



# Somerset Art Society Inc

Supporting the arts and artists in the Somerset Region SE Qld

## Newsletter May 2025

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### Presidents Ponderings

with Sandi Hook

Dear Creatives,

The SASI Mini Art Challenge “Small is Beautiful” is quickly approaching. Time to wield your selected media and get creative. This is the second iteration of the very popular event, so let’s get making. Check the SASI website for entry details!

Volatile Terrain has completed and now several artists are turning their energies to the next collection of local Somerset Artists with the exhibition, The Show to be held in December 2025 at The Condensery. It is wonderful to have Somerset Regional Council’s recognition and support of our artists.



The month of April saw Artist talks and workshops concluding the end of Volatile Terrain. At the end of this year or perhaps early next year the second iteration of the Harvest Biennial will be announced to ask for applications. This was such a great program and the experience of such a robust professional development is not to be missed.

Shirley Gregor’s artist talk about her work was extremely interesting with solid information on the pros and cons of AI connecting with art practice. Ze presented Shirley with flowers, such a lovely touch. Well done Shirley!



There is no doubt that the art of photography is an extremely studied art practice. I have included one of my images from Marian Drew’s workshop “Painting with Light”. This was a most interesting event as I had no idea what was going to occur and barely knew one end of my camera to the other. Others in the group produced beautiful work, but alas, mine is out of focus, but I did try, and this is the pick out of my photographs. There is so much to learn from experts in their field.

On the subject of Photography, SASI is very fortunate to have Phil Lister writing insightful and helpful articles on photography and framing in the newsletter. As a collective group we would like to thank you for your continued support and advice to the Somerset Art community.

Happy art making  
Sandi

## Join SASI Groups

Click on the LOGO to visit the SASI Website



Join SASI - <https://www.sasiart.com.au/memberships>

SASI Members are active in supporting the arts and artists in SE Qld. Members enjoy free exhibition curation at Glen Rock Gallery Esk, discounted or free workshops, participation in SASI Members Market Stalls and a monthly email newsletter.

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



Join the Mount Beppo Artists Email: [Frances Avent \(fvant427@gmail.com\)](mailto:fvant427@gmail.com)

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

Click on the LOGO to visit The Fernvale Artists Facebook page



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.

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



Join SASI Photography Group  
Contact Phil Lister Email [plphotographix@gmail.com](mailto:plphotographix@gmail.com)

If anyone would like to join the Photography Group or has questions about photography in general, please contact Phil

For more info Click on the MUSOS Logo



Join SASI MUSOS  
Contact Andrea Oxenford 0459 031 895

SASI Musos will meet on Monday mornings from 9am until 12 noon at St Agnes Anglican Hall, Ipswich St, Esk, starting on 3 February 2024. Players of all instruments are welcome at this friendly weekly session.

## Join Somerset Regional Council Volunteers



Join the Esk Visitor Information Centre Tourism Volunteers  
Contact Carole Labram [mail@somerset.qld.gov.au](mailto:mail@somerset.qld.gov.au)

To Apply visit [Volunteer | Experience Somerset](#)

To Apply Visit <https://thecondensery.com.au/about/get-involved/>



Become a Gallery Ambassador at The Condensery  
Contact email: [mail@somerset.qld.gov.au](mailto:mail@somerset.qld.gov.au)

Supporting the arts and regional tourism

## Join a Somerset Group

<https://www.somerset.qld.gov.au/somerset-arts-culture-directory>

### Somerset Arts and Culture Directory

A Somerset Regional Council Initiative supporting the arts and regional tourism

### Esk Glen Rock Stitchers Lynne Robson Ph 07 5424 1382



The Glen Rock Stitchers meet every Thursday in air-conditioned 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

## GALLERIES

### Glen Rock Gallery

Sharon Lee **TOGETHER**

Friday 2 May to Wednesday 4 June 2025

### Lowood Open Door Gallery

Carol Fletcher Watercolour Exhibition

Saturday 3rd May to Sunday 25 May 2025 Open Sat & Sun 9:30 am - 2pm

### The Condensery

Cubomancy, Omnishambles and Scripted Permanence.

3 MAY 2025 – 13 JULY 2025

## WORKSHOPS

**See workshop page for details on Workshops at Lowood Open Door Gallery, The Lions Den Lowood and The Condensery Toogoolawah Lowood Open Door Gallery**

## EVENTS

**Meet the Artist at Lowood Open Door Gallery**

Saturday the 3rd of May from 10am to 11am

**Exhibition Opening at The Condensery**

Saturday 3 May 2025 | 4pm – 6pm

## OTHER

**SASI General Meeting at Lowood Open Door Gallery**

45 RAILWAY STREET, LOWOOD, QLD Friday 16 May 2025 at 9:45 for 10am.

**SASI Musos sessions at St Agnes Hall Esk.**

Mondays 9am - 12 noon

Small Is Beautiful - <https://www.sasiart.com.au/entry-form>

Enter before the end of May!



Supporting the arts and artists in the Somerset Region SE QLD  
at Glen Rock Gallery 82 Ipswich St Esk QLD

## Small is Beautiful 2025

Competition and Exhibition 5 July – 6 August 2025

**4 Categories:** Environment | Fauna | Flora | Portrait

2D  and 3D 

**Limit of 4 entries per artist**

Only \$10 per entry

**Scan QR Code for full T&C's and entry form**



**SCAN ME**





# Glen Rock Gallery

supported by SASI and Somerset Regional Council

ESK VISITOR INFORMATION CENTRE 82 IPSWICH STREET, ESK, QLD 4312  
OPEN TUESDAY TO FRIDAY 9-4PM SATURDAY 10-2PM  
CLOSED SUNDAY, MONDAYS THE FIRST THURSDAY MONTHLY AND PUBLIC HOLIDAYS

## What's Up at Glen Rock

**Together  
Sharon Lee**

FRI 2ND MAY - WED 4TH JUNE

## In The Display Cabinets at Glen Rock

LOCAL ARTISTS

Coal Creek Pottery  
Exquisite Cards and Gifts



## What's Coming to Glen Rock Gallery

JUNE

Jane Nicholson

JULY

Small is Beautiful

AUGUST

Anne Digton



## 'Together' Sharon Lee

2ND MAY - 4TH JUNE

A childhood on Bougainville, PNG, followed by a move to Queensland in 2000, has shaped Sharon's profound appreciation for nature's forms, lines, and colors.

In this body of works titled **TOGETHER**, Sharon uses environmental storytelling-combining birds and children-to question: **When will we accept the symbiotic relationship between nature, humans, and the environs, and that we are all the same when threatened by catastrophic conditions?**

Using photographs of her own children's bodies combined with birds, Sharon questions the deadly sins created by environmental greed, mismanagement, and ignorance. Insecticides, pesticides, deforestation, urban sprawl, mono-cultures, being just a few.

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

Lowood Open Door Gallery, Mother's Day Theme exhibition was great, we got to see local Somerset Artists including local students and creatives who contributed their unique works of arts and craft and jewellery made especially for the wonderful Mothers and Nannas in our lives. Thanks to all those who participated we appreciate your support and efforts.

May exhibition is with Carol Fletcher, Watercolour Artist. Carol will be at the Gallery on Saturday the 3rd of May from 10am to 11am for a 'Meet the Artist' session. Pop in and take some valued time out to talk to Carol about her approach to this popular medium.

During Easter Yvonne Hawkins, Gai Edmonds and Marita Reynolds had a Free Kid's Easter Activity on Wednesday 9th April with children aged from 5 to 12 years of age. Three activities were completed painting a Terracotta Pot, making an Easter card, and painting plaster Easter eggs. (See images) Everyone went home very happy with their efforts and loot. The Easter Bunny also came early with some chocolate surprises.

We also got together with our Senior Creatives group to decorate calico bags for our Ipswich Breast Care group. We have an 'In the Pink' extravaganza event, biennially at the Gallery in October, where all proceeds from the art sales of that month go to this worthy group. If you have a piece of artwork that you would like to donate to raise funds for this cause, please contact us through our [lowoodopendoorgallery@gmail.com](mailto:lowoodopendoorgallery@gmail.com). We have had many thankful responses from recipients at the Ipswich Breast Clinic for this small but important contribution.

The gallery is also hosting a 'Special Event 'Let's Make Art 'Day, please see flyer in the workshop section of this newsletter. This event has been heavily subsidised by a generous grant from the Somerset Council and Regional Arts Development Fund. Please note we still have places available in Pastel and Coloured pencil. Watercolour is fully booked. Lunch will be provided. Each workshop will provide all materials required to complete their image. The date is Thursday 8th May from 9.30am to 2.30pm. Cost \$20 (All materials supplied, and Lunch included). Bookings are essential and payment is required at the time of booking. You can book with Marita on 0425 735 581. Please state any special dietary needs when you book.

In May, Cassandra Hodgins will be teaching 'Plant Print Dyeing on Paper '. Some places are still available. Bookings are essential for all workshops. Please see details in the workshop section of this newsletter.

Stay creative,  
Marita Reynolds



## What's Coming to Open Door Gallery

MAY

Carol Fletcher  
Watercolour

JUNE

Donna Vale  
The Crooked Potter

## In The Cabinets at Lowood





# 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 On 2025

May	Carol Fletcher	Watercolour
June	Donna Vale The Crooked Potter	Acrylics Pottery
July	Fernvale Artists	Mixed Media Graphite Arytists other than FAG
August	Lowood High School	Mixed Media
September	Bec & Paul	Photography
October	Breast Care Unit	Fund raiser
November	Noela Lowan & Jodie Lone	Paintings Quilter
December	John Grooten	Acrylic

### Carol Fletcher's Watercolour Exhibition

From  
Saturday 3rd May  
to  
Sunday the 25th May  
Saturdays & Sundays  
9.30am to 2pm





# 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

#### CUBOMANCY

3 MAY 2025 – 13 JULY 2025

#### OMNISHAMBLES

3 MAY 2025 – 13 JULY 2025

#### SCRIPTED PERMANENCE

3 MAY 2025 – 13 JULY 2025

## Cubomancy, Omnishambles and Scripted Permanence.

3 MAY 2025 – 13 JULY 2025

**Cubomancy** is an exhibition that uses game-like processes to recontextualise public domain images. Artist Charlie Donaldson trawls online image depositories to accumulate a vast amount of freely-accessible images before constructing narratives based on how they can relate to one another. Through rolling dice, **Cubomancy** explores how the internet gamifies experience and exerts influence on how we perceive and process stories, visual narratives and information.

**Omnishambles** is the 24th solo exhibition from Rockhampton-based artist Jonathan McBurnie. The exhibition presents drawing as a visual response to rapid technological advancement. In contrast to exploitative AI image harvesting, **Omnishambles** instead focuses on collaboration and community, with daily workshops and drop-ins expanding the exhibition. Contributions from The Condensery's visitors will be added to the exhibition as they are created.

**Scripted Permanence** is an installation by Georgia Hayward that uses the history of The Condensery's bomb shelter as prompt to consider how history is stratified. Through mechanistic drawing, Hayward examines how archives serve as utensils that uphold power and nationalism.

**EXPLORE**  
The Condensery Website

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

Condensery Gallery Manager Madeline Brewer [mail@somerset.qld.gov.au](mailto:mail@somerset.qld.gov.au) or  
Contact Email [thecondensery@somerset.qld.gov.au](mailto:thecondensery@somerset.qld.gov.au)

## Drop in drawing with Jonathan McBurnie

Sat, 3 May, 10am - 1pm AEST  
The Condensery - Somerset Regional Art Gallery  
29 Factory Rd, Toogoolawah QLD 4313, Australia

Join artist Jonathan McBurnie for a drop-in drawing session! Come and work with the artist and maybe even add your contribution to our collaborative wall in Jonathan McBurnie's exhibition, Omnishambles.

Together we will explore drawing, chance, abstraction and layering through transparent paper, and see how there is always more than one side to every story. Registrations are appreciated, but not required.



## Let's Make Art

Creative and Social Day

'Let's Make Art' is a creative day for people from the local community to get together to participate in ONE of THREE art workshops. Lunch will be provided.

This event has been generously subsidised by Government funding. Three local tutors will guide up to 8 participants in the following workshops:

- 'Still Life' in Watercolour in a Botanical Style with Cassandra Hodgins
- 'Sugar Glider on a Banksia' in Coloured Pencil on Pastel Mat with Marita Reynolds
- 'Duck' in Pastel with Karen Leahy

**Date: Thursday 8th May, 2025**

**Time: 9.30am – 2.30pm**

**Venues: Lowood Open Door Gallery, 45 Railway Street and the Lion's Den, Lowood.**

**Cost: \$20 per attendee (includes materials + lunch)**

Booking details in the caption. **Bookings are essential.**

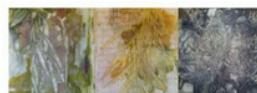
The Regional Arts Development Fund is a Queensland Government through Arts Queensland and Somerset Regional Council partnership to support local arts and culture.



**Lowood Open Door Gallery**

45 Railway Street, Lowood 4311

## Plant Print Dyeing on Paper



Saturday 17 May 2025

1pm - 5pm

\$60

An afternoon workshop to give you the basics of using dyes from plants to create prints on paper. We will discuss the dye process, different techniques, different plants, mordants, equipment you need and how the magic happens!

You'll need:

- Pencil and paper for note-taking
- Scissors to cut paper to size
- A few pages of newspaper/butcher's paper to carry wet samples home.
- Wear old clothes or an apron

Please note this class is for adults.

**Cassandra Hodgins**

0400 884 388

quiessenceart@gmail.com

**BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL**

To recommend a Workshop with a particular tutor and/or in a specific media

**Contact: SASI Art Workshop**  
workshop@sasiart.com.au

Artists are most welcome to apply to present a workshop



## SASI MUSOS

SASI Muso numbers fluctuate weekly, with travel plans and coughs and colds impacting attendance. Many thanks to Ian Williams for taking the session for the past few weeks whilst I was road-tripping around parts of Victoria and NSW. Some musical highlights of my holiday include being amazed at the standard of some of the buskers in the Sydney CBD and relishing the performances and workshops at the National Folk Festival in Canberra.

The SASI Musos repertoire is regularly expanding, with suggestions by participants welcomed. There is also time each session allocated for players to voluntarily perform for the group. So, if performing a particular song is on your bucket list, we have a supportive appreciative audience waiting for you!

Come along and enjoy a morning with a friendly group of musos.

Your first session is free, then \$5 per session.

Players of all instruments are welcome, including voice. 😊



**SASI** SUPPORTING ARTISTS AND THE ARTS IN SOMERSET REGION  
**SOMERSET ART SOCIETY INC.**  
PRESENTS

## SASI MUSOS

**A WEEKLY SESSION FOR MUSOS TO PLAY TOGETHER**

STARTING  
MONDAY 3 FEBRUARY  
9AM - 12 NOON  
ST AGNES HALL, ESK

Want to know more?  
Email [musos@sasiart.com.au](mailto:musos@sasiart.com.au)

**SASI MUSOS**

The poster features a large treble clef and musical notes on the right side.

## Mt Beppo Artist Challenge

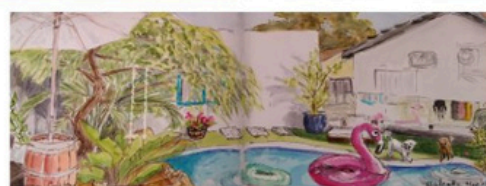
Mt Beppo Artists Challenge  
April 2025  
**Art for the Garden**  
Inspired by the 2025  
Esk Garden Show

**Challenge Calendar**  
**May**

Art from poetry 'Confined to Shadow: Lest the trickle of foregone secrets find their way into the light'

**June**  
Bark Painting

**July**  
Collage



# SASI Members Page

Dedicated to members, for members, from members.

## Recommended by Members



Deborah Dawkings - Coal Creek Pottery  
913 Esk Kilcoy Road Coal Creek 4312  
email: [deborahobrien888@gmail.com](mailto:deborahobrien888@gmail.com)  
phone: 0422 986 280  
instagram: @coal\_creek\_pottery

Pop out for a coffee and to check out our workshop gallery and cafe



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Felicity Maden  
emervale4@activ8.net.au  
0413 133 168  
#FlowerPower

## 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.

### Local Artist—available for commission artwork.

Always living in our rural district, there is a special interest in travelling through our  
range of beautiful Australian landscapes, using varieties of colours and techniques to  
portray them on canvas.



## Naela Lowien

Artist & Local Historian

~ Oil ~ Acrylic ~ Watercolour  
~ Pastel ~ Graphite ~ Ink

Mail ~ 5 Dellar Street Kilcoy, QLD 4515  
Telephone ~ 0455 617 193  
Email ~ [njlowien@gmail.com](mailto:njlowien@gmail.com)

Instagram ~ #noelalowienartist  
Facebook ~ Noela Lowien Artist



## Alainnee Einam

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Discount Variety Stores

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[facebook.com/BargainManiaEskQLD/](https://www.facebook.com/BargainManiaEskQLD/)

## Lions Club Of Lowood



Now have two places  
for rent

The Lion's Den and the Lowood Open Door  
Gallery both would be suitable for  
workshops. Each is equipped with kitchen,  
toilets, tables and chairs, good lighting.

Reasonable rates

Plenty of parking .

For further enquiries and rates please  
phone Karen

on

0402 217 912

**Riot Art and Craft Stores  
are now stocking  
quality artist supplies**  
<https://riotstores.com.au>

SASI appreciates the support of Esk Fruit Shop for displaying SASI brochures and our  
Glen Rock Gallery posters.