



**Such a cavernous space - can BVAC artists possibly fill it?**

Photo courtesy David Bartholomew WSC

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Judy Hamilton



This month it is all about our Home Show appearance. On Wednesday 3rd March, BVAC was approached through email by the organisers of the Brisbane Home Show. They were offering the possibility of accessing FREE space at the Brisbane Autumn Home Show 2022. The email was forwarded to me by our secretary, Anna-Margot with the message – “this looks interesting”. Interesting indeed. I have been exhibiting for many years and never has such an opportunity come my way. I phoned the organisers and spoke to them about it, and then brought in Anna-Margot as our Events Co-ordinator. Zoom meetings followed for her and we were offered a space measuring 49 metres x 12 metres.

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Our Pop-Up shops are a textile artist's heaven, but our painting and printmaking groups, and ceramic groups are severely limited in their participation. With over 100 metres of hanging space for 2D artwork, we needed our painting groups to come to the party. Strangely enough, it was really difficult to get our painters on board. Many never heard about the opportunity, and that makes me quite cross. Maybe this is because our painting groups are NOT REPRESENTED on the BVAC committee and therefore were not privy to the full story. BVAC knew that we had to make a really big impression this time, or there would not be a next time.

So now, it is thank you to all those groups who finally marshalled their artists to participate in the BVAC Art Space at Brisbane's 2022 Autumn Home Show.

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*at the 2022 Brisbane Home Show*

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### FINAL WORD

GALLERY SITTING

*Not much sitting required*

The joy of this opportunity was that groups only had to let their artists know – the groups did not have to organise a thing. BVAC was given this opportunity because we have worked hard to build our public art profile in Brisbane, and the Brisbane City Council forwarded our details to the organisers. One specialist group in our community could not have answered this challenge but through its strength in numbers, BVAC was able to pull everything together in less than a month.

This is truly an example of the power, as well as the vulnerability of BVAC. Without the support of BVAC, this opportunity would never have come the way of those fifty-six artists that exhibited. Equally, without the support of our groups, BVAC would not have been able to mount such a show in such a short time. I must also thank the Home Show for their seamless preparation for the event. The heroine for us was Anna-Margot, who was magnificent in her role as Events Coordinator – accomplished while also working full time outside art, continuing with her secretarial duties for BVAC and being chauffeur for Allie. Congratulations Allie on your new car!

There were serious problems with our organisation of this event, but we know now what areas we neglected in our organisation, and they will be rectified if we get the opportunity to recreate the BVAC Art Space at future Home Shows. I would especially like to single out Christine and Paul Benseman, and Di Cox from Art West Community Gallery for stepping in when asked to take charge of the hanging of pictures. Their wonderful arrangement of over 200 paintings formed the stunning backdrop of the Art Space. A huge job from incredibly generous people.

There are many heroines and a few heroes in this achievement. I particularly would like to thank the “plinth painting party” who joined me to give 33 CAQ plinths stored at BVAC a coat of fresh white paint for their time on the big stage. While the ladies were amazing with paint rollers, David Bartholomew moved the plinths like Thor.

*Judy*



## BVAC Art Space at the Brisbane Home Show

The BVAC Art Space at the Brisbane Home Show was the biggest event BVAC has ever participated in, and we welcomed participation of artists from:

Queensland Enamellers' Guild  
Western Suburbs Clayworkers  
Ceramic Arts Queensland  
Art West Community Gallery  
Scattered Arts  
Lilley-Lee  
Down the Rabbit Hole  
Half Dozen Group of Artists  
Queensland Watercolour Society

So many visitors, so many sales, and so many volunteers. I've already mentioned the plinth painters and the hangers of the show, but there were so many volunteers keeping an eye on the show, that not one piece of stock went missing.

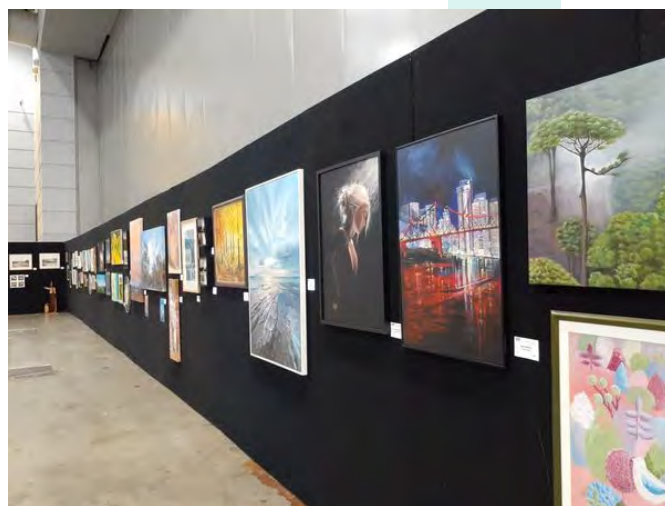
Nev Logan of the Watercolour Society was our oldest volunteer. At 86, he is still keen to sell his lovely watercolours, and if this means he has to mind the show, he is there. Trevor Downes, of the Half Dozen Group, is a mere youngster at only 81, but he too came along to mind the "shop". Thank you to all the "gallery sitters" who worked hard to make sales. At these events, it is important to work hard at selling other people's work and not only of your own work.

And just like any other intense activity, there has to be a moment of madness.





## *BVAC Art Space at the Brisbane Home Show (cont'd)*



## Notes from BVAC Meeting : 14th April, 2022

### Attendees:

Julie Brimms (WSQ), Christina Daviddson (DTRH), Marilyn George (QBG), Perrin Millard (LL), Kirstin Farr (CAQ), Shirley McCormick (LCAA), Pauline Stevens (Sunsine Beaders), Sandra Evans (AAPT), Peter Rayson (WSQ).

### Apologies:

Lyn McGlade, WSC, Anna-Margot Collins, QEG; Wendy Goode (SA).

### President's Report:

Congratulations to the groups who participated in our Art Space at the Home Show. Only an organisation like BVAC could mount such a comprehensive show in such a short time.

Groups who had a representative present at the March meeting had a much better response to the Home Show opportunity.

Thank you to Christine and Paul Benseman and Di Cox (Art West) who stepped up and took on the huge job of hanging over 200 paintings on the Thursday.

I thank CAQ for making their plinths available to all 3D artists at the show.

I was present on Centre Stage every afternoon at 3 pm to deliver a talk on Art in the home – which was essentially an opportunity to educate people about buying art from our annual exhibitions and the gallery of Art West.

### Treasurer's Report:

Peter presented the audited Treasurer's Report to be sent to the Office of Fair Trading.

### Building and Maintenance

a. Jock Spackman is to be approached about painting the interior of the Hub before our Art Expo. To brighten the interior space, groups can paint the door to their space an individual colour (no black, brown, dark green or grey to be used).

b. The bucket under the sink outside needs regular emptying. Waste water to be redirected into the garden. Perrin to ask her husband about this problem.

c. A handle on the inside of the CAQ store door to be installed after the President was shut in with no way to open the door.

### General Business:

The Home Show: A great response from artists with short notice. The space was huge. Fifty-six artists from 10 groups showed a great range of art works. The wonderful hanging team of Chris and Paul Benseman and Dianne Cox worked hard to hang the more than 200 paintings, even with a bit of downtime to repair Paul after trying to slice off his fingertip.

The 3-D display was good with the potters, under the direction of Judy, arranging and rearranging work we looked like a gallery. The plinths were looking mighty white with the touch ups performed by the painting crew. Potters can apply more than slip and glaze.

The ten groups who participated were **Scattered Arts, Queensland Enamellers Guild, Art West Community Gallery, Western Suburbs Clayworkers, Ceramic Arts Queensland, Watercolour Society of Qld, Half Dozen Group of Artists, Lilly Lee Gallery, Down the Rabbit Hole and Papermakers and Artists Qld.**

Within the gallery, we ran a series of demonstrations over the three days.

Michelle Payne of Down the Rabbit Hole made her demonstration a truly interactive experience as she invited people to add a bit of paint here and there under her watchful eye.

## NOTES FROM BVAC MEETING cont'd

Graham W. Smith showed his watercolour technique on Saturday and Sunday in a very successful demonstration.

Amrita Deshpande, President of the Watercolour Society, demonstrated the use of henna in combination with watercolours for a very distinctive result, while Lyn Spence and Pat Jefferies of Scattered Arts demonstrated textile art techniques. Pat made one of her signature doorstops and Lyn created flowers from scraps.

Our youngest participant was Sophie Lawrence, a student of Lilly Lee, demonstrating the creation of graphic art on a laptop, while Michelle Renshaw (Scattered Arts) demonstrated porcelain painting. In the afternoon, Tony Walker of the Watercolour Society and Stacey Morrison of Western Suburbs Clayworkers showed off their talents.

On Sunday, Allie Collins of the Qld Enamellers Guild worked on an engraving to be used in conjunction with enamelling, while Tamara Shaw of Scattered Arts was busy block printing. Perrin Millard of Lilly Lee also demonstrated in painting technique in how to make clouds look real. Because of these artists we had lots of interaction with the audience.

Sales were just over \$15,000 producing commission of \$1,500 and covering the costs for BVAC of staging the show.

There is no guarantee that this experience will be repeated. Organiser Maridza was very impressed with our display, which is why we had to create a BIG impression. Depending on customer feedback they would like to have us be a part of the show again. We won't have the same space but we are hoping to be involved again.

### **BVAC Open Day/Art Expo:**

Invitations will be sent out next week to all groups, inviting them to participate in presenting a demonstration, doing a workshop and or displaying the work of their artists at our Art Expo. All items can be for sale, details will be in the email and we are hoping for a 100% participation from groups.

A Marquee is being organized and tables and chairs are being arranged.

Perrin suggested a local church group who caters for such events and returns proceeds to the community. Natalie and Perrin to consult.

Groups to plan out activity and bring to the next meeting . BVAC will then plan how it will be integrated.

Art and Craft expo to be held at the Hub on 23,24 July.

### **GENERAL BUSINESS:**

#### **Elections to Committee:**

**Christine and Paul Benseman** (Art West) were elected to the events sub-committee. Because of their efforts at the Home Show, they have virtually already fulfilled Art West's obligation to BVAC.

**Joanna Fear (QBG)** representative, **Marilyn George** back-up. Marilyn to see if one of their male members would take on the position of Building and Maintenance.



## NOTES FROM BVAC MEETING cont'd

**Pauline Stevens** (Sunshine Beaders): - volunteered to look after the tablecloths and shelf covers and have them ready for events.

**Christina Daviddson** (DTRH) has agreed to take on graphic design tasks for BVAC: invitations, flyers, banners as needed.

**Perrin Millard** (Lilly-Lee) is going to look after the Exhibition Box. She will have it stocked with things we might need when setting up an exhibition – like band-aids and betadine.

Groups who have not yet nominated their representative for the committee.

Response: Discussion and decision of what will happen if you don't have a representative deferred to next meeting.

### **Scattered Arts Update:**

Scattered Arts May Weekend: Destash/Pop-up shop weekend has had to be cancelled.

BVAC Open Weekend clashes with Jumpers and Jazz at Warwick. SA are involved with J&J. Noted that it is possible for SA to participate in Open Weekend.

**Meeting Closed: 11.35am**

**Next Meeting: The Hub, May 12th 2022 - 9:30 am**



**And it is all go at the BVAC Art Space at the Brisbane Autumn Home Show**

## Michelle Renshaw

Following last month's story about how the floods allowed a lost art treasure to be found, BVAC's presence at the Home Show unearthed a spine-tingling moment. This month, it is also a connection with the past that was renewed at the Home Show.

Michelle Renshaw is a member of Scattered Arts and APAT and has been a porcelain artist for 40 years. She has studied all aspects of Porcelain Art and during the Home Show, she settled down to demonstrate her art in the BVAC Art Space. I was wandering around the gallery when I smelled a very familiar smell - my mother did "porcelain painting" many years ago, and your nostrils never forget the smell. I started to chat to Michelle and found she had originally taken up porcelain painting in Mackay for something to do during the day. Michelle is old enough to belong to a generation of female government employees who were required to leave their jobs once they married

It wasn't long before another lady, also drawn by the smell, wandered up to the table. A theme was established when she told us that her mother had also been a porcelain artist. Michelle asked the mother's name, thinking that their paths may have crossed at some time.

The lady replied - Georgina Gould. At that stage, I saw a tear come into Michelle's eye and felt it was probably time I left them to have a little chat. A short while later, after the lady had left, I went back and asked Michelle for the backstory. It turns out that Georgina Gould had been a mentor for Michelle.



As was the way back then, tutors in many art forms would visit country centres like Mackay to conduct workshops in their chosen art form. It was the only way artists could keep up with the latest ideas. A workshop would probably last for three days. Tutors, and often their families as well, would be billeted in local artist's homes and stay on for a few days holiday after the workshop in order to explore the area. The original AirBNB.

Georgina and Gordon Gould would often come up and stay with Michelle. While Georgina was busy taking the workshop, Gordon would find the local fishing spots around Mackay. Although Michelle had only been porcelain painting for a couple of months before she met Georgina Gould, the tutor saw promise in Michelle's early work and encouraged her to continue. When Michelle returned to Brisbane about four years later, she made a point of attending Georgina's workshops whenever she could. Under Georgina's tutelage, Michelle tried portraits and Dresden style and continued to learn. Incredibly, the lady who had stopped by was Georgina and Gordon Gould's daughter, Kathy.

Kathy also teared up on finding someone who knew both her Mum and Dad well. Porcelain art was an important part of Kathy's life also as she became a porcelain repairer and worked with museums in London for five years.







**JulesArt Gallery**  
**16 Jacob St, Dinnmore**  
**ph: 0408 158 156**

## **Porcelain Clay Workshop**

### **From Start to Finish for 3 Saturdays**

### **Saturday May 7th, 14th 21st and 28th**

### **by Julie Maddocks**

**All levels of experience welcome.**

**Class 1: Pouring and marking the wet clay**

**Class 2: Finish the first stage of marking and carving ready for firing.**

**Class 3: Surface techniques and products.**

**Class 4: Optional class for an extra cost.**

**See the BVAC Facebook post for full details.**

# DOWN THE RABBIT HOLE

## Workshops - April & May

Mobile: 0403656339

Email: natalieparish@bigpond.net

Base: Bag End Studio - 190 Station Rd Yeerongpilly Creative Precinct QLD 4105

### Michelle Payne

Acrylic Painting 1 Day Workshop

Beginners Warmly Welcomed

@Bag End Studio

\$180 - going solo

\$330 - bring a friend



Family  
Portrait  
Sunday  
15th May



Pelican  
Sunday  
28th May

### Liz Saul

Thank God its Friday Session

29th April - 6.15pm-9pm

Bubbles @ Bag End Studio



### Sunday Crafternoons

Down the Rabbit Hole is so excited to be collaborating with Vanessa on bringing together a crafty community. Not only are we focused on crafty skills but how we can engage them in a broader social context and support fundraising and awareness projects.

In conjunction with Bag End Studio Our first major rag rug project is to join - Reclaim the Void. Follow us on Down the Rabbit Hole on Facebook for more info.

### Natalie Parish

#### GNOME SWEET GNOME WORKSHOP

Learn Fun Powertex Textile  
Hardening Techniques for  
Garden Art Projects  
With Nat Parish  
0403656339  
Bag End Studio  
Yeerongpilly Creative Precinct  
www.bagendstudio.net

Sun 29 May  
9.30am - 1pm  
\$55

Scan To  
Book



#### Faux Rust Effect Rust Disc

Sunday 22nd May

\$165

\$320 buddy



@  
Bag  
End  
Studio



RECYCLE YOUR T-SHIRTS  
INTO ART

#### Babe In Arms Statue Class

WITH  
NATALIE PARISH  
Great Mother's Day  
Gift or grab a voucher



BAG  
END  
Studio  
190 Station Rd  
Creative Precinct  
Yeerongpilly  
0403656339

Saturday 7th May  
9.30am-4.30pm

\$185  
BOOK NOW



#### Faeries & Angels Sculpture Workshop



### Vanessa Cutayar



#### Rag Rug Workshop

SUN 24th APRIL 2.30-4.30pm

BAG  
END  
Studio  
190 Station Rd  
Creative Precinct  
Yeerongpilly  
0403656339

Saturday 14th May  
9.30-4.30pm  
\$185



SUN 29th MAY 2.30-5.30pm



MACRAME  
Sweet



## Sunshine Beaders' Workshop Weekend

Sunshine Beaders is holding its workshop weekend event again this year at BVAC on the long weekend in May, 30th April – 2nd May. There are workshops available for all skill levels in a wide variety of beading techniques. We are again proud to be supported by local and interstate teachers. Visit the website, [www.sunshinebeaders.com](http://www.sunshinebeaders.com) for more information and to see the full range of workshops.

It is a fun weekend shared with like minded students all willing to help each other enjoy their beading passion. The event also offers pop-up shops, raffles and a guessing competition.

A great variety of handmade items will be available for sale on the pop-up shops. A great opportunity to do some Mothers' Day shopping. The pop-up shops run each day from 12.30pm to 1.30pm.







# MAJOR AUTUMN ART EXHIBITION OPEN THEME

**Come and visit us every Saturday 10am to 4pm and  
every Sunday 11am to 4pm**

**FROM SATURDAY 9<sup>TH</sup> APRIL TO SUNDAY 1<sup>ST</sup> MAY**



## YURARA MEMBERS' AUTUMN EXHIBITION

**VENUE: Yurara Art Gallery, Pinklands Reserve,**

**Cnr Dinwoodie Rd, 262 Cleveland-Redland Bay Rd, Thornlands**

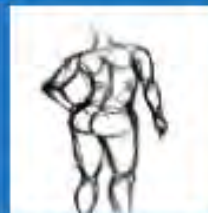
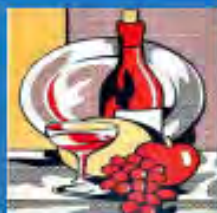
**We open at 10am 9<sup>th</sup> April**

**The Doughnut Van "Our Coffee Lady" and the Coffee Van  
"Café Infusion" will be available**



**Family, Friends and Visitors are all welcome**

**website: [www.redlandyurara.com.au](http://www.redlandyurara.com.au)**



## So, you have to Gallery sit: What do you do?

Gallery sitting, gallery minding – call it what you will. It is an important task that as an exhibiting member of a group, you will be expected to do at some stage.

It's a bit of a misnomer though because there is very little sitting involved.

A gallery sitter is there to welcome people to the show, give a brief background to the exhibition and the group and then retire to let them enjoy the show.

If they show interest in a specific piece of work, it is good to approach them and to the best of your ability tell them about the work. Find things in the work that you find interesting and just get them talking and comfortable.

Some things not to do include standing in a corner and catching up with your friends. You are shutting out visitors – not welcoming them. Don't hover around YOUR work alone. You are there to help sell anyone's work – not just your own.

Even worse than this, is to lead a potential buyer away from a piece they were considering, so that they can look at YOUR work. This will not endear you to anyone.

Our gallery sitters at the Home Show must have done a great job because not one piece of work went missing.

### BVAC COMMITTEE CONTACTS

#### President

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#### Secretary

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#### Committee

ATASDA : *Vacant*  
Creative Glass Guild, QLD : *Katrina Jackson*  
LeatherCrafters AQ: *Shirley McCormick*  
Lilley Lee : *Perrin Millard*  
Migaloo Press : *Glenda Hennig, Sandra Pearce & Jenny Sanzar*  
Papermakers Artists, QLD : *Chris Bryant*  
Scattered Arts : *Wendy Goode*  
Sunshine Beaders : *Pauline Stevens*  
Watercolour Society, QLD : *Julie Brimms*  
Q Bookbinders Guild : *Joanna Fear*  
Art West Community Gallery : *Christine & Paul Benseman*  
Down the Rabbit Hole : *Christina Daviddson*

