



Chairman's Report for 2023

Bribie Island Community Arts Society Inc.

AGM 5 May 2024

Welcome! I am very proud to Chair the Board of Management of this wonderful Bribie Island Art Centre. Over the last 5 years I have seen such growth in a place that is so vibrant and alive with all sorts of events and sights and food on offer.

As at 29 February this year we had 816 financial members, a substantial increase from the same time last year. The Centre is thriving,

Your Board is constantly looking for new and exciting ideas to further enhance ways to accommodate the volume of members and visitors. Our Venue Manager works tirelessly finding and providing interesting events that will attract members and visitors alike.

There are the Working Together Groups ranging from pottery to quilting, lead lighting to painting. Every weekday there are groups enjoying the company of others with like interests, enjoying fellowship whilst working away at their craft, and gathering over a beverage from the Café.

Café 91 is open every day of the week where possible. The café draws the visitors to the middle of the Art Centre with scrumptious meals, cakes, and coffee on offer. Most days, it is humming, a wonderful drawcard for the Centre. Just recently, the old dirt and grass floor has been covered over with a level floor surface with an expansive roof going on too. The previous difficulty with rain, wind, mud and the old tree roots and seeds has made way for a fresh modern look suitable for use in most any weather.

Speakers, book launches, Woodies and Gemmies using the gallery for display are further opportunities for members to utilize their Centre.

Artist of the month continues to be popular and the exhibitions in Matthew Flinders Gallery are wonderful showpieces with a continuous turnaround. This is a result of our dedicated curator, Steph White.

Our gift shop showcases books, jewellery, pottery, paintings, and more - all created by our accomplished and skilled artists and inventors.

NextGen Art Prize is held annually in September to bring to light our emerging artists from the younger generation. The MFAP, also annually in July, is open to the more senior artists. Both events have prizes for the winners, and special commendations for those considered promising.

The Art Centre employs six (6) staff on a casual/part time basis and 1 full time employee. Volunteers make up the bulk of the additional work. With the growth in memberships, we need more volunteers to assist in the Centre. Areas include the Café, pre and post events such as MFAP and NextGen, our front reception and gift shop providing information, receipting of sales and memberships, office admin processing memberships, processing art works for sale and sold, to name but a few.

Volunteers thank you days are always well attended and a way for us to show our appreciation for their goodwill, giving back to them for their support, hard work, and goodwill in assisting the running of their beloved Art Centre.

Please consider volunteering, it is very worthwhile, provides a sense of achievement, opens doors to new friendships, and just maybe you will find a group/event that takes your fancy. Remember, it's your Centre too.

Thank you to all the staff, volunteers, and the Board for another eventful, profitable, and fun year in 2023.



Carolyn Wheeler
CHAIRMAN

5 May, 2024