

BICAS Newsletter

No two weeks are ever the same here at the Bribie Island Community Arts Centre. Exhibitions go up and come down, the Working Together art and craft groups try new and different activity, workshop tutors bring a variety of ideas to try, new volunteers come in with different skills and experience to our midst and the daily visitors from near and far bring us joy, compliments and many stories that cheer and warm us. There is always something to rejuvenate the spirits here, a new friendly face, a fresh coat of paint, a surprise Cafe 191 menu item, an innovative idea from one of the members, a community group sharing their practice on our precinct, or our regular cafe musicians trying new numbers for the crowds.

A delightful surprise in the past week was meeting our "poster boy" Tim Gould (right) and his parents, Larry & Jennifer, here. Tim, 33, is the little boy featured on the iconic Bribie sandhills work hanging above our front desk, painted by Dale Marsh, back in 1994. Tim has just returned from Paris with three tennis medals from the Paralympics. More on this on [page 13](#).

Love surprises like that!

Julie,

Venue Manager




PrintED
2024

"Fairweather Friends"

The much anticipated innovative First Bribie Printmakers annual exhibition is on at the Bribie Island Community Arts Centre and pays tribute to the significant contribution that Bribie artist Ian Fairweather made to the modern art movement in Australia in this the 50th anniversary of his death. Many of the works exhibited will be our interpretation of Fairweather's philosophy, style and influences.

8th October—20th October 2024



PrintED Exhibition October 8 -20

This exhibition and its theme pay tribute to Ian Fairweather, Bribie's noted and enigmatic resident artist, in the year that marks the 50th anniversary of his passing.

It acknowledges the considerable contribution Fairweather made to the modern art movement in Australia. Many of the works exhibited will be their interpretation of his philosophy, style, and the influences his incredible life journey had on his art.

Exhibitions Matthew Flinders Gallery

Printed 2024

“Fairweather Friends”

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8th October—20th October 2024

PrintED 2024 October 8 - 20.

Bribie Printmakers will give demonstrations of various printmaking techniques in the Gallery through the duration of the exhibition.



Bribie & District Woodcrafters “Magic of Wood” October 26 - November 3

Always a popular drawcard, the beautiful woodworks are here in our Gallery again later this month.

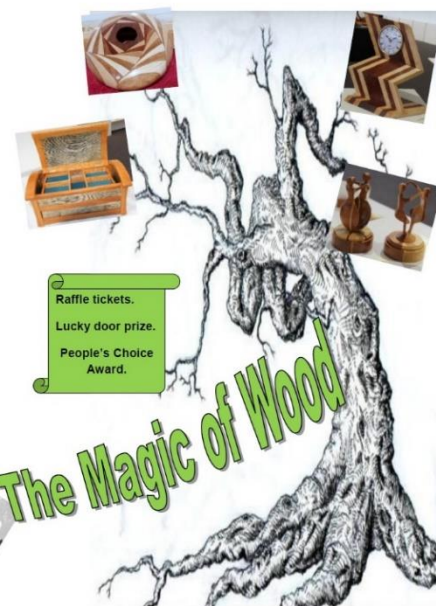
BRIBIE & DISTRICT WOODCRAFTERS 2024 EXHIBITION and COMPETITION.

➤ Matthew Flinders Art Gallery
191 Sunderland Drive Banksia Beach, Bribie Island.
Saturday 26th October to Saturday 2nd November
9.00am to 4.00pm.
Sunday 3rd November 9.00am to 12.00 noon.



- Daily demonstrations at Woodie’s sheds located behind the Art Centre.
- Your chance to see the masters at work.
- Quality handcrafted items for sale throughout the Exhibition.
- Ideal time to buy those special gifts.

Proudly sponsored by



Colour, Form & Reflection November 5 - 17



A trio of mediums: watercolour paintings by the Bribie Watercolour Group, jewellery by Susan & Elmar Rothbrust and glass sculpture by Shirley Heapy.



Workshops: learn something new

Expand yourself with a new & different medium. Try these great classes:

Versatile **Robin Jensen** has a range of special skills to teach you. Look!



CHRISTMAS WREATH WORKSHOP



by Robin Jensen

Nothing says "Welcome to our home!" like a

Christmas Wreath on your front door!

Have fun and tailor your wreath to your own taste

SUNDAY 13TH OCTOBER, 10AM – 2PM

AT BRIBIE ISLAND COMMUNITY ARTS CENTRE

COST \$80, PAY ON THE DAY, CASH OR CARD.

For further details, requirements list, or to book, contact

Robin Jensen j-robin@aapt.net.au phone 0421043924



Robin sharing Christmas wreath ideas (left) and making resin jewellery.

More workshops on next page



ALCOHOL INK WORKSHOP



with

Robin Jensen

**Sunday 10 NOVEMBER...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 \$80, cash or card on the day. Further details, or to book, Phone Robin Jensen 0421043924 or email j-robin@aapt.net.au



Workshops (cont.)

 **LOOKS LIKE *Resin* WORKSHOP**



with *Robin Jensen*

Get the shiny look of resin using special acrylic pouring paint & techniques, without the toxic fumes of resin.

10am –2pm Sunday 24th NOV at Bribie Island Community Arts Centre



Requirements
Wooden cutting boards, wooden coasters, small canvases, & tiles.

Cost \$75 pay on the day, cash or card.
Includes all paints, tools, plastic gloves.

Further details, or to book, please contact Robin Jensen
Phone 0421043924 or Email j-robin@aapt.net.au

 **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

ARTIST OF THE MONTH - OCTOBER 2024

“The Bribie Art Trail”

The Artist of the Month features sample works from the Artists of Bribie, a collective of established local artists who have developed an additional platform to share artwork from their home studios



Meet the Artists over free morning tea - 10.30am, Friday 11 October.
RSVP spaces limited 3408 9288



Artist of the Month **OCTOBER** Bribie ART TRAIL artists

Come pick up a Trail map and see a taste of the Trail artists' work on our Gallery wall, before you head out on this exciting trail of discovery.



Artist of the Month NOVEMBER



Lorraine Emerson and Robert Bradfield

"Bundle & Burn" painting, drawing, mixed media, printmaking, textile art.

Lorraine and Bob have participated for many years in most forms of art. Lorraine's artworks are represented in numerous private collections throughout Australia and overseas. She's won awards in the field of Watercolours, Mixed Media, Oils, Abstract Art and Felt Making. Over the past 10 years, her practice focus has been Eco Dying, also known as Botanical Printing, of which this exhibition is a small example.



Robert has had an interest in all forms of art, including woodwork, wood turning, painting and drawing. Pottery was his next big adventure, using the drum-fired process.

Robert says that, unlike glazed pottery, wood-fired pottery is porous, so it can only be used for decorative pieces, like the beautiful colourful works in this exhibition.

Lorraine and Robert will be speaking at FREE morning tea at the Centre on Friday November 8 at 10.30am.



Cafe 191

Spring has brought bigger and livelier crowds to our Cafe, with Full House being the order of the day lately. Chef Corey and assistant Darren and our amazing volunteers keep the beverages and food coming efficiently and with a smile.



Speaking of smiles, look at the dazzler on **Lucy Tetley**, our new Cafe coordinator. Lucy has been with us for a couple of months now, and has fitted in beautifully. Lucy has been a beauty therapist for over 17 years. Now she's in her



"second career" in hospitality. Lucy loves the brisk pace and friendliness of the Arts Centre, where she says the people have been wonderful and very welcoming. Her other big loves are AFL and pottery. **Cafe vol Barb Tanner makes Lucy smile.**

Around the Centre

Lively learning and laughter prevail at the Arts Centre as the BICAS Working Together Groups, members and community meet to share, celebrate and create.



1



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5



6

Good times roll inside & out

1 & 2. Glass fusion learners with their new suncatchers.

3. Busy Fingers manager Pauline with the certificate of appreciation Carol Smedley from Bribie Potters presented her for their generous donation of the new kiln. It's taken the Potters to new levels of firing.

4. The certificate was presented at a Thank You morning tea in the Potters studio for Pauline and BF committee members Marion and Margaret.

5 & 6. Banksia Beach SS junior and senior choirs delighted the Gallery visitors during the Next Generation Art Prize exhibition. Conductor Hannah Cho kept them in beautiful tune.

Around the Centre (cont.)



7. Versatile groundsman Colin Neu at work painting the red Courtyard walls.

8 & 9. Our much-loved accounts manager Stacey celebrated her birthday over morning tea last month with colleagues Di, Julie, Ros, Sarah & Steph.

10. Storme, Kirsty and Sue, reps from the Tactile Textile, Potters and Printmakers, pulled together a great Pop-up shop of donated art & craft materials in the Boardroom, raising more than \$500 towards BICAS. The money will be put to acquiring equipment to benefit the Working Together Groups.

11. Bribie Kindergarten children work always make visitors smile here in our Gift Shop gallery. Nanna Sue guided the little ones to drawing their version of this colourful Zebra print.

12. Potters Bev Porter and Carol Smedley celebrate 25 years of exhibiting their work in Clay exhibitions at the Arts Centre.

For Writers ...

Local writer numbers are growing like topsy, borne out by the number of books now selling in the Arts Centre. We're adding another bookshelf in the coming days.

Rita Maclean has crafted a monthly **Creative Conversation** session in the Matthew Flinders Gallery on the last Thursday of each month where authors, writers, would-be writers and readers can meet and share their writing/publishing and reading experiences.

In September, author Judy-Leigh Moore gave a fascinating talk on her years as an aid worker over 28 years across 28 struggling countries. She has published the diaries she kept in that time, in a volume called "Where's Granny Been?". It's a tale of humanity, bravery, kindness and adventure that both fascinates and frightens. Rita (on left) and Judy (third from left) with the Conversation group last month.



The October Creative Conversation will be October 24 with poet Howard Kennedy (right).

And last week, a group from **Queensland Women Writers** visited the Centre during a break from a Writing Retreat they attended on the island. The seven writers, Carol, Bev, Mary, Jan, Ann, Toni and Sue, were given a tour of the Centre & Gallery by BICAS artist Sue Davy. Then they selected a piece about which to write a nonfiction narrative.



Writers (cont.)

Another writer hitting his straps is local scribe **Peter Schinkel**. Peter who has published a number of books was recently selected to contribute a Love Story as part of Brisbane author Trent Dalton's session to gather more stories to continue his anthology - and stage show *Love Stories*. Trent's



stories were gathered from passers-by, on a typewriter sitting at a desk on the corner of a Brisbane City intersection.

The Museum of Brisbane organised a "Love" celebration day on September 6, on which Peter and 19 other selected writers formed Trent's masterclass in the morning and collected love stories in the afternoon, from people in the *Write Your Heart Out* pop-up experience in King George Square.

"Trent was fantastic," Peter says. "His masterclass was so interactive. We learned valuable tips and techniques on writing.

"This advice was invaluable when I heard Ange's story, how she and her now-husband were pulled apart by circumstances and drawn back together by love. It was a really beautiful story."

Peter gathers a Love Story from Ange (right).



Volunteer Spotlight

LINDA SIMPSON

Textile artist/social media volunteer



Why do you volunteer at the Arts Centre?

I'm passionate about sharing the wonderful resources and events of the Bribie Island Community Arts Centre within our community and beyond. I am fiercely proud of all parts of the Arts Centre and I want to do my part to keep it running. Volunteering here makes me feel valued and an important part of an amazing team. I always feel great here because everyone is so friendly.

What do you do at the Arts Centre? I share our wonderful Arts Centre on social media. I take photos of all aspects of the centre, the exhibitions, the galleries, the

events, the cafe, the studios and gardens, to share with our online community on our Instagram and Facebook pages. I'm yet to create a Tik Tok page for the Centre, though that could be fun. I also like to help out at the desk and at main events.

What do you like about volunteering at the Arts Centre?

Most definitely the friendships and the fantastic dopamine hit I get when I take photos of all the wonderful art. I love that I'm supported by the other volunteers, when I have a question or need some direction. Volunteering at the Arts Centre for me is like getting a personalised invitation to all the best gallery openings and events.

Being surrounded by so many like-minded people means there is always some excitement about various events or new exhibitions. I can have some fantastic conversations with other volunteers and visitors alike.

Why would you recommend others volunteer at the Arts Centre? I encourage everyone to volunteer at the Arts centre. There's the front desk, many admin jobs and cafe roles and much more. Wherever your interest and skills lie, there's a spot for you. It feels good to be part of a team, in fabulous surroundings and any excuse to get dressed in non daggy clothes and put my lippy on, is a win for me.

Do you practise art yourself?

Yes. I have a fine collection of supplies for several different art genres, but textiles are my love. I'm part of the two Textile Working Together Groups here and I have really found my tribe. Textiles isn't just about sewing. It's about creating with fabric, thread, paint, dyes, manipulation techniques and so much more.

I am also part of the *En Plein Air* art group who wander around the island once a month. I use fabric as my canvas and fabric and stitch as my colour palette, which is a little different to everyone else in the group. My husband calls my textile days my "playgroup days" and I have to agree. We all need to play a little more.

5 Things I Love About Bribie

FAYE CLARK

BICAS Thursday Quilters

1. Our wonderful unique Arts Centre.
2. Thursday morning when I meet my group in Studio 3 to (maybe) sew, knit or create, but mostly enjoy the company of like-minded people and solve a few world problems. A bonus is the opportunity to enjoy an excellent Corey coffee. Still on Thursday, spending time with my dog, Daly, at the library when children come to read to him.
3. Saturdays, walking along the Passage with my husband Barry and Daly. Sundays, walking at Woorim, usually with a scone and coffee involved.
4. Living within a relatively easy journey from QPAC theatres for Theatre and Ballet performances.
5. The charm of driving across the Bribie bridge and counting the pelicans. Highest number was 16 before the present double lamp standards; 13 lamp standards so 13 plus 6 double ups!! I had to turn around and drive back to make sure that I hadn't made mistake!!



Music in Springtime

What's a more glorious way to spend a Spring Sunday afternoon than sipping bubbles in our Cafe 191 courtyard and humming along with your favourite show tunes at



Songs from Stage & Theatre

music from popular stage musicals with

The Gallery Singers

Sunday OCTOBER 13, 3pm

\$15 pp.* Bookings ph 3408 9288

or online <https://www.bribieartscentre.com.au/copy-of-whats-on>

Still a few tickets left. *includes glass of bubbles & afternoon tea.

And while you're tuned up,.....

Come play with us when the **Bribie Nature Festival Pumicestone Piano** revisits the Arts Centre

Friday, Saturday & Sunday October 18, 19 & 20.

As part of the Bribie Nature Festival 2024, the **PUMICESTONE PIANO** event highlights the incredible journey of the migratory shorebirds that visit Bribie Island each year. Artist Carmen Tapper and the Bribie Island Community Kindergarten have created the colourful and unique **Pumicestone Piano**.

This piano will be located at the Bribie Island Community Arts Centre for the duration of the festival, and community pianists are invited to play a 20-minute recital.



Performance times Friday 11am - 1pm; Saturday 9am - 1pm; Sunday 9am - noon.

Register your timeslot on the Festival website

<https://www.bribieislandnaturefestival.com.au/pumicestonepiano24>

Or contact Festival director, Libby Anstis on libby@bribienaturefestival.com.au

Yarun Ephemera at the Arts Centre

Yarun Ephemera exhibition will appear for the first time as part of the **Bribie Nature Festival** this year.

Ephemeral literally means 'lasting for only a short time'.

More than 20 artists from a variety of specialist areas including painting and ceramics, have been invited to step **outside** of their comfort zone to create an

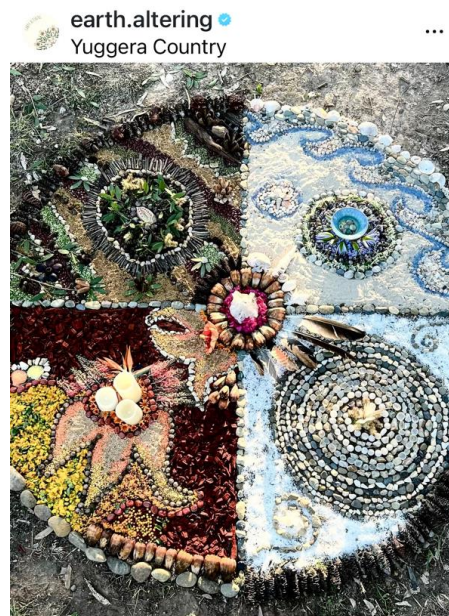
Ephemeral Sculpture at the Art Centre's labyrinth. The sculptures are to be made of natural materials to celebrate the intricate beauty of Bribie Island.

This exhibition will celebrate the natural resources of Bribie and link viewer to country in a way that they may not have experienced before.

Artists are currently busy creating sculptures from a range of materials including grasses, rocks, soil, leaves, branches and

flowers.

Lucky's Meandering Labyrinth was developed almost eight years ago to create a place at BICAC to explore our relationship with nature, and to gather and celebrate nature and our lives through meditation, music and poetry. Over the years, Lucky's Labyrinth has become the home for several generations of ephemeral art, some pieces of which are part of this exhibition.



Louisa Kingsford-Smith "The Beating Heart of Nature"

Yarun Ephemera is open for viewing on Saturday & Sunday October 19 & 20, 10 am until 3 pm.



Sabine's among the pick of the bunch

Popular artist, tutor and BICAS display volunteer **Sabine Von Graz** has been honoured in the **Clayton Utz Art Award**, as one of 35 finalists whose work will hang in their Brisbane city offices for 12 months.

About 400 submissions were made this year for the award, which offers a \$20,000 winner's prize and exhibition space for the finalists. It is for outstanding work by a Queensland-based artist, or one with strong connection to Queensland.

Sabine says: "I entered for years without success, so when the acceptance email arrived, I didn't open it right away, preferring to keep the hope alive for just a little longer. It wasn't until I received a follow-up email with delivery instructions that I realised—I had been accepted!"

"Needless to say, I was beyond excited."

Her eye-catching work (left) is titled "Swear Jar"

What I've Learnt Lately

ROS DOYLE

BICA Membership secretary

U3A painting group

I have learnt lately when I attended a great workshop with the fabulous artist Fiona Groom, that the wonderful Cooroy Butter Factory is a lovely place to visit.

And it made me realise how privileged we are on Bribie to have our Arts Centre, with its wonderful gallery, superb studios and Café 191 with great coffee to keep us going and the volunteers and staff that make the Centre what it is today! We are truly blessed!



TRISH RAYNHAM

BICAS Studios & spaces

booking manager

I have learnt lately that there are so many talented and creative people who attend and demonstrate their skills within the Bribie Island Arts Centre.

Every time I walk through the Centre, a new creative exhibit catches my attention.

I find the Arts Centre a truly inspiring place to be a part of.



Blasts from the Past Tim and Dale

Delightful to have extra special visitors to the Arts Centre here in the past week.

Tim Gould came with his parents Larry and Jennifer (*below right*) to show his medal haul he collected in tennis at the Paralympics in Paris.

Tim has proved a versatile and star athlete in his adult years. In 2019, he was a medal winner at the Abu Dhabi Special Olympics in swimming.

Tim is generously assisted in his tennis coaching, sports clothing and travel expenses by Tennis Australia. And he is a long-standing and much-loved groundsman employed at his previous school, Arethusa College.

There was no mistaking his smile. He was instantly recognisable when he walked in the door. It was just as artist **Dale**

Marsh painted on the little boy, (*left*)

standing at the base of his famous Bribie sandhills work 30 years ago.



Blasts from the past (cont.)

Larry Gould was then Bribie Chamber of Commerce chairman. The Chamber was behind the 1994 billboard project that they commissioned Dale to create. Dale captured the free-spirited energy of children jumping off the beach sandhills that has been a widely recognised image of the island to people as they drive off the bridge.

Dale Marsh recalls the creation of the image he first photographed. "The two young girls jumped off the sandhills and Tim slid down on his bottom," he said.

Dale, 84, came to the Arts Centre this week with wife, Lorraine, and was astonished at the BICAC vibrancy and energy. He was effusive in his praise for the Centre which he had a large part in establishing 36 years ago.

He visited the room named in his honour, reacquainted himself with long-time members and popped in to the CAP working together group in Studio 2.



His old painting palette, donated to the Centre this year by a woman who won it in a raffle years ago, caught his eye (**left**) and he tried it back on for size. Lorraine, whom Dale met when she ran an art shop/studio at Wooloowin, Brisbane, expressed surprise he had left it so splattered.

"He used to stress to his students to always CLEAN their palettes," she laughed.

Dale using his palette in the 70s (left).

Dale inspected and loved the newly-hung PrintED exhibition in the Matthew Flinders Gallery, particularly its Ian Fairweather theme. He spent much of his childhood on Bribie where his Aunt Zena lived at Woorim and recalls, at the age of 12, taking his first landscape paintings to Fairweather living in his hut in what is now Fairweather Park on First Avenue, for critique.

"He looked at them and said he didn't understand them!"

Dale laughed.

"Then he showed me his paintings. They were the first abstract art I'd ever seen. I remember the surprise at recognising the movement of the trees and the light in them."

Dale knew from this tender age he wanted to make his living as an artist, despite growing up, he says, in a house with no books and no art. His parents dismissed his ambitions, although he was awarded a Vida Lahey tutorial scholarship when still at Kangaroo Point State school.

Dale's works are now in galleries and private collections all over Australia and overseas, but his road to artistic success took many a turn before he had his first sold-out exhibition in Carlotta Busch's South Yarra Melbourne gallery in 1973, convincing him he could make a living from painting.

Dale recounting the story of how the Bribie Community Arts Centre came to be.....

"The 1970s saw an unprecedented bursting of interest in artistic energy in Australia that spread from the cities to the furthest reaches of the outback," he says. "Until that time, there were very



Dale in the Centre courtyard this month

few full time professional artists in the country. All of a sudden, ordinary Australians were buying and investing in art with an enthusiasm on a scale never seen before.

" The people of Bribie Island caught the mood and in a short time, the air was redolent with a creative spirit that motivated people on the island. People who had never had a chance to express themselves in any of the arts felt the inner pressure to paint, sculpt, print or turn something in clay. There was also a handful of hobby painters living on the island. Eventually this motivation erupted into an idea. Bribie

creatives needed a place dedicated to the arts where they could meet with others with similar interests and to be taught, to exhibit and perhaps sell one of their works. Hence the drive for a community arts centre here began."

An intense campaign ensued by competitive committees (eventually won out by the late

artist Margaret Guthrie camp) lobbying for land, fund raising, designing and then building.



Dale among his works in the Dale Marsh room.

It was the early 1980s. Dale was at the time renting a studio upstairs and around the corner from Cornetts supermarket. He'd had some success with important commissions, his work was popular in England and around Australia, so newspaper stories had brought significant attention to him. Both rival committees visited him seeking his support.

"I told them to work together, not against each other and then I'll give you my unqualified support. The rivalry between them was so intense, I thought it would never happen.

"Eventually the Margaret Guthrie camp won out and I gave them my unqualified support.

"The enormous task of raising the necessary money to make a start on the building mainly consisted of lamington stalls and all manner of quirky art-related activity, even mullet-throwing contests (which I found distasteful)."

"Margaret was an incredibly dedicated and hard worker, a good leader and had a great committee. She turned the dream into the reality."

The plan was given a significant boost by an auction of Dale's paintings at a preview event for people to see what might be achievable. People came from Brisbane and the Sunshine Coast to bid for the works and it raised \$3000 - a significant amount in the early 1980s. Importantly, it gave the committee the confidence to see what could be possible.

From then on, the vision never wavered.

And in 1988, the doors opened on the first stage of the Centre. In 1998, the Matthew Flinder Gallery and kitchen was added.

In conclusion Dale says: "Today, this Arts Centre stands as a living enterprise of enormous value to the community, a living entity alive with enthusiasm and the invaluable goodwill of the many volunteers who keep it running, and the vibrant spirit of creativity that fills the spaces."

Dates to Remember

OCTOBER

October 8-20: PrintED exhibition Matthew Flinders Gallery

October 11: Bribie Art Trail Artist of the Month morning tea 10.30am

October 13: Christmas wreath workshop with Robin Jensen 10am- 2pm

October 19 & 20: Bribie Art Trail artists in open studios

October 18-20: Bribie Nature Festival Pumicestone Piano Cafe 191 courtyard.

October 22 - November 3: Bribie Woodcrafters "Magic of Wood" exhibition and competition Matthew Flinders Gallery

October 24: Creative Conversation with poet Howard Kennedy Matthew Flinders Gallery

NOVEMBER

November 4 - 17: Colour, Form & Reflection exhibition Matthew Flinders Gallery

November 8: Lorraine Emerson & Robert Bradfield Artist of month morning tea 10.30am

November 10: Alcohol Ink workshop with Robin Jensen 10am - 3

November 19 - December 1: Art Tarts exhibition Matthew Flinders Gallery

November 22: Creative Conversation Matthew Flinders Gallery

November 24: Looks Like Resin workshop with Robin Jensen 10am - 2

Something to ponder

"Start by doing what is necessary, then what is possible and suddenly you're doing the impossible"

_ Francis of Assisi