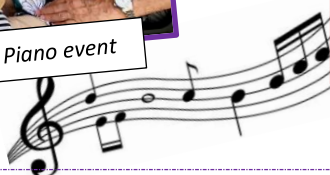
Sandra Hoppe in one of the new no-iron Café aprons



Julie Parsons & gang at Pumicestone Piano event



Janine & her Choir Members around the wonderful piano





'Just Nudes' Exhibition

Just Nudes; go figure

In what appears a BICAS first, for those who love figure drawing, there is an exhibition on Nudes in the Gallery scheduled for May 2024.

Titled "Just Nudes", it is curated by Portrait and Figure Painting Group leader, Gaye Tait and will run May 27 - June 16.

"The nude, as a form of visual art that focuses on the unclothed human body is an enduring tradition in Western art."

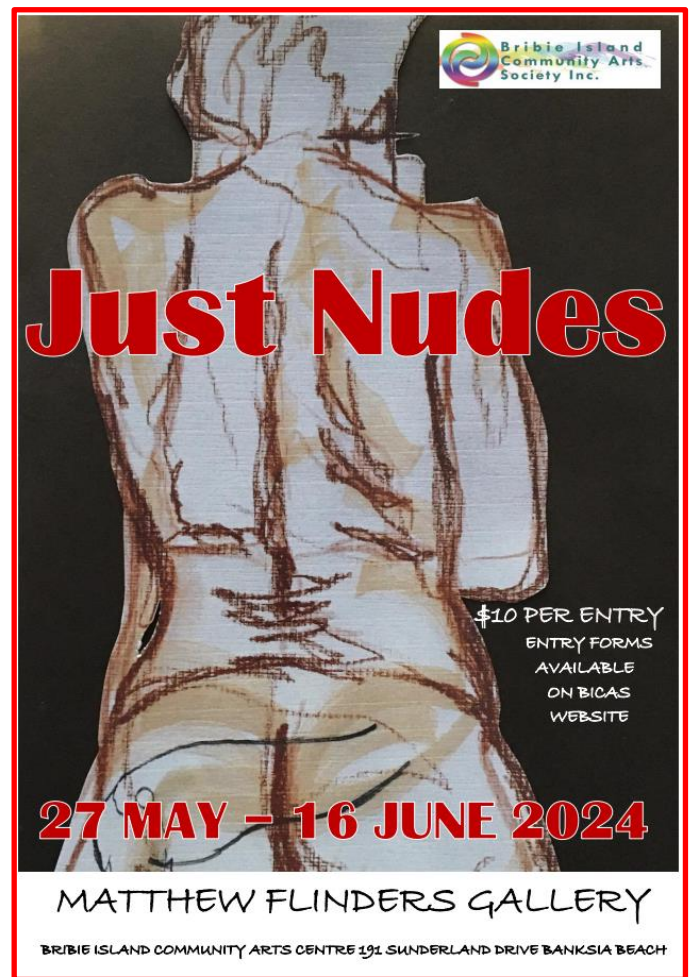
Art can never exist without naked beauty displayed.'

William Blake

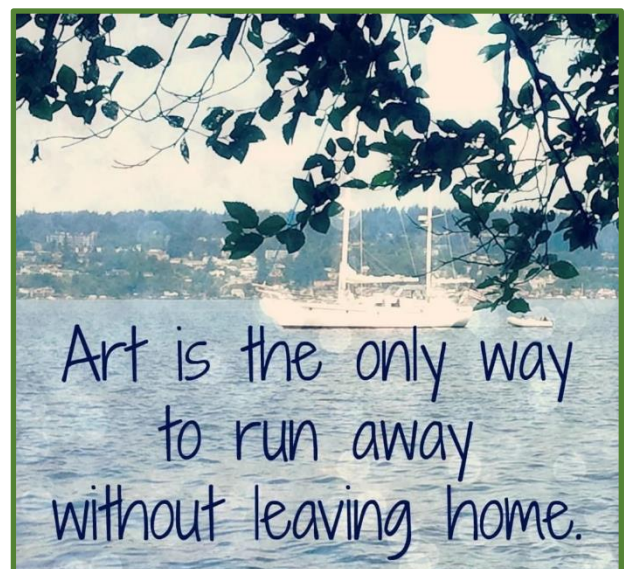


Gaye and her committee are in the planning stages and hope to make it a much talked about event -like one she curated in Bundaberg some years ago.

The Just Nudes committee will vet all entries for hanging. Details are on the website ...



In the meanwhile, **Pauline Adair** will run a workshop at the Centre on **Saturday February 17** for those artists who would like to brush up on their figure drawing techniques ahead of the exhibition.. (see page 13).





Pete Schinkel Book Promotion

Pete's book has him drawing on a new genre

Popular local art tutor, Pete Schinkel has added another string to his bow, with the launch at the Arts Centre recently of his book *Twisted Planet Volume 1: an anthology of science fiction short stories*.

A student of Gary Crew's writing course on Bribie, he invited his writing mentor to launch the book before a crowd of about 50 family and friends - and fellow writing enthusiasts.

Pete has a plan to follow up with five more volumes of the genre, his favourite in exploring the ways and means humans deal with unexpected and unheard of phenomena.

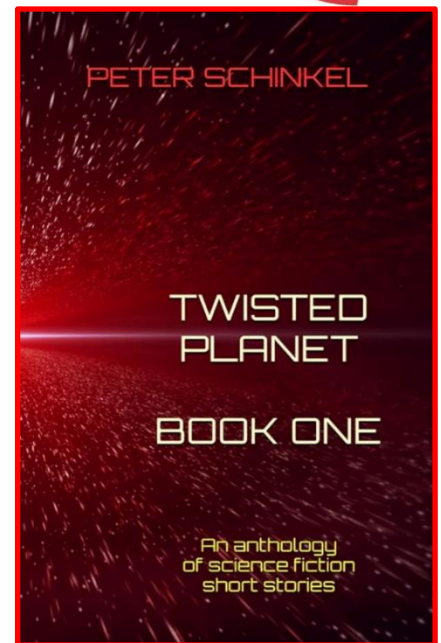
He has already had pleasing success with the book on Amazon on-line sales worldwide.

The book sells at the Arts Centre for \$17.95 and paperback is also available online and eBook also via Amazon.

Says Pete:

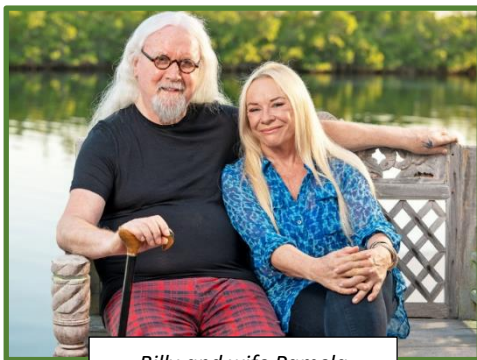
"I must thank Gary Crew, retired Emeritus Professor of Creative Writing, UniSC and the Bribie Island writing world (there are a few authors here), friends and family, and my amazing editing team for help getting me here.

I'm really proud of this book. I love the stories because they're fun, entertaining, sometimes serious but always warm-hearted."



Pete, Gary and fellow scribe Bev Young at his launch

Billy Connolly likes his new artist self better than the funny man



Billy and wife Pamela

Connolly, who was diagnosed with Parkinson's Disease in 2013, revealed four years ago that he was giving up stand-up to **concentrate on his art** due to his declining health. He says art has brought him new happiness and has remade himself as an artist.

"I like the guy I invented. I can't remember the old one." he said.



Billy with some of his art

Volunteer Spotlight



Bill Hague

Café 191 & Hanging Team Volunteer

Why do you volunteer at the Arts Centre?

Why does anyone volunteer? Lifestyle, personal circumstances - the good and the not so good, giving back to the community, the opportunity to meet like-minded people and artists, who come in many categories. I've been a volunteer for 15 months and it's been a great opportunity to get me out of my sedentary-of-late lifestyle. Four hours a few times a week is so good for me.

What do you do at the Arts Centre?

I predominantly volunteer in Cafe191. WOW, such a vibrant busy atmosphere. I thoroughly enjoy being a part of the Changeover Hanging team and assisting in special events at the Arts Centre throughout the year.

What do you like about volunteering at the Arts Centre?

In four jobs, in my 55-year work life, I've always been part of a team, mostly as a team leader or supervisor. It is clichéd, however so true: "There is no I in team". Yes, we have hiccups at times, but that's when Barb's singing brings a smile and a laugh to us all. Given the size of our kitchen, Chef Corey, very ably assisted by Monica and Darren and a loyal cadre of volunteers, the output of coffees and food is truly astounding.

What is also particularly pleasing is our customers, the regulars and the newbies. Their positive comments make it all worthwhile.

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

The Arts Centre gives so much back to the Community of Bribie Island, I find it is a wonderful place to work and to meet so many people of all ages. I would recommend volunteering to anyone who has a little spare time to give.

Do you practise art yourself?

No.

VOLUNTEER
I CARE, I HELP
I MAKE A
DIFFERENCE

"Don't ever question the value of volunteers. Noah's Ark was built by volunteers; the Titanic was built by professionals."

DAVE GYNN

Volunteers

We need you!

If you can spare us a few hours a week or a fortnight. get in touch at venuemanager@bribieartscentre.com.au



Events

Come potter around for this...



BRIBIE GEM CLUB, WOODCRAFTERS & POTTERS

Christmas MARKET DAY

10 DEC 2023 | FREE ADMISSION STARTS AT 9:00 AM

Perfect Handcrafted Christmas gifts. Jewellery, pottery, artisan wooden items, raffles, food...

BRIBIE ISLAND COMMUNITY ARTS CENTRE
191 SUNDERLAND DRIVE, BANKSIA BEACH



AND

GALLERY SINGERS^{NC}

PRESENT

Christmas Carol Chant



Celebrate the festive season here with a joyous repertoire of Yuletide favourites & some less well known carols that give the season that special lift presented by Gallery Singers.

BRIBIE ISLAND COMMUNITY ARTS CENTRE

MATTHEW FLINDERS GALLERY

Saturday DECEMBER 16, 3:30pm

\$15 pp.* BOOKINGS at the ARTS CENTRE, ph 3408 9288

or here <https://www.bribieartscentre.com.au/events/christmas-concert>

Galley Christmas concert

Join us for this great afternoon of festive song in the Gallery.



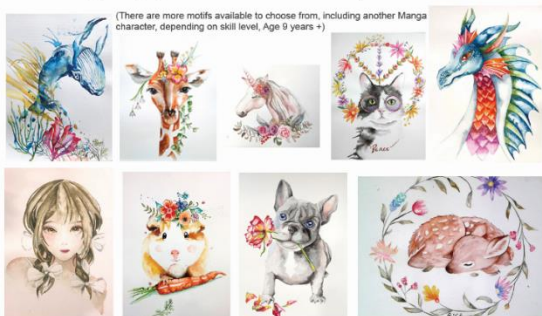
WATERCOLOUR Kids Art Classes

@ Bribie Island Community Arts Centre



Dates: 10th of January Time: 9am- 12 lunch Cost: \$ 90
17th of January Time: 9am- 12 lunch Cost: \$ 90

This course is an excellent opportunity for your child to find their passion with watercolour. After a few fun activities learning the flow of water and paint, we will embark on an exciting journey together to create the animal masterpiece.



(There are more motifs available to choose from, including another Manga character, depending on skill level, Age 9 years +)

Cost: \$ 90 (all materials included)

Book on
0414872118 or
sabine@welcometoalice.com.au



For more on adult and kids classes please go to the website or contact Sabine on mobile: 0414872118
sabine@welcometoalice.com.au

www.welcometoalice.com.au

for the young creatives...



WORKSHOPS

How about these interesting workshops in the pipeline for 2024: much to get your Creative teeth into...

 Bribie Island Community Arts Society Inc.

ACRYLIC POURING WORKSHOP



with *Robin Jensen*

Acrylic pouring is a fun and easy way to create one-of-a-kind works of art or decorative items for your home, or for gifts. It is mesmerizing and quite addictive!

Learn simple paint-pouring techniques to create gorgeous abstract patterns by pouring acrylic paint onto a surface and let it run amok!

**10AM – 3PM SUNDAY 28TH JANUARY AT
BRIBIE ISLAND COMMUNITY ARTS CENTRE**

Requirements— paint, canvases. Optional - wooden trays, tissue boxes, wooden placemats, wooden coasters, clocks, etc. More info re paint brands, etc, will be emailed on enquiry.

Cost \$80. Includes white paint (we use a lot!), tools, pouring medium, silicone oil, plastic gloves, glitter & resources sheet.

Further details, or to book, please contact Robin Jensen
Phone 0421043924 Email j-robin@aapt.net.au



Join **Pauline Adair**
for her workshop

Embracing the Nude: Developing your Individual Vision

Drawing the Figure in Charcoal with Pauline
Saturday 17th February, 2024
9am - 3.30pm



Using photo references, after some quick warmups and some hand/eye coordination exercises, we will proceed to finished charcoal drawings. You will learn to draw more accurately with my technique of 'seeing and then delivering' marks to the paper.

I will show you how to switch easily between left and right brain thinking.

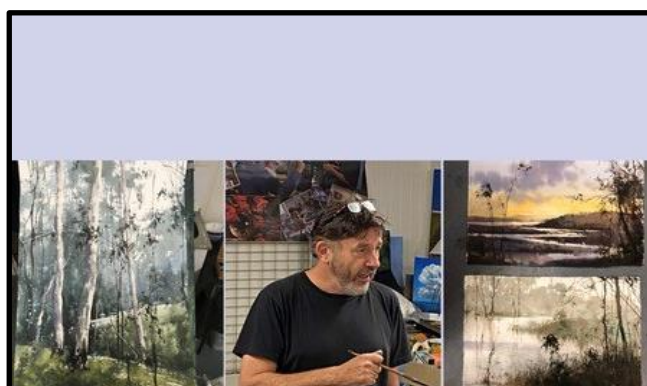
We will look at dynamic cropping, the portrait, and easy ways with hands & feet and why we should include them more often!

I will encourage participants to follow their own vision and develop their own individual style.

(Demonstration: Ink & Wash figure, if time allows)

COST: \$75pp (BICAS members) \$85 non-members.

BOOK on <https://www.briebieartscentre.com.au/events/embracing-the-nude-developing-your-individual-vision> **or ph 3408 9288**



Herman Pikel Workshops 2024

2 days of Acrylics & 2 days of Watercolour
tutoring by one of the most recognised
contemporary artist internationally and in
Australia

**20th & 21st July Acrylics
22nd & 23rd July Watercolour**

FEE: \$450 PER CLASS

**Where: Bribie Island Community Arts Centre
Wisteria Fine Art Studio**

Bookings & more info: www.ronbryant.com.au
Contact: 0408 884 346

**BICAS Members get 10 per cent
discount when booking for these two
workshops.
Mention your membership number on
registration.**



John Wilson Oil workshop 2024

We have extended the workshop next year to 8
days for the keen students who would like to learn
from this Master Oil Painter who is renowned for
his magnificent Australian
landscapes

10th August to 18th August

FEE: \$1650 for 8 days (rest day Wednesday)

**Where: Bribie Island Community Arts Centre
Wisteria Fine Art Studio**

Bookings & more info: www.ronbryant.com.au
Contact: 0408 884 346

5 THINGS I Love About Bribie



DIANNE WALLACH

Front Desk Volunteer

1. **Crossing the Bridge.** From the time of our first visit to Bribie Island, the sense of "I'm Home" that comes over you as you cross the bridge, is amazing.

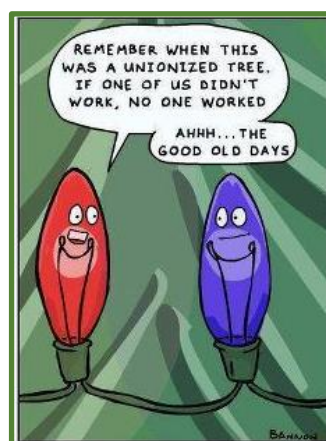
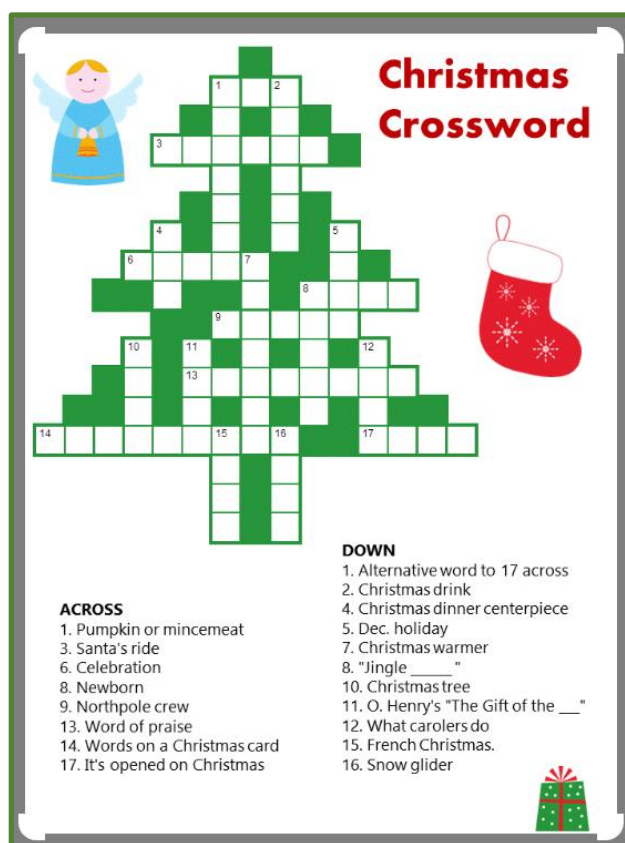
2. **Community.** The friendly greeting you receive from total strangers as you pass them on your morning or evening walks. Get together and the support you receive from amazing neighbors, who, like you, have come from somewhere else to make Bribie their home.

3. **The Arts Centre.** Working as a volunteer at Café 191 or on the front desk, I meet many wonderful people. The great coffee and food in the café and ever-changing displays in the galleries, make the Arts Centre a fantastic hub for locals and visitors alike.

4. **The Wildlife.** Living on the golf course, it's wonderful to have kangaroos grazing on your front lawn and eating your plants. Seeing ducks waddling around the streets and in the waterways and the constant bird song is music to the ears.

5. **The Environment.** Walks along Pumicestone Passage, the occasional dolphin sightings and the beautiful pelicans. Beach walks at Woorim, on the sand or along the waterline, I find it all very therapeutic.

A bit of Christmas Cheer



MEMBERSHIPS



To remain eligible to exhibit/sell your art and craft in the Arts Centre or for discounted WTG classes, you must hold a current 2024 membership. Take advantage of the Early Bird Rates as shown.

2024 MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL IS DUE

2024 EARLY BIRD MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FEES

1 January to 31 April 2024

****Early Bird Renewal - \$35.00**

****Early Bird Renewal Concession - \$30.00**

****Early Bird Junior Members Renewal (12-17 years) - \$17.50**

Note: From 1 April 2024 all RENEWING Members will be charged at the LAPSED Member Fee of \$45 or LAPSED Member Concession \$40.00

Membership Payments at the Arts Centre can be made from 9 January onwards otherwise payments can be made online from 1 January 2024 only.

DATES TO REMEMBER

DECEMBER

- DECEMBER 4:** A Touch of Red exhibition opens
- DECEMBER 10:** Potters Market Day
- DECEMBER 16:** Christmas in the Gallery concert
- DECEMBER 17:** Cafe 191 closes for Christmas break
- DECEMBER 20:** Arts Centre closes for Christmas break

JANUARY 2024

- JANUARY 9:** Arts Centre reopens.
- JANUARY 16:** U3A Masters & Apprentices exhibition opens
- JANUARY 10:** Sabine Von Graz's Children's watercolour workshop
- JANUARY 17:** Sabine's Von Graz's Children's watercolour workshop
- JANUARY 28:** Robin Jensen acrylic pouring workshop
- JANUARY 30:** BICAS Showcase exhibition opens



Thank you to Howard Kennedy
for this festive thought....



A Crafty Christmas (Bribie Island CAS)

© W. Howard Kennedy
(Author of Mr Leaf's Dream.)

The craft group was a busy burst of bold activity
The knitters were all creating, a wool "knitvity."
Mary, Joseph and donkey on knitting needles grew.
While the baby Jesus grew within, to be born anew.

The woodworkers with lathes and scroll saws had a plan to carve
the props and shelters needed, so they wouldn't freeze or starve.
The jewellers cut their gemstones to create a shining star,
Setting them in silver, seen clearly from afar!

Potters created water pots, spinning Christmas clay,
firing them in their kiln with glazes bright and gay.
The textile group stitched busily teasing felt and thread.
The quilters created covers to lay upon HIS bed!

Painters planned the background of acrylics, waters, oils,
to accentuate the scene, that each Christmas Day embroils.
Photographers developed prints with their creative eyes.
Presenting unique perspectives of our ever-changing skies.

Gardeners hedged a landscape that surely would inspire
the wonder of it all at the birth of the Messiah.
Cory baked his carrot cake with his secret recipe.
Not even for Christmas will he share it publicly!

Writers created a narrative to that to this day endures.
"A miracle of virgin birth which each Art Tart assures
was all a part of BICAS and their creative plan.
Now with so many artists, that's how it all began.

A story of creation that still makes our spirits rise.
Our humble appreciation when someone comes and buys.
As always, a Crafty Christmas with so many gifts to choose.
Drop on in and take a look! What have you got to lose?

Thanks to the elves who run it (Our band of volunteers.)
Let's bring in the Christmas spirit and give them all three cheers!