



President's Report

BVAC's long term objective is to establish a community art centre for Brisbane where everybody will feel free to express themselves through some form of art or craft, but as the wonderful Australian sculptor, Patricia Piccinini, says: "You don't enter the art world—you have to build it out of the people around you."

This is what BVAC is trying to do. Initially, we had dreams of galleries showing local work, a coffee shop where we could gather to discuss our work or the work of someone who was "making it" as an artist, and maybe a library where we could research techniques or be inspired by artists of the past. It was to be a destination where artists could be seen at work creating their special products; you could talk to them and ask questions about what they were doing and why, rather than just a place where stuff was stored, meetings were held, and people were seldom seen. We were trying to create an art world.

We have had some success. Just imagine (for a moment, but not more) if BVAC didn't exist. Some groups would have to go back to the yearly search for suitable premises in which to conduct their activities. For such groups BVAC provides storage space at a reasonable rental rate and the money that we collect is spent making the Hub better in many small (and not so small) ways. Hopefully, in the future, the Hub will just be just one part of the group network that supports artists in Brisbane.

One way that we are building our Brisbane art world is through the Pop-Up shops. These provide a well set up market for many of our members twice a year. When Lena and Cheryl first looked into this idea, they were inspired by a community church group that had been running successful Christmas markets for around 25 years. And then they folded. Why? In their case it was because the volunteers who ran it, ran out of enthusiasm as they got older—and older. Remember, all our groups, including BVAC, run entirely on volunteers so keep them going by putting your hand up.

Discussion at our November meeting centred around the arrangements for the Pop-Up Shop. For those exhibitors who are worried about the idea of personal EFTPOS technology, please remember that technical advice will be available and we are all in the same boat and I should imagine those that know will help those that don't. It will definitely be a learning curve for me.

We also discussed the use of the hanging system at the Hub. A roster system will be devised over the Christmas break to make sure that any group that would like to display work—probably on a 3 monthly basis—using the hanging system will be able to do so. I am really looking forward to seeing it in use. That's all for this month.

Judy

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Those of you who are familiar with our Pop-Up Shops will be aware that we usually invite someone to provide a café for the enjoyment of our patrons. Last December, the QSWFA provided this facility. This time we have extended an invitation to the Taringa, Milton Toowong Scout Troop to provide a sausage sizzle in the covered area behind the Auditorium. The Taringa, Milton, Toowong Scout Troop is one of Australia's oldest Scout troops - they were founded in 1908 - the same year that scouting began in the UK.

This is a fundraising event for this scout troop—they too have lost opportunities for fundraising in this COVID year—and this is one way we can support this wonderful organisation. Come and support them as they support Brisbane's artists/craftspeople.

Brisbane Visual Artists Community
Presents

Christmas

Pop-up Shop

November 20 Friday 12 noon - 5 pm
November 21 Saturday 9 am - 4 pm
November 22 Sunday 9 am - 3 pm

**Mt Coot-tha Botanical Gardens
Auditorium**

*All local
handcrafts*

*Free Admission
Eftpos available*

 


Brisbane Visual Arts Community

  

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Notes from BVAC Meeting November

Date: Thursday, 12 November, 2020 9.30 am

Venue: The Hub

Attendees: Helen Trochoulis (Sec), Greg Russell (QEG), Liz Horrigan (ATASDA), Joanna Faber (PAQ), Wendy Goode (SA), Judy Hamilton, chair (WSC), Anna-Margot Collins(QEG & SB), Peter Rayson (WSC)

Apologies: Lena Tisdall, Shirley McCormick, Sandra Evans.

Welcome: Aiming for a short meeting to allow time to repack the trailer for the Pop-Up. The trailer is too heavy when fully loaded. Graham W. Smith has offered to donate one of his paintings as a raffle prize for BVAC. Accepted with pleasure. Thank you Graham. Judy pick it up from his place. He will be away from Mid-November.

Also thanks to Anna Margot for her work on the Pop-up. Greg Russell has created a number of engaging short videos to advertise the BVAC Christmas Pop-Up Shop. This month, Judy facilitated a think tank session for Scattered Arts at the Hub.

Brisbane City Council Suburban Shopfront Activation pilot program encourages property owners with vacant premises in Brisbane suburbs to provide opportunities for temporary use by emerging businesses. More about the program, including eligibility requirements and how to register interest, on Council's website.

New Suburban Shopfront Improvement Grants program. Council is supporting owners and tenants of retail shopfronts by offering grants for works to improve the façade of their shops, to reinvigorate the street appeal of local business areas. Find out about the requirements and how to apply. Applications are open until Wednesday 23 December 2020.

For more information about Suburban Shopfront Activation, Suburban Shopfront Improvement Grants or any of Council's economic development initiatives, phone the Business Hotline on 133 BNE (133 263)

Treasurer's Report: Finally received COVID19 Direct Assistance Program from BCC.

Pop-Up Shop Report: All going well. Have some COVID19 rules that we have to follow which Anna-Margot will email out. We will need a door person to control the numbers. A lot of groups are only sending one or two people. We can allow up to 70 people in the Auditorium at any one time.

Alli is setting up a QR code which will work on all phones.

There is a list of tables and shelves.

We need a counter as well.

Will be sending out the COVID plan and what they need to do as well as the floor plan.

Greg had made videos for facebook and Instagram, which will include the invitation.

Dates to all Pop-ups to be advertised in BVACConnex.

Carpark/Building Maintenance: The awnings are up and held up to the weather.

Sandra will be able to take the trailer on the Friday to the pop up. Should be OK to collect on the Sunday but will confirm closer to the day. Asked that the trailer is packed in readiness. Only put in the shelves we need so the weight is not too great.

Company that installed the lift will do the 1500 kl service on Tuesday.

The hall will be painted over the holidays and people will be able to put up their art work under some kind of booking system.

Meeting Closed: 10:43am

Next Meeting: 10 December, 2020 at 9:30

Graham W. Smith Does it Again

International exhibiting Wynnum artist, Graham W. Smith has done it again, mounting a solo exhibition entitled “Wynnum & Beyond” at the Wynnum Library from 12th October until 30th November and it is his 4th exhibition in his “Beyond” series.



The Billabong

Graham W. Smith
Oils

Graham, who is a Fellow of Royal Queensland Art Society and a Master Pastellist, has many exhibitions to his credit. In both 2018 and 2019, he was invited to exhibit in the “Fabriano in Aquarello” exhibitions in Fabriano, Italy along with artists from 70 other countries. These are large international exhibitions displaying over 1400 watercolours each year. In 2018, he completed 50 works while in Italy also receiving a commission on top of selling works.

The exhibition at Wynnum Library will feature oils, acrylics, pastels and watercolours, not only depicting local scenes, but will also include works completed in Italy, Thailand and around Australia.

Graham has achieved some fine milestones in his long art career. Some of you may remember Graham from the local TV program on painting—“Arts Masterclass”. He also brought art to the people with a 2 minute twice weekly talk on “Art Tips” on Bay FM radio and was a monthly columnist in the “Australian Artist” magazine for 5 years, and in 2000 Government House Paddington commissioned 6 of his watercolours for their permanent collection.



The Devil's Marbles

Graham W. Smith

Oils

Last year he donated 10 paintings to St. Vincent’s Hospital at Kangaroo Point as well as donating artworks to Vinnies Boutique in Edith St, Wynnum.

Having created over 3000 paintings and hundreds of plein air sketches, he often donates his time for demonstrations to charitable entities as his return to the community.



Midnight Storm - Bangkok

Graham W. Smith

Acrylic

Jacarandas at Wooroolin

Graham W. Smith

Oils



McGregor Summer Arts School

You have the opportunity to immerse yourself in creativity this Summer at the McGregor Summer Arts Retreat held at USQ in Toowoomba. With classes appropriate for every level, it doesn't matter if you're a professional, enthusiast or student, McGregor will have something on offer to suit you.

Art Schools facilitate the development of ideas in arts and crafts the way no private lessons ever can, and this year some of Queensland's best artists feature in the line-up of tutors. This is your chance to reach out of your comfort zone, and take your art to a new level.

Robyn Bauer, David Hinchliffe, and Jenni Kelly will be guest tutors in Acrylic painting. Robyn is an acclaimed portrait painter; David will take you on the complete journey from landscape to figures; and Jenni scrapes, rolls, and sprays paint as she helps you to explore textures in your work.



Jenni Kelly

Other painting workshops include Gouache on Paper with Naomi White, Water Reflection in Oils with Marcel Desbiens, Light Effects in Watercolour with Jan Lawnikanis, and Drawing and Watercolour Painting with Cees Sliedrecht. Or you can play with pastels with Lyn Diefenbach, or simply get your sketchbook out with Deb Mostert.

Ceramicists will welcome an opportunity to work with Shannon Garson as she encourages you to work in an intuitive, expressive way to get layered, sophisticated surfaces. Glassworkers are not forgotten either. Take an adventurous journey into HOT GLASS in Lampworked Beads with Kathryn Wardill. Also, acclaimed sculptor Mauri Maunsell will conduct classes in Creative Jewellery Making, catering to beginners to more advanced students.



Kathryn Wardill



Jackie Orme Ward from Pendragon.

If you are thinking outside the square, you might like to learn how to make your own Sneakers, using basic tools, soft leathers/fabrics and your domestic sewing machine. Sounds interesting. Finally, Don Hildred will reveal the secrets of photographic techniques with SLR cameras. As part of this course the essentials of Adobe Lightroom Classic and Photoshop 2020 will be explored, and you will begin to understand non-destructive editing techniques, file saving and essential storage options.

The Summer School runs from 10—16 January, 2021 and you may need accommodation. The university Colleges offer 8 nights accommodation (9—17 January, 2021) with a continental breakfast and buffet dinner included. With a shared bathroom, accommodation will cost \$795. If you would prefer private accommodation, this is available at \$995.

How much do the actual courses cost? For 7 day workshops, the cost is \$948. Some of the classes fill up very quickly, but you can add your name to their waitlist. Early bird bookings end on November 16, 2020.

For All True Believers

I'm speaking to all true believers here. We all know that involvement in the visual arts is good for our mental health, but who could believe that it could actually physically save lives as well. Recently, in the Dutch city of Rotterdam, a sculpture saved a commuter train from plunging 10 metres to the ground. Instead, the train came to rest on top of the sculpture called, coincidentally, *Saved by a Whale's Tail*".



Saved by a Whale's Tale

Maarten Struijs
2000?

The sculpture was created in about 2000 by Dutch architect, Maarten Struijs. Commenting on the strange incident, Struijs expressed surprise that the sculpture was so strong

Thankfully there were no passengers on board, but the conductor emerged safe but definitely shaken. The statue, coincidentally called *Saved by a Whale's Tale*, had not been intended to actually save trains and was made from (obviously) strong plastic.

The train crashed through stop barriers at the end of the station in the town of Spijkenisse, on the southern edge of Rotterdam, early on the morning of November 2. The station is the final stop on the metro line. The suspended rail car could be seen by passers-by in the streets below.

While sculpture in Sculptors Queensland's Northshore exhibition on the River Walk may not be called to stop runaway City Cats, it is an opportunity to see sculpture blended into the local landscape and can be viewed for the price of a City Cat ride until 6 pm December 3.



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