



THE CRAFTY ARTIST

Newsletter of the
Ballina Arts & Crafts Centre Inc.
AUGUST 2025

PRESIDENTS REPORT

The month of July has brought some cold and wet weather, however when the skies clear and the warming sun shines down upon our landscape, what a joy it is!! I do hope that many of you have been able to make use of these days of inside activities. Inspiration is such a precious commodity and when it arrives it can uplift the winter energy of our daily life.

As for me I arrived home mid-month, filled with sun-drenched memories and into the winter season. That was hard I must admit and I did suffer a bit of holiday blues.

So, inspiration...what is it??

noun

1. The excitement of the mind or emotions to a high level of feeling or activity.
"a singer who found her inspiration in popular songs of the 1920s."
2. The condition of being so excited.
"sat down to write in a sudden burst of inspiration."
3. The quality of being so excited, as manifested in something.
"a painting full of inspiration."

Pablo Picasso believed that inspiration comes while actively working, famously stating,

"Inspiration exists, but it has to find you working."

This emphasises the importance of engaging in the creative process to spark new ideas...

Wishing you all a great month of August, may it bring creativity, warmth and peace for all.

Françoise

The 15th Annual Grace Cruice Exhibition at the NRCG

August 2026 is the start of the fabulous 15th Annual Grace Cruice Memorial Exhibition, BACCI enters each year.

Delivery of works for this exhibition will be received by Mary and Andrew, at the gallery on Monday, 17 August between 9.00am and 10.00am only.

No late entries will be accepted after the cut off time of **strictly 10.00am**.

If there are any changes to the drop off times, all entrants will be notified.

Please DO NOT LEAVE WORKS AT THE GALLERY at any other time – the NRCG staff will not accept them.

Opening night is Thursday, 20 August and starts at 5.00pm, with speeches and snacks.



WHAT'S COMING UP?

Monthly meeting of 2016:

Date: Tuesday, 4 August 2026
Time: 5.00pm for 5.30pm start
Show & Tell: Janet Bidewell
Location: Boardroom
Cherry Street Sports Club
Cnr Cherry & Bentinck Streets
Ballina

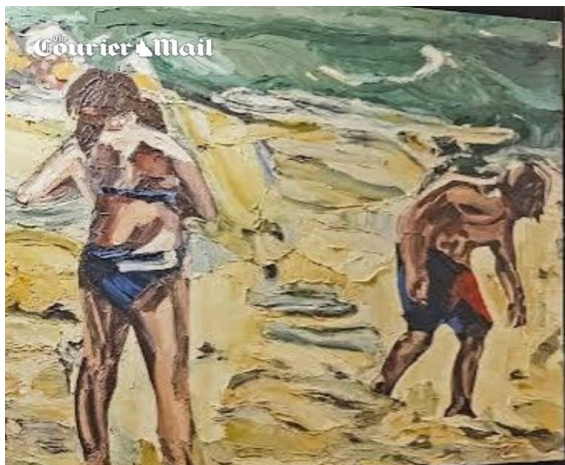
LENNOX NEWS

There has been a lot of publicity about the winning artwork from the 2025 [The Doyles Art Award](#) (this exhibition carries a first prize of \$20,000).

The winning artwork is a copy of a painting by the famous Australian artist [Nicholas Harding](#) (images below). It has also been discovered that the artist had done this before and won prize money.



Nicholas Harding



*Winning artwork by Jane Allen Lennox
Head artist.*

The exhibition was judged by a group of experienced judges, so why was the imitation missed? I can think of a couple of reasons.

- Firstly, the size, the Nicholas Harding work is quite small in old terms 11" X 14" and has been in a private collection since 2014.
- The Jane Allen work is quite large.
- Secondly although this is obviously a copy it is not illegal to copy technique, anyone can use the style.

What will happen ... I don't know yet? I'm sure the Doyles will want their money returned and I did hear they will be returning the painting.

I will never understand the artists motive!

This incident has led to a lot of discussion about artists copyright, so I will write about copyright over the next few months. My reference source is [Australian Copyright Council](#), they publish leaflets and books about copyright, and you can contact them if you have any questions.

I'll start this month with a couple of commonly asked questions.

1. Do I need permission to make a painting or drawing based on a photograph?

Generally, if you use a photograph as a source of information, eg colours, proportions, of an animal, bird) you will not need permission. However, if you reproduce an important part of the photographer's composition, you may need permission. Please note there are many copyright free, reference sites for artists on the internet and Facebook.

2. Can I use another person's work if I make changes?

You do not escape the obligation by making changes or additions to the work, such as changing colours. If you put the two works side by side and identify important parts that have been copied, you need permission. The old idea that you can change 10% of the picture is **incorrect!**

3. Do I need permission to copy an artistic work from a book?

I'll answer this one next month.

Lesley Ryan

CREATIVE ARTISANS **GALLERY NEWS**

Featured artist for August 2026 is:

1. Rod Ellis

Creative Artisans Gallery (CAG) is pleased to showcase **Rod Ellis** as our **Artist of the Month for August**.

A Ballina local since the early 1980s, Rod brings more than 40 years of experience in signwriting and graphic design to his artwork. His strong understanding of colour, balance and composition has naturally evolved into a passion for painting.

Rod is an artist who refuses to be confined to one style or subject. Working predominantly in acrylics and occasionally in oils, he enjoys exploring new ideas and techniques, creating artwork that is fresh, diverse and full of character.

His August exhibition reflects his philosophy of painting what inspires him, with a collection that ranges across a variety of subjects and styles. Every visit offers something different to discover.

CAG is home to more than 40 talented local artists and artisans and is a not-for-profit community gallery supporting creativity across the Northern Rivers.

We invite BACCI members and the wider community to visit Rod's exhibition during August and support local artists.

**CAG Shop 1 & 8, Wigmore Arcade
River Street, Ballina
is open:**

Monday to Friday 9.30am–3.30pm | Saturday
9.30am–12.00pm

For enquiries, contact the gallery or follow us on Facebook to keep up with exhibitions, workshops and special events.



Exciting News – Save the Date!

The Creative Artisans Gallery, in partnership with [Ballina Coast High School](#), will be hosting a special fundraising exhibition to help raise the much-needed funds required to keep their gallery doors open.

This event is about bringing our community together, the CAG needs the communities support. Whether you're a student, customer, artist, artisan, or a member of the local community, your involvement will make a real difference.

Please keep the below dates free and join us for what promises to be a wonderful weekend celebrating creativity while helping secure the future of the gallery.

The Gallery will also be seeking volunteers and donations to help make the event a success.

Throughout the weekend there will be raffles, prizes, and other fundraising activities, culminating in the draw of our major raffle.

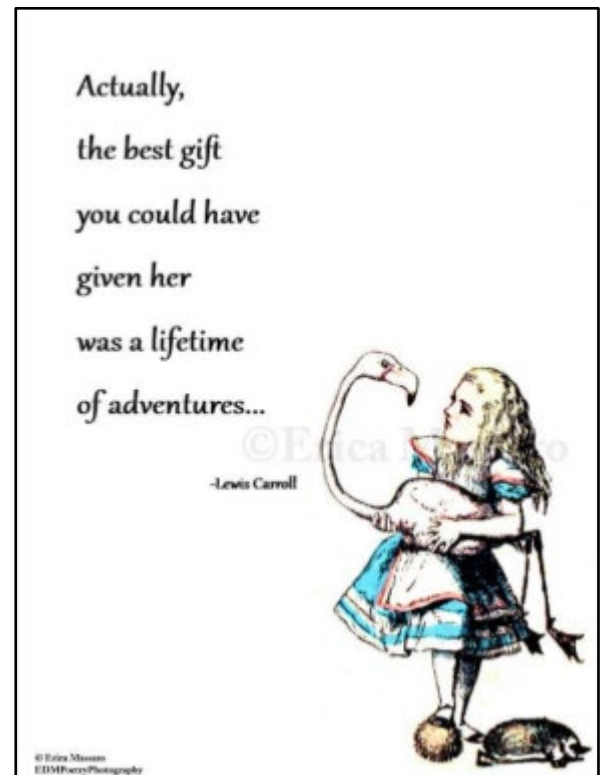
More details will be announced soon. Thank you for your continued support—we couldn't do it without you.

CAG Opening hours are:

- Monday to Friday: from 9.30am to 3.30pm
- Saturday: from 9.30 am to 12 noon
- Closed: Sundays and Public Holidays

For any enquiries, please contact us via email at info@creativeartisans.org.au

Cheers
Pauline Rutten



Lindsey Ryan Finalist in the Greenway Art Prize The 9x5 Landscape Art Prize 2026

Congratulations!

Lesly's artwork has been selected as a finalist in:

'The 9x5 Landscape Art Prize 2026'

by judges:

- [Jonathan Dalton](#)
- [Marnie Ross](#)



[The Greenway Art Prize](#)

The GreenWay Art Prize 2027 is an upcoming eco-art event planned by the [Inner West Council](#) in Sydney to celebrate Sydney's urban green corridor through visual art.

The GreenWay Art Prize was established in 2010 to capture the essence of the Greenway through visual art and to celebrate the vibrancy, creativity and community spirit of the Inner West.

Official planning and details regarding the 2027 continuation are currently moving through council resolution reports.

A notable event on the Inner West arts and culture calendar, the GreenWay Art Prize celebrates the qualities of the Cooks River to Iron Cove GreenWay – a precious 5.8km urban environmental and sustainable transport corridor in Sydney's Inner West.

The GreenWay follows the route of the Inner West Light Rail and Hawthorne Canal and features bike paths and foreshore walks, cultural and historical sites, cafes, bush care sites and a range of parks, playgrounds and sporting facilities.

www.greenway.org.au.



Cassino Art Gallery



CASSINO ART GALLERY

Watercolour Art Prize A Fabulous Exhibition

19th Sept to 31st Oct 2026
148 Barker Street, Casino NSW

We would like to invite all watercolour artists, school age kids included, to take part in our
Watercolour Art Prize Exhibition and Competition

Total Prize Money \$4000
First Prize: \$2000
Second Prize: \$1000
Third Prize: \$750
Fourth Prize: \$250 (kids)

Entry forms can be emailed on request from
cassinoartgallery@gmail.com or downloaded from
www.cassinoartgallery.org.au
Entries close Sept 5th.

Artworks to be delivered to the gallery on Saturday
Sept 12th between 10am and 2pm. There will be an
exhibiting/hanging fee of \$20 per item (kids' entries free).
Artwork must not have been previously exhibited at
Cassino Art Gallery. Artworks can be offered for sale with
30% commission of the sale price paid to Cassino Art
Gallery for any work sold. There will be no commission on
kids' sales. Final acceptance of all artworks submitted will
be at the discretion of the Cassino Art Gallery.

For enquiries: Maree Beek 0439308620



Ballina Wave Magazine re 'Artist of the Month'

Ballina Wave have given a monthly space to a BACCI member, titled '**Artist of the Month.**'

Details needed for article are:

- 200 words about you and your work (it would also be great if you could mention BACCI)
- 2 x JPEG photos (these can be of you and your work or just your work)
- email your Ballina Wave artist profile (as a word document) and your pictures and to Rosie (ballinabacci@gmail.com) by the 1st of the month
- if you are unsure how to do the above, maybe a family member or friend could help you
- please also please email this document and pictures to Maria (mariaheaton@hotmail.com), she will post this on BACCI's Facebook page
- it would be great if all members could take advantage of this opportunity, **please** email your document and pictures to Rosie (ballinabacci@gmail.com)

Do you have anything to share, (eg art info, travel adventures and/or photos)? If so, please contact Rosie about your story – you can either mail or email your story and photos, (remember to include your name) to:

The Secretary BACCI
PO Box 111
Ballina NSW 2478

OR

E ballinabacci@gmail.com

People say
NOTHING is
impossible,



but I do nothing
Every day.

-Winnie the Pooh

2026 North Coast Mud Trail



Open Ceramic Studios: 22 + 23 August
NEW! Workshop Days: 21 + 24 August

Register now to receive updates

Plus, go in the running to
win three nights accommodation in the
beautiful town of Bangalow, including
access to a full ceramic studio
(redeemable within 12 months).

