

# BICAS Newsletter

Hello All,

Just writing the date **2025** brings a startling realisation of how quickly years slip by.

Who remembers staring at the Year 2000 looming in 1999 and hearing all the panic and carry-on about Year 2K millennium bug and what it would do to computer programmes?

Here we are **25 years later** in what seems a blink of an eye!

This year is looking wonderful for the Bribie Island Community Arts Centre and all who sail with her. Members, friends, visitors, volunteers and staff are all eagerly awaiting whatever it brings.

2025 has "new and innovative" written all over it; new and different exhibitions, new members' art, a new look back wall with a beautiful Bribie-themed mural by Nicole Gulwell, and assistant Trinity Cory, new friendly faces on staff and on volunteer rosters. Some new hirers and tutors have booked our spaces who will bring us some great inspiration.

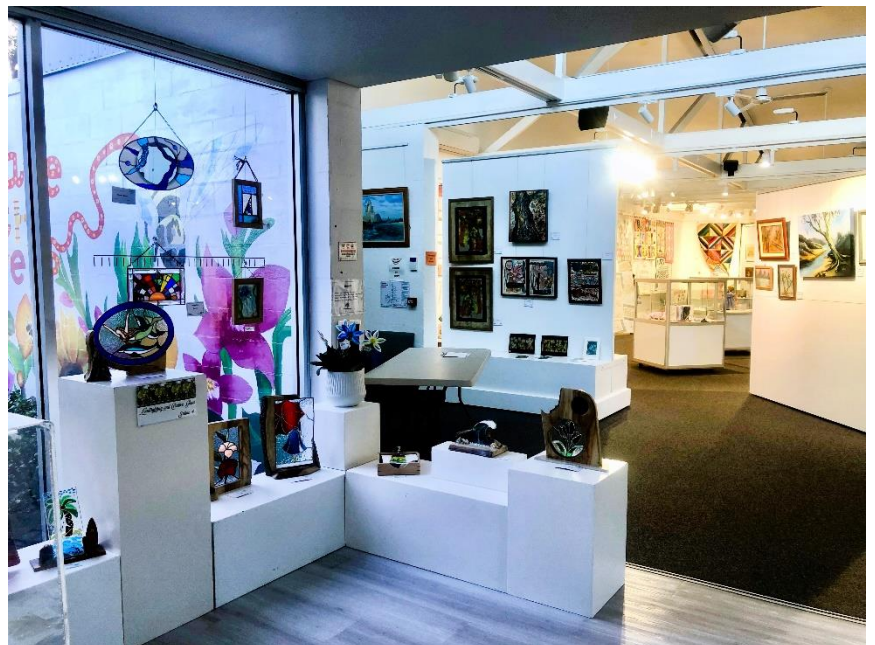
Bribie's population is growing. It's such a pleasure for us each week to welcome people who are coming to the Centre for the first time and the surprise and delight they experience as they walk through and learn about its many aspects. Our reputation is spreading and even people who have lived on or near Bribie for years, but have never visited here, are seeking us out.

Our Cafe 191 patrons continue to love and support the coffee and fare there and the sight of all tables full is a common one most mornings.

The Matthew Flinders Gallery has started with a bonanza of beauty in the wonderful **BICAS Showcase** exhibition (right). It's a tribute to the depth of talent among our 18 creative groups who meet here. Hope you catch it before it comes down on February 23.

Happy creating and browsing.

*Julie,  
Venue Manager*



## Exhibitions Matthew Flinders Gallery

### BICAS Showcase: January 28 - February 23

#### SHOWCASE 2025

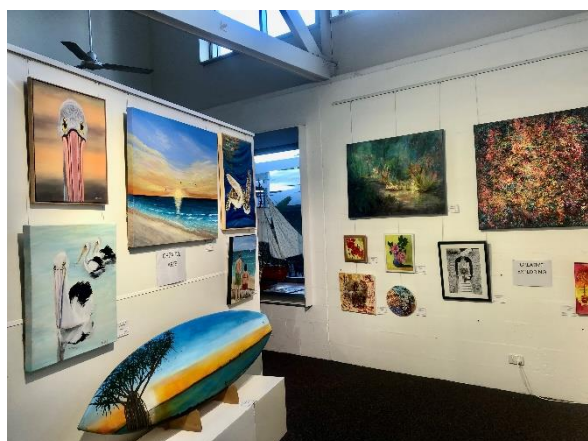
January 28th - February 23rd

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.



This exhibition showcases the 18 Working Together Groups who meet and create here at the Arts Centre.

It includes painters, printmakers, potters, textile artists, quilters, glass artists, jewellers, watercolourists, knitters, embroiderers and pen & pencil sketchers.



### Island Life: February 25- March 9

Island Life is variably pleasing and inspiring as these 12 talented artists in Arts Alliance show in their "Island Life" exhibition.

Many beautiful works here from artists Jenny Newbound, Karan Gerard, Jan Murphy, Tricia Wheatstone, Molly Galpin, Sue Osborne, Felicity Rutherford and Sergei Londar.

The Bribie Island Community Arts Centre presents:

## Island Life

from Wednesday 26 February to Sunday 9 March 2025  
 @ Matthew Flinder Gallery  
 12 talented artists with 12 versions of Island Life  
 Gallery open 9-4 Tuesday to Saturday 9-1 Sundays

191 Sunderland Drive Banksia Beach QLD  
 T: (07) 3408 9288  
 www.bribieartscentre.com.au

Karan Gerard  
 Jan Murphy  
 Tricia Wheatstone  
 Jenny Newbound  
 Molly Galpin  
 Felicity Rutherford  
 Sergei Londar

To learn more about aaart.online click here.

## Exhibitions Matthew Flinders Gallery

### Scratch the Surface March 18 -30

**Scratch the Surface**

There is a surface to be scratched and then there is under the surface to be explored and above the surface to be played with. The work in this exhibition scratches the surface in both a literal and metaphorical sense.

All artists like to break the rules and manipulate their chosen media to push the boundaries. So the work on display at the Matthew Flinders Art Gallery will be new and exciting. Many different surfaces have been used including paper, fabric, canvas, clay, timber, and plastic.

**18th—30th March 2025**

SUE GARDNER  
CORINNE PURCELL  
GLENDA CHARLES  
MATT MORTIMER  
LYNE MARSHALL  
JEAN BENNETT  
TINA BOWER  
CHERYL MORTIMER  
DEIDRE NELSON

Bribie Island Community Arts Society Inc.

**BRIBIE ISLAND COMMUNITY ARTS CENTRE**  
Matthew Flinders Art Gallery 191 Sunderland Drive Banksia Beach

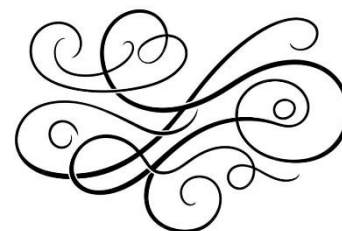
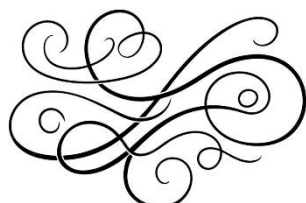
BICAS Printmakers are always looking to play under the surface to see and learn what might lie there. Come see what they discover - in all manner of materials.

*Printmakers at work in their studio (below)*



## Art Attack:

The overwhelming feeling of having so many creative ideas at once and not enough time to do them.



**Learn Something new** Expand yourself in some of these creative sessions.



## 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

Versatile tutor **Robin Jensen** is constantly taking students down new art paths.



## Momigami & Book Making WORKSHOP

with *Robin Jensen*



'Momigami' is Japanese, for "kneaded paper." It is a starching technique that makes paper feel soft and flexible like fabric, yet durable. Momigami paper is can be used in a wide variety of crafts such as bookbinding, sewing & scrapbooking.

Make 6-8 Momigami papers using traditional Japanese starch.  
Then use some of the paper to make simple and useful Pamphlet stitch booklets.

**SUNDAY 9th MARCH 2025. 10-2pm at Bribie Island Community Arts Centre**

**COST \$95.**

All materials supplied, including a wide range of printed & plain papers, starch, thread, tools, etc. You may also bring along some of your own papers to try out.



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



## ALCOHOL INK WORKSHOP



with  
*Robin Jensen*

**Sunday 23 MARCH.....10am-3pm  
at Bribie Island Community Arts Centre**

Alcohol inks are fast-drying, highly pigmented, alcohol-based inks that are great to use on any hard, non-porous surface including glass, metal, plastic, glass, ceramic, stone, leather and polymer clay.

We will be experimenting with many techniques on a wide variety of surfaces. You will be able to take home many pieces including those items that you bring to class.

All inks, yupo paper, photo gloss paper, isopropyl alcohol & tools are supplied. A complete list of resources and where to buy them from, will be given as a handout to each student.

**This is a most enjoyable & colourful workshop!**

COST \$95, cash or card on the day. Further details, or to book, Phone Robin Jensen 0421043924 or email [j-robin@aapt.net.au](mailto:j-robin@aapt.net.au)

**Yvette's mixed media class is fun**



**Yvette's Mixed Media workshop**

Saturday March 1, 9am - 12.30pm



- 3.5 hours of learning, creating and playing with some fun products.
- Learn my style of mixed media, collage and painting.
- Create 2 small pieces of art to take home.
- \$75
- All supplies are provided,
- Book via my website [www.yvettefanciulli.com](http://www.yvettefanciulli.com)
- Choose the shop tab and go to workshops and book your spot.



## Workshops more

**Glass artist Shirley Heapy offers these classes in March.**

Come along, learn new skills and take home your finished piece ready to hang in your favourite sunny window.

Limited spaces are available to allow plenty of opportunity for personal tuition.

**All classes are suitable for adult beginners; no experience necessary.**



*"I look forward to creating an awesome art experience with you!"*

**Workshop 1: Sunday 2nd March Glass Fusing - Jewellery Pendants: 2 x pendants 10am - 2pm. \$95.00 pp**



**Workshop 2: Sunday 16th March Introduction to Copper Foiling: Choose Dragon Fly, Butterfly or Flower design- Sun catcher with hanger 10am - 2pm \$120 pp**

**Workshop 3: Sunday 23rd March Introduction to Copper Foiling: Ray of sunshine (sunset) panel w15.5cm x 20.5 cm with wood frame included: 10am - 4pm. \$150 pp**



**Workshop 4: Sunday 30th March Introduction to Glass Fusing - Bee Hive Sun catcher 10am -2pm \$150.**



**\*Warning: Please be aware that in workshop 2 & 3 you will be working with solder that contains a small amount of lead.**

Cost includes: • All glass and materials use of all the required tools, gloves & safety glasses • personalised tuition throughout the process • Kiln firing cost for the fused glass workshops

All participants must wear closed-toed shoes (no sandals or thongs) and long hair to be tied back. Loose clothing is not recommended due to Health and Safety.

**[Book on shbribie@yahoo.com.au](mailto:shbribie@yahoo.com.au)**

## Children's Workshop February

**KIDS ART WORKSHOP**  
with Ange Strong from Ange's Abstract Art

**Textured  
Flowers  
in  
vase**



Dive into a variety of art mediums, creating textured flowers on a canvas, in a fun and inspiring environment. Unleash your child's creative spirit alongside fellow young artists.

**SATURDAY 15TH FEBRUARY**  
**10.00AM TO 12PM**  
**Cost \$40**

**AGES 8 TO 18 YEARS**  
**HELD AT BRIBIE ISLAND COMMUNITY ARTS CENTER**  
**BOOKINGS**  
**[HTTPS://SQUARE.LINK/U/CR1BBKMF](https://square.link/u/cr1bbkmf)**



For more information or to book online:  
call Ange on 0428 925 426  
[www.angesabstractart.com](http://www.angesabstractart.com)

Ange Strong is our cheery Monday & Tuesday Cafe 191 barista. She's also a talented artist/ tutor.



## Colour your world with Natalie



Natalie Hill's greyscale therapeutic colouring books are a great talking point and seller here. Publishing under the name **April Bansy**, Natalie (*left*) just brought a range of new titles, featuring nature-inspired to whimsical fantasy scenes, into the gift shop.

She'll be colouring same here on **Sunday February 23**, from **9am to 12.30** and happy to chat with visitors about the joy and relaxation they bring.

## Mural masterpiece to be "opened" with cultural honour

Our beautiful wall mural, painted by local First Nations emerging artist Nicole Gulwell will be opened on **Saturday February 22 at 2pm**.

Nicole, 19, is a descendant of Dharug and Kamilaroi peoples, and a member of the Pumicestone Indigenous Education and Employment Council (PIIEEC). She also volunteers on the Bribie Island Community Art Society's Next Generation Art Prize committee.

Having seen her solo work for Bribie Island State School and Bribie Kindergarten, and her



collaborative projects at the Birali Steiner School Beachmere and Bribie Arts Centre, BICAS Board member and Next Gen coordinator **Sarah Cave** invited Nicole to design a mural for the Arts Centre's Cafe 191 courtyard wall. Sunlight reflecting off the expansive white wall was a significant glare issue for cafe patrons; it was also a large blank canvas begging for an artwork to enhance the space and make the statement: "This is an Arts Centre".

Nicole (**right**) offered six designs incorporating the native flora and bird-life specific to the Centre surrounds in consultation with PIIEEC elders. The Selection Committee was unanimous in the choice of the final design in November. The summer heat and storm season was approaching, and Nicole had only a small window of opportunity before returning to her third year Bachelor of Contemporary Australian Indigenous Art at Griffith University. So, Sarah and fellow Board member **Fiona Boxall** set about securing a \$5000 Quick Response grant made possible by the Australian Government's Regional Arts fund provided through Regional Arts Australia and administered in Queensland by Flying Arts Alliance. Sunshine Mitre 10 Bribie Island provided in-kind support, offering a discount on the purchase of the paint. Fiona further promoted the project to Flexihire Caboolture who supplied a scissor-lift free of charge for the duration of the project.



Nicole's assistant artist throughout this project, **Trinity Cory**, is also an emerging local artist who previously worked on the "Save the Bees" mural at the front of the Arts Centre. Trinity is currently studying a Bachelor of Creative Arts at JMC Academy, Brisbane. The pair completed the mural on December 12th to the delight of all who view and love it.

The mural opening before local dignitaries, will feature a smoking ceremony by PIIEEC members, followed by afternoon tea.

**If you'd like to attend, please advise Sarah on [scaveau@yahoo.com.au](mailto:scaveau@yahoo.com.au)** Limited numbers available.

## Around the Centre

From quiet contemplative times, creative days to joyful gatherings, imaginative and industrious members & volunteers of all ages keep the community vibe here stimulating and fun.



1



2



3



4



5

Good times roll inside & out

1 Contemporary Art Practices Working Together Group workshop, using Who Gives a Crap bamboo toilet paper (inset).

2. Front desk volunteers Naomi (left) and Jenny readying for a busy day.

3. Who ya gonna call! Super spider buster vol Linda Doonan was luckily on hand when the display team met a big huntsman lurking behind a plinth. Brave Linda calmly captured and released it into the garden.

4. Creative Collective group members with their Showcase works in the Gallery.

5. Same Creatives also enjoy gathering with their other half for fun social times,



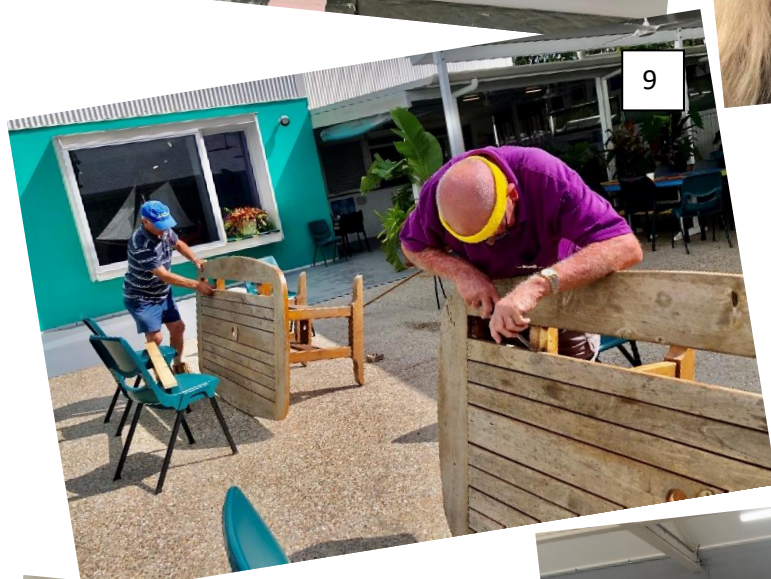
## Around the Centre (cont)



6 and 7. It's thanks to volunteer display team Sureika and Carol that our 3D works are so varied, interesting and well placed around the Centre gallery. They also have "dressing" skills.



8. How good is the clean and clear noticeboard wall for groups using Studio 2. Thanks to the generous painting and install by printmaker artist, Sue Gardner (inset).



9. Great to have the expertise of woodies Arthur and John to repair Cafe 191 tables when they need it.



10 and 11. Glenda Williamson's and Sabine Von Graz's recent children's workshops were a big hit,

Artist of the Month

February

FELICITY RUTHERFORD

“Always enjoying the Journey”

Felicity's abstract and expressive work

reflects an emotional connection to what she sees. Her works range from large bold statement pieces to small work, worked in layers and bringing unexpected revelations on closer looks.



Meet Felicity over FREE morning tea HERE 10.30am Friday

ARTIST OF THE MONTH - MARCH 2025

NEW BEGINNINGS

Immersed in Nature: A Dryad of Artists

featuring Mother and Daughter team  
Bee Mellor & Libby Derham

Bee Mellor

A close look a Bee Mellor's work reveals intricate detailed layers of hand painted watercolours and textiles matched by tearing, fraying burning and stitching to record and interpret her surroundings.



Libby Derham

Libby's artistic practice is deeply rooted in her appreciation for the natural world & its transformative effect on mental health. Her work aims to express her sensory experiences & the immersive nature of plein air painting.



Meet the Artists over free Morning Tea - 10.30am, Friday 14 March, 10.30am  
RSVP spaces limited 3408 9288



February 14. RSVP 3408 9288. \_\_\_\_\_

and in March

Mother & daughter

BEE MELLOR and

LIBBY DERHAM

“Immersed in Nature: a Dryad of Artists”

Meet Bee & Libby over FREE morning tea Friday March 14, 10.30am. RSVP 3408 9288.

## Volunteer Spotlight

### LINDA VANN OAM

#### Front Desk supervisor

**Why do you volunteer at the Arts Centre?** My husband, Eddie and I moved to Bribie Island in 2020 from Maleny, where we'd been very involved volunteering in various Community Groups. Having relocated, we wanted to contribute to the Bribie Community and the opportunity arose when we saw Café 191 was asking for volunteers.

**What do you do at the Centre?** At first, I volunteered in Café 191. I'm now a front desk supervisor one morning a week and sometimes at evening exhibition openings.



**Why would you recommend others volunteer at the Arts Centre?**

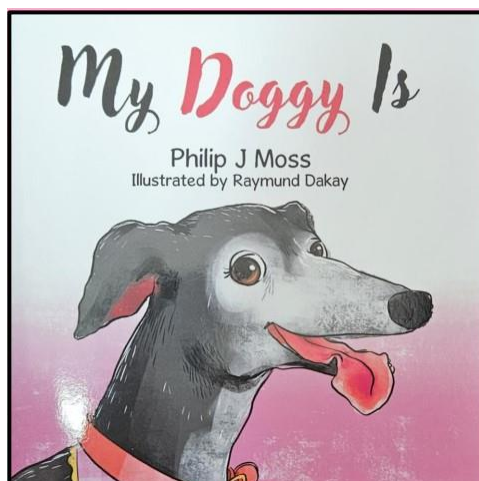
Each week I look forward to spending time at the Arts Centre, working with the other volunteers and meeting visitors. It is the most pleasurable way to volunteer and thus to give back to our community. Anyone with some time to spare is sure to find a volunteer role at the Arts Centre to suit them.

**What do you like about volunteering?** I feel part of a vibrant and friendly team of volunteers who all contribute to the success of the Arts Centre. It is a very happy, creative environment and there are ample opportunities to learn from others.

**Do you practise art yourself?** In the past I've done more craft than art and I still do needlework, which I find to be a relaxing hobby. I am continually inspired by the talent exhibited at the Arts Centre and this year I plan to try watercolours.

## Book yourself a creative session

Book talk thrives each month at Creative Conversations here on the last Thursday of the month. For writers, would-be writers and readers and anyone interested in the written word.



On **February 27 at 2pm**, local author **Philip Moss** will talk about his first step in the publishing world with **My Doggy Is**.

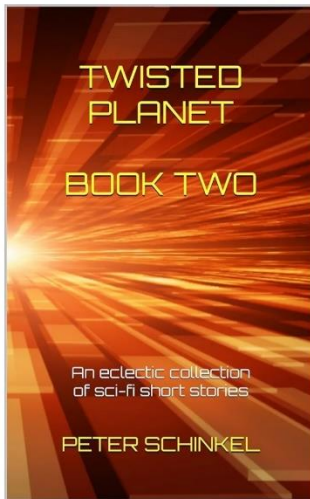
Join Rita as she talks with Philip about the life events that inspired his first charming picture book.

Find out about his experience working in collaboration with an illustrator and his thoughts on creating a series. Learn how Philip fits his writing around his day job and a busy family life, with two small children.

## Book launch

**Friday March 14, 5.30pm**

### **Peter Schinkel Twisted Planet Book Two**



Joy and adventure are at the heart of Peter's entertaining yet poignant short stories.

From the journey of an interstellar taxi pilot questioning the direction of her life, to the tale of a man who wakes up as a 13-year-old in his childhood bedroom, each story is unique in its exploration of humanity.

The launch will start with nibbles and drinks, with proceedings from 6pm to 7:30.

Queensland author, Troy Henderson will MC and interview Peter, followed by a three-minute reading from Peter's



anthology. Q & A will follow, before the book signing around 6:30pm—when nibbles and drinks freely flow again.

And yes, there will be cake!

Limited to 60 people. To book, please call Peter Schinkel on 0436 320 848 or email [twistedplanetbooks@gmail.com](mailto:twistedplanetbooks@gmail.com)

## 5 Things I Love About Bribie

**ANN SWEENEY**

**Desk supervisor Cafe 191 volunteer**



1. Bribie is the perfect fit for me. I have always lived near water (other than growing up in Brisbane). Not too big and hectic like the Gold Coast and not too busy as is the Sunshine Coast. And we are only an hour away from anywhere important. The Island has enough to do and see and different residential options to please anyone.
2. The natural beauty of the beach at Woorim where I live, to Pumicestone Passage, where I often ride my bike along the track, sometimes all the way to White Patch. No hills also a plus.
3. The Bribie Dog Beach to walk my dogs, but only early in the morning to catch the sunrise. Where else can you see kangaroos on the beach, sea eagles, turtle tracks and then hatchlings, dolphins and pelicans on your morning walk! I have also made a lot of friends with fellow early riser dog people.
4. Since moving to Bribie five years ago I have volunteered at the Arts Centre. What an amazing asset for Bribie. Again, I have made a lot of friends here, volunteering in the cafe and the Gallery desk. I've found the Bribie community to be very welcoming and caring. Let's face it, we are always on holiday living here.
5. Another gem is the Bribie Cinema. \$8.50 tickets to see the latest movies. I love it!

## What I've Learnt Lately

**RITA MACLEAN**

**Books curator and admin assistant**

I've learnt lately that the astronauts and cosmonauts on the International Space Station experience 16 sunrises and sunsets in a 24-hour period. The ISS travels 8.5 km per second and orbits the Earth every 90 minutes.

I've looked up from my backyard to watch the 109-m engineering marvel speed across the night sky. I can only imagine what I would see looking down at Earth from the ISS cupola.

I've learnt the overall mass is 419,725kg, and it has a habitable volume of 388 cubic meters. Try this fun maths to calculate the habitable space in your home: *Length x Width x Height of ceiling equals the approximate cubic metres inside your house*. It's likely your house is bigger than the living space in the ISS. Now imagine staying inside your house for 6 months and not being able to take a shower.

To keep the visiting humans alive, the ISS has 50 computers working millions of lines of code, a water recovery system, a pressurised atmosphere, 8 solar arrays to keep the humans warm, filter their air, pump their water and store the food that needs to be brought up from Earth.

I imagine myself, bobbing weightless and looking out from the domed cupola at the Earth, with the sunrises and sunsets passing at a fantastical rate. I see my home, a fragile green-blue ball with its life support systems of rivers and oceans, forests and fields. I see the thin layer of atmosphere protecting me from the space beyond where humans cannot live with millions of dollars of science and technology.

I think of all the people on Spaceship Earth and wish with all my heart that we take action to protect Earth's life support systems to ensure we can continue our travels through space.



## Ground control switch

Sadly, our wonderful long-time groundsman, **Ivan**, retires on March 6. Ivan has worked magic around the Centre for the past 6 years, coaxing and nurturing

the beautiful greenery and flora enjoyed by all here. Ivan has always gone the extra mile to make and keep our surrounds inviting and welcoming,

He's hard to coax into a photo, but we caught him here (left) mid-prune,

And we're delighted to welcome the cheery **Marty** (right) to take over the reins.





## Cafe 191

In the summer heat, our cafe patrons welcome the relief that our Courtyard roof, fans and the prevailing cross-breezes offer. And plans are underway to bring some cooler air into the kitchen soon.



What a way the Cafe has come since opening in 2019, as these contrasting images show. *Opening (left) and now (below).*



**Corey, Ange and Monica** and the Cafe volunteers are a fantastic bunch, who keep the lively vibe and delicious coffee and fare moving every day of the week.

Our regular cafe musos Allan (left) and Ed (below) add a special lift to the ambience there.



We're always very happy to welcome locals and visitors for morning



tea, lunch or just a quick pick-up cuppa.

And we love hearing their praises sung.

If you have some spare hours and love meeting people in their happy place, why not join our **Cafe volunteers**. Get in touch with venue manager Julie Thomson on [venuemanager@bribieartscentre.com.au](mailto:venuemanager@bribieartscentre.com.au) or pick up a volunteer form at the front desk.

---

## Dates to Remember

**FEBRUARY 15** 9am Children's workshop with **Ange Strong**

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

**FEBRUARY 25** **Island Life** exhibition opens in Gallery

**MARCH 1** 9am Mixed media workshop with **Yvette Fanciulli**

**MARCH 2** 10am Glass Fusing workshop with **Shirley Heapy**

**MARCH 9** 10am Momigami workshop with **Robin Jensen**

**MARCH 14** 5.30pm Book launch Twisted Planet Book Two by **Peter Schinkel**

**MARCH 16** 10am Copper foiling workshop with **Shirley Heapy**

**MARCH 18** **Scratching the Surface** printmakers exhibition opens in Gallery

**MARCH 23** 10am Copper foiling workshop with **Shirley Heapy**

**MARCH 23** 10am Alcohol Ink workshop with **Robin Jensen**

**MARCH 30** 10am Glass Fusing workshop with **Shirley Heapy**

---