

# BICAS Newsletter



No matter how many Christmases you've seen, it's still uplifting when the festive air descends! The Arts Centre and Cafe 191 are awash with great gift ideas and seasonal gatherings. It's a special treat to see people in friend & family groups visiting and enjoying our space and creations. And the Working Together Groups also bring their special fun and celebratory spirit to the studios to mark the end of another joyful year of fellowship and learning.

It's been a big year for changes at the Centre: a new roof and levelled concrete in the Cafe courtyard, and a stunning wall mural, painted by young artist Nicole Gulwell facing into the same area. Two new textile groups have formed, **Rags to Stitches** and **Ladies Embroidery & Project Group**. And we've a string of **Saturday morning Children's workshops** booked for December and ongoing into 2025.

The Matthew Flinders Gallery is booked for exhibitions through 2025 and into early 2026 by some wonderful artists, and new community hirers have secured space in the Boardroom through the coming months.

And speaking of new, the studios' external wall has been refreshed with white paint and **Sue Ledger** from the **Portrait & Figure group** has installed a representative image. (*below*)

It's my special pleasure to welcome new volunteers here. Some lovely, energetic and resourceful people joined our crew in 2024. We've always room for more, so please get in touch if you have spare hours in your week to give us.

Be sure to catch our beautiful **Fusion of Flora** exhibition before we shut for business on December 20.

In closing, I wish all our members & friends a happy, peaceful and safe Christmas and look forward to seeing you here again after we reopen on January 7, 2025.

**Julie,**  
**Venue Manager**



# Exhibitions Matthew Flinders Gallery

## A Fusion of Flora Exhibition December 3 - January 12

This exhibition showcases the many styles and ideas in a gorgeous, colourful exhibition that celebrates the beauty of nature. It includes the Working Together Groups of: Drawing and Painting, Contemporary Art Practices, Leadlighters, Pen and Pencil/Drawing, Pottery, Portrait and Figure Painting, Ladies Sewing Circle, Thursday Quilters, Printmaking. Slap & Giggle painting for beginners, Tactile Textiles, Watercolours and Thursday Painters.



## BICAS SHOWCASE Jan 28- Feb 23

## U3A MASTERS & APPRENTICES January 14 - 26

Spare time in January?  
Come along to the exhibition at the Bribie Island Arts Centre (BICAC)  
191 Sunderland Drive, Banksia Beach.

**U3A Masters & Apprentices exhibition**  
at Bribie Island Community Arts Centre  
from Tuesday, 14th Jan to 26th Jan 2025

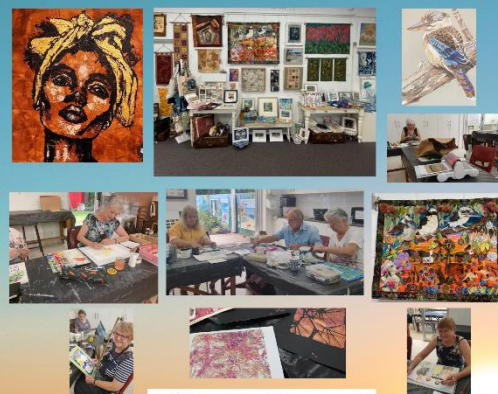
The colourful and varied display will represent the work of 17 Bribie Island U3A Art groups with over 200 art works, including drawings in pen and pencil, and paintings in oil, acrylic, watercolour and silk and sculpture.

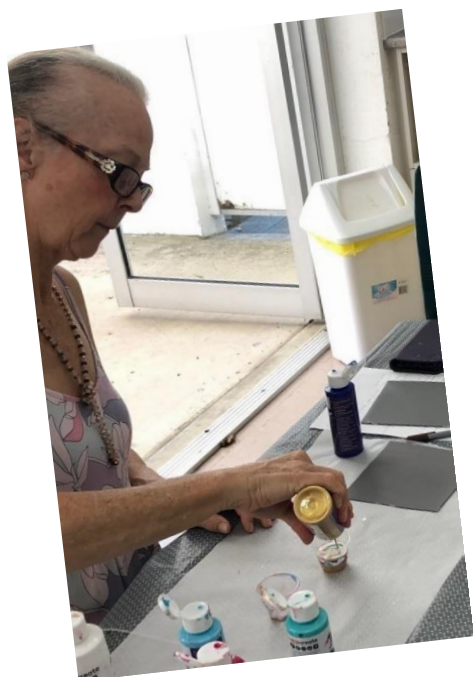
U3A Art groups prepare for the display

## SHOWCASE 2025

January 28th - February 23rd

There are 18 Working Together Groups participating this year. As the name suggests, this exhibition showcases what each group has worked on, their talents, innovations and acquired skills throughout the year. It is a window for onlookers into each group's make up and activity and perhaps a prompt for them to join.





**Learn Something new** Expand yourself in a new & different medium with versatile tutor **Robin Jensen**. Book quickly for these workshops as they are very popular.

 **ACRYLIC SKINS JEWELLERY WORKSHOP** with *Robin Jensen*



**Have fun choosing your colours and patterns, making beautiful, professionally finished pendants & matching earrings, from acrylic paint skins.**

**Take home 3 pendants and 3 pairs of earrings**  
**10-2pm Sunday 8th December at**  
**Bribie Island Community Arts Centre**

Everything is provided. Includes all pendant & earring blanks (various shapes & sizes), necklaces, paint skins, tools, & glue.  
**Cost \$75, pay on the day, cash or card.**

Further details, or to book, please contact Robin Jensen  
 Phone 0421043924 or Email [j-robin@aapt.net.au](mailto:j-robin@aapt.net.au)

 **ACRYLIC POURING WORKSHOP**



with *Robin Jensen*

Acrylic pouring is a fun and easy way to create one-of-a-kind works of art or decorative items for home or giftware. It is mesmerizing and quite addictive!

Learn simple paint-pouring techniques to create gorgeous abstract patterns by pouring acrylic paint onto a surface and let it run amok!

**10am – 3pm Sunday 2nd FEB at**  
**Bribie Island Community Arts Centre**

Requirements– paint, canvases. Optional - wooden trays, tissue boxes, wooden placemats, wooden coasters, clocks, etc. More info regarding paint brands, etc, will be emailed on enquiry.

**Cost \$95.** Includes white paint (we use a lot!), tools, pouring medium, silicone oil, plastic gloves, glitter & resources sheet.

Further details, or to book, please contact Robin Jensen  
 Phone 0421043924.....Email [j-robin@aapt.net.au](mailto:j-robin@aapt.net.au)

 **GELLI PLATE PRINTING WORKSHOP** with *Robin Jensen*



**Printmaking is almost a magical process!**

Using a gelli plate, textures and paints, we will create beautiful striking prints on paper or fabric.

In this workshop we will explore different gelli plate printing techniques including botanical printing, mark making and stencil printing.

Produce lovely layered prints using transparent and opaque paints, using a wide variety of textures, with this easy to learn, and somewhat addictive process.

**All materials are supplied including a 20cm x 25cm gelli plate, brayer, paints, papers, stencils, plants & tools.**

You will leave the workshop with a series of finished prints and the knowledge to continue this amazing process at home.

**10-2pm Sunday 23 February at**  
**Bribie Island Community Arts Centre**

**Cost \$125, pay on the day, cash or card.**

Further details, or to book, please contact Robin Jensen  
 Phone 0421043924 or Email [j-robin@aapt.net.au](mailto:j-robin@aapt.net.au)

**Saturday Children's Workshops** We love seeing kids tap into their artistic potential and what better way than to bring in a string of fun and talented tutors to teach them many facets of creativity. Here's what we've lined up in coming weeks. Be sure to book quickly as spaces in these classes are limited.

**PRINTMAKING FOR KIDS**  
with Felicia Lloyd



**SAT 11 JAN 2025**

**HOLIDAY ART WORKSHOP**  
**BRIBIE ISLAND COMMUNITY ARTS CENTRE**  
**TIME: 10AM - 12PM**  
**COST: \$35 + BOOKING FEE**  
**SUITABLE FOR 10 - 17YR OLDS**

**FOR MORE INFO : 0432 176 275**

**BOOKINGS**  
**HTTPS://EVENTS.HUMANITIX.COM/HOLIDAY-PRINTMAKING-FOR-KIDS**




*Kids Painting Workshop*

Children's class specialising in Underwater Ocean Scenes.



**14th December**

Bring home a beautiful piece created by your own child.  
Ages 8+  
**\$40 per child**  
or  
**\$70 for two**

9:00-10:30am at Studio 2, Bribie Arts Centre



Numbers are limited, to book text 0468 499 222  
*Glenda Faye Williamson on instagram*

**WATERCOLOUR Kids Art Classes**

@ Bribie Island Community Arts Centre 



This course is an excellent opportunity for your child to find their passion with watercolour. After a few fun activities learning the flow of water and paint, we will embark on an exciting journey together to create the their unique chameleon.

**18th of January** Time: 9am- 11 am Cost: \$ 78

Kids Art Classes for 8 to 12 years of age  
Small groups only with two art teachers to provide individual assistance to each child

**Book on**  
0414872118 or  
sabine@welcometoalice.com.au

For more on adult and kids classes please go to the website or contact Sabine on her mobile: 0414872118  
sabine@welcometoalice.com.au

www.welcometoalice.com.au

with

Glenda, Felicia and Sabine each present a different media to teach youngsters. Glenda concentrates on painting underwater ocean scenes; Felicia brings her printmaking expertise to the fore and Sabine teaches watercolour techniques great results.

And MORE on following page:

## Children's Workshop February

Linda Simpson can start your youngsters on the path to making beautiful fabric art with this class.



**Children's workshop**  
**Stitch a Garden Textile Collage.**

suit  
 ages 9-  
 17



**Saturday February 1,  
 2025  
 9am - 10.30am**

Have fun creating a **garden scene** of your choosing, with fabric scraps and embellishments. Learn to sew a few simple stitches to transform scraps into an art piece.

Participants should be able to \*use scissors, glue and follow spoken instruction.

\*If your child needs help with these, they're still welcome to participate with a family member or carer. Companion cards welcomed.

**Cost \$30 per person; Most materials supplied.**

**NB: bring glue and scissors.**

**Inquiries/bookings, please leave a voice or text message for Linda on 0409 612 221.**



## New faces & roles at BICAS We're delighted to welcome **Kelly Vass** (left) as secretary



to the BICAS Board. Kelly, has been a familiar face here, having managed the monthly Vibe Markets pre-Covid. She is a keen potter, a member of the Matthew Flinders Art Prize planning committee and recently took over the Bus Groups management from Fiona Boxall.



**Sue Osborne** (right) has slipped seamlessly into the role of Artist of the Month curator, taking over from Gayle Grimsey. Sue is also a talented artist and has exhibited several times here.

And **Julie Dwight** (left) is a welcome addition to the front desk volunteer team.

## Around the Centre

Every day is different at the Arts Centre and the people & activities here reflect the diverse talents and interests of our members and community.



1

members and community.

Good times roll inside & out

1 Portrait and Figure Painting Working Together Group



3

2. Potter Kirsty and her works which drew admiring glances at the Potters market recently.



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3. The Tactile Textile group had fun with a new weaving activity.



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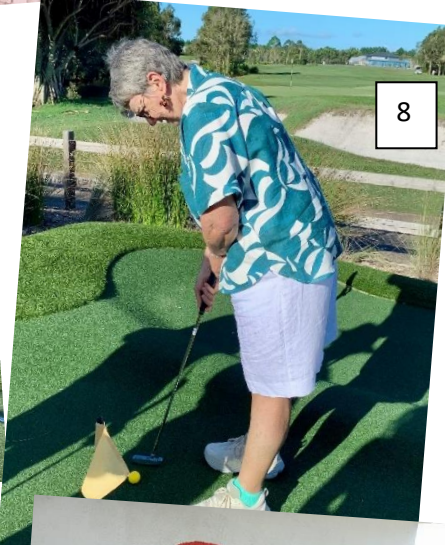
4. Noelene and some of the colourful fabric works that her Textiles group showed at the recent Sunday Potters/Woodies /Gemmies market here.



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5. Creative Conversations rule the day on the last Thursday of the month when Rita Maclean gathers writers, would-be writers and authors for book talk.

## Around the Centre (cont.)



6. The Gallery Singers gave a rousing Sunday afternoon concert of Broadway & movie Show tunes in Cafe 191 courtyard before an appreciative crowd.

7. Di Thomsen & Di Carr had a ball putting on Pacific Harbour Mini golf course at the BICAS Admin Christmas bash.

8. Chris Parke kept her eye on the ball at the Admin party, too.

9. Anita from the Woodies under the sign she pyrographed for El Pigface restaurant Woorim.

10. Sandra Hoppe freshened up her popular yoga image on the Boardroom wall this month. It's been raising smiles here for more than three years.

11. The recent Potters, Gemmies, Woodies and Textile Market here was a great draw for Christmas shoppers.

## Volunteer Spotlight

### DEBBIE JONES

#### Cafe 191 volunteer

#### Why do you volunteer at the Arts Centre?

I have lived on the island since 1989 and have watched the Arts Centre evolve into a creative hub for the community. Once retired, it was an easy decision to seek out volunteer roles here.

#### What do you do at the Centre?

I volunteer at Cafe 191. I was a Home Ec / Hospitality teacher, so it just seemed a natural progression to assist there. I started in service, but have now become familiar with all aspects. There is a sense of satisfaction being part of a team after a busy shift.

#### What do you like about volunteering?

I have met fabulous people and reconnected with others I have not seen for some time. I really enjoy the cafe banter with fellow volunteers and customers. It is great to get home and feel like you have contributed positively to the community.

#### Do you practise art yourself?

I dabble in a range of things from a variety of textile mediums to pottery and printmaking. I now pack black line markers and watercolour pencils when travelling and experiment with neurographic / zentangle techniques. I am, however, a master of none.




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## 5 Things I Love About Bribie

### STEPH WHITE

#### Gallery curator, BICAS Treasurer

1. I love returning home across the bridge
2. There are many clubs and activities to join.
3. Abundance of walks, either on the various beaches or in the national park.
4. Good bike riding.
5. Lots of lovely people.







## Cafe 191

Great to have the clamour of conversation and laughter in the cafe this season.



The roof has brought welcome Courtyard shade now the heat is back. The beautiful wall mural also reduces the glare off the facing wall of the Centre.

Corey, Lucy, Monica and the amazing volunteers are keeping the vibe fun. Sadly, Darren is finishing up to "retire". We'll miss him greatly. Watch this space for his replacement. A treat to have young **Lakita**, a Year 8, Bribie High school student, (below with Corey) as a weekend volunteer now.

## Nicole proves a mural master

Mural artist Nicole Gulwell has transformed the external Gallery wall into a delicious vision of Bribie: sea, flora and fauna. This project was made possible by the Australian



Government's Regional Arts Fund, provided through Regional Arts Australia, administered in Queensland by Flying Arts Alliance. Nicole's handy scissor lift was kindly provided by Flexihire.



Australian Government  
Regional Arts Fund



FLYING ARTS  
ALLIANCE INC



## What I've Learnt Lately



### DIANNE THOMSEN

#### Admin & publicity assistant volunteer

I have learnt lately that electric hair curlers are a Danish invention., from watching *Carmen Curlers*, a television series freely inspired by the real trailblazing invention.

*Carmen Curlers* was founded in 1963 by Arne Bybjerg Pedersen. He had several radio and television shops but saw a newspaper advertisement from a hairdresser who was looking for capital to produce an electric hair curler. Bybjerg joined the project, and

when the hairdresser had difficulty getting his invention to work in practice, he bought the hairdresser out. In the following years, the product became an international success. A few square meters in a basement grew into a modern factory with 3500 employees, mainly women. And yet another discovery ... the sister of my Danish husband, Karsten, worked there for a period.

Bybjerg sold *Carmen Curlers* to his largest customer, the American *Clairol*, in 1969 and then immigrated to Australia. His death notice appeared in the *Toowoomba Chronicle* in 2022 with the words "They all think you are crazy, until you change the world".

### KARIN JAKSCH

#### Tuesday Sewing Group

#### Co-coordinator 2025 Showcase exhibition

I have learnt lately to plan things as if there is no tomorrow.

Laugh a lot and take things in your stride.

As life gets harder every year, be it from coping with family problems to the world crises, it's so easy to curl up in a corner and let life 'do its thing'!

Some things we have to accept; others we don't.

I was reading a lovely article, (probably in the *Bribie Islander*). It said butterflies don't always fly. When it rains, they rest, to be ready for the sunshine and life. Give yourself a rest, but never give up. Soar and live.



## Dates to Remember

**DECEMBER 14** 9am: Children's workshop Glenda Williamson

**DECEMBER 15** 1pm: Cafe 191 closes for Christmas break

**DECEMBER 20** 4pm: Arts Centre closes for Christmas break

**JANUARY 7** 9am: Arts Centre and Cafe 191 reopen

**JANUARY 10** 10.30am: Artist of the Month "Hell Yeah" young artists morning tea.

**JANUARY 11** 9am: Children's printmaking workshop with Felicia Lloyd

**JANUARY 14** 9am: Masters & Apprentices exhibition opens

**JANUARY 18** 9am: Children's watercolour workshop with Sabine Von Graz

**JANUARY 28** 9am: BICAS Showcase exhibition opens

**FEBRUARY 1** 9am: Children's textile workshop with Linda Simpson

**FEBRUARY 2** 10am: Acrylic Pouring workshop with Robin Jensen

**FEBRUARY 23** 10am: Gelli Plate printing workshop with Robin Jensen

