



THE CRAFTY ARTIST

Newsletter of the

Ballina Arts & Crafts Centre Inc.

FEBRUARY 2023

PRESIDENTS REPORT

After almost a month I'm finally used to writing 2023. Not sure if you have had the same problem?? Nevertheless, I hope you have all had time to be creative and if not ... stop making excuses. We can't wait to see what spectacular works your creative energy can produce for our exhibitions this year!!

So far for me, it's been a very busy year. I have been down to Melbourne to see some of the AO Tennis (which was great), my daughter & family have moved to Ballina from Murwillumbah (which allows me to see my grandkids a lot more), and the other big news is that I had a stent put in my heart after I had some bad chest pain, I'm fine now. You never know what's around the corner ... anyway enough about me.

I hope you all have had a great start to the year, our first meeting for 2023 is on Monday, 6 February at Cherry Street Sports Club (information follows).

The Committee had a meeting in December to review BACCI's exhibition format, expenditure and outcomes. This was also a great chance to discuss our purpose as a group. While our income from the past exhibition was not great we decided not to increase membership fees as we feel that the true essence of BACCI is to 'support our members' and give everyone the opportunity to show their artwork in a wonderful group exhibition. We are however proud to say we raised \$1,000 for our chosen charity, 'Heart to Heart'.



Kung Hai Fat Choi
(wishing you great happiness and prosperity)

BACCI is still considering seeking a business to sponsor us, and to, primarily, support us with the expenses of advertising. We feel that the more our exhibitions are promoted, the more public awareness will increase, and therefore will increase the public attendance at our Exhibitions.

The committee is having a further meeting on Tuesday, 31 January to discuss promotion / branding, and feedback will be available at the next BACCI Meeting.

We have 3 exhibitions currently pencilled in for this year – the dates are:

1. 5,6 and 7 May – Ballina Masonic Centre
2. 28 June to 20 August – Northern Rivers Community Gallery
3. 6, 7 & 8 October – Ballina Masonic Centre.

Membership is now due – please endeavour to finalise it ASAP.

Get Crafty and Arty – it really can bring joy to your life.

Cheers
Deb

Monthly meetings are the 1st Monday of each month – 1st meeting 2022:

Date: Monday, 6 February 2023

Time: 5.00pm (social & chat)
5.30pm (meeting)

Location: Boardroom
Cherry Street Sports Club
Cherry Street
Ballina

LENNOX NEWS

It's a bit scary how quickly another year has come around. I've spent some time seeing some marvellous exhibitions in the holiday break.

Firstly, in the National Gallery of Australia 'Cressida Campbells' work – it was a very impressive exhibition. Her unique process using a combined etching and watercolour technique I've not seen before, and I can't find anyone else using this process. She is very prolific, and it is a big exhibition. Most of her work is still life and interiors but there is also some inner-city landscape work sprinkled amongst the interiors. The exhibition has a film about her technique and displays of the materials and paints she uses (cotman watercolours – which surprised me, as they are not the best quality watercolours) She also keeps all her empty tubes, and it was interesting to see how much white watercolour paint she has used.



Art works
by Cressida
Campbell



My second notable gallery visit was the new wing of the NSW Art Gallery. This wing holds mainly contemporary works, and it is a very innovative space. The "Tank" space deep underground has an atmosphere all its own, but is also populated with some highly imaginative sculptures by Adrian Villar Rojas.



As much as I enjoyed exploring the cavernous place, I would like to have seen an Australian sculptor in the inaugural exhibition. The following picture is a sculpture in the welcome area of the new wing. If you were unfortunate to attract some bad weather, the two wings are not connected by any cover, which seems to me to be a little impractical for visitors and staff alike.

Below are some Art Prizes coming up shortly, pop onto their websites for more information:

- [Ravenswood Australian Women's Art Prize](#)
26 days to go
Open from 15/11/2022 to 15/02/2023
- [Milburn Art Prize](#)
70 days to go
Open from 15/01/2023 to 31/03/2023
- [Lethbridge 20,000 Small Scale Art Award](#)
112 days to go
Open from 18/01/2023 to 12/05/2023
- [Naked and Nude](#)
154 days to go
Open from 10/12/2022 to 23/06/2023

Happy creating
Lesley Ryan

UPCOMING WORKSHOP – ANDREW WATSON

For anyone that wants to come to a workshop (fun afternoon) in Alstonville, I will be hosting a GELLI and WINE WORKSHOP.

Numbers are strictly limited, therefore the first 8 people to contact me via email (bacciexhibitions@gmail.com) will secure a spot.

If you miss out in the first round, you will be added to a wait list and notified if there are any cancellations. Pre-payment is required (refundable if cancelling at least 10 days prior, under 10 days non-refundable).

Date: Saturday, 25 February 2023

Location: Andrew's Studio in Alstonville

Cost*: \$45.00 – this covers the cost of a small *GELLI plate which you take home and water colour paper to produce a folded story book to take home.
*The GELLI plate is 3 x 5 inches – if you have one this size, the cost would be \$20.

Time: 1.00pm to 5.00pm – although we may run over to 6.00pm, at the latest, and if you are having fun!

What to bring:

- acrylic paints
- old paper or hand towel to use as part of the process.
- some collage paper (don't need much)
- brushes
- a plate of nibbles to share.
- wine (if you would like a glass to enjoy)
- rubber rollers if you have one (the sort used for printmaking)
- textural items like bubble wrap, string etc, and a
- sense of fun

The aim of the workshop is to learn some basics and to produce a folded story card to take home.

Thanks
Andrew Watson

ARTISTS PROFILE

MARGARET E. BROWN

On behalf of BACCI we would like to wish one of our dear members, Margaret E Brown, a very Happy 90th Birthday for last week. Congratulations. You are inspirational.

Born and educated in Sydney, Margaret has always loved sketching, and, although desirous of pursuing a career in art, or, as a second choice, architecture or medicine, parental guidance steered her into occupational therapy, where she topped the course. Working at Royal North Shore Hospital, Sydney, she designed and launched the first Rehabilitation unit in Eastern Australia



For several years she was receptionist / nurse in her husband's medical practice, also with 3 children at home.

Further study gave her a Science Degree with Honours in Geology and Dip.Ed.

She taught Science, then lectured in Geology for several years before remarrying and moving to the Northern Rivers.



"There was no way I could fit that many candles on the cake, so I just set it on fire."

About Art:

- 1987 ... Margaret's initial steps in oil painting were at a workshop by Eric Minchin.
- 1989 – 1995 ... Introduction to a variety of techniques and media through Ballina Art Club tutorials.
- Since then, as an artist, she has worked mainly alone, with occasional inspiration from workshops or tutorials by notable tutors.
- Margaret is essentially a traditional painter, with a love of the outdoors, which takes her to many localities, and she is never happier than when setting up her easel by the roadside, or sitting on a log, sketching or painting.
- Margaret is most versatile in style and in the use of media, choosing oils, pen and wash, watercolours, acrylics, pastels, charcoal or mixed media, as the occasion appears to demand.



MESSAGE FROM SECRETARY RE MEMBERSHIP

Just letting you know that payment of your membership is **due by Friday, 31 March 2023**.

You need to be a paid-up member to exhibit and vote at the AGM on the Monday, 3 April.

Membership costs are:

- \$20 for full membership; and
- \$10 for associate / non exhibiting membership

A membership renewal form will no longer be required. However, if your personal details have changed, eg address, phone or email, please contact me via email (info@bacci.com.au).

Those of you who joined in November 2022 and later in 2022 do not have to pay again until 2024.

As BACCI now has 70+ members, sorting out payments, banking, etc, is a time-consuming process, therefore the committee has decided that if you **have not paid** your membership by Friday, 31 March 2023, you will be taken off the email list and you will lose your membership for 2023.

A group reminder will be sent out to remind you of the cut-off date.

**So simply.....you MUST PAY YOU
MEMBERSHIP BY 31st MARCH.**

How to pay:

Please make sure your name and **membership** are clearly written for reference.

- Pay via internet banking
BSB 637-000
Account 780393408.
- Pay can be made at either the February or March meeting (first Monday of the month)

- Dropped off in an envelope (addressed to BACCI) to Eddies at the Ballina Colour Copy Shop
- Via mail to BACCI, PO Box 111, Ballina NSW 2478
- Deposit directly into the Greater Bank Branch, River Street (near Wallaces) BSB 637-000 Account 780393408.

Do you have anything to share, (eg art info, travel adventures and/or photos)?

It would be great to feature one of your stories, and pictures, in a 2023 newsletter.

Please contact Andrew or Rosie about your story – please email your story and photos, (remember to include your name) to:

The Secretary
 BACCI
 PO Box 111
 Ballina NSW 2478
 E info@bacci.com.au

CREATIVE ARTISANS GALLERY NEWS

BRAIDIN DASNOV – Lino prints EXHIBITOR FOR JANUARY 2023



Braidin Dasnov’s inspiration for his lino prints come from the thin strip of coastal landscape covering the tidal zones and the dunes and swales that form the back parts of the Australian beaches and foreshores.

When making the lino prints, the black line work is first cut and printed onto 300gsm Arches watercolour paper by means of a hand operated press, when the ink is dry, the prints are individually hand coloured using Artist quality watercolour pigments.

Cheers
 Pauline Rutten



