



THE CRAFTY ARTIST

Newsletter of the

Ballina Arts & Crafts Centre Inc.

FEBRUARY 2025

PRESIDENTS REPORT

Hello everyone and welcome to a new year of creative endeavours.

May 2025 bring peace and joy to you and all of humankind.

These long summer days have brought extremely hot weather, perfect for slowing down, relaxing, swimming, eating, reading, and having time to appreciate our wonderful environment.

2025 is going to be a wonderful year for BACCI ... there are a few exhibitions already planned:

- our first one in Autumn,
- The Grace Cruice exhibition in the Winter months; and
- another in Spring

We look forward to working with all of you to make BACCI stronger, better, and ever more interesting.

During January, my partner and I spent a few days in Brisbane, it was a lovely little break. We went to a matinee at the Lyric theatre to see the musical Grease. It was a lot of fun, the costumes were fabulous, the songs from another era and the dancers were great.

We spent 6 hours(!!) at Queensland Art Gallery / The Gallery of Modern Art ([QAGOMA](#)) viewing [The 11th Asia Pacific Asia Pacific Triennial of Contemporary Art](#). We decided to join a guided tour, and it was a great introduction to some of the works and that allowed us to really “see” some of the works we may have not appreciated.

The Triennial is organised every three years with an exhibition, film programs, learning initiatives, Children’s Art Centre projects and a dedicated public program of talks and workshops.

For the first time this Triennial includes creators from Saudi Arabia, Timor-Leste and Uzbekistan, while First Nations, minority and diaspora cultures hold a central place, as do the collective, performative and community-driven modes of artmaking that thrive in the region.

Through nuanced approaches to storytelling, materials and technique the exhibition explores themes that resonate across these cultural landscapes, such as how we care for the natural and urban environments, protect and revive cultural heritage, and how histories of migration and labour shape experience today.

The Triennial is a gateway to the rapidly evolving artistic expression of Australia, Asia and the Pacific. Alongside artists and makers whose work has not been previously seen in Australia are a raft of new co-curated projects investigating artforms and cultural contexts rarely encountered outside their home localities.

We just loved the whole exhibition. Truly fabulous, and it’s on until 27 April.

Warm regards
Françoise Sauvère

WHATS COMING UP?

1st monthly meeting for 2025:

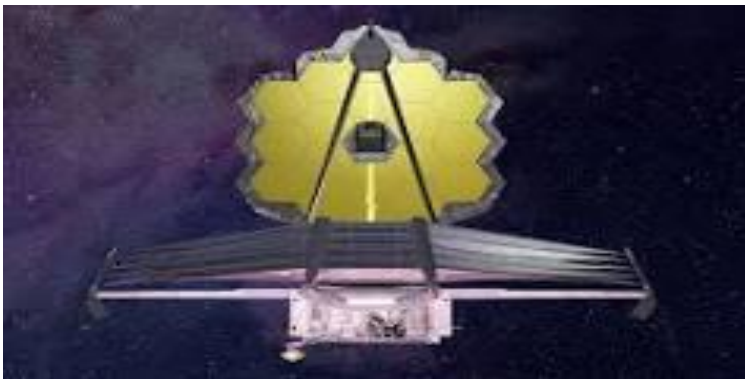
Date: Tuesday, 4 February 2025
Time: 5.00pm for 5.30pm start
Show & tell: Wendy Stretcher
Location: Boardroom
Cherry Street Sports Club
Cnr Cherry & Bentinck Streets
Ballina

LENNOX NEWS

Happy New Year everyone. I hope you all have a happy, healthy, and prosperous 2025.

This month I'm writing about the importance of art. There has been a lot of heated discussion about the discontinuation of the visual arts courses in both Lismore TAFE and Southern Cross University. Both institutions have cited lack of enrolments, a result I have heard the question being raised "*What is the importance of art?*" Art is part of human nature, there is NO people in the world who do not have some form of art. It is a question we should ask ourselves, art communicates, shapes our everyday lives, creates beauty, can inform and question. Art and design are part of our lives, an attractive design will sell more than an unattractive design, handbags, cars and sunglasses. A landscape will remind us of a beautiful place, a portrait a memory of a person.

It also has many practical applications. One that comes to mind is how NASA is using origami in space craft, for example the James Webb telescope. The main mirror and sunshield had to be folded so they could be launched into space and unfolded when they were fully in position. They didn't contact an engineer they contacted an origami artist.



The James Webb telescope golden heat shield

I have to wonder why there was a lack of enrolments in these courses. Why was there reduced funding? Has this been addressed? Were the courses fit for purpose? Were they of high quality? We have lost an employer, teachers, opportunities, and part of the cultural identity of the Northern Rivers.

On another subject, many tutors, artists, and arts organizations are looking for insurance coverage at this time of the year. NAVA the National Association for Visual Artists has a range of insurance policies for artists. These cover tutoring, curating – getting on a ladder, voluntary workers, kilns, professional indemnity, equipment. The following is a list of some of their coverage.

- No extra premiums for use of kilns or open flames.
- No height limit or declarations required for working at heights.
- Full professional indemnity coverage.
- Equipment cover extended to \$250k and includes borrowed equipment.
- Overseas residency cover for up to 90 days per year.
- Available for visual artists, craft and design practitioners and independent arts workers conducting work in Australia, including New Zealand citizens, temporary visa holders, asylum seekers and refugees (must hold an ABN and all appropriate working visas).
- Cover for Pty Ltds, companies, and other entities.*
- No public liability restrictions on workshops with children.
- Volunteers and paid assistants included (contractors are recommended to have their own insurance).
- Tenants' liability included as part of Public & Products Liability and increased to \$20,000,000. Flexible Personal Accident options for income replacement calculations.

You will need to join NAVA, and more information is offered on their web site or on 1800 046 282.

Lesley Ryan



ARTISTS PROFILE

Janet McMullen

I came to Australia in 1963, resumed my career in hairdressing and moved to the North Coast in 1994.



I loved art at school, but once starting hairdressing I didn't have time for it. However, I did win a few trophies in AVON GARDE competitions which satisfied my love of colour. One year I made a hat that was shaped like a basket full of flowers, which was made entirely out of hair, winning me first place.

I started painting with Maria Heaton in 2009 and have completed various courses with other teachers over the years.

I was asked to do a feature for **Artist Palette Magazine** as well as a 'Follow The Steps Demonstration', which was challenging at the time.

Mainly working in oils and watercolour, I prefer painting portraits, landscapes and flowers. I love creating flowers in watercolour as it gives a delicate soft effect.

I have entered a few exhibitions and won first place for a portrait of an orangutan and received two people's choice awards and a highly commended for other paintings.

I love exploring different types of art as well as trying new techniques and find it very relaxing when I'm painting.



CREATIVE ARTISANS GALLERY NEWS

Featured artist(s) for January & February 2025 is:

Sarah Rutten

We are proud to promote Sarah Ruttens first book:

"The Canine Perspective: Using Force-Free Methods to Unleash Your Dog's Pawtential"

Sarah has loved animals ever since she can remember – dogs in particular. It didn't matter if it was her beloved family pet, the neighbour's canine companion, or her friend's furry family member, she was the kid who was always found out the back hanging out with the dog.

It wasn't just the dogs she loved: she loved their behaviour and understanding why they did what they did. After Sarah completing high school in Lismore, Northern NSW, and a couple of years in the workforce, she decided to make the bold decision to follow her passion into canine behaviour and training.

Sarah has many qualifications under her belt from:

- Delta Society Australia's Certificate IV in Dog Behavioural Training 2003
- Certificate in Canine Myofunctional Therapy, specialising in Canine Massage; and then in 2009
- Diploma in Canine Behaviour Science & Technology through the Companion Animal Sciences Institute in Canada

After completing the Delta Society Australia's Certificate IV in Dog Behavioural Training, Sarah co-founded Paw Power Dog Training. In mid-2013, she decided to embark on a new chapter, she left Paw Power Dog Training behind and opened The Canine Perspective. Then in 2016, because she LOVES learning (can you tell?), she went on to complete the Karen Pryor Academy Dog Trainers Professional Course.

In August 2024, Sarah released her first book "*The Canine Perspective: Using Force-Free Methods to Unleash Your Dog's Pawtential*", which went #1 on Amazon in 11 categories within 48 hours of launching.

During her 20 years as a Canine Behaviour Specialist (alongside her long list of qualifications), Sarah has made it a priority to attend yearly seminars, both in Australia and overseas, a commitment she has made to ensure that she provides her clients with the most up-to-date knowledge on behaviour and training. Her aim is to assist guardians in cultivating the dog they desire by enhancing the special bond between them and their furry companions. She strives to help guardians understand the world from their dog's perspective while having loads of fun learning together.

Sarah is a proud Delta Accredited Instructor and holds memberships in esteemed organisations such as the:

- Karen Pryor Academy,
- Association of Pet Dog Trainers (Australia), and
- Pet Professional Guild Australia.

Furthermore, she is a qualified assessor for Greenhounds, a qualified assessor and trainer for MindDog Australia, and serves as an NSW Department of Local Government Temperament Assessor.

Currently, Sarah resides between East Ballina and the Sunshine Coast with her husband, Chris, and their three adorable pugs: Kali, Doug, and Harvey. Apart from helping people with their canine companions (and continuing her study, because, let's face it, she's a behaviour nerd!), she enjoys many hobbies including, macramé, reading, walking, going to the gym, music, social media scrolling, and spending quality time with friends – both human and canine!



Lismore Art Club

Hi All

If you're interested in Visual art, then become a part of the Lismore Art Club.

We have Tutorials on most 3rd Saturdays of the month.

Info on our new look website ...

<http://www.lismoreartclub.com>

Explore your creative side.

New members and beginners welcome.

Linnea Hannan

Secretary Lismore Art Club.inc

15 Casino Street.

South Lismore. NSW 2480

E lismoreartclub@gmail.com

W <http://www.lismoreartclub.com>



Cheers
Pauline Rutten

Ballina Wave Magazine **re 'Artist of the Month'**

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

Details needed for article are:

- first come first served!
- 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 pictures and your Ballina Wave artist profile to Rosie (ballinabacci@gmail.com), as a WORD DOCUMENT please, (**not** a PDF) by the 1st of the month
- if you don't know how to do the above, maybe a family member could help you
- also please email to Maria (mariaheaton@hotmail.com) as she will post this on BACCI's [Facebook](#) page
- to take advantage of this opportunity **please** email something to Rosie (ballinabacci@gmail.com)

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

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

