

# Somerset Art Society Inc

# Supporting the arts and artists in the Somerset Region SE Qld

## **Newsletter March 2023**

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### **President's Ponderings**

from Shirley Gregor

Hello everyone,
We had a SASI General meeting
on 17 Feb at St Agnes Hall and
all is going well – there is still lots
to do with art-related activities in
Somerset. Allison Cuskelly, the
Community Recovery and
Resilience Office from the
Somerset Regional Council,
attended and led discussion on
items including our experiences
of the last floods and the role of
art as therapy.



Continuing on with news from a previous newsletter about The Condensery in Toogoolawah, something new for the gallery in 2022 was the appointment of Prudence Osborne as a Learning & Engagement Officer, enabled with funding through the Foundation for Rural and Regional Renewal. Prudence has overseen activities with 7 local schools, 2 home school groups, 2 school holiday periods, 3 weekend programs and 2 vacation care groups. Figures show that, overall, 664 local children have been engaged in 32 workshops. The photo shows a windchime making activity.

Having grown up myself in regional areas and then having children there also, I understand how important it can be to have programs that can introduce art-related activities to children who otherwise may not be able to access them.

One of the activities The Condensery has arranged for children include the recent Llama Party to coincide with Caitlin Franzmann's Natural State exhibition. The party included llama walks with local farm Ottaba Llamas, clay llama sculpting, a llama related storytime and No Drama Llama soft sculpture workshops with artist Nicole Crosswell. Over 75 children and adults visited during the day and many also created their own ecosystems at The Condensery's Creation Station.

The figures above come from the 2022 Year in Review from The Condensery, which has lots of other interesting information. For example a gallery Instagram account was launched and over 54,000 people reached and the highest visitor attendance to date was recorded, with 5,125 visitors, an increase of 30% on previous years. It was also good to see that the efforts put in by the Gallery Curator, Rachel Arndt, were recognized by her being named as a Finalist in the 2022 Gallery and Museum Awards for her outstanding achievements since she came to the gallery in 2021.

Looking forward to more interesting things as the year progresses,

Shirley

# Join a Group

### Join SASI Groups

Click on the LOGO to visit the SASI Website



For more info Click the photo to visit SASI website Groups page



Click on the LOGO to visit The Fernvale Artists Facebook page



For more info Click on the Camera to visit SASI Photography Group page



### Join SASI - <a href="https://www.sasiart.com.au/memberships">https://www.sasiart.com.au/memberships</a>

SASI Members participate in supporting the arts and artists in SE Qld. They enjoy free exhibition curation at Glen Rock Gallery Esk, discounted or free workshops and no cost participation in SASI Members Market Stalls.

SASI Contacts: <a href="https://www.sasiart.com.au/contact">https://www.sasiart.com.au/contact</a>

#### Join the Mount Beppo Artists - Contact: Gwen 0437 197 381

Meeting on Wednesday mornings from 9am until 1pm at Mount Beppo Community Hall, 916 Mount Beppo Rd, Mount Beppo QLD. New members warmly welcomed.

#### Join the Fernvale Artists - Contact Sue White 0407 072 926

The Fernvale Artists meet on Thursdays 9.30am - 12.30pm at the Fernvale Community Hall in Banks Creek Road, Fernvale, or at the Lowood Open Door Gallery. Anyone in the local area is welcome to join them, or just to visit.

# Join SASI Photography Group Contact Phil Lister Email plphotographix@gmail.com

The photography group have fun learning to take better photographs. New members are very welcome. Activities, including outings workshops and talks, are advertised through the SASI newsletter.

# Join Somerset Regional Council Volunteers



Join the Esk Visitor Information Centre Tourism Volunteers Contact Carole Labram mail@somerset.qld.gov.au

To Apply visit Volunteer | Experience Somerset

To Apply Visit
<a href="https://thecondensergy.com.au/about/get-">https://thecondensergy.com.au/about/get-</a>
<a href="mailto:involved/">involved/</a>



Become a Gallery Ambassador at The Condensery Contact Rachael Arndt mail@somerset.qld.gov.au

Supporting the arts and regional tourism

### Join a Somerset Group

https://www.somerse t.qld.gov.au/somerset -arts-culturedirectory



A Somerset Regional Council Initiative supporting the arts and regional tourism



The Glen Rock Stitchers meet every Thursday in airconditioned comfort at the Anglican Hall, Ipswich Street, Esk. They sew and share ideas and knowledge amongst friends with this common interest.





# **Calendar of Events**

What's on and What's coming up

### **Happening This Month**

Glen Rock Gallery - Group Viewing

Friday 3rd March 9:30am Mt Beppo Artists gather to view the newly hung exhibit followed by Angie's Cafe brunch.

Glen Rock Gallery Paint With Me - Haley Forbes Friday 3rd March - 5th April 2023 Meet the artist Friday 3rd March 9:30am

The Condensery - Somerset Regional Art Gallery THINKING BUSINESS BARBARA CLEVELAND Saturday 18 Feb 2023 - Sunday 30 Apr 2023

Things I want to say Youth Costume Workshop Gather the kids and join Ze for this fun workshop Saturday 4th March 11am - 3pm

**SASI Committee Meeting** 

Friday 17th March, 9:45 for 10am @ Shirley's place

Lowood Open Door Gallery Alan Cole & Indigenous artworks This month!

#### Coming Up

**Landscape Photography Workshop** 4th April

**Glen Rock Gallery Rebecca Elliot** 7th April to 3rd May

**Lowood Open Door Gallery** 

Cassandra Hodgins 3x Botanical Art Workshop April tba

**Colour Pencil Workshop with Linda Maine** 3rd June, Esk

**Landscaping with a Limited Palette with Julie Maddocks** 19th August, Esk



### What's Up at Glen Rock

Haley Forbes FRI 3RD MAR - WED 5TH APR

#### **Meet The Artist** at Glen Rock Gallery

FRI 3RD MAR 2023 9:30AM

# What's Coming to Glen Rock Gallery

APRIL. REBECCA ELLIOTT

# Glen Rock Gallery supported by SASI and Somerset Regional Council

ESK VISITOR INFORMATION CENTRE 82 IPSWICH STREET, ESK, QLD 4312 CLOSED: MONDAYS AND PUBLUC HOLIDAYS

### Paint With Me Weekly art lessons for NDIS participants by Haley Forbes

3RD MARCH 2023 - 5TH APRIL 2023

In her six years of running art programs, Hayley has learnt a lot about the participants and their daily struggles. Her program offers ways for them to deal with the everyday challenges of communication and self-expression. Art offers a way for people with speaking difficulties to express themselves in a more direct way. This can be a huge relief.

Hayley has found that working in an individual program, with one to one support, can be comforting for those who find interactions to be difficult. Since the support worker shares the same focus on the participant's artwork, a powerful bond can be formed without the need for direct face to face interaction.

This exhibition includes some of the wonderfully expressive artwork painted by the NDIS participants in Hayley's Paint With Me program.





#### In The Display Cabinets at Glen Rock

LOCAL ARTISTS Exquisite Cards and Gifts

#### **Glen Rock Gallery Curators**

Jan Godfrey, Sue Howard, Fred Marnock Betty Williams, Joanne Hegney.

Note: the Gallery is closed on the first Thursday of the month for curating the new exhibition

### Expect to find unique treasures.







View the full exhibition at Glen Rock Gallery, Esk Visitor Information Centre 82 Ipswich Street, Esk, QLD 4312 Tues-Fri 9-4 Weekends: 10-2

**CLICK to EXPLORE** Glen Rock Gallery online



# **Lowood Open Door Gallery**

### A Lowood Lions Project

RAILWAY STREET, LOWOOD, QLD 4311 THUR 9:30AM - 12:30PM SAT/SUN 9:30AM - 2PM

# What's Up

ART COLOUR WELLBEING

# In The Cabinets at Lowood

BOTTLE BOUQUETS BY ELIZABETH BROWN



### **Lowood Open Door Gallery**

FRIDAY 3RD MARCH

In March the Open Door Gallery will present two very different collections of Aboriginal art. The first will be the work of Indigenous artist Alan Cole from the Logan area in Brisbane. As a contrast to Alan's work will be paintings from the collection of a former member of the Fernvale Artists, who lived and worked in Alice Springs as a school teacher some years ago. These paintings, by the ladies from various Indigenous communities around Alice Springs, are very traditional.



Bush Tucker and Honey Ants



Women Digging Yams.

As well as the two collections of Indigenous art there will be a small display by Lisa Neuendorf, who does paintings of her feelings and emotions. In the cabinets we have a wonderful collection of coasters, placemats and cards by local botanic artist Cassandra Hodgins. Cassandra will be presenting a series of three botanical drawing workshops at the gallery in April. Details and information on how to book can be found on The Fernvale Artists Facebook page.

And the existing collection of painted glass by Elizabeth Browne will continue, a contrast to a new collection by Robyn Northey. Robyn also gives time to the gallery each month as a volunteer.



Painted glass by Robyn Northey.



Placemats, coasters, cards, by Cassandra Hodgins.



# The Condensery Somerset Regional Art Gallery

29 FACTORY ROAD TOOGOOLAWAH QLD 4313 WED TO SUN 10AM - 4PM CLOSED PUBLIC HOLIDAYS.

# What's Up at the Condensery

#### THINKING BUSINESS

18 FEB 2023 - 30 APR 2023

#### THINKING BUSINESS | BARBARA CLEVELAND

Thinking Business is a survey exhibition of the Australian art collective Barbara Cleveland. Working together for over 15 years, Barbara Cleveland's practice draws on the historical lineages of both the visual and performing arts.

Thinking Business presents a suite of videos, photographs and prints from Barbara Cleveland's archive. The exhibition takes its title from author Hannah Arendt's description of her friendship with Mary McCarthy. As Arendt wrote, "it's not that we think so much alike, but that we do this thinking-business for and with each other."

Describing the shared intellectual and creative pursuit between women, the term became a way for Barbara Cleveland to conceptualise and affirm their long term collaboration and the body of work they had amassed since 2007. In turn, Thinking Business speaks not only to the collective's unique mode of working together but, equally, to the larger thematics of female friendship, collaboration and artistic labour.

The Barbara Cleveland artist collective was originally established in Sydney on Gadigal land. Founded by Diana Baker Smith, Frances Barrett, Kate Blackmore and Kelly Doley, the collective takes their name from a mythic feminist performance artist recovered from the margins of Australian art history, a figure who has featured in the collective's work since 2010.

#### THINGS I WANT TO SAY COSTUME WORKSHOP

Saturday 4 March 2023 | 11am - 3pm

Join artist Zenus Moonbeam for a costume making workshop that celebrates you as you are!

Design and construct your ultimate party costume and help us plan the youth art party of your dreams to coincide with the Things I want to say exhibition in May 2023.

FREE PIZZA LUNCH.

Suitable for ages 12+

Creation Station at The Condensery

**EXPLORE**The Condensery Website

CLICK to EXPLORE https://thecondensery.com.au/

# **SASI** Workshops

for SASI members and friends

# Workshops On the Drawing Board:

**Contact: SASI Photography Workshop Coordinator**Phil Lister
plphotographix@gmail.com

Contact us to recommend a Workshop with a particular tutor and/or in a specific media

Contact: SASI Art Workshop Coordinator

Joanne Hegney workshop@sasiart.com.au

Artists are most welcome to apply to present a workshop

#### On the Drawing Board

See Workshops Flier for more info

## **Photography Workshops 2023**



Landscape Photography Workshop

Scheduled for Tuesday 4th

Bring Your Camera outings

For more information please see Page 9 Photography Tutorial

## **Art Workshops 2023**

#### Coloured pencils Workshop

Artist: Linda Maine

Date: 3rd June

Location: St Agnes Church Hall Esk

Time: 9:30 - 3:30

Morning & Afternoon teas provided BYO lunch.

#### Landscaping with a limited palette

Artist: Julie Maddocks

Date: 19th August

Location: St Agnes Church Hall Esk

Time: 9:30 - 3:30

Morning & Afternoon teas provided BYO lunch.



# **Group Chat**

## Mt Beppo Artists

Mt Beppo Artists in Feb enjoyed the Allan English Meet the Artist opening at Glen Rock Gallery followed by deliciousness at Angie's Cafe.

Friday 3 March 9:30am we meet at Glen Rock Gallery to view the next exhibition.







Sue Howard was honoured by an invitation to attend and present her art work at a meeting of the Frangipani Society in Sydney.



Sue is to the left and Graham Ross of "Better Homes and Gardens" on the right in the photo.

#### **Thinking Business Opening at The Condensery**



Mayor Graeme Lehmann / new track lighting/Picnic Society catering

Janine Godfrey and Nelle Smith represented SASI at the opening of the new Condensery Exhibition: Thinking Business. Set aside a couple of hours to immerse yourself in this audio visual feast. Well worth the time!



# **Photography Tutorial**

#### What is Fine Art Photography?

Some of the images I create I refer to as "Fine Art" photographs. Sounds kind of important when I say that, like the image demands attention, it's at a level that surpasses the ordinary image and is certainly not even on the same planet as the ordinary "snap"! The concept of what is a fine art photograph eluded me for ages, until I came across a story on YouTube by a South African photographer.

So what really is Fine Art Photography and do photographers have a right to refer to their work as art? Indeed, are photographers artists? Thoughts that irk the soul of the purist! The following is essentially an extract from this story.

But seriously, lets define a few things, "Art" is "something that is created with imagination and skill and that is beautiful or that expresses important ideas or feelings" (Britannica), "Fine Art" is "creative art, especially visual art whose products are to be appreciated primarily or solely for their imaginative, aesthetic or intellectual content" (Oxford) and "Photography" is "the art or practice of taking and processing photographs" (Oxford).

And lastly, "Fine Art Photography" is suggested to be "photography created in line with the vision of the photographer as artist, using photography as a medium for creative expression" (Wikipedia). Hmmm, what do you think - is this correct???

Photography isn't about the camera or technique, its about producing an image that reflects the intention of the artist. Pablo Picasso said "In every photographer there was a painter, a true artist, awaiting expression".

You see it's all about public perception. Today, taking a photo is easy, almost everyone has a mobile phone and in January this year alone, there were almost 5 billion photos uploaded EACH DAY! The public perception of photography generally is that it is easy and cheap. But having an artistic intent is where the difference happens - passion, vision, emotion all combined.

Maybe a better definition of "Fine Art Photography" could be "imaginative, aesthetic or intellectual content that expresses important ideas or feelings which represents the photographers vision as an artist, regardless of the equipment, medium or technique used" (Martin Osner). Bit of a mouth full but I think this sums it up wonderfully.

And there is a distinction that needs to be made here to. Photography is what most people do and sometimes the photos end up in frames in our homes. Art photography is usually found in offices, hotels, conference centers. But where can Fine Art photography found? Galleries. In the art world. Artistic intent, exclusivity, limited edition, bespoke, archival value are all characteristics of fine art photographs.

So finally, who is the judge that decides whether something is fine art? The public are. Those who are prepared to buy are the judge. They are the people who see value and are prepared to invest. I found this topic really interesting and answered some of my queries as whether I can produce photographs that seemingly cross that sometimes fuzzy boundary. If you want to see the entire 42 minute episode on What is Fine Art Photography, search for Martin Osner on YouTube. You'll be glad you did.

#### **Landscape Workshop**

On another note, the Landscape workshop that was to be held on February 16th has been postponed for a number of reasons and is tentatively re-scheduled for Tuesday April 4th. If you are interested, please email me as it helps with planning - <u>plphotographix@gmail.com</u>

Phil

# **SASI Members Page**

Dedicated to members, for members, from members.

#### **Recommended by Members**



### **Ipswich Art Society**

Saturday Morning Casual Painting SECOND SATURDAY of each MONTH 9.00AM TO 1.00PM

The Old Court House (Ginn street rear entrance) cnr East and Roderick Streets , Ipswich.

Come along to our Untutored Art Group held at the Old Ipswich Courthouse to enjoy some quality time and share ideas and interact with other artists.

Cost: \$5.00 for Members and \$10 for non members with 'join on arrival' facility.

Coffee/tea is provided , bring your lunch.



If you're setting up to photograph something and need flowers to fill in space, or to be a focal point, consider giving Flowers by Felicity a call and discuss your requirements. Located just out of Esk on the Hampton Road.



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https://riotstores.com.au

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Toogoolawah Home Timber and Hardware

Contact Donna Phone: 5423 1222

**Cressbrook News and Stationery** 

Contact Mark or Pauline Phone: 54231396



### creativebug

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LEARN HOW

SASI appreciates the support of Esk Fruit Shop and Angie's Country Cafe, who display SASI brochures and our Glen Rock Gallery posters.